

# The second international symposium “Experiments in high school physics teaching”

- Teachers for teachers - Aleksinac, Republic of Serbia, February 21<sup>st</sup> to February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

After the successful Symposium “The position of physics in secondary schools in the region”, held in Aleksinac (Serbia) from 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013, a similar, but much larger meeting was recently held there.



The Symposium “experiments in high school physics teaching” (21-23 February 2014) was organized by: Association of physicists Niš, Agricultural School “Sumatovac”, Gymnasium and Technical School “Prota Stevan Dimitrijević” and the Union of Physics Teachers of Aleksinac, in cooperation with Physical Society Nis and the SPS division for Nisava district. General sponsor of the symposium was the Municipal Assembly of Aleksinac. There were 115 participants from FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Republic of Srpska - Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Germany and Hong Kong.

The Symposium was opened by local authorities Nenad Stankovic and Slavoljub Velickovic and partners from Nis Mr. Dragoljub Dimitrijević. The main program was led and contributed by Prof. Jablan Dojcilović (Faculty of Physics Belgrade), Prof. Dragoslav Nikezic (Faculty of Sciences Kragujevac), Academician Tomislav Pavlovic and Prof. Ljubisa Nesic (Faculty of Sciences Nis), Prof. Nadezda Novakovic (State University of Novi Pazar), Prof. Bozidar Vujicic (University of Novi Sad), Prof. Mara Scepanovic and Prof. Mira Vučeljić (University of Podgorica, Montenegro).

Teachers from 7 countries in the region could follow lectures and presentations on a wide range of modern physics, experimental techniques, tools and pedagogical innovation: Renewable energy sources, School experiment in physics teaching, Modern educational technology in the teaching of physics, The detection of infrared radiation, Monte Carlo simulations, and Achievements of high school students on tests of conceptual mechanics. Short presentations were given by M. Babic (Republic of Srpska – Bosnia and Herzegovina), Dr. S. Ivkovic and J. Milisavljević (Belgrade).

Prof. Goran Djordjevic (University of Nis, Serbia), welcomed all participants, as a member of the ExCom EPS and vice-president of Balkan Physical Union on behalf of these organizations. He gave a lecture “Nobel Prize in Physics for the year 2013 - experimental techniques in the background of Higg`'s boson discovery”. Information on the forthcoming projects partially prepared by the EPS Committee of European Integration chaired by him, as well as an invitation to all teachers to join its action were delivered. The lecture “Education of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; the necessary

transformations of the teaching process”, was given by Dr. Zvezdan Curcic (Hong Kong) via video link.

On the third day of the Symposium there was a round table dedicated to the importance of the experiment in high-school physics teaching. Slavoljub Radulovic, professor of physics in Aleksinac High School, was the Moderator and almost all invited lecturers took part in it.

The format and scope of this year’s symposium, widely seen as great ideas, will be remembered as useful and attractive innovations. A competition for the best small home experiment was prepared by the Organizing Committee of the Symposium. Eleven experiments were selected out of 30 applications received. After their demonstration the top three, P. Goseva (Valandovo, FYR Macedonia), M. Ristic (Kladovo, Serbia) and V. Djordjevic (Aleksinac), were awarded. All students received copies of “Young Physicist” Journal. An exhibition of teaching aids and books with the presence of several companies from Berlin, Hamburg (Germany), Belgrade and Novi Sad (Serbia) was held. All participants found the symposium very well organized and look forward to its third edition. ■