

Report on the activity: “Wikipedia pages for women in Sciences”

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The hands-on session of “Wikipedia pages for women in Sciences” started at around 9.45 am the 07/11/2019 and lasted around 3 hours. The session was primarily organized and lead by Mme Camelia Boban. The goal of the session was to complete the mostly empty Wikipedia pages of 13 preselected woman scientists (physicists, recommended by the IUPAP). More generally, the session aimed to familiarize the participants (mostly women) to Wikipedia content creating and editing.

For the most part, the 20 to 30 participants had never partaken to such activities ; some unfamiliar with computers themselves. The first step was, therefore, to set up everyone to their monitors, have them create their own Wikipedia account, and activate some useful tools (the so-called “sandbox+”), helpful in the upcoming tasks.

The second step was to divide amongst ourselves who will work and what pages, which we did. Some of us expressed their wish to do slightly different tasks, such as writing the page of someone else, translating or modifying an already existing page, which they did. Finally, some of us became *de facto* helpers for everyone else, thus effectively working on several pages simultaneously.

At the end of the session, we did not manage to finish the pages of all 13 selected scientists, although all their pages have been started. They will be completed and possibly integrated into Wikipedia after further cooperation between their original contributors (the writing participants) and Mme Boban.

Up to minor editing, the present report has been read to the whole assembly of the conference : “Conference on Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing and Natural Sciences : How to Measure It, How to Reduce It ?” at around 3.30 pm the same day.