

IPSL - Newsletter

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The News Letter of the Institute of Physics, Sri Lanka

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INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, SRI LANKA (IPSL)

Vidya Mandiraya, 120/10, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka.

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Information for members 1

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Physics and Astronomy Olympiad Awarding Ceremony - 2016



The IPSL Olympiad Awards Ceremony – 2016 was held on the 5th of November 2016 at New Arts Theatre (NAT), University of Colombo. The Chief Guest of this annual event was Professor S R D Rosa, Senior Professor of the Department of Physics, University of Colombo.

40 Gold medals, 84 Silver medals and 229 Bronze medals were awarded for students who had excelled in the Sri Lankan Physics Olympiad Competition, Sri Lankan Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad Competition and Sri Lankan Junior Astronomy Olympiad Competition.

The Best Undergraduate Physics Research Project Award (BUPRPA) was introduced for the first time at the awards ceremony and Mr. C. S Pannila was awarded with the 2016 Best Undergraduate Physics Research Project Award along with a cash prize. BUPRPA was sponsored by Hemsons (Pvt) Ltd.



All the medal winners were offered with cash vouchers to open an account at bank of Ceylon. Summary report of Astronomy Olympiad Competitions was presented by Professor Chandana Jayaratne, the national coordinator and Professor S R D Rosa presented the summary report of the Physics Olympiad Competitions as the national coordinator of Physics Olympiad competitions. Bank Of Ceylon, Hemsons (pvt) Ltd. and Mr ranjith Rupasinghe—CEO of Sri Lanka Technological Institute were been offered with gratitude for being the sponsors by the Secretary at the occasion

36th Annual General Meeting

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Physics Sri Lanka was held on 26th March, 2016 at the Board Room of Faculty of Science in the University of Kelaniya. New office bearers and the members of the Council were unanimously elected for the year 2015/2016.

Prof. L B D R P Wijesundara was elected as the President. He thanked all the council members for extending their fullest support in all the activities conducted by the Institute of Physics Sri Lanka. He appreciated the dedicated work of Olympiad Coordinators to uplift the image of IPSL in the society. Prof. Wijesundara further thanked the two joint secretaries and the treasurer for their untiring services.

At last the president sought dedicated support from the new council members to carryout the IPSL activities forward.

Papers Presented at the 32nd Technical session

The 32nd technical sessions of the Institute of Physics, Sri Lanka was held on the 26th of March, 2016 at the board room faculty of science University of Kelaniya. Eight papers were presented within to sessions. Prof. K P S C Jayaratne chaired the Session I from 09.00h to 10.00 h and Prof. K D Jayasuriya chaired the session II from 10.30 h to 12.10 h.

List of papers presented

1. Collision Detection through Optical Flow
S Sadaruwan, G Illeperuma and U Sonnadara.
2. Analysis of Composite Films Made of Tin (IV) Oxide and Silica Using Electrochemical Techniques
N F Ajward, N R A M Ruwangika, G M L P Aponsu, D L N Jayathilaka, J C N Rajendra and V P S Perera
3. Synthesis and Charactorization of rGnO/Ni(OH)₂ and rGnO/NiO Nano Composites
H S I Fernando, N D Bandara, D D N B Daya, M T V P Jayaweera, and I R M Kottegoda.
4. Evaluation of the Sound Quality of a Classical Violin by Physically Measureable Acoustical Properties
C S Pannila, a S Pannila, D C Jayarathnaand J R P Jayakody.
5. Monitoring Fermentation of Black Tea with Image Processing Techniques
S Saranka, T Karatheeswaran, D D C Wanniarachchi and W K I L Wanniarachchi.
6. Construction of a Solar Chimney Dryer and Studying its Drying Potential
J U K Jayasinghe and H H Sumathipala.
7. Effects of Meteoritic Dust on the Variation of Global Rainfall
U Jayasinghe and K P S C Jayaratne.
8. Synthesis and Characterization of Polyaniline/SnO₂/GrapheneNano Composites
M T V P Jayaweera, W L N C Liyanage, D D N B Daya, S R D Rosa, and I R M Kottegoda.

New Council



INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS, SRI LANKA
COUNCIL 2016 / 2017



First row(L - R) : Dr. (Mrs.) U K Abeywardana (Jt. Secretary), Dr. W K I L Wanniarachchi (Co-editor), Professor H H Sumathipala (Vice-president), Professor D D N B Daya(Immediate passed president), Professor L B D R P Wijesundera(President), Mr N W K Jayatissa (Treasure), Professor V P S Perera (Vice-president), Dr. R C L De Silva(Co-editor), Dr. H H E Jayaweera(Jt. Secretary)
Second row(L - R) : Professor P A A Perera, Professor K P S C Jayaratne, Professor K D Jayasuriya, Mr. A S Pannila, Professor S R D Kalingamudali, Dr. (Ms.) H O Wijewardane , Dr N G S Shantha, Mr. S G Punchihewa

