

Valery Rubakov
and
**International Center for Fundamental
Physics in Moscow**

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Creation

International Center for Fundamental Physics in Moscow (ICFPM) was created in 1993 and closed in 2021. It was a small foundation founded by FIAN and NORDITA, aimed at supporting young scientists in FSU.

The story started in the early nineties when the economic situation in FSU was extremely bad.

It was most urgent to support the best PhD students and postdocs.

One of the important points was that ICFPM should work for all of theoretical physics in FSU.

Rubakov actively participated in the project during all those years.

Governing Board and Scientific Council

The general activities of the Center were coordinated by the Governing Board that consisted of V. Agranovich, D. Amati, A. Andreev, A. Arima, L. Brink (chairman), M. Dresselhaus, H. Feshbach, J. Friedel, P. Fulde, L. Gorkov, M. Jacob, L. Keldysh (vice chairman), V. Ogievetsky, C. Pethick, D. Pines, M. Rees, T. M. Rice and M. Vasiliev.

The idea of Brink and Pethick was to create a balanced **Scientific Council** responsible for elaboration of the functioning policy, composed of the representatives of different leading research institutes in Russia.

The original SC had the following members. Vasiliev (FIAN) chairman, Rubakov (INR), Mineev (ITP), Gurevich (FIAN), Suris (Ioffe Institute), Novikov (ITEP), Yakovlev (Ioffe Institute), Loiko (Executive director, FIAN), Luther (Nordita), Neveu (U. of Montpellier).

The original SC had some rotations at the later stage.

In 2011 Rubakov was appointed as chairman.

International Support and Dynasty Foundation

Originally, the financial support was provided by the Swedish Ministry of Sciences, Tamala foundation, INTAS and the Russian Ministry of Sciences. Though the scale of support was very modest, it allowed to support hundreds of young researchers in theoretical physics

Later on, the level of western support was gradually reduced until it terminated around 2000. As a result, the Center froze its activities for about two years until a representative of the Dynasty foundation contacted us asking for advice on the best way to support Russian science. The Dynasty foundation was created by the founder of Beeline Dmitry Borisovich Zimin who had a scientific radio-engineering background allowing him to appreciate the role and beauty of science, including physics and math in the first place.

Program

With the key participation of Rubakov the Center had developed an efficient scheme of Fellowship programs:

for PhD students and junior scientists without degree

for junior Postdocs

for young scientists with Second level degree (rehabilitation)

The numbers of stipends versus a number of applications in 2003-2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Students (2200 rubles ~ \$90 per month)	60-89	59-104	43-139	41-122	40-109
Postgraduate students and researchers without scientific degree (5 200 rubles ~ \$210 per month)	50-111	40-152	40-169	36-154	
Postdocs (15 000 rubles ~ \$600 per month)	10-46	10-67	16-112	14-111	10-97
Doctors of sciences (20 000 rubles ~ \$800 per month)	-	-	-	-	5-25

Other programs

The program of support of scientific conferences

Annual Scientific summer schools in theoretical physics

Postdoc positions at Imperial College London

Support of participation of junior scientists in short-term topical international programs

Public Lectures in Moscow on the advances in science

This program was very successful lasting for the period 2002-2015 up to the point when the Dynasty foundation was forced to stop its activities in 2015 for reasons unrelated to its scientific program in collaboration with ICFPM.

The Role of Rubakov

The activities of the Center (in particular, in association with the Dynasty Foundation) had significant impact on other programs of support for Russian scientists later initiated in Russian Federation both at Federal and private level (for instance, by the Basis foundation).

Rubakov played the key role in shaping the activities of ICFPM. For instance, it was his strong point that the time demanding expertise of the members of the Council was always done on the unpaid basis

Scientific merits in the first place

Balance between the schools

Valery was also a member of the Council of Dynasty together with other great people like, for instance, Ruben Vardanyan and late Evgeny Yasin



With wishes to the next generations to keep great traditions of

Valery Anatolievich Rubakov