Dear Colleagues,

As 2021 came to an end there were signs that the severity of the pandemic was gradually on the decline, resulting in a resurgence of in-person scientific conferences and exchanges that have been moving us toward an eventual return to normality. Then in February 2022 began another catastrophic situation that impacts global interaction among scientists, a consequence of the Russian military invading Ukraine. Standing in solidarity with other organizations in the international community of scientists, at the beginning of March the ICA issued a statement of its own in response to this crisis, which is posted on the ICA website and repeated here:

ICA Statement on the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis

The ICA wishes to express its deep concern over the crisis in Russian-Ukrainian relations and the subsequent military operations.

We believe in the solidarity of the people and their cooperation as the only means of achieving global prosperity, which will enable the human communities to face their problems and chart a better future. Every issue that arises between communities must be resolved peacefully through mutual understanding and by resolving any differences that lead to it. The use of weapons that disrupt world peace and result in the loss of lives is beyond logic.

Scientists are at the forefront of the struggle for global cooperation and the advancement of science for the benefit of society. Science and scientists have no borders. The joint effort to produce solutions to the problems that arise, with the recent example of the fight against Covid-19, requires all scientific forces to work together without exclusions and conflicts. Scientific bodies have a duty to uphold in every direction the principle that the freedom of research relies on the peaceful coexistence of nations and their scientists.

In this context, we express our support for the people who are being tested and the scientists involved in this conflict, calling for an immediate peaceful solution. We want to hope that the rulers will wish to, even at the last minute, obey the voice of logic and bring to an immediate end the nightmare of war.

International News in Acoustics

Most notable among ICA initiatives over the past year was the International Year of Sound 2020-2021, originally scheduled for 2020 but extended for a second year due to the pandemic. IYS concluded at the end of 2021. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, Michael Taroudakis and Marion Burgess, co-organizers of IYS, note below that nearly 200 events related to IYS were held in over 30 countries, with widespread coverage via articles, interviews, and podcasts. Particularly noteworthy was the student competition called My World of Sounds, involving over 700 contributions from primary, middle, and secondary school students around the world. The competition was coordinated by Sergio Luzzi and described in his piece below, which includes the listing of awards and special mentions in the categories of drawings and stanzas.

The 2022 International Congress on Acoustics will be held in Gyeongju, Korea during October 24-28. Final preparations for this event are discussed below by the General Chair, Jeong-Guon Ih. Six plenary lecturers are listed on the Congress website, one of whom is Julien Bonnel at Woods Hole Oceanographic
Institution (USA), recipient of the 2022 ICA Early Career Award. We have high hopes for a strong representation by in-person attendees at the 2022 ICA.

International specialty symposia in acoustics to be held in 2022 that were approved for financial support from ICA are listed below by Antonino Di Bella.

Other international news covered in the remainder of this newsletter includes ICA’s initiative to become a Full Member of the International Science Council (ICA is currently an Affiliated Member), events in 2022 celebrated by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP, of which ICA is an Affiliated Commission), and World Hearing Day sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO).

ICA Board Meeting

The ICA Board meets once per year and conducts business between meetings via email and online meetings. For the second year in a row, due to the pandemic, both the Board Meeting and the General Assembly of the ICA were held online. A screenshot of the participants in the two days of online meeting, held in July 2021, is shown on the left. The key decisions made during the Board Meeting were reported to the members of the General Assembly via an online consultation.

The 2022 Board Meeting and General Assembly are scheduled in attendance at the 2022 Congress in Gyeongju, Korea. Naturally, both the evolution of the pandemic situation and the international crises are kept under observation and all opinions have been evaluated in order to allow everyone the widest participation. The meetings this year are particularly important as the voting for the renewal of the Board will take place. Solutions are being studied to allow elections with hybrid voting methods, if necessary.

According to the 2019 revised Statutes, the 2021 ICA General Assembly was held by email in December for the management of ordinary administrative procedures and current business. The current financial balance of the ICA was approved by the General Assembly.

All other business will be carried out by the ICA Board as it has in the past, with email communication to the Member Societies when appropriate.

The minutes of both the ICA Board Meeting and the ICA General Assembly can be found on the ICA website under the menu item “Governance”.

