

Professor Manuel Prieto, President-Elect

Current appointment: Full Professor of Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal)

Professional Positions (with dates over the past 10 years): Full Professor (2011/), Associate Professor (1992/2011), Member of the Executive Committee and Scientific Director of Group 3 of CQFM (2008/)

Professional Memberships: Portuguese Biophysical Society (Board Member and Past President); Spanish Biophysics Society; Biophysical Society (US); EBSA EC Member and Past- President.

Awards: 2013,2012- Excellent Professor (IST); 2013- “Distinguished Visitor”-Córdoba, Argentina; (Resolution HCD/13); 2011-Honorary Member - Sociedad Biofísica de España;2008, 2007- Prémio Científico UTL/Santander Totta- Rectorate of UTL; 2006- Prémio União Latina, Rectorate of the University for excellence of scientific collaboration with Latin America; 2005- Estímulo à Excelência- FCT (Portugal)

Activities on behalf of IUPAB:

Past Council Member of IUPAB (2005-2011); Author of proposal for Capacity Building in Africa

Personal Statement with other relevant information:

Scientific output: The group attained international recognition in the areas of fluorescence, membrane biophysics and microscopy (22 PhD students, high profile careers, now Full and Associate Prof.; 13 post-docs); 196 ISI pub. Citation number (year) of relevant works: 517 (2003), 191 (2005), 155 (2003), 108 (2008), 107 (2007) (at 03/04/2017); PI/participant in 20 projects in the last 10 years.

Collaboration with scientific organizations: EC Member and Past-President of EBSA (European Biophysical Societies' Association); Member of the “Scientific Committee” “Science Europe” (Physical, Chemical and Mathematical Sciences, including Materials Sciences (PHYCHEMA)) (2013-2015); Member of FEBS (Federation of the European Biochemical Societies) “Publications Committee” (2009-2013); “Faculty Member” of "UNESCO Chair of Biophysics and Molecular Neurobiology", Argentina; "International Mentor" of BS, USA; Council Member of IUPAB (2005-2011); Member of the Council of LaFeBS (Latin American Federation of Biophysical Societies (2016/); Editorial Board member of BBA-Biomembranes, Chem. Phys.

Lipids, Frontiers; Member of the Scientific Council of FCT (Portugal); Founder of the Portuguese Biophysics Society. Project evaluator for 18 international funding agencies

Also, I am a regular participant of Courses in Europe (EBSA), and Latin-American (LaFeBS), and participate in Science Outreach activities in Portugal, Spain, Brazil and Uruguay.

Action to be taken in IUPAB.

I have a deep knowledge how to run a learned society, considering my previous involvement described above. Within the statutes of IUPAB, I would consider: i) strengthen the connections of IUPAB with the other regional/relevant organizations (EBSA, Europe; LAFeBS, Latin America; BS, USA; ABA, Asia). Within these areas, I would use my strong connections to keep the already successful actions carried out in Latin America, and also improve the ones with India, where I have been a frequent visitor. Both in India and Latin America a high profile scientific activity already exists, but should be strengthened. Other region that deserves attention is Eastern Europe and Middle East, and joint efforts with EBSA could be organized.

Also, IUPAB should lobby in favour of biophysics as a highly relevant area, and should get more visibility in order to attract funding. We have the recent example of nanosciences/materials (in fact sometimes in intersection with Biophysics), which reached priority in funding in a high number of agencies. Regarding Africa, when I was IUPAB Council Member, I proposed three specific actions to be implemented, and these could be reconsidered.

Also, in these complex times, we should fight for science and rationalism. In addition to support courses for MSc/PhD students, also science outreach activities in a wide scale should be promoted, among secondary school students. This would involve no significant costs, and the actions already promoted by the Task Force on Education and Capacity Building on science outreach should be improved. Also, in this moment both in Europe and US, and eventually worldwide, it is critical to demonstrate to politicians and the general public in the relevance of basic science. A document was already issued by IUPAB; this effort should be continued, and biophysicists should lobby for it with IUPAB support. For this purpose, joining efforts with the Biological Physics Commission of IUPAB should be considered.