

Dear friends and colleagues,

On behalf of the Institute of Physics for the UK and Ireland, I wanted to send congratulations to the Société Française de Physique (SPF) on this milestone anniversary of 150 years. This anniversary highlights the importance of The French Physical Society to the scientific community in France but also internationally.

I reflect on the history of French Physics and its incredible record of major contributions to the field. From notable scientists such as Marie Curie, the first woman to win the Nobel Prize for her outstanding work on radioactivity to Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel who discovered the 'Photovoltaic effect'. French physics has a long list of eminent physicists who have contributed to the technological advances of the world we live in today.

Our two societies continue to collaborate on activities such as the Holweck prize and medal which is our joint bi lateral award and on the international roundtable where we join 12 other physical societies from around the world to discuss the global challenges. We are both active members of international physics bodies the European Physical Society and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics and our shared interests to support the international physics community has created a strong, supportive friendship between our organisations. I'd like to apologise for not being with you all in person, but I look forward to continuing to build and strengthening our relationship over the coming years.

The Institute of Physics would like to once again congratulate the Société Française de Physique (SPF) on this milestone birthday, for the achievements of French Physicists and the Société Française de Physique's role in supporting physicists in their careers and emphasising the role of physics in society.

Sheila Rowan

President, Institute of Physics