



The Abdus Salam
**International Centre
for Theoretical Physics**

timeline



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency



timeline



The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP),

located in Trieste, Italy, is a unique scientific institution. Dedicated to both research and training, the Centre has earned an international reputation for its contributions to the advancement of science in the developing world. Over the past four decades approximately 100,000 scientists have visited the Centre to participate in its training and research activities. In addition, ICTP's research staff have made significant contributions to a variety of subjects in high energy physics, condensed matter physics and mathematics. More recently, the Centre has extended its research efforts to fields such as the physics of weather and climate, seismology, statistical physics and complex systems, and a variety of areas in applied physics. What follows is a historical timeline of critical events that have shaped ICTP's past accomplishments and created a strong foundation for future success.



1960

• **June** - University of Trieste's physics faculty holds Symposium on Elementary Particle Interactions in the Casteletto ("small castle") in Miramare Park less than 10 kilometres from downtown Trieste. Abdus Salam invited to attend, marking first face-to-face meeting between him and Trieste's physics community. Daniele Amati, Luciano Bertocchi, Paolo Budinich, Nicolò Dallaporta, Giuseppe Furlan and Claudio Villi—individuals who will become instrumental to the success and long-term growth of ICTP—participate in event.



• **August** - Participants—among them, Abdus Salam—at the Tenth Annual International Conference on High Energy Physics in Rochester, New York (USA), discuss possibility of creating an international centre for theoretical physics to promote collaboration among physicists from East and West.

• **September** - As a member of Pakistani delegation to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Abdus Salam calls for creation of international physics centre at IAEA's Fourth General Conference in Vienna, Austria. Many developing countries support proposal.

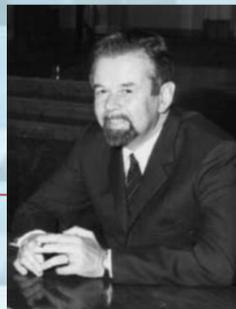


1961

• **February** - Citizens' Committee asks Italian government to nominate Trieste as Italy's candidate to serve as the 'seat' of the proposed international centre. Trieste's mayor, Mario Franzil, formed the committee, which consisted of prominent citizens in government, commerce, education and industry, to promote city's efforts to host centre.

• **March** - Italian Government submits candidacy of Trieste to IAEA.

Sterling Cole, IAEA Director General, convenes panel of experts to discuss feasibility of creating international centre for theoretical physics. Panel recommends creation of such a centre. Paolo Budinich, a physicist at University of Trieste, is an observer to panel. He later serves as ICTP's Deputy Director (1964-1978).



1962

• **July** - IAEA International Seminar on Theoretical Physics held in Trieste.



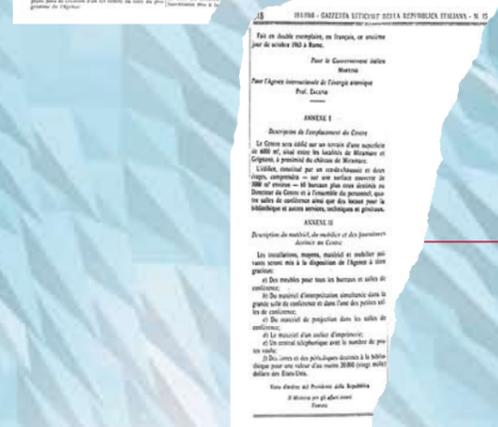
• **September** - IAEA's General Conference and Board of Governors endorse creation of international centre for theoretical physics and request financial assistance from IAEA member states.

1963

• **April** - Sigvard Eklund, IAEA Director General, convenes panel of experts to devise framework for institution-to-be.



• **June** - IAEA accepts Italian offer. Other candidates are Austria, Denmark, Pakistan and Turkey.
 • **11 October** - Italian government and IAEA sign agreement "concerning the establishment of an international centre for theoretical physics at Trieste."



timeline

1964

- Scientific Council, chaired by Mexican-born physicist Manuel Sandoval Vallarta, meets at IAEA (28-29 May) and ICTP (13 September). Vallarta holds post until 1970.
- Associateship Scheme established.