International Year of Sound 2020-2021

The International Year of Sound 2020-2021 has come to its end and it is now time to review and consolidate what has been achieved over this two year period. The activities and resources that have been compiled on the website truly reflect the support and enthusiasm from the member societies and other organisations to embrace the concept and in their own way endeavor to promote the importance of sound in our world. The achievements of the IYS will be summarized during special sessions at the International Congress on Acoustics to be held in South Korea, October 24-28, 2022 (ica2022korea.org).
The website has been pivotal to the success of the IYS. The number of visits to the site reached a high of 8,880 for March 2020 and has continued between 4,000 and 6,000 visits per month for both 2020 and 2021.

The central actions by the ICA involved the opening at the Sorbonne University in January 2020, the production of the film which is available in short and long version and the international student competition. This student competition received over 650 entries for the primary school level and approaching 100 stanzas and videos for the high school level. There will be various closing events around the world with the final closing during the ICA congress in Korea.

The structure of the IYS relied on the local societies to organize activities. The majority of those were planned to occur soon after the opening in February 2020 and unfortunately had to be cancelled or postponed while developing alternative ways to hold the event. As the year unfolded and we all began to realize that we could continue to promote the message using modern technology, and many novel and innovate activities were added to the program. Close to 200 events have been held in 31 countries.

In the resources category there are almost 100 on-line and special projects that have been made available via the website. Also, the topic has been featured in many publications both within the scientific community (e.g. Acoustics Today) and the general media (i.e. newspapers and magazines). The co-organizers have also participated in a number of media interviews and podcasts.

While it has led to challenges, the pandemic of 2020-21 has provided a unique experience for everyone around the world to become personally aware of the importance of sound, in both the desired form and also in the undesired form of noise, in so many aspects of our life. After the closing of the International Year, the continued actions by the acoustic community will aim to ensure the achievements of the IYS in promoting the importance of sound in our world is not forgotten.

Marion Burgess, Michael Taroudakis, Co-convenors IYS 2020-2021

Student Competition “My World of Sounds”

The IYS Steering Committee has processed the votes received from both the Expert Jury and the Popular (Web) Jury and we are happy to announce that awards and special mentions have been assigned to the winners of the International Year of Sound 2020-2021 Student Competition!

We received contributions from 16 nations all around the world. More than 650 items had been sent to national representatives for the first category of the competition (drawings - primary school) and more than 50 items for the second category (stanzas - middle and secondary schools).

39 drawings and 33 stanzas were selected as finalists. Moreover, 23 additional contributions, in terms of video and audio tracks, were submitted.

For the final assessment in the competition, entries for both categories were received from 16 countries: Argentina, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and USA.

There has been wide participation from the popular jury as well (4833 likes for category I and 517 likes for category II).
The excellent standard and creativity of the entries made the final selection very challenging for the jury. A video to showcase many of the entries will be soon available and this will be an ongoing record of the outstanding innovative and creative ideas from students around the world on "My World of Sounds".

We congratulate all the winners for the achieved result!

WINNERS
Category I - DRAWINGS (Primary Schools)
- Turkey (İstanbul): Nesliş Ergün - School: Çekmeköy Final Middle School
- Chile (Melipilla): Laura Isabel Paredes Catalan - School: Colegio Melipilla
- Hong Kong (Tung Chung): Cheung Han Ching - School: Ching Chung Hau Po Woom

Category II - STANZAS (Middle and Secondary Schools)
- Italy (Florence): class 3°E - School: IC “Puccini”
- Spain (Besalú): Roger Cortés, Laia Cuesta, and Coral Coll - School: Institut Escola Salvador Vilarrasa
- Spain (Valladolid): Leader Alba Sánchez Domínguez - Class 3rd D/E.S.O. - School: I.E.S. La Merced

SPECIAL MENTIONS
Category I - DRAWINGS (Primary Schools)
- Croatia - Lotrščak Primary School

Category II - STANZAS (Middle and Secondary Schools)
- Egypt - School: EBIS (Egypt British International School)
- Greece - School: 5° Senior High School - 1° Technical School of Corfú
- Italy - School: IC Puccini
- Italy - School: Istituto Salesiano dell’Immacolata
- Portugal - School: Manteigas
- Russia - School: School 46
- Serbia - School: British International School
- Spain - School: Cisneros
- Thailand - School: The demonstration school of Ramkhamhaeng University - DS.RU. Acapella
- Thailand - School: Bangkok Christian College - The 1852
- Thailand - School: Horwang School - Supawit
- USA - School: home school

More information on the outcome of the competition, the drawings and the complete texts of the winners’ stanzas are available on the web page: https://sound2020.org/society/student-competition/

This Student Competition is being sponsored by the HEAD-Genuit Foundation.