Guest Lectures

Lecture on “X-Discovering New Particle” was delivered by Professor Sally Seidel Professor of Physics University of New Mexico – US on 7th of July, 2016 at 12.00 noon at Faculty Board Room, Faculty of Science, University of Kelaniya



Lecture on “Photo reduction synthesis of metal nanoparticles: Synthesis and structural characterization” was delivered by Professor Masafumi Harada, Associate Professor Department of Health Science and Clothing Environment Faculty of Human Life and Environment Nara Women’s University, Japan. The lecture was held at the Physics Department, University of Colombo on 25th July 2016 at the Board Room, Faculty of Science, University of Kelaniya



Mailvaganam Memorial Oration — 2016



The Professor A.W. Mailvaganam Memorial Oration 2016 was delivered by Prof. S R D Rosa, Professor of Physics University of Colombo, titled “Physics for Locomotion of Selected ani-



Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad Competition

A total of 435 and 1502 students participated in the 10th Sri Lankan astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad competition, and the 6th Sri Lankan Junior astronomy Olympiad competition respectively. A team of five students excelled in the national competition will be selected to participate for the 11th international Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics competition which will be held in Thailand around August-September, 2017. Meanwhile a maximum of three students those who excelled at the 6th Sri Lankan Junior Astronomy Olympiad competition (for grades 6-9 students will participate at the 22nd International Astronomy Olympiad (IAO) scheduled to be held around September 2017 in Korea.

A team comprising of five students who excelled at the 9th Sri Lankan Astron-

Participating for the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA)

omy and Astrophysics Olympiad (SLAAO)-2015 were sent to the 10th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) was held from 09-19th December 2016 in India. The team to India was led by the National coordinator Prof K P S C Jayaratne.

Following student participated in the 10th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics held from 09-19 September 2016 in India.

W T R M Abesekara, P I V J Sigera, R S Illesinghe, H R E Sathsarani K G V Jeewanthi

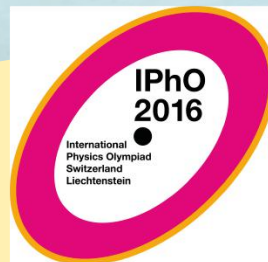
Participation in International Physics Olympiad (2016)

A total of 478 students participated in the 12th Sri Lankan Physics Olympiad competition. 8 students were selected to participate for the 18th Asian Physics Olympiad scheduled to be held from May 2017 in Saudi Arabia, and based on the performance of 18th Asian Physics Olympiad competition. 5 students out of 8 will be selected to participate for the 48th international Physics Olympiad scheduled to be held in Moldova, during the month of July in 2017.

Following students participated in the 17th Asian Physics Olympiad held from 1-9 May 2016 in Hong Kong

Students-L R Kularatne, L Udara, A Jegasingam, S Maduwantha, M N Wijewardhana, N D K Dissanayake, D O Jayasinghe and A M B Uyanwaththa along with the team leaders Prof L B D R P Wijesundara and Prof J R P Jayakody participated in the competition.

The International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) is an annual competition in physics for secondary school students. It involves individual theoretical and experimental competitions in Physics. The 47th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) was held in Zurich, Switzerland. D O Jayasinghe and A M Uyanwatta won the BRONZE medals at the 47th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) which held in July 2016.



The Sri Lankan team

A Jegasingam, N D K Dissanayake and L R Kularatne were the other team participants.

Sri Lankan Junior Science Olympiad (SLJSO)



On behalf of IPSL Dr Ramal Cooray-Senior Lec-

A total of 236 students participated in the 1st Sri Lankan Junior Science Olympiad Competition. Six students were selected to participate for the 13th international Junior Science Olympiad.

I M N H Edirisinghe and I A Gammanpila won two bronze medals in the International Junior Science Olympiad Competition held on December 2016 Bali, Indonesia.

The Sri Lankan team represented S S Wickramathilake, A Chandrakumar, I M N H Edirisinghe, I A Gammanpila, N D H Nethmal and T Chandrakumar along with the team leaders - Prof H H Sumathipala, Prof W U Chandrasekara, and Dr A A L Ratnathilake.

Olympiad Highlights — 2016



Welcoming the chief guest



Prof. H H Sumathipala the coordinator of Junior Science



Prof. S R D Rosa, The Chief guest addressing the audience



Prof. Chandana Jayaratne, Country coordinator of Astronomy Olympiads presenting report



Prof. Ruwan Wijesundera the president IPSL and the Chief Guest Prof. S R D Rosa at the awards ceremony



Sri Lanka Journal of Physics

The Volume 17 of the Journal was published on-line on the IPSL web site www.ipsl.lk, and also at the Sri Lankan Journal Online (SLJOL) system. Hard copies of Volume 17 will be printed and distributed to all Libraries in state universities in near future.

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- Prof. RC Woods

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The Annual Get-together & Dinner

IPSL Member's Annual Get-together and Dinner was held on Saturday, 05 November 2016 at 07.00 p.m. at Faculty Centre of the University of Colombo. Students of the Cultural Centre of the University of Colombo performed on this occasion.