- 18 June - Minister of Scientific Research Carlo Arnaudi lays Main Building's cornerstone.

- 5 October - ICTP officially inaugurated with programmes in plasma, high energy and nuclear physics. Offices temporarily housed at 6, Piazza Oberdan in centre of Trieste.



1965

- Federation Scheme launched.
- Research group in plasma physics, headed by Boris B. Kadomtsev, Marshall N. Rosenbluth and William B. Thompson, organised.



- Academic year 1965-1966.

1966

- First course on theoretical nuclear physics, directed by Amos de-Shalit and Claudio Villi, takes place.
- Jerzy Sawicki assembles research group in nuclear physics.

1967

- Ford Foundation provides financial assistance to associates and federation agreements. Funding continues until 1973.
- Solid state physics added to research and training curriculum.
- 5 December - IAEA and Italian Government sign "seat" agreement, formalising the location of ICTP secretariat in Trieste.

1968

- ICTP offices move to new (Main) building near Miramare Park. To celebrate event, Symposium on Contemporary Physics is held in June. More than 300 physicists attend, including Nobel Laureates Hans A. Bethe, Francis H.C. Crick, Paul A.M. Dirac, Werner Heisenberg and Eugene P. Wigner.



1969

- Ad-Hoc Committee, chaired by Dutch physicist Hendrik B.G. Casimir, assesses ICTP's impact. Daniele Amati, future director of International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA), serves on committee, which recommends ICTP research and training activities be expanded to include mathematics and condensed matter physics.
- Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) begins its support of associates programme.

1970

- 1 January - UNESCO joins IAEA as full partner in management of ICTP.



1971

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through UNESCO, contributes to activities in condensed matter physics and establishment of programmes in applied mathematics. Funding continues until 1978.
- Mathematics added to curriculum.
- Seminar Course on Computing as a Language of Physics, organised in co-operation with CERN, marking beginning of applied physics at Centre.
- Nobel Laureate Alfred Kastler succeeds Manuel Sandoval Vallarta as chair of Scientific Council. Kastler remains in post until 1982.



1972

- First UNDP-sponsored course in applied mathematics, Global Analysis and Its Applications, held. Directed by James Eells and E. Christopher Zeeman.
- On occasion of Paul A.M. Dirac's 70th birthday, Centre hosts Symposium on Physicist's Conception of Nature, attended by several Nobel Laureates.



1973

- Atomic, molecular and laser physics introduced into curriculum. Alfred Kastler directs first course.

1974

- Mario P. Tosi and Erio Tosatti, University of Trieste, form core of permanent research group in Condensed Matter Physics.
- Ad-Hoc Committee, chaired by Léon Van Hove, recommends biophysics and earth sciences be added to curriculum and computing facilities be made readily accessible.



1975

- First course on physics of environment held: Physics of Oceans and Atmosphere, directed by Sir George Deacon.

1977

- 28 June - Laying of cornerstone of Galileo Guesthouse.



1979

- Abdus Salam shares Nobel Prize in physics with Sheldon Glashow and Steven Weinberg for their work on the theoretical unification of electromagnetic and weak forces.



timeline

1981

• ICTP launches series of Colleges on Microprocessors, organised in co-operation with CERN.

1982



• Galileo Guesthouse opens.

• Scientific Council creates ICTP Prize to honour promising young scientists from developing countries for achievements in physics and mathematics. First recipient is Ganapathy Baskaran (India) in 1983.

• First course on biophysics held, directed by Sergio Mascarenhas and Obaid Siddiqi.

1983



• Grant from Department for Co-operation to Development of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs launches programme for Training and Research at Italian Laboratories (TRIL), headed by Giuseppe Furlan.

• Ad-Hoc Committee, chaired by Paul T. Matthews, calls for Centre to organise activities in developing countries.

• Luciano Bertocchi, professor of physics at University of Trieste, officially appointed Deputy Director. His association with ICTP dates back to 1960s.