Sergio Luzzi
IYS 2020-2021 Students competition coordinator
Symposium Sponsorship

The ICA allocates up to EUR 5,000 annually for sponsorship of specialty symposia in acoustics. In conjunction with the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), the ICA accepts applications for allocation of up to USD 2,000 for specialty symposia that comply with the conditions for the special ASA support.

There were four application for 2022 funding from the ICA/ASA Specialty Symposia sponsorship program. For this year, none of the applications met the requirements of the ASA Committee on International Research and Education (CIRE), so all symposia will be financially supported by the ICA.

This application was evaluated by a committee composed of the ICA Executive Committee and the funding allocations were approved by the ICA Board.

The symposia receiving funding are:

- 4th Vienna Talk on Music Acoustics (Austria)
- 2nd International Symposium on Fluid Acoustics (Poland)
- New Sounds 2022 - 10th International Conference on Second Language Speech (Spain)
- ICUA2022 International Conference on Underwater Acoustics (UK)

ICA Early Career Award in 2022

On Feb. 15, 2022, Dr. Julien Bonnel at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, USA, is the recipient of the Early Career Award in 2022.

There were ten nominations this year, and seven committee members participated in the evaluation. The ICA presents the ICA Early Career Award triennially in pace with the ICA Congress, held in Korea this year. It is given to an individual who is relatively early in his/her professional career (about 10-15 years of active career), who has contributed substantially, through published papers, to the advancement of theoretical or applied acoustics or both and who has been active in the affairs of Acoustics through his/her National Society, other National Society(ies), Regional or International organizations. In the evaluation, the conflict of interest rule was practiced for fairness, so an evaluator having a close relationship with a nominee could not give any mark to that nominee.

Dr. Julien Bonnel received a Ph.D. degree in signal processing from Grenoble Institut National Polytechnique, Grenoble, France, in 2010. From 2010 to 2017, he was an Assistant/Associate Professor with Laboratoire des Sciences et Technologies de l’Information, de la Communication et de la Connaissance (Lab-STICC, UMR CNRS 6285), Ecole Nationale Superieure de Techniques Avancees de Bretagne, ENSTA Bretagne, Brest, France. Since September 2017, he has been an Associate Scientist with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA, USA, where he became tenured in September 2020. His research interests in signal processing and ocean acoustics include time-frequency analysis, source detection/localization, geoacoustic inversion, acoustical tomography, passive acoustic monitoring, bioacoustics and the impact of noise pollution on marine life. Dr. Bonnel is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) and an Associate Editor for the Journal of the
Acoustical Society of America. He received the 2019 A.B. Wood Medal from the Institute of Acoustics (UK) and the 2020 R. Bruce Lindsay Award from the ASA (USA).

ICA 2022 Gyeongju, Korea

The 24th International Congress Acoustics, ICA 2022 (www.ica2022korea.org), will be held in Gyeongju from October 24 to 28, 2022.

Gyeongju is a city located in the southeastern part of the Korean Peninsula, which had been the capital of the Silla Dynasty for a thousand years during AD 1-9c. For more info see http://www.gyeongju.go.kr/open_content/eng/index.do.

The venue of ICA2022, Gyeongju Hwabaek Convention Center (HICO, http://www.crowncity.kr/hico/en/main/main.do) was built specifically for international meetings and conventions. During ICA 2022, all participants will have exclusive use of all HICO facilities to themselves.

The Acoustical Society of Korea (ASK, http://en.ask.or.kr/) is ready and eager to host ICA 2022, which will be the first ICA congress in Korea. Over the years, ASK has contributed to the development of acoustic education and research, and the economy in Korea, by emphasizing the importance of sound in various industrial fields. It also has participated actively in the ICA, and has hosted international conferences like Inter-Noise 2003 and ICSLP 2004. ASK will be honoured to help promote the global advancement of acoustics by hosting a successful ICA 2022.

The participant will be able to enjoy a unique Korean culture as well as ICA 2022. Koreans have a well-known love of music, from K-pop to Western classical music to reinterpretations of traditional Korean music. It follows then that Koreans are highly sensitive to the quality of sound, not only in musical instruments but also in everyday products and environment. As the cradle of the country’s religion, philosophy, arts and of course, music, Gyeongju can offer visitors an insight into the development of acoustics in Korea. Furthermore, the entire city is an open-air museum full of ancient constructions and relics, including four UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Bulguksa Temple, Seokguram Grotto, Yangdong Traditional Village, and the Gyeongju Historic Areas. In short, the unique and authentic glimpse of Gyeongju City into Korean culture makes it the ideal backdrop for ICA 2022.

