

Mississippi State University
Department of Physics & Astronomy
25th Annual High School
Physics Competition
February 17, 2006

Students are invited to participate in our **Twenty-Fifth Annual High School Physics Competition** which will be held on our campus on Friday, February 17, 2006, in conjunction with MSU's "SPRING DISCOVERY".

The competition will consist of two different tests in two categories:

The **Newton** category will include students taking advanced placement physics or a second year high school physics course (excluding conceptual physics), students having had a college-level physics course (excluding physical science), students from the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, and any other students who wish to compete in this category. The **Einstein** category consists of all other first year physics students.

In accordance with the preliminary schedule, students are to arrive on campus by 8:00 a.m. A brief **welcoming ceremony will begin at 8:15 a.m.**, and a multiple-choice test on mechanics only will follow at approximately **8:30 a.m.** and conclude at **10:00 a.m.** It will not be possible for students to begin the test late. **An awards ceremony will commence at 3:15 p.m. and conclude by 4:15 p.m.**

Scholarships and awards will be presented in each category. A number of students will be recognized with the presentation of certificates of Achievement in addition to Outstanding and Special Achievement awards. No class award will be made. The Newton first place winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship, the second place winner will receive a \$2,000 scholarship, and the third place winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. First, second, and third place winners in the Einstein category will receive \$3,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000 scholarships respectively. The student must attend Mississippi State University and major in physics during the academic year to receive the scholarship.

Teachers who want copies of the 1988 test with answers should send us a large, self-addressed envelope bearing \$ 1.11 in postage for 4 ounces. Unfortunately our budget will not permit a blanket mail-out to everyone on our mailing list. The 2006 tests will be similar to those in previous years and will emphasize the understanding of concepts as well as problem solving skills.

Because of space limitations and the large number of students who participate in the Arts & Sciences Competitions, **schools must register by Friday, January 13, 2006**. Any schools registering after this date will be allowed to compete only if space is available. You will have the opportunity to revise your registered participant number about two weeks prior to the competition to allow us to better determine the actual number of participants.

To determine other Arts & Sciences competitions being held on Spring Discovery Day, contact the College of Arts & Sciences at 325-2645 or Enrollment Services at 325-3076. Note in particular that following the Physics Competition, both a Chemistry Competition and a Mathematics Competition will be held in the Humphrey Coliseum.

If you have any questions about the competition, please call Amy Massey or Physics and Astronomy Department Head, Dr. Mark Novotny or Dr. Sandra Harpole at (662) 325-2806 or contact us by email at amym@ra.msstate.edu, man40@ra.msstate.edu or sharpole@ra.msstate.edu.