

Glasgow



IOP Institute of Physics

Communities in Conversation

Communities in Conversation

Love talking about physics?
Want to become a larger
part of your local
community? Get involved
with our pioneering project
bringing bringing together
the scientific and local
communities of Glasgow.



Physics has the potential to address some of the biggest challenges facing us as a society. But it can only live up to that potential if everyone can have their voices heard.

As part of our 'Unlocking the Future' strategy, the Institute of Physics is starting an exciting new project that brings together local community groups and inspirational physicists to explore what the future could look like.

Through a five-week partnership, we will explore these ideas together by talking, discovering, making and doing, all shaped by the ideas of our participants. This process could be guided by questions like:

- What are the skills needed for jobs in the 21st century?
- How can I build my confidence to talk about science with my children or grandchildren?
- What is the science behind climate change and what can be done to help?

But this is entirely up to your group to decide!

We're currently looking for physicists to join the project in Glasgow. If you have a passion for physics, an open mind and ideally some experience in public engagement, we would love to hear from you.

Email us at: engagement@iop.org to register your interest or to find out more.

What is special about Communities In Conversation?

The project will help to level potential power imbalances between scientists and publics. The sessions will be run by specialist facilitators, allowing all voices to be heard and considered equally.

The sessions will be community-led, not directed by the IOP. Community participants will have control over the themes and activities, with input from you and the facilitators.

To share and generate new ideas, we are looking for physicists that are keen to learn how to actively listen and seek common ground with others.

How will you benefit?

We offer free expert training in how to achieve true dialogue in public engagement. This, coupled with the sessions themselves, could give you an enhanced ability to listen and build common ground.

Whether you are pursuing chartered physicist status, maintaining it or just choosing to maintain a personal programme of continuous professional development (CPD), being part of Communities in Conversation can help you in several ways. The following are specific requirements for chartership that can be served by participation in this project:

- o Contribute to the profession outside your immediate working environment.
- o Contribute to the public understanding of physics.

- o Communicate clearly and effectively with others at all levels.
- o Present and discuss concepts, ideas and plans convincingly and objectively.
- o Demonstrate that you are committed to undertaking CPD.

You will gain valuable new perspectives on the context your own work, including greater understanding of publics' attitudes to wider physics.

You will have the opportunity to make new friends with shared interests and connections, whether linked to physics or otherwise.