• Swedish-born physicist Stig Olof Lundqvist becomes chair of Scientific Council, a post he holds until 1992.



1984

• Centre hosts series of events commemorating 20th anniversary: ICTP Trieste Commemorative Meeting on the Next Twenty Years in Plasma Physics; International Conference on Physics for Development; Symposium on State of Physics and Mathematics in Africa; and General Assembly of International Union for Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP).



• Expansion of Main Building begins.



• Carlo Rubbia wins Nobel Prize for Physics for his discovery of W particle that confirms Abdus Salam's theory. He learns of news while at ICTP.

• Books and Equipment Donation Programme launched, headed by Hassan Dalafi.



1985

• Dirac Medal of the ICTP established. Yakov Zeldovich (USSR) and Edward Witten (USA) first recipients.



• Additional funding from Italian government leads to creation of Office of External Activities, headed by Jan Nilsson.



• 5 July - UN Secretary General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, visits ICTP to participate in Conference on South-South and South-North Cooperation in Sciences, marking official inauguration of

Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). Abdus Salam is Academy's founding President. Mohamed H.A. Hassan serves as Executive Secretary.



• Discussions begin for transferring ICTP administrative responsibilities from IAEA to UNESCO.

• ICTP signs agreement with Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) to jointly operate Microprocessors Laboratory under sponsorship of UN University. Alberto Colavita heads group.



• Chapter leaders of Society for International Development (SID) hold meeting at ICTP.



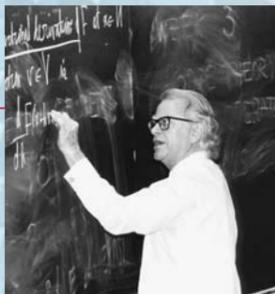
• ICTP begins renting Adriatico Guesthouse.

• ICTP Arab Friends Society (SARF) holds its first Inter-Arab Symposium on Status of Physical and Mathematical Sciences in Arab World at Centre.

1986

• Stig Lundqvist organises first series of Adriatico Research Conferences to discuss frontier topics in condensed matter physics.

• Mathematics research group established. James Eells, professor at Warwick University (UK), is appointed group head. He remains in post until 1992.



• School on Advanced Techniques in Computational Physics and Conference on Perspectives in Computational Physics organised to discuss supercomputers.

1987

• High Temperature Superconductivity Laboratory, headed by Francesco Cino Maticotta, established to support training workshops. Research activities begin in 1989. Lab remains active until 1995.



1988



• Abdus Salam proposes creation of International Centre for Sciences (ICS).

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) initiates feasibility study. Panel composed of (from left) Karl Alex Müller, Giorgio Rosso Cicogna, Abdus Salam, Klaus von Klitzing and Kai Siegbahn.

• ICTP hosts first Edward Bouchet International Conference on Physics and Technology, organised by Afro-American physicists in honour of Edward Alexander Bouchet, first black American physicist.



• Conference on Role of Women in the Development of Science and Technology in Third World organised by TWAS, setting stage for creation of Third World Organization for Women Scientists (TWOWS) in Trieste.

1989

First Staff Associates appointed.

Julian Chela-Flores (biophysics) is among them.



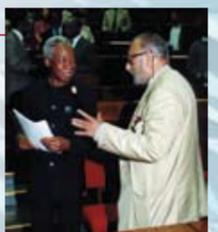
• Gallieno Denardo appointed head of Office of External Activities.

• Abdus Salam speaks on "Trieste System" at UN headquarters in New York.

• Abdus Salam chairs panel, convened by UN Secretary General, to discuss issues related to peace, development, and science and technology.

• 9 June - Julius Nyerere, former President of Tanzania and President of South Commission, visits ICTP.

• October - 25th anniversary celebration attended by Giulio Andreotti, Prime Minister of Italy; Hans Blix, IAEA Director General; and five Nobel Laureates. Scientific meeting, Frontiers in Physics, High Technology and Mathematics, examines most significant achievements in sciences in past quarter century.



