No 12 - June 10th, 1984.

This 12th issue of the Newsletter (NL.) is particularly devoted to circulating supplementary information for the elections of the GIREP officers, which will take place at Zeist near Utrecht in The Netherlands. The time will appear on the programme of the ninth Seminar, which is to be held from 20-25th August 1984.

In view of the elections the Statutes and the membership list have been reported here. Besides you find enclosed a second copy of the questionnaire to fill in, aimed at the formation of the GIREP network, which was proposed in NL.11/§8.

1. Elections.

May we remind members that according to art.11 of the Statutes the current GIREP officers ended their service in 1983 after serving for four years and they were then reeligible for a second term of four years. Owing to the fact that the Seminar originally planned for 1983 was moved into 1984, they served five years instead of four. According to NL.11/§3 the next 10th Seminar should take place in 1986: a five year term is not considered by the Statutes, so it appears necessary for the Assembly to decide, before the elections, whether the present officers are reeligible or not up to 1986.

2. The 9th, Utrecht Seminar.

The second circular has already been circulated to those who have declared in time their interest to the organizers. A few weeks ago the maximum number of participants had already been reached and many people wanted to contribute: so it appears that, thanks to our Dutch friends, the Seminar will be successful. We add or repeat here some information.

The programme will include:
- plenary lectures;
- optional lectures, workshops, discussion groups, etc.;
- an exhibition of textbooks, experiments, posters, computer hard- and software, and other educational aids;
- study excursions to secondary schools, teacher training institutes and the "Delta-werken".

For further information please contact Mrs. Jenny Andriese, Physics Dept., Rijksuniversiteit, Postbox 80.008, 3508 TA Utrecht, The Netherlands; Phone 00-3130531179; Telex 40048 (FYLUT-NL). We apologize for the errors in NL. 11 (where you read Postbus instead of Postbox, and Phone 09- instead of Phone 00-).

3. 10th Seminar.

The Assembly at Zeist must decide about the 10th Seminar. Prof. Poul Thomsen has confirmed his proposal that it might take place in Copenhagen on Astronomy, Space, and Technology. Members are invited to comment on this suggestion to any of the Committee, and to submit possible alternative proposals to the President of GIREP, who will in turn make the General Assembly at Zeist aware of them.

4. Fees.

Variations can be decided only by the General Assembly, and so we repeat here the information which appeared in NL. 11/6.

The fee is still $10.

The official Bank of GIREP remains: Credit Suisse, 1002 Lausanne-Switzerland-Account N. 376089-91, where fees should be paid in SFr at the current rate of exchange: obviously bank and mail charges must be paid by the sender.

Fees from the U.K. can be paid directly in pounds to Brian Woolnough, and fees from Italy directly in Lire to Marisa Michelini: again at the current rate of exchange, with bank and mail charges paid by the sender.

Fees from countries where the above procedures are difficult or altogether impossible can be paid directly to George Marx after having agreed on the procedure with him.

Except for transactions with Credit Suisse all payment procedures are valid only up to the date of the elections, after which the matter will be reconsidered.
5. Statutes.

Revised March 1972.

Art. 1
The International Research Group on Physics Teaching (GIREP) is an international body of physics professors and teachers who want to cooperate in their work on physics teaching.

It enjoys legal status according to the Swiss Common Law.

Art. 2
The principal aims and purposes of GIREP are:
- to use every possible means to promote and encourage, from the secondary level on, every effort made with a view to adapting physics teaching to the present knowledge;
- to collaborate as closely as possible with any international organization whose field of activity is connected with that of the Group;
- to foster friendly contacts between physics teachers and professors above national barriers more particularly at secondary school level;
- to stimulate the exchange of information and team work between its members and to keep them informed of the work of the International Organizations in the field of its activities.

Art. 3
The Group is formed of ordinary members, subscribing members and possibly honorary members.

Art. 4
The ordinary members are individuals or groups.

The individual members are physics teachers or professors.

The groups are societies of physics teachers or professors or broadly speaking, national or international scientific bodies interested in the same field of activity as GIREP.

The subscribing members are persons, associations, companies or firms who accept to support financially the activities of GIREP but do not participate in its activities.

