

The Finnish Physical Society

Action plan 2025 (starting 27.03.2025)

ADMINISTRATION

Members

In the upcoming year, the Finnish Physical Society (FPS) plans to actively attract new members. Particularly Junior and Student members who have reduced fees but may not be aware. The FPS will also seek out Sponsoring Members to increase our ability to support Physics in Finland. The FPS aims to increase the benefits of membership through hosting an increasing number of events and awarding additional grants throughout the upcoming year.

Accounts

In the past three years, FPS has made a considerable surplus. To balance income and outcome, in 2025, the society will aim to sustainably increase its activities and expenses in the form of more grant awards and an increased number of events from the FPS and its Divisions and Working Groups. The main income of FPS will be the membership fees and activity support by The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies for international activities.

Organisation

The FPS will consider how best to organise itself to deliver the increased number of events desired by members and provided for in the budget. The feasibility of an events subcommittee composed of primarily non-board members will be considered.

Annual meeting

The FPS Annual meeting will be organised at Physics Days 2026 as a hybrid meeting.

ACTIVITIES IN FINLAND

Divisions, Working Groups & Local Physicists' Clubs

The activities of the divisions and other groups will be more closely supported by the FPS. The community will be surveyed in early January to determine if there is a desire for any additional Divisions or if any are no longer relevant and action taken as necessary.

Diversity in Physics, Finland (FinDiP)

FinDiP will continue to organise and plan Diversity in Physics sessions at the Physics Days conference. They will carry on bringing together wellbeing groups and other bodies working in physics across Finland.

Finnish Young Minds (FYM)

The aim is to increase interaction and collaboration among young researchers, promote awareness of physics research to local communities outside academia, and to build an international network of young researchers. In 2025 FPS aims to continue efforts to revitalise FYM, increase its membership numbers and reactivate its EPS Young Minds status to unlock funding and other opportunities.

The Physics Education Division

The aim of the Physics Education Division is to provide support for teaching and the sharing of teaching experiments and to facilitate collaboration in Physics Education Research. The Division continues its collaboration with the Network for University Physics Education (NUPE).

Greatest Physicists lecture series

The FPS will continue to organise this series in partnership with the Aalto University alumni association.

Physics Days 2026

Physics Days 2026 will be organised by Aalto University, however the final format has yet to be finalised. The details and organising agreement will be made in early 2025.

Nights of Science

The FPS will contribute to the next Night of Science in a manner yet to be determined and will encourage the participation of others.

Visits by Nobel laureates in physics

The 2025 laureates will be invited to visit Finland once announced. Funding will be applied for from the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters and the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters to facilitate their potential visit(s) in 2026.

Societal impact

The FPS will aim to increase its societal impact by issuing statements and taking actions, in some cases alongside other learned societies and appropriate organisations where possible, regarding affairs that relate to physics research or education in Finland.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

European Physical Society (EPS)

The FPS will actively participate in the activities of the European Physical Society (EPS) and its Council, Divisions, Groups and Committees. The FPS will be represented in the EPS Council meetings in 2025-2026.

PRIZES AND GRANTS

Grants to support activities promoting physics

The Society will continue to keep grant applications on a continual basis and regularly remind the community of the possibility to submit. Additionally, the board will investigate how to better promote the awarded grants and their impact.

Master's thesis prize

This tradition of supporting early career researchers in Finland will continue. The award ceremony will take place at Physics Days 2026 and the winner will receive €1000 and a one-year free membership to the FPS. The Board makes the final determination and can split the prize if necessary.

Best poster and oral presentations at Physics Days

The FPS will continue to award the Hannu Koskinen Prizes for the two best poster and two best oral presentations during Physics Days. Winners receive a certificate, awarded in the closing ceremony of Physics Days, and a prize of €200.

PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS, MEDIA

Arkhimedes

Arkhimedes FPS publishes Arkhimedes together with the Finnish Mathematical Society and Fysikersamfundet i Finland. The journal is published in an electronic format at <https://journal.fi/arkhimedes>. The board will continue to implement the transition of Arkhimedes finances flowing through the FPS. It will also organise at least one meeting a year of all stakeholders to check-in on the status of Arkhimedes.

EPL (Europhysics Letters)

EPL is published under the scientific policy and control of the European Physical Society by EDP Sciences, IOP Publishing and Società Italiana di Fisica for a partnership of 17 European physical societies (the EPL Association). FPS is a member of the EPL Association.

Europhysics News

Europhysics News (<https://www.europhysicsnews.org/>) is the magazine of the European physics community. It is owned by the European Physical Society (EPS) and produced in cooperation with EDP Sciences. Europhysics News is delivered electronically to the FPS members.

FPS Newsletter

The board will continue to send relevant news to the opt-in mailing list introduced in 2024 in lieu of a regular newsletter. The ability for FPS members to submit emails to the list for approval will be considered for implementation.

Social media

The board will continue making the FPS website and communications bilingual (Finnish/English). The FPS web pages are available at www.fyysikkoseura.fi and the general email of the society is toimisto@fyysikkoseura.fi. However, note that for membership matters the Secretary can now be reached at sihteeri@fyysikkoseura.fi. The society also has a Facebook group. FPS is also on Twitter/X (@Fyysikkoseura) where most news items are tweeted.

Merchandise

The board will continue to investigate the possibility of making a range of FPS-branded items available for purchase to support the activities of the Society.

Email and cloud services

The board will continue investigating how to take maximum advantage of the Google Workspace activated in 2023 to improve operating efficiency.

Finnish National Committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)

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The Finnish National Committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) will continue its work related to the IUPAP and its commissions. It serves as an important link between the IUPAP and national physics societies, universities and institutes. The national committee promotes activities related to physics research, education, and outreach. It also fills in surveys and provides information on national activities to IUPAP. The national committee maintains good contacts with other international physics associations and organisations via IUPAP.

The Board of the Finnish Physical Society will continue to serve as the Finnish National Committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). The Committee will meet regularly in conjunction with FPS Board meetings. The Chair of the Committee will represent Finland at the 34th IUPAP General Assembly.

The Committee will support the IUPAP commission members from Finland by sourcing travel support to commission meetings and providing networking support. Finland's representation in IUPAP Commissions for 2025-2027 are as follows: C2: Symbols, Units, Nomenclature, Atomic Masses & Fundamental Constants: Erkki Ikonen (member), C4: Commission on Astroparticle Physics: Rami Vainio (member), C5: Low Temperature Physics: Mika Sillanpää (member).