• Scientific Computer Section, headed by Alvise Nobile, installs a mini-supercomputer.



timeline

1990

- Yu Lu appointed head of Condensed Matter Physics Group. He joined ICTP in 1986.



- Offices, including Library, move to new wing of Main Building.



- GianCarlo Ghirardi appointed head of Associates and Federation Agreement programmes.

- Trieste Conference on Scientific Cooperation with Eastern Europe examines prospects for East-West cooperation following collapse of Soviet Union.

- Laboratory for Lasers and Optical Fibres, headed by Gallieno Denardo, begins research and training activities. International Centre for Science and High Technology (ICS), Area Science Park, located in Trieste, assumes responsibility for laboratory in 1996.



- Plasma Physics Research Group established. Swadesh Mahajan is appointed group head. Group remains in operation until 1996.



- 27 June - Members of European Parliament visit ICTP.



- Symposium on Frontiers in Condensed Matter Physics, in honour of Stig Lundqvist, organised. Five Nobel Laureates participate.

- Trieste Conference on Cooperation in Science, High Technology and Environment between North and South Mediterranean Countries convened.

- Construction of new administrative (Enrico Fermi) building begins.



1991

- Diploma Course in High Energy Physics and Condensed Matter Physics launched, coordinated by Faheem Hussain and Vijay Kumar.



- Roundtable on Scientific Brain Drain in the Third World and in Central and Eastern Europe.

- Iranian government's US\$3 million bridge loan enables ICTP to overcome the greatest cash flow crisis in Centre's history.

1992

- New activities established in Structure and Nonlinear Dynamics of the Earth, headed by Giuliano Francesco Panza, and Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics and Radiopropagation, headed by Sandro Maria Radicella.



- Diploma Course in Mathematics, coordinated by Charles Chidume, launched.



- Roundtable on Essential Role of Science in Technological Progress and Economic Development held.



- Symposium on Frontiers in Condensed Matter Physics, celebrating 25 years of condensed matter physics at ICTP. Participants include Nobel Laureates Karl Alex Müller and J. Robert Schrieffer.

- Mudumbai Seshachalu Narasimhan appointed head of Mathematics Research Group.

1993

- 11 February - Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, President of Italy, visits ICTP.



- India-ICTP Chapter in New Delhi organized.



- J. Robert Schrieffer appointed chair of ICTP Scientific Council.

- Ad-Hoc Consultative Committee, chaired by Praveen Chaudhari, calls for ICTP to expand research and training activities to statistical physics.



- Central computing facility interconnected with high-speed link. UNIX-based servers and in-house scripts enable Centre scientists and staff to fully enter computer age.

1994

- Abdus Salam resigns as Director and is appointed President of ICTP. Luciano Bertocchi named Acting Director.

- Seifallah Randjbar-Daemi heads High Energy Physics Group. He joined ICTP as research scientist in 1987.



- Subodh Shenoy replaces Vijay Kumar as coordinator of Diploma Course in Condensed Matter Physics.



- Library begins automation. Full on-line search facility installed.

1995

- Argentinean physicist Miguel Virasoro appointed ICTP Director.



- ICTP project connecting Nigerian universities to world wide web launched.



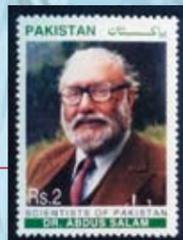
1996

- 11 January - Hans Blix, IAEA's Director General, and Federico Mayor-Zaragoza, UNESCO's Director General, attend ceremony marking transfer of ICTP administrative responsibilities from IAEA to UNESCO.



- ICTP-China chapter established.

- 21 November - Abdus Salam dies in Oxford, UK. He is buried in his native Pakistan.



1997

- Enrico Fermi Building opens. Giorgio Salvini, Minister of Scientific and Technological Research, cuts ceremonial ribbon.



- November - Memorial meeting held in honour of Abdus Salam. Centre renamed The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics. Rexhep Mejdani, president of Albania and a theoretical physicist who had participated in several ICTP activities, is among those in attendance.

