

# The International Planetarium Society

IPS is the global association of planetarium professionals. Its more than 500 members come from more than 50 countries around the world, and many are also members of regional and national planetarium associations. Members represent schools, colleges and universities, museums, and public facilities of all sizes, including both fixed and portable planetariums.

Our mission: Provide the planetarium community professional development, science literacy and arts/humanities awareness, innovative ideas, and partnerships in order to enhance the world's appreciation and understanding of our universe.

## How to Join IPS

There are several categories of membership in IPS. Individual dues are US \$65 for one year or US \$100 for two years.

Institutional dues are US \$125/year, and individuals employed by institutional members can join IPS at a reduced individual rate of US \$40/year.

Other membership options include corporate (for vendors), student (US \$25/year), and retiree (US \$50/year), as well as other reduced-cost options for small outreach businesses, volunteers, and those in emerging communities.



The Largest Organization  
of Planetarium Professionals  
in the World

IPS membership is open to anyone interested in planetariums: directors, teachers, technicians, writers, artists, animators, musicians, media specialists, presenters, vendors, scientists, students, sponsors, and friends of the dome.

For complete information, see the website at [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org), or contact the membership chair for a list of current benefits and dues.

For more information or to join IPS, contact:  
Ann Bragg  
Membership Chair  
Email: [ann.bragg@marietta.edu](mailto:ann.bragg@marietta.edu)



Warsaw's Copernicus Science Centre staff during a recent conference

## Such a Proud History

It has been nearly a century since creative people first projected the sky indoors, to teach about and share the stars in the daytime as well as at night. Since that first Zeiss projector debuted in Jena, Germany, in 1923, creativity has continued to rule under the dome.

The planetarium community consistently pioneers new technologies in support of its members' efforts to provide inspiration and vital science education to school and public audiences.

Projection into a dome brings a sense of immersion that can't be duplicated anywhere else, and that immersive experience is a powerful inspirational and educational tool.

The ZEISS Planetarium Model II was the first to have the dumbbell ("ant") shape, 1926. Courtesy ZEISS.



Novosibirsk Planetarium, Russia

### Why Join IPS?

You can connect with experienced people who use the dome every day to educate students at different grade levels and with different learning styles. You can find out about the trends and innovations that are popular with public audiences.

### Planetarian

IPS members receive the quarterly journal *Planetarian*, filled with insightful articles, advice from industry and education experts, and a wide range of feature columns across the many aspects of dome life.

### Conferences

Biennial IPS conferences bring together hundreds of planetarium professionals from around the world for networking, paper sessions, invited speakers, workshops, panel discussions, vendor demonstrations, and exhibits.

Recent conferences have met in Melbourne (Australia), Chicago (USA), Alexandria (Egypt), Baton Rouge (USA), Beijing (China), and Warsaw (Poland).

### Get Involved!

Because IPS is a volunteer-driven society, there are many ways to share your talents and skills with others. This includes participation on committees that work on projects and initiatives to benefit the entire membership and the planetarium field in general.

A new IPS Science and Data Visualisation Task Force is focusing specifically on the workflow and standards for bringing scientific data to all domes. This task force will play a major role in the future of planetariums and immersive media.

Other committees include:

- Immersive Audio
- Education
- International Relations
- Presenting Live Under the Dome
- Portable Planetariums

Just imagine what we can do together