Every four years, members of the scientific community come together to learn, share, and connect at the Sigma Pi Sigma Congress. No other meeting in the physics world brings together such a diverse group of scientifically conscientious—from students to science advisors, professors to public school teachers, laypersons to Nobel laureates. We gather to acknowledge the importance that physics has in our lives, and also to recognize that the role of science does not end at the classroom door; rather, each of us has the responsibility, as well as the ability, to take into the streets the logical and critical approach that physics has taught us, and make a difference.

“Sigma Pi Sigma reaches beyond specific disciplines, uniting a diverse group of exceptional people...[and] promotes a spirit of community among its members and encourages them to offer their collective wisdom and perspectives in the service of the larger society.”

This excerpt from the Sigma Pi Sigma mission embodies precisely the theme of the next Congress: seeking and affirming connections. In fall 2012, in Orlando, FL, hundreds will gather for an experience that will affirm and renew our dedication to honor, encouragement, service, and fellowship. There’s not a chance that I’ll be anywhere else.

Watch for more details in future issues of Radiations.