- ICTP's painting competition "Nature and Science in Miramare" held, followed by creation of The Centre's Art Gallery.



1998

- ICTP modifies rules for Associates Scheme and creates new category of participation: Young Associate.

- Group of Physics of Weather and Climate established. Headed by Filippo Giorgi.



- Praveen Chaudhari appointed chair of Scientific Council.

- Faheem Hussain appointed head of Office of External Activities.



- Hilda Cerdeira appointed head of ICTP/TWAS Donation Programme.

1999

- New research line, Synchrotron Radiation Related Physics, established.

- Headed by Massimo Altarelli, who is also Scientific Director of Trieste's Elettra Synchrotron Light Laboratory.



- International Commission for Optics (ICO)/ICTP Award in field of optics created. First recipient is Arbab Ali Khan (Pakistan).

- 3 September - IAEA's Director General, Mohamed ElBaradei, visits ICTP.

- India's Department of Science and Technology signs 5-year agreement to support annual visits of Indian mathematicians and physicists to participate in Centre activities.



timeline

2000



• Adriatico Guesthouse Lower Level 1 refurbished. Meeting rooms named in honour of Alfred Kastler and Stig Lundqvist. Informatics laboratory named in honour of Sigvard Eklund.

• 3 June - President of Mongolia, Natsagyn Bagabandi, visits ICTP.



• ICTP/TWAS Donation Programme launches eJournals Delivery Service offering scientists from developing world's most impoverished countries free electronic access to the most current scientific literature.

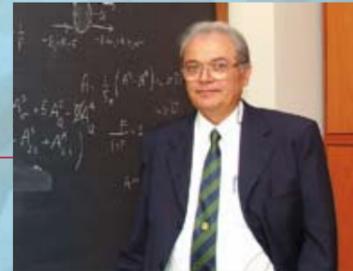
• 24 October - ICTP celebrates UN Day for first time, Trieste Mayor Roberto Dipiazza is in attendance. Centre employees who have worked for UN for more than 20 years honoured.



• ICTP agrees to host a three-year programme in Ecological and Environmental Economics, jointly managed with the Beijer International Institute of Ecological Economics, Sweden, and Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Italy. Initiative launched at Trieste University with Nobel Laureate Kenneth Arrow in attendance.

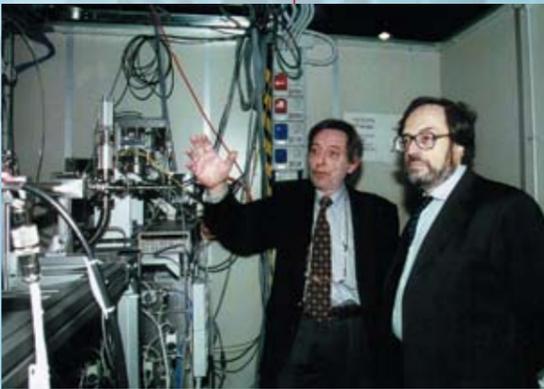


• May - ICTP Director Miguel Virasoro retires. Erio Tosatti appointed Acting Director.



• 15th Anniversary Meeting of Dirac Medallists.

• ICTP and Sincrotrone Trieste S.p.A. sign agreement giving scientists from developing world access to new beamline at Elettra synchrotron light laboratory in Trieste.



• Lê Dung Tráng appointed head of the Mathematics Research Group.

2001



• 16 February - Philippe Busquin, European Union's Commissioner for Research, visits ICTP to discuss ways EU and ICTP could work together to promote scientific cooperation between developing countries and Europe.



• New research activity in Statistical Physics and Complex Systems established in Condensed Matter Physics Group. Headed by Riccardo Zecchina.

• May - Italian government announces it will increase annual contribution to ICTP from 26 to 36 billion lire (US\$18 million). More than 12 new scientific posts in condensed matter physics, high energy physics, mathematics, and physics of weather and climate are created.

• Refurbishing and classroom expansion of Adriatico Guesthouse's Lower Level 1 completed. Meeting room named in honour of Juan José Giambiagi, one of ICTP's first Associate Members and member of the Scientific Council 1987-1995.



