



13.03.2020

Dear all,

Events are moving fast this week and that is true as well for International Masterclasses.

**////////// COVID-19 //////////**

As of this writing, a large number of institutes have cancelled Masterclasses due to official restrictions designed to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus or out of prudential caution. We urge everyone, of course, to respect restrictions and to exercise caution when considering the health of students and the community. In some cases, it is possible to continue a scheduled Masterclass through remote connection to a school or other creative approach that enables interaction but maintains necessary public health measures. For most, this will not be practical. Thus, if an institute decides to cancel their event, we understand completely and fully respect the decision. IMC has made its own prudential decision in encouraging moderators to connect from places where they can maintain good social distance; thus, they may not be on site at CERN or Fermilab for the videoconference. Several institutes have asked about rescheduling: we will monitor events closely, work on plans, and inform you if we are able to offer a rescheduling solution before the end of the academic year. So, please, do what is best for the students and the community knowing that we at IMC Central Coordination are with you.

**////////// Special information for CMS measurement //////////**

The advanced version of CIMA has run into a problem that we believe is due to a limit on connections. We believe that QuarkNet IT may have solved this problem. If you have a CMS masterclass coming up, please let Ken know how it goes and ping him right away if you encounter any glitches. We will keep you posted on further developments. We do apologize for the inconvenience this has already caused several of our CMS institutes.

**////////// Social Media //////////**

In spite of a difficult time for IMC, we are going strong on Twitter with excellent posts by or about the Masterclass institutes. Check it out a <https://twitter.com/physicsIMC> and tweet using #physicsIMC. If you post on other social media, please let us know so we can tweet a link!

Kind regards,  
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