



On November 12–14, 2010, the Association of Asia Pacific Physical Societies (AAPPS) and the Chinese Physical Society sponsored the AAPPS 2nd Workshop on Women in Physics, which was held in Shanghai and attended by over fifty people from ten countries and regions. The meeting was hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), and funded by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Shanghai Women's Federation, SJTU

Women's Committee, the Institute of Physics (UK), and LOREAL China. The International

Organizing Committee was chaired by SJTU president Jie Zhang, the then president of AAPPS, and the Local

Organizing Committee was chaired by Ling-An Wu from the Institute of Physics, CAS. After some speedy last-minute preparations due to the late arrival of promised funding, the workshop began with an exuberant start with an opening address by President Jie Zhang. The turnout for the workshop was bolstered with the attendance of all the AAPPS

Council members who were also present in Shanghai for the 23rd AAPPS Council meeting. The first plenary talk was presented by Catherine Foley, former President of the Australian Institute of Physics, who was interviewed shortly

afterward by various journalists from China's media. A total of twenty talks were held. Many of the talks could be categorized into one of two general groups: (i) talks which analyzed issues associated with the current status of women in physics, and; (ii) talks which reported on the progress of a member society's Working Group on Women in Physics (WGWIP) (see Program below). Additionally, a poster session was held which included scientific research papers. Three panel sessions were held where participants took part in some very lively discussions. Five female undergraduates from the Bolin science class of Nankai University were among the participants, and these students were greatly inspired by the opportunity to meet so many outstanding women physicists. While sharing their experiences with fellow students at Nankai University, they expressed their determination to also prove, through their work, that women can and do equal men in physics. At the closing session chaired by Youngah Park, member of the National Assembly of South Korea and group leader of the AAPPS WGWIP, a set of resolutions were drawn up and passed. The resolutions were then submitted as Recommendations of the Workshop (see below) for approval by the newly elected AAPPS Council members. The Recommendations were immediately approved at the 24th Council meeting that same day. In the afternoon, all participants proceeded to

the Song Ching–Ling Memorial Residence in Shanghai. Song Ching–Ling was the wife of Dr. Sun Yat–Sen and was later herself the first female President of the People’s Republic of China. Participants also toured the Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Center. These visits were arranged by the Shanghai Women's Federation who also hosted a banquet which was followed by a night tour of the Bund. We were exhausted but also exhilarated by the two days of hard work. Although we were sad to say farewell to those who returned to their research institutions, we look forward to greater collaboration and progress in promoting women in physics. We thank all the participants, our sponsors, and all the student and staff volunteers who helped in making the workshop a success.

Ling–An Wu is a Professor at the Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. She graduated from Peking Univ., then obtained a Ph.D at the Univ. of Texas at Austin in 1987. Her research is on experimental and theoretical quantum optics and nonlinear optics, including the application of single photons and other nonclassical fields, and also ghost imaging with thermal light. She is currently a Co–Editor of Chinese Physics Letters, Council Member of AAPPS and the Chinese Physical Society where she is Chair of the Commission on Women in Physics, Fellow and Consultant to the Institute of Physics (UK) Beijing Office, and past member of the IUPAP Working Group on Women in Physics.

**Recommendations of
the Association of Asia Pacific Physical Societies (AAPPS)
2nd Workshop on Women in Physics**

Since the first International Workshop on Asian Women in Physics was held in Pohang, Korea in November 2005, the representation of women in physics in the Asia–Pacific region has improved to a certain extent, but is still far from ideal. Many governments internationally have identified that economic prosperity is dependent on innovation in science and technology. Research has also identified that innovation is advanced and optimized by diversity, which includes having gender diversity. On Nov 13–14, 2010, the Association of Asia Pacific Physical Societies and the Chinese Physical Society sponsored the AAPPS 2nd Workshop on Women in Physics. The meeting was hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), and funded by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Shanghai Women’s Federation, SJTU Women’s Committee, the Institute of Physics (UK), and LOREAL China. Over 50 people from ten countries and regions attended, with more than 20 presentations on the current situation of women in physics in these regions, including the activities of the various Working Groups on Women in Physics.

Three panel discussions were held, and as a result the following recommendations were proposed for approval by the AAPPS Council.

1. AAPPS should continue to support its Working Group on Women in Physics (WGWIP), and request all Member Societies to establish their own WGWIP if they have not yet done so.

2. Member Societies should delegate their WGWIP to convene meetings to (i) examine the issues of women in physics at least annually, and; (ii) ensure the presence of council members and invited male speakers at these meetings. Collective decision making in partnership with male colleagues is essential for the successful implementation of any action to improve the representation of women in physics, and with improved representation, we come closer to realizing the full human potential for discovery and innovation in physics.

3. Member Societies should increase their relations with more sectors of society (e.g., schools, industry, and government agencies) so that physics can interact with all walks of life and attract girls and boys alike, thereby increasing the potential participation of women in physics.

4. The results of this and all future workshops should be disseminated through all possible media. Interactive sessions with the media should be envisaged for future WGWIP meetings at AAPPS conferences.



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1 President Jie Zhang giving the opening address

2 Opening session

3 Billboard

5 C. Foley presiding over a panel session

6 Plenary session talk

7 Group photo

