

JUNE 2020 ISSUE #26



# IRPA Bulletin

*For RP professionals, by RP professionals*



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## UPDATE - THE 15TH IRPA CONGRESS

The IRPA and the Korean Association for Radiation Protection (KARP) jointly host the 15th International Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA15), from 18-22 January 2021, Seoul, Korea. The Congress is being organized under the theme, “Bridging Radiation Protection Culture and Science - Widening Public Empathy.” All the programmes run by world-renowned speakers, including plenary sessions and special sessions, are still intact as well as the oral & poster sessions, joint workshops, satellite meetings, exhibitions, and social programmes. The IRPA15 will take place at the planned venue, COEX, the largest convention centre in Asia. The early registration and poster abstract submission are still open; please visit the official website for more information at [www.irpa2020.org](http://www.irpa2020.org). You don't want to miss out!

**NOTE:** All pre-arranged scientific programmes, such as plenary session, special session, technical session (including enhanced topic session), thematic session, refresher courses and four related satellite meetings remain valid.

- COVID-19 UPDATE:

We, as a global community, faced one of the most viral and dire threats infecting our daily lives. Yes, these are fearful times. However, amidst the confusion and anxiety, the acknowledgment for hope and solidarity makes all of us stay calm and cope with everyday life. The stabilization of the COVID-19 in the international community is the critical factor for a successful hosting of IRPA15. Korea is currently practicing “distancing in daily life” campaign for the safety of the public. Across the country, the number of new confirmed cases is showing a steady decrease. All the members of the organizing committee of IRPA15 are closely monitoring the current situation, prioritizing the well-being of our society, and discussing the means to fulfil and share the sense of responsibility as RP professionals. Hence, IRPA15 is being prepared to be one of the events that will bring out the hope and solidarity to the global community.

- Website Remodelling:

Please visit our improved and refreshed official webpage for the latest update on IRPA15. The IRPA15 Secretariat updates it regularly; please stay in the loop with the IRPA15 webpage. The new tour schemes, social programmes, accommodation reservation system will be updated soon. You can still conveniently sign up for IRPA15 online. Also, look into the newest online-application for exhibitors and sponsors. Don't forget to check out the revised important dates.



## KEY DATES:

NOTE! Poster Abstract Submission is still open; please hurry and submit!

Content	Deadline
<b>Poster Abstract Submission</b>	31 August 2020
<b>Poster Abstract Acceptance Notification</b>	30 September 2020
<b>Full Paper Submission</b>	30 November 2020
<b>Early Online Registration</b>	16 October 2020
<b>Standard Online Registration</b>	31 December 2020

- Abstract Submission Status

Thanks to all the registrants' active involvement in IRPA15. Before COVID-19, 884 abstracts from 74 countries were submitted. The poster abstract submission is open until the end of August 2020. The expectation of the RP professionals to step up and intensify on the field of expertise is higher than ever in times like this. Please encourage colleagues to sign up and submit poster abstracts to the IRPA15. Check out our distinguished line of chairs and speakers for plenary sessions.

NO	Lecture Title	Chair	Invited Speaker
1	Sievert Lecture	Roger Coates (IRPA, UK)	Eliseo Vañó (Complutense Univ., Spain)
2	Public understanding and communication: Overcoming communication challenges when facts, emotions, and feelings collide during and after a radiological event	Hiroko Yoshida (Tohoku Univ., Japan)	Vincent Covello (Center for Risk Communication, USA)
3	Health effects and inference of risks due to radiation exposure	Sisko Salomaa (STUK, Finland)	Peter Jacob (Helmholtz Zentrum München, Institute of Radiation Protection, Germany)
4	Radiation protection culture	Roger Coates (IRPA, UK)	Helen Rycraft (UK), Bernard Le Guen (IRPA, France)
5	Fukushima: Radiation risk and public health	Ludovic Vaillant (CEPN, France)	Gillian Hirth (UNSCEAR, Australia), Kenji Kamiya (Hiroshima Univ., Japan)
6	Non- ionising radiation: Developing the system of protection	Wolfgang Weiss (German-Swiss Association for Radiation Protection, Germany)	Eric Van Rongen (ICNIRP, Netherlands), Emilie Van Deventer (WHO, Switzerland)
7	Ethics in radiation	Jim Thurston (Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, UK)	Deborah Helen Oughton (NIBH, CERAD, UK), Kun-Woo Cho (KINS, Korea)
8	The future of the system of radiological protection	Wolfgang Weiss (German-Swiss Association for Radiation Protection, Germany)	Roger Coates (IRPA, UK), Claire Cousins (ICRP, UK), Maria Perez (WHO, Switzerland), Uhm Jaesik (NSSC, Korea)



