

Few achievements of AoPE

Workshop on 'Activity-based teaching and learning of science at secondary level'

August 2006 - Prof. Hans Persson,
Resource person from Sweden.

Workshop on 'Teaching and learning science (biology, chemistry and physics) using data logging', April 2007 - Mr Bobby Ng,
Resource person from Singapore

Competition for HSC students -
Physics Olympiad, 2008



AoPE

Association of Physics Educators

Members of the Managing Committee of AoPE

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AoPE

**Association of
Physics Educators**
Reg. 8765

Objects of the Association:

- To involve teachers/educators into critical discussion for improving the teaching of physics;
- To provide a platform for sharing of ideas and up-to-date issues in physics, science education and ICT through networking;
- To conduct workshops for dissemination of latest trends and techniques in physics and science education;
- To encourage lifelong learning that contributes to personal development; and
- To disseminate ideas, views related to physics and science to the public at large.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association is open to any educator of physics or any person sympathetic to the cause of science and physics education at secondary and tertiary levels and of the age of 18 and over.



Physics Olympiad, 2008

Organized by AoPE in collaboration with Mauritius Institute of Education, Ministry of Education, Culture and Human Resources, Mauritius Research Council, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre and Formas Agency.

Introduction

The main purpose of the Physics Olympiad is to identify physics talent and excellence among secondary school students of the Republic of Mauritius.

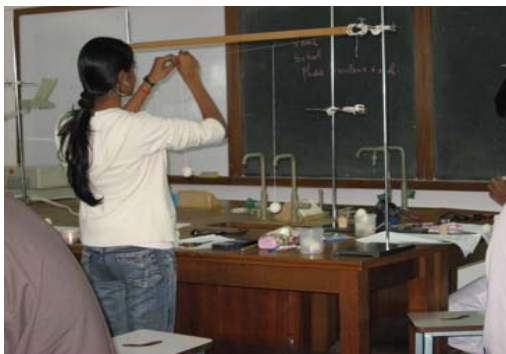
The event will be organised on a yearly basis and students will be required to solve physics problems and show practical skills in physics.

Any person who is under 20 and is a bona fide secondary school student is eligible to take part in the Olympiad.

Aim

In identifying and bringing together talented students, the Physics Olympiad will challenge and lead them to broaden their minds, and at the same time, it will open avenues for the students to opt for a career in science-related fields.

The Olympiad will involve various stakeholders in the education sector and create platforms for discussions on the state of science, more specifically physics in the Mauritian society.



Objectives of the competition

The objectives of the competition are to:

1. create an interest in learning physics as a process
2. enable students to develop a critical mind
3. bring together physics teachers for sharing of physics ideas
4. establish friendly relations among young people from different schools
5. promote gender friendly attitudes among students and teachers
6. prepare students to participate in the annual International Physics Olympiad

Competition Tasks

Preliminary Round

The preliminary competition was organized in April 2008 during the school holidays in the four zones. Two theoretical questions were set and the duration of the theoretical paper was 3 hours. The competition tasks, solutions and criteria for evaluation were prepared by a team of physics educators. 147 students from the four zones participated.

The Final

One theoretical and one practical question were set. The duration of the paper was 4 hours.

22 students (5 from each of the four zones and 2 ex aequo) made it to the finals. The finalists were from the following schools:

1. Dr Maurice Curé State College
2. Royal College Port Louis
3. Queen Elizabeth College
4. Royal College Curepipe
5. St Mary's College
6. St Esprit College
7. Hindu Girls College
8. Loreto College Curepipe
9. Loreto College Mahebourg
10. Adolphe de Plevitz SSS
11. Droopnath Ramphul SSS
12. John Kennedy College
13. Dr Regis Chaperon SSS



The Winners

1st Prize: Miss Mohnisha **Jawaher** - Queen Elizabeth College. A cash prize of Rs 15,000, books, a security camera and gadgets.

2nd Prize: Miss Pooja **Bhunjun** - Queen Elizabeth College. A cash prize of Rs 10,000, books, a security camera and gadgets.

Runners up: Prize—books, security cameras and gadgets
(1) Miss Shelby **Ramsamy** - Dr Maurice Curé State College, (2) Mr Naidoo Moganadeven **Ramasamy** - Royal College Curepipe, (3) Mr Ghanshyam **Gangasingh** - Royal College Curepipe

Extracts from students' evaluation sheets

" ... Interesting competition which requires much logic. Even having attempted the whole question without getting the correct answer gives satisfaction..."

" ... Very challenging questions, requires high level reasoning. The fact that some questions do not require numerical answers make them tough ..."

" ... It was a very challenging competition, inviting students to go beyond the daily routine work that is learnt in physics classes at school ..."

" ... Very good initiative undertaken by the AoPE, should be encouraged to organize more such competitions ..."

" ... It was a great, cool and enriching experience, I'm happy that I took part in it."

