

IGRAV: where do we stand?

Second International Gravitational Waves
Outreach Group (IGRAV) Meeting,
Remote on Zoom – July 27-28, 2020

<https://indico.ego-gw.it/event/65>

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We are still there!

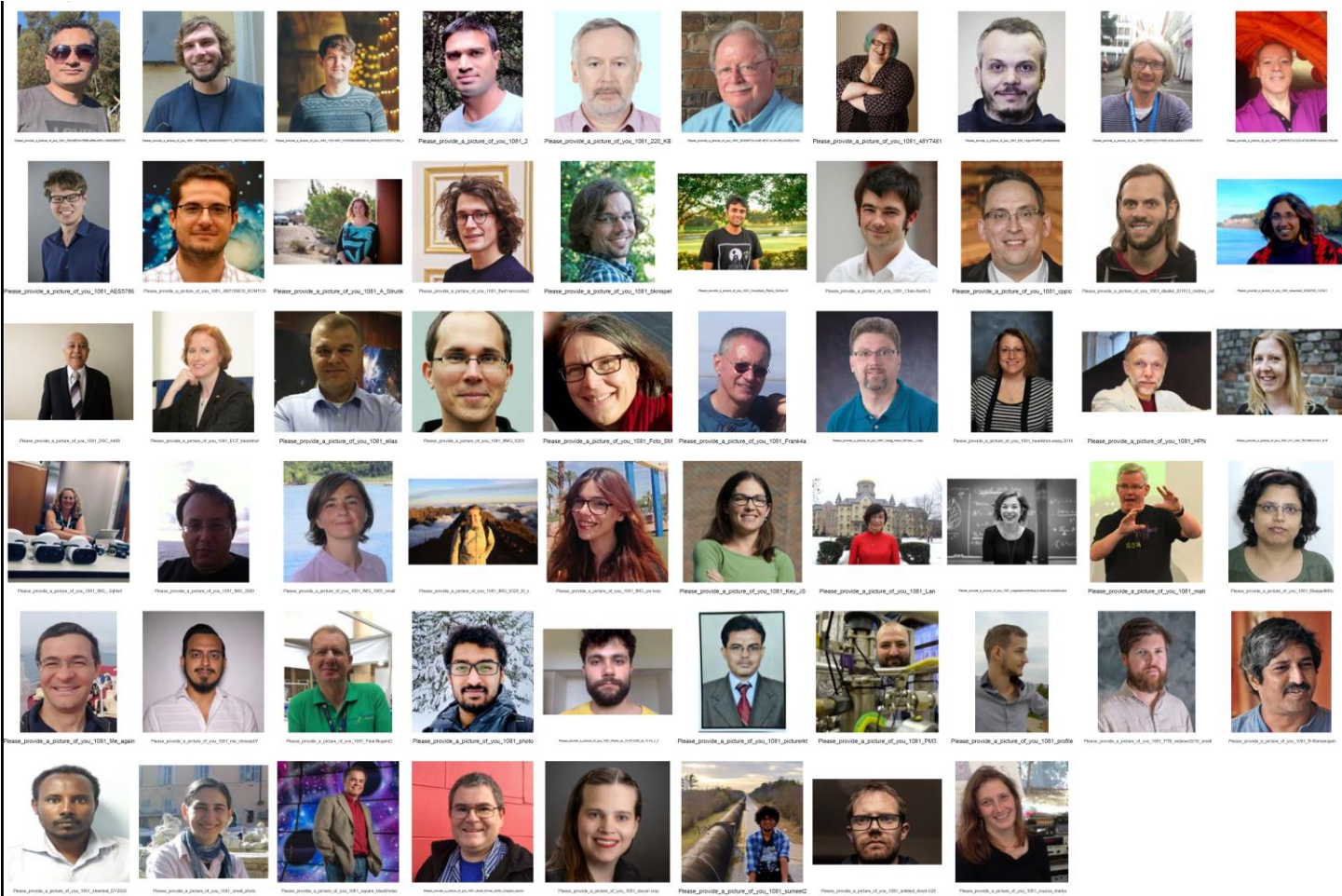
- One year after the nice **kick-off meeting in Valencia** during **Amaldi13** & **GR22**
 - <https://indico.ego-gw.it/event/29> – July 13, 2019