Art. 5
It is within the General Assembly's competence to elect as honorary members of the Group any person whose especially valuable work in favour of physics teaching or GIREP deserves recognition.

The honorary members do not pay any membership fee and enjoy the same rights as the ordinary members.

Art. 6
Membership is granted to any candidate who applies for it to the Committee and as soon as this application is accepted by the Committee.

The members are not personally responsible for the liabilities of GIREP. These liabilities are warranted by the credit of the Group.
Art. 7
The different organs of GIREP are:
1) The General Assembly formed of all the active members and the possible honorary members;
2) The National Sections, each of them being formed of the members of the General Assembly living in the same country;
3) The Committee;
4) The Commission of Representatives formed of the Committee and the delegates of the national sections;

Art. 8
GIREP works mainly through:
1) The working seminar of the Commission of Representatives;
2) The information bulletins drafted by the National Sections;
3) The possible international symposiums organized in collaboration with other international institutions.

Art. 9
The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Group. It is consulted by letter as often as necessary. The General Assembly delegates its authority to the Commission of Representatives when the latter sits and for the duration of the session.

Art. 10
The Commission of Representatives holds an administrative meeting at the same time as the working seminar organized in turn every two years in the various countries represented. It is presided over by the President of the Committee. It takes decisions at the simple majority of the participating members. If necessary the vote of the President will help to sway the decision.

The programmes of the working seminars are prepared by the Committee. The Committee convenes the Commission of Representatives. The Chairman of the working seminar is the President of the National Section in the host country.

Art. 11
The Committee is the executive organ of the Group. Its members are elected by the General Assembly for four years. They are reelectable. The Committee is formed of the President, two Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary and the Treasurer. The President and the two Vice-Presidents belong to different countries and, if possible, to two different linguistic regions. Furthermore, the President and the Treasurer will reside in the same country. The joint signatures of the President and either the Treasurer or another member of the Committee involve the financial responsibility of the Group.

Art. 12
Each National Section is constituted and is financially run according to its choice. It elects in particular a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Several offices may be held by the same person.

Once a year - at a seminar or by letter - each National Section will submit to the Committee in the form of an "Information Bulletin" a concise report on the activities carried out in the country in favour of physics teaching.

The National Sections represent GIREP before their national authorities and the professional associations in their respective countries. A standing invitation is extended to the President of the Committee to participate in the meetings of the National Sections.
Art. 13
The Commission of Auditors is formed of two members who are elected in the same way and for the same period as the Committee. Two substitutes are elected for the same period. The Auditors do not reside in the same country as the Treasurer and are not members of the Committee. The same rule applies to the substitutes.

Art. 14
GI REP may invite to all or a part of the meetings of its various organs any person whose collaboration is thought to be valuable. In particular, representatives of the international organizations are invited to the most important meetings when their field of activity is connected with that of GI REP.

Art. 15
When decisions are made by letter, the simple majority of the expressed opinions is required; the documents are kept in the GI REP's Records and may be consulted at any time by the members. The decisions made by letter are considered as being made at the headquarters of GI REP.

Art. 16
The yearly accounts of GI REP are kept by the Treasurer. The financial year begins on 1st January. Every year copies of the balance sheet and the report of the auditors are sent to the members who may return the sheet within 14 days in case of disapproval. The account books are kept with GI REP's records.

Art. 17
Any member who has not paid his membership fee for the current year is considered as resigning.

Art. 18
The Committee, as well as the General Assembly, may exclude any member of GI REP for serious offence.

Art. 19
The present statutes may be revised by a 2/3 majority of the General Assembly or of the Commission of Representatives entitled to act on the authority of the General Assembly.

Art. 20
The dissolution of the association may be decided under the same conditions as the revision of the statutes. In case of dissolution the credit of GI REP will be given to an international association, whose activities are in favour of physics or scientific teaching.

The present statutes were adopted by the General Assembly on March 17th, 1972, in Kiel (West Germany)

The President:

Poul Thomsen
6. **Membership list.**

The list includes only those members who have paid their fee for 1983, and the new members of 1984: i.e. all those who as yet are entitled to vote. 1983 fees are still accepted, and late-comers will be included at Zeist in the list of voters.

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7. GIREF Network.