- 3rd Announcement

A revised and polished new 3rd Announcement is being designed. It will be published by the end of June 2020 to download on the official website. IRPA15 seeks to be an eco-friendly congress as possible; accordingly, the 3rd Announcement will be issued and distributed in an E-book style. 3rd E-Announcement will include all the updated information and new dates for the registrants' convenience. We will send it to all registrants as soon as possible via email.

- Message of Encouragement

IRPA15 International Congress Organising Committee (ICOC) had an unforeseen pandemic strike during the preparation of IRPA15. Reflecting on numerous devastating news that challenged our lives from all over the world, we were hard-pressed on every side. However, in the end, we know that we will not be crushed. In this time of crisis, we believe that we need to prepare for the post-COVID world and pressing forward with our duty as RP professionals. IRPA15 ICOC is respectfully asking your participation and involvement in IRPA15. Having the weight of being the RP professional of the era of COVID-19, ICOC is more than ready to prepare the Congress thoroughly in advance.

If you have any questions or inquiries,  
please contact IRPA15 Secretariat  
info@irpa2020.org      +82-70-4895-4499



# ARGENTINE RADIATION PROTECTION SOCIETY: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (SAR EXECUTIVE COUNCIL)

The Argentine Radiation Protection Society (SAR) was founded in 1965 by a group of pioneers in radiation protection, who were also visionaries when they thought that by combining knowledge, wills and capabilities, there would be an advance and improvement in the practice of radiation protection for the benefit of all.

Over the years, SAR got involved in many different activities at the national, regional and international levels, always based on the founders' premises to promote scientific work, exchange of knowledge and best practices in radiation protection. Always looking forward! But an activity that had never been done before was, to look back and write the "History of SAR". In October 2019, during the XII Argentine Radiation Protection Congress, a book was presented that summarizes more than 50 years of activities carried out by SAR. [http://radioproteccionsar.org.ar/downloads/historia\\_sar.pdf](http://radioproteccionsar.org.ar/downloads/historia_sar.pdf)

During this Congress there were oral presentations on different radiation protection topics and also a contest to select the young professional to represent SAR at the Young Scientific Award (YSA) - IRPA 15 and the winner was Natalia Lendoiro.

For many years, SAR has been delivering radiation protection courses in different areas, always with face-to-face classes. Currently SAR is converting all its educational offerings with the dictation of courses in virtual form to be able to continue training during the period of Covid-19 and also to be able to reach students from all over the country who need training to carry out their work with radiation.

SAR considers that its future is based on the new generation of radiation protection professionals, which is why 2 years ago the Young SAR Network (Red SAR Joven) was launched with the aim of generating a space for the exchange of ideas, consultations and the dissemination of news and the work of young members using the tools of new technologies. Red SAR Joven, chaired by Cinthia Papp, is a special space for young professionals where they can develop their own projects and also take advantage of the experience and the mentoring of senior professionals. This initiative is very successful and encourages SAR members to continue writing many new pages in the "History of SAR".