2002

• Vladimir Kravtsov appointed head of Condensed Matter Physics Group.



• More than 100 Pakistani alumni of ICTP form ICTP-Pakistan Chapter.

• Refurbished cafeteria and bar at Adriatico Guesthouse opened.

• IAEA's Department of Technical Cooperation partners with ICTP's Office of External Activities in creation of Sandwich Training Educational Programme (STEP). Gallieno Denardo and Daniele Treleani share responsibility for this effort.



2003

• January - K.R. Sreenivasan begins tenure as Director and is appointed "Abdus Salam Professor". To ensure smooth transition, Erio Tosatti continues as Acting Deputy Director until June.

• Research group in Fluid Dynamics created. Cryogenic turbulence laboratory established at Elettra Synchrotron Light Laboratory, Area Science Park, Trieste.



timeline

2004 40th anniversary 1964 2004

- ICTP organises series of events to celebrate 40th anniversary: Public Lectures from March to October, Open Day 18 September, and 40th Anniversary Conference 4-5 October.

- Thirty-four science institutions in Trieste and the surrounding region, including ICTP, sign accord for "greater coordination among national and international research centres in Trieste and Friuli Venezia Giulia."



- Hamadoun I. Touré, Director of International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), and ICTP Director K.R. Sreenivasan sign memorandum of agreement calling on two institutions to collaborate on initiatives to advance communication technology in developing countries.



- 18 March - Marcio Barbosa, Deputy Director General of UNESCO, visits ICTP.

- Jacob Palis succeeds Praveen Chaudhari as chairperson of ICTP Scientific Council. New Council members include Nobel Laureates Kenneth Arrow, Claude Cohen-Tannoudji and Paul J. Crutzen, and Fields Medallist Jean-Christophe Yoccoz.



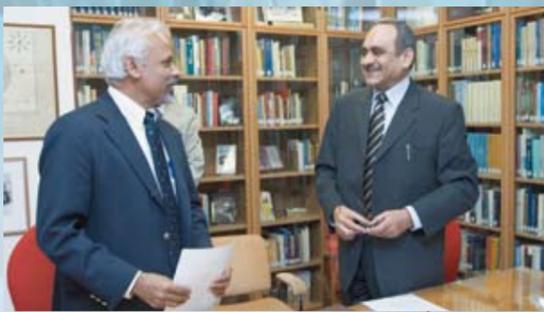
- Claudio Tuniz appointed special assistant to the Director to help strengthen cooperative activities with international organisations.

- Seifallah Randjbar-Daemi appointed special assistant to the Director to serve as "a sounding board for matters concerning the interface between the Centre and developing world."



- Franco Molteni appointed head of the Physics of Weather and Climate Group.

- George Thompson appointed Head of Office of External Activities following retirement of Faheem Hussain.



- A delegation from Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, led by Parvez Butt, signs memorandum of agreement with ICTP that enables 25 Pakistani scientists to visit ICTP every year.



- September - Lead authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group 1, focusing on physical sciences, meet at ICTP to kick off IPCC's fourth assessment report. Rajendra K. Pachauri, IPCC chair, attends meeting.

- ICTP agrees to administer five newly-created prizes funded by the John Templeton Foundation to recognise and assist young scholar-leaders examining the interface between traditional Islamic culture and modern science. ICTP also agrees to administer prize funded by the Niels Henrik Abel Memorial Fund in memory of the Indian mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan, for young mathematicians from the developing world.



- Jafar Towfighi Darian, Iranian Minister of Science, Research and Technology, signs memorandum of understanding with ICTP calling for the creation of two joint postdoctoral positions in basic physics and mathematics; expansion of existing federation agreement between ICTP and Isfahan University of Technology; and admission of two Ph.D. students each year in a 'sandwich' programme funded jointly by ICTP and ministry.



- November - Pius Yasebasi Ng'wandu, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education of Tanzania, meets with ICTP officials and staff. Discussions focus on ICTP's assistance to sub-Saharan Africa.