- Despite the fact that we are **all busy with our regular experiments/projects**
 - **Special thanks** to **Amber Strunk** (LIGO Hanford Observatory) who tirelessly and regularly reminded us about our « coordination duties » over the past year...
- Despite the **covid-19 pandemic** that is impacting all of us
 - **Hoping you, your relatives, friends and colleagues are all fine**
 - Looking forward to **meeting you in person again very soon**
 - ♦ **Suggestions to host an IGRAV meeting next year welcome**
 - **Next to an international event:** conference, symposium, meeting

We meaning you!

- **90+ registrants** for this year's meeting
 - <https://indico.ego-gw.it/event/65>



→ Thanks for your support and interest in this project

General organization

- Acronym (should be) final: **IGRAV**
 - Still unsure about the spelling: iGRAV, IGrav, IGRAV
 - To be discussed during the meeting: fill [that poll](#) (once)

- We have a **mission statement**

The mission of IGRAV is to engage people throughout the world in exploring the exciting field of gravitation, and in particular gravitational-wave and multi-messenger astrophysics. IGRAV will accomplish this mission through the creation, sharing and dissemination of a variety of educational and outreach materials.

→ Hope you like it and can endorse it during the meeting

- We don't have a logo yet
 - Contest to be opened by the Art & Science group
- We have a **domain name** – [igrav.org](#) – but not a website yet
 - CMS-based prototype being worked on – initially basic, providing main info
 - Voluntary webmaster: **Veronica Kondrashov** from Caltech
 - Website to be hosted on a LIGO cluster as a start

General organization

- **Parent organisation?**
 - Main option: The **I**nternational **S**ociety on **G**eneral **R**elativity and **G**ravitation
 - ♦ <http://isgrg.org>
- Contact established with the current president **Nils Andersson**
 - “In principle, I think ISGRG could (although not financially) support the kind of effort you propose. It could be of mutual benefit, so it would be interesting to explore it further.”*
 - **Discussions in progress**
 - ♦ Delayed by pandemic
- Ongoing contacts with the **G**ravitational **W**ave **I**nternational **C**ommittee as well
 - **IGRAV** to be invited to a future **GWIC** meeting
- Suggestion to **seek support from national science societies** as well

Keeping in touch

- Two mailing lists created: <https://lists.igrav.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo>
 - Open to anyone
 - [igrav-announce](#): 110 members
 - [igrav-discuss](#): 85 members
 - Subscribe to them if not a member already
 - Forward all relevant information to your own outreach & education mailing lists
- Website in an hopefully not-so-distant future

IGRAV at work

- **Working groups and activities** – one or two conveners each
 - Communications
 - Formal Education & Evaluation
 - Outreach to Under-Represented and Under-Served Groups
 - Art and Science Collaborations
 - Science Festivals
 - Organizational Structure
 - Multi-Messenger Astronomy

→ Some currently more active than others – e.g. have met virtually this past year
- Group membership not exclusive: **join as many as interested in**
- **Meeting Goals**
 - Group governance, group internal communication
 - Each group to determine goals and activities for the coming year
 - Groups will be encouraged to think about how their planned activities will be affected by the remote working / social distancing measures
 - Each group to finalize description of their activities

→ **Each working group due to provide 1-2 summary slides after the meeting**

In parallel during the meeting:
feel free to move
from session to session
depending on your interests

Outlook

- **Quite some progress** since the initial trigger, during the April'18 IPPOG meeting
 - IPPOG Collaboration: International Particle Physics Outreach Group
 - ♦ <http://ippog.org>
 - Pandemic is slowing down many projects, including the development of IGRAV
- **Structure taking shape**
 - Name, acronym (to be decided), mission statement, mailing lists
 - ♦ Hopefully a website soon
 - **Working groups**
- Still a lot of work ahead of us
 - Solidify group governance
 - Finalize content for website
 - Share and promote existing resources
 - Produce first IGRAV deliverables
 - Interact with the different IGRAV components and external outreach groups
- **Your inputs to shape the group and the coming actions**