For the preparation of ICA2022, the organizing committee is now active: Prof. Jeong-Guon Ih (Mechanical Eng.) is the General Chair, Profs. Chan-Hoon Hann (Architectural Eng.) and Han-Seok Ko (Communication Eng.) are the Co-Technical Chairs, and Prof. Sung-Hwan Shin (Automotive Eng.) is the Secretary General.
New ICA website

The new web portal of the International Commission for Acoustics website has been online since 1st March.

The new version of the ICA website retains most of the information previously published but adds new content and improves the management of the calendar of meetings, congresses and international events.

The new web portal has been designed to be the reference and coordination point for all ICA members and a primary information point for all those interested in the various aspects of acoustics.

Numerous functions and activities will be integrated into the new portal, which will be the main link for all the National Societies and International Affiliates that make up ICA.

Further content will be added in the coming months and our intent is to make these pages a "living document" in which to also host contributions from National Societies which may be of interest to all ICA members.

Antonino Di Bella
ICA Secretary General

ICA-ISC relationship

The International Science Council (ISC) (https://council.science/) was created in 2018 as the result of a merger between the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC). The headquarters became automatically Affiliated Member of the new ISC.

The ISC is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils. It is the only international non-governmental organization bringing together the natural and social sciences and the largest global science organization of its type.

Following the creation of the ISC, some internal discussions started among the ICA Executive Board members on the feasibility of the ICA to become Full Members of the ISC.

Category 1 (Full Member) of ISC is defined as: Scientific unions, associations and similar bodies, being international scientific organizations devoted to the practice and promotion of specific scientific disciplines or areas.

For the purposes of the ISC Statutes, an international scientific organization is an institution that draws membership from several countries within a region or from countries across at least two regions, and whose members are held together by a formal agreement, constitution or similar instrument.

It is obvious that ICA is fully eligible to become full member of the ISC.

As a result of further extensive discussions among the Executive Board members as well as between ISC officers and ICA President Mark Hamilton, Past President Michael Taroudakis and Secretary General Antonino Di Bella, a proposal for the ICA to become Full member of the ISC was presented during the meeting of the ICA Board that was held through zoom on July 2021, in
accordance with the procedure described in Article 12 of the ICA Internal Regulations.

The reasoning for becoming Full Member of the ISC can be summarized in the following two arguments:

1) Being a full member, we will automatically promote Acoustics as an important area of science which may have an interdisciplinary character, but it is a stand-alone discipline which has a prominent role in science for several reasons, including of course the importance of sound (our primary subject of research) for the quality of our environment and the health of the people, but also for the culture and education of the society.

2) Being full members, we will have the right to vote on all matters related to the ISC and to support nominations of acousticians for the various administrative positions of the ISC. This way we will follow closely all the activities of the ISC. Note that as Affiliated Member, we still have the right to appoint candidates for the various positions in the ISC administrative structure, but we cannot support them by voting.

The ICA Board unanimously approved the proposal. We are now at the stage of preparing all the necessary documents to present our application to the ISC board. If our application is approved, the ICA will be the first International Commission to become full member of the ISC.

Mark Hamilton  
ICA President

Michael Taroudakis  
ICA Past President

Antonino Di Bella  
ICA Secretary General

News from IUPAP

ICA is an affiliated commission of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). The relationship between ICA and IUPAP is kept at a very good level and there is a continuous interaction between the two organizations.

IUPAP is now based in Switzerland (moved from Singapore) and is registered as a non-profit organization under the Swiss law. Headquarters are in Genève and there is a good level of support from CERN.

IUPAP activities foreseen for 2022 are focused on two important celebrations: The International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (IYBSSD) and the Centenary of the IUPAP.

2022 will mark the beginning of the celebration of the IYBSSD, which was approved last December by the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) as an official International Year supported by UN and UNESCO. The opening will be held at UNESCO on July 2022 and the closing will be held in Genève in 2023. Thus, the IYBSSD will be a two years celebration following our model for the IYS 2020+. ICA has offered to transfer experience from the organization of the IYS and Marion Burgess and Michael Taroudakis are already in contact with Luc Allemand who represents the IYBSSD organizing committee, discussing various aspects of the organization.