The initiative of helping members to correspond with others with similar interests has had considerable success. We reproduce here the form which was circulated, as a clue to the following table showing the composite list promised in NL.11/§8. Only people mentioned in the previous membership list are included: the table will be updated in the next NL.13.

GIREF Network. Members Research and Development Interests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Members name</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of members professional institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address for correspondance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Areas of current or past interest:</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) Areas of interest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Areas in which you have published.</td>
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</table>

Please note above the code numbers (given below) of the appropriate areas of interest, and return to the GIREF secretary, at Oxford.

1. Alternative technology
2. Assessment
3. Cognitive development
4. Computers in physics
5. Curriculum dissemination
6. Curriculum evaluation
7. History of science
8. Independent learning
9. Language in science
10. Learning theory
11. Maths and physics
12. Philosophy of science
13. Physics for the least able
14. Physics for the most able
15. Practical work
16. Pupils alternative frameworks
17. Sex differences
18. Science in Society
19. Teacher Training
20. Technology
21. Teaching of specific topics.
22. Other areas of interest (please specify)

(please excuse the rather dated and fragmented way of coding topics!)

Please return, with any additional comments, to Brian Woolnough, Oxford University Department of Educational Studies, 15 Norham Gardens, Oxford, UK.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>NATION</th>
<th>I=Interest declared</th>
<th>P=Existence of publications</th>
<th>Other areas of interest</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Problem solving, lab. work, Newton laws</td>
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<td>School physics curriculum, teacher training</td>
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<td>DEPIREUX</td>
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<td>IP - Solid state physics</td>
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8. **Provisional Agenda of the General Assembly.**

1- Report of the President;

2- Report of the Treasurer;

3- Discussion on the 1986 10th Seminar and on future activities in general;

4- Election of honorary members according to the proposals, if any, of the Committee;

5- Elections of officers.

9. **Calendar.**

   **Prague 27th-31st August 1984**

   There will be, in collaboration with the Union of Czechoslovak Mathematicians and Physicists, the 6th General Conference of the European Physical Society.

   A plenary session is devoted to "Physics-A fundamental science" (invited speaker G. Marx). Two parallel symposia are also directly concerned with physics education: "Teaching Physics for Understanding or Application" (chairman L. Samuelsson) and "Public Awareness of Physics" (chairman G. B. Ebison).

   **Linz 3rd-7th September 1984**

   The Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE) is organizing its ninth Conference: "Teacher Education and the changing School".

   Further information can be obtained from Friedrich Buchberger, Pädagogische Akademie, Kaplanhofstrasse 40, A-4020 Linz/Österreich - Phone (0732) 270401/0.

   **Genève-CERN 24-28th September 1984**

   The International Commission on Physics Education (ICPE) of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) is organizing an International Conference: "The Teaching of Modern Physics".

   The Conference is aimed at discussing the impact of new developments in physics on physics education at the secondary school and at the beginning university levels. The main topics will be elementary particle physics, relativity and cosmology.

   People interested in attending should have already applied by 1st June 1984 to the Secretary of ICPE, Dr. Peter Kennedy, Dept. of Physics, The University, Edinburgh EH9 3JZ, U.K., but probably there is still some hope.

   **Trieste-International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP),
   8-11th October 1984**

   IUPAP will be holding their 18th General Assembly. The meeting will be associated with an International Conference: "Physics for Development".
Trieste-International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICPT),
14-19th August 1985

ICPE is organizing an International Conference: "Communicating
Physics".

People interested should contact Dr. Kennedy: see above.

Bangalore (India) August 1985

The Committee on the Teaching of Science (CTS) of the International
Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) is organizing a Conference: "Science
and Technology Education and Future Human Needs".

CTS has published a leaflet entirely devoted to this Conference.
Anyone wishing to receive the leaflet and to be put on the mailing list
for further information should write to John L. Lewis, Malvern College,
Malvern, Worcestershire WR 14, U.K.

Tokyo, 1986

Jointly with the Japanese Physical Society, ICPE is organizing an
International Conference: "Trends in Physics Education".

People interested should contact Dr. Kennedy: see above.

GIREP Newsletter No 12

Editors: A. Loria and M. Michelini
Dept. of Physics, The University, Via Campi 213/A, 41100 Modena (Italy)
Phone 059/372711 with ans. serv., and 059/361142.

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