



DHP NEWS

History of
Physics
Fall 2017

This is the Newsletter of the CAP's History of Physics Division, published twice a year in the fall and in the spring. We welcome DHP members' reports on events and suggestions of topics.

Congress 2018

The 2018 CAP Congress will be held at Dalhousie University (Halifax, NS), from June 11-15.

In connection with Dalhousie's 200th anniversary, the History of Physics Division will feature an invited talk on the history of Dalhousie's Physics department, by Emeritus Professor Manfred Jericho. A second invited talk is yet to be confirmed.

Contributed talks are welcome during DHP sessions, on any historical aspect of Canadian or international physics. Please consider making a presentation. The call for abstracts will be issued early in 2018, and the deadline for the submission of abstracts is the end of February.

S&T Museum Reopens

The [Canada Science and Technology Museum](#) is now open after a three-year closure. It is an entirely new building with 80,000 sq ft of new exhibitions (11 in total), almost double the number of displayed artifacts from the collection, and covering topics such as energy, natural resources, communications, wearable technology, transportation, the great outdoors, domestic technology, medicine, and oceanography. Running through the spine of the museum is Artifact Alley showcasing highlights from the vast holdings of the museum. The Hidden Worlds exhibition features beautiful arrays of historic objects from the world of microscopy, past and present. In a section on astronomy, there is a historic telescope (1665) on loan from the Museo Galileo in Florence. This exhibition also

features a large display devoted to Indigenous star knowledge.

The building itself is a spectacle. When night falls, the facade of the building serves as a projection screen for an array of moving images about science and technology created by NFB film maker Philippe Baylaucq.

Historical Canadian Research Milestones

In connection with the new CAP website, the CAP Communications Committee is considering a number of initiatives to highlight anniversaries related to (primarily) Canadian physicists and/or Canadian research milestones. A first step would be to collect a database associating dates in the year with physics events that occurred on that date and names of physicists that were born or achieved some historical result on that date. DHP can play a leading role in identifying the significant milestones that would be recognized throughout the year. Are there volunteers (including students) willing to help in constituting such a database? Interested people should contact the DHP Chair (email below), who will then see how the work can be shared.

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