- Djoomart Kaipovich Otorbaev, Deputy Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, visits ICTP to discuss opportunities for collaboration between Kyrgyzstan and ICTP.



2005 World Year of Physics 2005

- To celebrate the World Year of Physics, launched by UNESCO, ICTP agrees to co-sponsor the World Conference on Physics and Sustainable Development in Durban, South Africa.

- March - ICTP hosts the "Tsunami Physics and Preparedness" workshop.



- 17 May - Koichiro Matsuura, UNESCO's Director General, visits ICTP.

- May - University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin, becomes first institute to receive computer-based "i-ROOMs," a multimedia kit designed to electronically link ICTP and the University.



- June - An international group of mathematicians at the ICTP Summer School and Conference on Geometry and Topology of 3-Manifolds confirms proof of Poincaré Conjecture by Russian mathematician Grigori Perelman.

- ICTP and University of Trieste launch two degree-granting programmes: a master's programme in physics and a Ph.D programme in environmental fluid mechanics.



- Clement Onime appointed acting head of Scientific Computer Section, replacing Alvise Nobile.

- Following retirement of Hilda Cerdeira, Donation Programme is restructured and renamed Science Dissemination Unit. Emphasis is placed on electronic access to scientific literature.

- Japanese Government approves US\$440,700 grant for Mori Fellowship programme, directed by ICTP. The programme will fund doctoral and post-doctoral mathematics and physics students from sub-Saharan Africa.

- October - 2005 Nobel Prize for Peace awarded to the International Atomic Energy Agency and its Director General Mohamed ElBaradei.

- ICTP launches Open Access Archive to enable scientists from around the world to post their research findings and resumes free-of-charge.

- Marcelo Viana, *Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada* (IMPA), Brazil, awarded the first-ever Srinivasa Ramanujan Prize, sponsored by the Niels Henrik Abel Memorial Fund in cooperation with the International Mathematical Union (IMU). The prize is administered by ICTP.



timeline

2006



• Sandro Scandolo replaces Subodh Shenoy as the coordinator of the ICTP Diploma Course in Condensed Matter Physics. Shenoy retired in December 2005.

• The *International Herald Tribune* publishes an article (Tuesday, 28 February) describing the efforts of ICTP's Aeronomy and Radiopropagation Laboratory (ARPL) to provide developing countries with low-cost, effective electronic communications through the use of "tin can" antennas.



• February - Adama Dieng, UN Under-Secretary General, visits ICTP.

• May - Nicola Cabibbo becomes chairperson of the ICTP Scientific Council, replacing Jacob Palis.



• September - ICTP sponsors Boltzmann Memorial Meeting to commemorate the contributions of Ludwig Boltzmann, father of statistical mechanics and one of the greatest physicists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Boltzmann died in Duino near Trieste in September 1906.



• October - International Workshop on Science for Cultural Heritage discusses use of such tools as accelerators, carbon dating and synchrotron radiation for analyzing heritage and culture.

• November - A three-day advanced research workshop entitled Sharing Knowledge Across the Mediterranean, dedicated to the memory of ICTP's founding director Abdus Salam on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his death, reviews state of science in Mediterranean countries.

• November - ICTP organizes Workshop on Economic Development for Physicists in Developing Countries to help them learn entrepreneurial and commercialisation skills.

2007

• May - ICTP promotes and organizes the G8-UNESCO World Forum on 'Education, Research and Innovation: New Partnership for Sustainable Development' in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNESCO, attended by 800 participants from 70 countries, including the Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi and UNESCO DG Koichiro Matsuura. Resulting recommendations are the establishment of partnership of G8 countries with the developing world and of centres of excellence for sustainable development.



• ICTP holds Africa Day, a one-day symposium to discuss the role that international institutions in Trieste can play in addressing Africa's issues. The booklet *ICTP and Africa* is distributed to the public.