(Past presidents and past Executive Council members of SAR at the presentation of the "History of SAR" at the XII Argentine Radiation Protection Congress)

# UPDATE OF THE CAMEROON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION SOCIETY

(DR SAIDU, PRESIDENT, CRPS)

Cameroon Radiological Protection Society (CRPS) was created in September 2012 and admitted as the 49th Associate Society of the International Radiological Protection Association at the 65th Meeting of IRPA Executive Council in Ottawa in July 2013. The objectives of the Association are to advance radiation protection by promoting knowledge, information, and research and provide networking opportunities for professional in the field. CRPS activities include encouraging research in radiation science, developing standards, and disseminating radiation safety information.

CRPS currently has seventy members involved in activities using ionizing radiation and/or conducting research in nuclear sciences and technology. Some of them are from neighboring countries: Chad, Congo-Brazzaville and Central Africa Republic. Environmental radioactivity and dosimetry is one of the most developed activities carried out jointly by CRPS and research laboratories at the Nuclear Technology Section of the Institute of Geological and Mining Research, Nuclear Physics Laboratory of the Faculty of Science of the University of Yaoundé I, Centre for Atomic Molecular Physics and Quantum Optics of the University of Douala. Some international partners, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Hirosaki University in Japan and the Institute of Radiation Physics, University Hospital in Lausanne, Switzerland played important roles for the development of such research field in Cameroon, including the following:

- The national radon plan for controlling public exposure due to indoor radon exposure;
- Radon-risk mapping;
- Car-borne survey of mining and ore bearing areas;
- Natural radiation exposure to the public;
- Recommendations on radiological protection of the public and the environment to the competent authorities;
- Organization of national conferences/workshops in 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017 on radioecology, radiation protection and nuclear instrumentation;
- Organization of the international conference on natural radiation exposure to the public and its health effects on 27-29 November 2017 in Yaoundé, Cameroon ;
- Contribution to the update of the academic curriculum at postgraduate level by strengthening radiation protection and dosimetry, and including radiation metrology and nuclear reactor physics at the Faculty of Science of the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon.

Upcoming activities:

- Organization of a national workshop on radiation protection in September 2020;
- Participation of CRPS Delegates to IRPA15 in Seoul, Korea in January 2020;
- Training radiation users at hospitals on the harmful effects of ionizing radiation.



# ROMANIAN SOCIETY FOR RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION (RSRP)

(CONSTANTIN MILU, PRESIDENT OF RSRP)



The Romanian Society for Radiological Protection (RSRP, [www.srrp.ro](http://www.srrp.ro)) was founded in May 1990. It has been an active IRPA Associated Society since 1992 and a member of the Central European Association of IRPA Associated Societies since 2000. RSRP is a professional association of the Romanian specialists in radiation protection field and a nonadvocacy, nonprofit and nongovernmental organization. Our goals are: (1). to protect population and radiation workers against the harmful effects of ionizing radiation; (2). to develop and make known the scientific, technical, medical and legal aspects of radiation protection on a nationwide scale; and (3). to inform the civil society in the benefit/risk for the ionizing radiation uses.

RSRP at a glance:

- Permanent members: 78;
- Annual conferences (between 80 and 100 participants topics covering medical exposure, radon exposure, Fukushima, safety culture). Four recent meetings were dedicated to the implementation in Romania of the Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom;
- Participations to the International and Regional IRPA Congresses during the last 30 years. Good collaborations with European IRPA societies;
- Correct positioning in the Social Media regarding radiation protection issues, of interest for the public in Romania;
- Successfully organized the IRPA Regional Congress for Central and Eastern Europe on 24-28 September 2007 in Brasov, Romania with the theme "Regional and Global Aspects of Radiological Protection". It attracted a total of 330 participants from 27 countries and many international organizations.

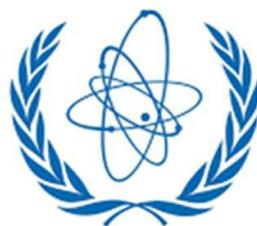
# THE 2ND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MEETING OF THE CROATIAN RADIATION PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (CRPA)

(MARINA POJE SOVILJ AND MARIJANA NODILO)

The second independent young professional meeting of the Croatian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA) was held on February 11th 2020 at the Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb. The main goal of the meeting was gathering and strengthening scientific cooperation between younger members of the CRPA, as well as discussing problems that young people encounter nowadays. At the beginning of the meeting, CRPA President and Secretary, Ines Krajcar Bronić and Željka Knežević Medija, greeted the participants. The meeting was attended by twelve participants and nine lectures were given. After the introductory part, the participants held lectures with a discussion after each lecture. Many opportunities for cooperation opened up during the discussions. The next independent meeting of the Croatian Radiation Protection Association (CRPA) young professionals will be held in two years.



