

Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science

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Preface of the Division of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science (DLMPS)

Welcome to the 15th Congress on Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science (CLMPS). The CLMPS is one of the most important activities of the Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science (DLMPS) of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science (IUHPS).

The DLMPS was founded in 1955, and currently has 31 ordinary members (representing countries) and seven international societies as international members. The first Congress took place in Stanford, California in 1960. One of its organizers was Patrick Suppes (1922-2014) who later became President of the DLMPS from 1975-1979; he passed away recently. Given his importance for the Division and our field, it is fitting that there will be a symposium on his work at the Helsinki Congress (Saturday, 8 August, 10am-12pm).

Since that first congress in Stanford in 1960, the CLMPS has been one of the most important global meetings of logicians and philosophers of science, taking place every four years and complementing national and regional meetings that occur more frequently. The Helsinki CLMPS continues this fine tradition. The programme for this Congress, and the abstracts in this volume, show that this Congress will provide a vibrant, probing, and multi-dimensional picture of our research field.

The DLMPS functions as the umbrella organization for logic and philosophy of science at the global level. The DLMPS facilitates discussion of developments in our fields in a number of commissions, some of which are shared with our sister division in the IUHPS, the Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST). In recent years, the two divisions have intensified their collaboration, and this will be visible at the Helsinki Congress in the form of a meeting of the Joint Commission (Friday, 7 August, 2:30pm-7pm; Saturday, 8 August, 10am-11am and 1:30pm-3:30pm), as well as symposia of commissions that are or are planning to be shared between the two divisions: the Teaching Commission, the International Association for Science and Cultural Diversity (IASCU), and the Commission on History and Philosophy of Computing (HaPoC).

The IUHPS is part of the International Council for Science (ICSU), for which the IUHPS plays a special role by providing a meta-perspective on the scientific enterprise, reflecting on scientific practices and institutions. DLMPS has taken this task seriously at the Helsinki Congress by organizing two special ICSU sessions relating to current global ICSU research projects. One is on "Future Earth and Models of Climate Change"; the other is on "Health and Welfare". In these sessions, scientists working on these projects will interact with philosophers of science. In 2014 and 2015, IUHPS has coordinated a project for ICSU entitled "Cultures of Mathematical