• July - Benjamin Obi Tayo from Cameroon obtains the degree of Laurea Magistralis in Fisica, a joint programme in higher education between the University of Trieste and ICTP. ICTP is also engaged in the ICTP-University of Trieste-CNR ISMAR-OGS-OSMER FVG Ph.D. Program in Environmental Fluid Mechanics and the ICTP-University of Trieste Laurea Magistralis in Astrofisica e Fisica Spaziale.

• August - Six students obtain their ICTP Diploma in Earth System Physics. Programme started on a trial basis in 2005-2006, and was officially established the following academic year.



• Diploma in Basic Physics, designed specially for the benefit of sub-Saharan African countries, is launched and attended by ten students. Head of the Diploma Programme is Seifallah Randjbar-Daemi.



• More than 450 participants in the Borsellino College 2007 - Spike Trains to Actions: Brain Basis of Behavior, organized by Mathew E. Diamond and Raffaella Rumiati, discuss how neuronal activity in the brain leads to simple or complex behaviors. The College is followed by the European Brain and Behavior Society (EBBS) annual meeting.



Jagadish Shukla, a long-time scientific consultant to ESP, is one of the Lead Authors of Chapter 8 the IPCC Working Group I Report.

• October - The Nobel Prize for Peace is awarded to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Al Gore, Jr. ICTP scientist Filippo Giorgi, head of the Earth System Physics (ESP) section, is one of the vice-chairs of the IPCC Working Group I, and

• Alexei Smirnov, in the High Energy section since 1992, is awarded the 2008 J.J. Sakurai Prize for Theoretical Particle Physics by the American Physical Society.



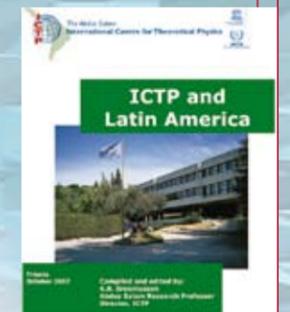
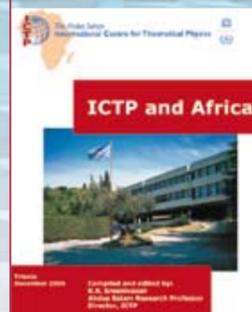
• December - ICTP Diploma lectures are automatically recorded and archived on the Web through the EyA (Enhance your Audience) recording system, developed by the Scientific Dissemination Unit. *Physics World* reports about the innovative system in its article "The Video Revolution Made Simple".

• Noah Diffenbaugh, Filippo Giorgi and Bi Xunqiang publish "Indicators of 21st Century Socioclimatic Exposure" in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, in which they project that "most nations of the world are threatened by the interaction of regional climatic changes with one or more relevant socioeconomic factors", in particular those "nations that have the highest levels of poverty, wealth, and population". The "socioclimatic impact" of climate change raises a vast echo on the media throughout the world.

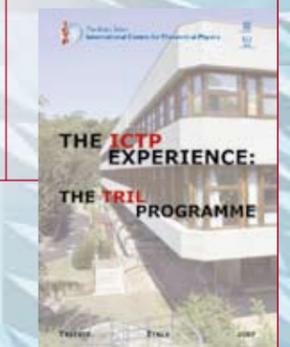
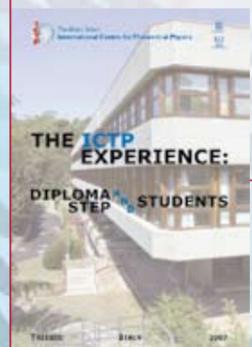


Published in 2007

• Through its *ICTP and...* series of booklets, ICTP means to summarize the various activities that have been directed to various regions of the world. *ICTP and Latin America* is published this year.



• Feedback from former fellows and students is requested, to gauge ICTP's impact on scientists and their careers. This results in two books, *The ICTP Experience: Diploma and STEP Students* and *The ICTP Experience: The TRIL Programme*.



• After being translated in several languages, the book *100 Reasons to Be a Scientist* is published in Italian, thanks to a hundred high-school students who helped as translators. The book is officially released during the UN Day.



timeline

timeline



timeline