# Environet Network Essay Contest on NORM Residue Management in the context of Circular Economy



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

The NORM2020 Conference wishes to establish a look into the future in which sustainability principles, aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), are of paramount importance to back up development objectives. In this context, making efficient use of raw materials and natural resources is of strategic importance and these are linked with the principles of the waste management hierarchy and circular economy practices that are aimed at eliminating waste and promoting the responsible and cyclical use of resources.

The NORM2020 Conference amplifies the objectives of the IAEA-Environet (Network on Environmental Management and Remediation) NORM Project that has established three task groups i) one aimed at providing guidance on the establishment of Policies and Strategies for NORM; ii) a second one on the definition of strategies to establish NORM Inventories in Member States ;and iii) a third one on establishing Cost Estimation of different NORM Residue and Waste Management approaches.

In the scope of the NORM Project, the Environet is inviting young professionals (below 35 years old) to develop an essay outlining innovative strategies and approaches to manage NORM residues and waste aligned with the waste management hierarchy and the circular economy. The essay should be 2 pages long indicating the industry where the residue/waste comes from, the feasibility of the intended approach and the fields of application. Economic considerations, safety/regulatory implications and stakeholder acceptability may be also considered. The essay must be original, written in English, and limited to 800 words.

The essays should be sent to the email of NORM2020 Conference (NORM2020@iaea.org) until the 14th of August. The submitted essays will be reviewed by the Chair and Work Group leaders of the Environet NORM Project. The best essay will be granted a lump sum (air ticket + lodging over the entire duration of the Conference) and will be entitled to make a 20-minute presentation during the closing session of NORM2020 Conference.



## In Memoriam: Richard V. Griffith

(KENNETH KASE, PAST IRPA PRESIDENT)



Richard "Dick" Griffith passed away on February 16th, 2020, at UC Davis Medical Center Hospital in Sacramento, CA, at the age of 82. Dick was born on December 18, 1937 to George and Josephine Griffith in Evanston, IL and grew up in Skokie, IL. He graduated from Northwestern University and served his country in the Air Force, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserves.

Dick received a Master's Degree in Nuclear Health Physics from UC Berkeley and worked for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for more than 20 years. His first position at LLNL was as the Radiation Counting Lab supervisor and his last was as the Special Projects Division Leader, a role he filled for 10 years. While at LLNL, Dick worked on the development of nuclear track detectors for neutron dosimetry. He achieved international recognition for that work as well as for his work developing realistic torso phantoms for use in calibrations by transuranic nuclide lung counting facilities.

Following his tenure at LLNL, Dick and his wife Marsha moved to Vienna, Austria for 10 years after he accepted a position with the United Nations, serving as a diplomat and technical advisor with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Division of Radiation and Waste Safety. While at the IAEA he served as a consultant to member states on radiation counting equipment and facilities, and he coordinated the development of IAEA radiation safety documents. In addition to his LLNL and IAEA work, Dick served on the Executive Council of the International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA) as Publications Director from 2000-2012, and as an editor of the Health Physics Journal for many years.

After retiring from the IAEA, Dick and Marsha resided in Woodbridge, CA. Dick was active in his church, a volunteer on the Board of Woodbridge Greens Association and for Loel Senior Center Meals on Wheels. He also became a Master Gardener. Dick loved telling dad jokes, although the quality of those jokes was a matter of family debate. He relished annual trips with Marsha, close friends and family to Hot August Nights in Reno. He was brilliant, loving, caring, kind and funny. And he liked listening to Johnny Cash and Roy Clark.