The Centenary celebrations will include a symposium to be held in Trieste 11-13 July 2022. If the situation permits it, the symposium will be held with face-to-face participation and will be associated with the IUPAP administrative meetings and the IUPAP General Assembly. Much effort has been applied to
the organization of this symposium and its satellite events the main aim of which will be to illustrate the importance of Physics in modern life. The IUPAP Commissions and Affiliated Commissions will be invited to contribute to the celebration.

President Mark Hamilton and Past President Michael Taroudakis participate regularly in all administrative meetings of the IUPAP. In addition, ICA presents an annual report on our activities which is included in the annual report of the IUPAP. This way we have the opportunity to promote ICA through the wide community of Physicists.

An important aspect of IUPAP-ICA relationship is the possibility of financial support by IUPAP of Congresses organized by ICA or our International Affiliates. Following the support of the ICA Congress held in Aachen, IUPAP has approved our proposal to support the ICA 2022 Congress in Korea so it will become an official sponsor of the Conference. It should be noted that IUPAP approved the proposal to support the ASA-AAS-WESPAC-PRUAC Conference originally scheduled for 6-10 December 2021. This Conference was however rescheduled for 2023 due to Covid-19, which means that a new proposal for its support will be submitted to IUPAP.

Mark Hamilton
ICA President

Michael Taroudakis
ICA Past President

World Hearing Day 2022

On World Hearing Day 2022, WHO focused on the importance of safe listening as a means of maintaining good hearing across the life course. In 2021, WHO launched the World report on hearing that highlighted the increasing number of people living with and at risk of hearing loss. It highlighted noise control as one of the seven key H.E.A.R.I.N.G. interventions and stressed the importance of mitigating exposure to loud sounds.

The theme of the World Hearing Day 2022 was

To hear for life, listen with care!

- It is possible to have good hearing throughout the course of life via ear and hearing care.
- Many common causes of hearing loss can be prevented, including hearing loss caused by exposure to loud sounds.
- ‘Safe listening’ can mitigate the risk of hearing loss associated with recreational sound exposure.
- WHO calls upon governments, industry partners and civil society to raise awareness for and implement evidence-based standards that promote safe listening.

World Hearing Day 2022 was held on March 3rd.

More information on the registered events is available on the web page: https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-hearing-day/2022.

In the same webpage, it is possible to download the “Media brief on #safelistening”, a document that provides clearly communicated key details on hearing loss, unsafe listening practices, and how to listen safely. It also contains useful information for communicating about safe listening and the work of WHO, including digital media tools and story ideas for journalists.
International Noise Awareness Day

International Noise Awareness Day is a global campaign, founded in 1996 by the Center for Hearing and Communication (CHC), aiming to raise awareness of the effects of noise on the welfare and health of people. Noise affects people in many ways, but only deafness and annoyance receive actual interest from the general public. Worldwide, people are called upon to take part via various actions on this occasion: open days on hearing from acousticians, lectures in public health departments, universities and schools, panels of experts, noise level measuring actions, and readings.

The 27th Annual International Noise Awareness Day will take place on April 27th, 2022.

More information on this initiative is available on the INAD website: https://noiseawareness.org/.

ICA Membership

The following list comprises the national acoustical societies that are full Members of the ICA.

Argentina | Hong Kong (HKSAR) | Poland
Australia | Hungary | Portugal
Austria | Iceland | Russia
Belgium | India | Serbia
Brazil | Indonesia | Singapore
Canada | Iran | Slovakia
Chile | Israel | Slovenia
China (PRC) | Italy | Spain
Croatia | Japan | Sweden
Czech Republic | Korea (South) | Switzerland
Denmark | Lithuania | Taiwan
Egypt | Mexico | Turkey
Finland | Netherlands | USA (ASA)
France | New Zealand | USA (INCE)
Germany | Norway | United Kingdom
Greece | Peru

Observers: Belarus, Latvia, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa.
If you know of any group that you think should be included, please let us know the contact details and we will follow up.

In addition, the following are the International Affiliates of ICA:

- Audio Engineering Society (AES)
- European Acoustics Association (EAA)
- IberoAmerican Federation of Acoustics (FIA)
- International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN)
- International Congress on Ultrasonics (ICU)
- International Institute of Acoustics and Vibration (IIAV)
- International Institute of Noise Control Engineering (I-INCE)
- Western Pacific Acoustics Commission (WESPAC)

Antonino Di Bella
ICA Secretary General

International Year of Sound
2020-2021

Importance of Sound for Society and the World

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