

# **THE WIGNER MEDAL**

## **BYLAWS**

**(with Amendments of April 1997)**

"The Foundation" shall mean "The Group Theory and Fundamental Physics Foundation," and "The Standing Committee" shall mean the "Standing Committee of International Group Theory Colloquium."

### **Article I.**

The name of the medal shall be "The Wigner Medal."

### **Article II.**

The purpose of the medal shall be to recognize outstanding contributions to the understanding of physics through Group Theory. Such contributions shall include, among others: the creation and development of mathematical tools that have become important in the description of physical phenomena, the application of group theoretical methods in chemistry and other sciences, the calculation of experimental numbers and formulation of general laws of nature using group and representation theoretical methods and related developments.

### **Article III.**

In selecting recipients of the medal, there shall be no discrimination based on sex, age, race or religion.

### **Article IV.**

Members of the Selection Committee, the Standing Committee, officers of the Foundation, and their families and relatives shall be ineligible to receive the medal.

### **Article V.**

The Medal shall be awarded approximately every two years. The ceremony for the awarding of the medal shall be held at the colloquium on Group Theoretical Methods in Physics of an international conference devoting a substantial part of its program to group theory or a development thereof. The Foundation shall organize the ceremony in collaboration with the

organizers of the conference Award dates shall be fixed by mutual agreement of the Selection Committee (see below) and The Foundation.

## **Article VI.**

The Selection Committee shall be constituted as follows:

A. There shall be five members.

B. Professor E. P. Wigner shall be a life member.

C. Four other members shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, half upon the recommendation of patrons of the Wigner Medal and half upon the recommendation of the Standing Committee as long as the latter is in existence and submits a list of nominees six months before the expiration of the term of a Selection Committee member.

D. Initially, two members shall be appointed for two-year terms and two members for four-year terms. Thereafter, all appointments shall be for four years, it being understood that after a term served as a member of the Selection Committee, four years must elapse before a person can be reappointed to this committee.

E The five members of the Selection Committee shall have the possibility of coopting a member (for each award of the medal) serving for two years.

## **Article VII.**

Duties of the Selection Committee:

A. Members of the Selection Committee shall elect a new chairman after each award ceremony.

B. The chairman of the Selection Committee shall organize the work of the committee according to the present rules.

C. The chairman of the Selection Committee shall organize, with the agreement of the Foundation, the publicity for collecting proposals for the recipient of the medal. The chairman shall also present to The Foundation the choice of the Selection Committee: one name per award; at most, two awards at a given time.

## **Article VIII.**

Amendments to these Bylaws shall be made by a two-thirds vote of the members.

## **Amendment I to the Bylaws of the Wigner Medal**

### **Number of Awardees**

- A. As a rule there should be only one awardee in a given year.
- B. Two or at most three medals can be awarded in the same year only in the very rare instances that
  - (1) a single contribution is important enough to deserve a medal,
  - (2) the work on this contribution was done in roughly the same time period independently or in collaboration.
- C. If two worthy candidates appear who do not fulfill the conditions of B, the selection committee should choose one name and recommend the other candidate to the next committee.

### **Amendment I D**

D. In case that two or three awardees are selected in a given year, there will be no additional awardee chosen for a period of approximately four or six years. The two or three medals can be awarded at any of the approved international conferences that take place during this four- or six-year period.

### **Amendment II**

The Chairman of the Foundation will be an ex officio member of the Selection Committee. He will organize the election of the Chairman of the Selection Committee, but he cannot serve as its chairman.