

<sup>1</sup>Ezt a pályázatot a tudományos kutatáshoz hajlamot érző, angolul értő Olvasóinknak ajánljuk.

Institute of Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences (Warsaw, Poland), announces

The Eighth

### FIRST STEP TO NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

This is an International Competition in Physics Research Projects for Secondary/High School Students. The competition targets secondary/high school students who are interested in physics and are willing to perform their own research works in physics. At times, their results are very interesting and valuable. The Institute of Physics in the Polish Academy of Sciences will organise the eighth competition in the 1999/2000 academic year, and invited the participation of students based on the rules below.

#### General Rules:

1. All the secondary/high school students regardless of the country, type of the school etc. are eligible for the competition. The only conditions are that the school cannot be considered as a university college and the age of the participant should not exceed 20 years on March 31, 2000.

2. There are no restrictions concerning the subject matter of the papers, their level, methods applied etc. All these are left to the participants' choice. The papers, however, have to have a research character and deal with physics topics or topics directly related to physics.

3. Every participant can submit one or more papers but each paper should have only one author. The total volume (i.e. text + figures + captions + tables + references) of each paper should not exceed 25 normal typed pages (about 50,000 characters).

4. The papers will be refereed by the Organising Committee and the best will be awarded. The number of awarded papers is not limited. All the awards will be considered equivalent. The Authors of the awarded papers will be invited to the Institute of Physics (or to institutions co-operating with the Institute of Physics) for one month's research stay (the stays are scheduled for November 2000). The necessary stay expenses (without expenses for travel) will be paid by the organisers. Unfortunately, the travel expenses to and from Poland cannot be paid by the organisers and the winners will have to find some sponsors.

5. In addition to the regular awards the Organising Committee may establish a number of honourable mentions. The participants who won the honourable mention receive diplomas, but they are not invited to the research stay.

6. The participants send their papers in two copies in English only by March 31, 2000 to:

**Mrs. Maria Ewa Gorzkowska, M. A.**

**Secretary of the FIRST STEP**

**Institute of Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences**

**al. Lotnikow 32/46, (PL) 02-668 Warszawa**

7. Each paper should contain the name, birth date and home address of the Author and the name and address of his/her school.

8. IMPORTANT: The papers which do not conform the above mentioned formal conditions will not be evaluated. In particular that refers to the following papers:

\*written in language different than English or written by hand,

\*received after the deadline (the participants should sent the papers out to the organisers early enough),

\*submitted without copy or without data about the author,

\*in which physics does not play a basic role,

\*which do not have a research character (descriptive papers, essays, papers without any own results received by the Authors etc. are rejected in the first pass of evaluation).

We hope that our competition will provide the pupils with an opportunity to compare their own achievements with these of their colleagues from other countries. Also we hope that the stay of young scientists in our Institute will result in friendly relationship between them, what seems especially valuable for the future.

On behalf of the Organising Committee:

**Dr. Yohanes Surya** (Jakarta, Indonesia)

**Dr. Waldemar Gorzkowski** (Warsaw, Poland)

Vice-President of the Organising Committee President of the Organising Committee

Additional information on the competition and on the proceedings of the past competitions can be obtained from Dr. Waldemar Gorzkowski – phone: (48)22-8435212; fax: (48)22-8430926; e-mail: gorzk@ifpan.edu.pl or from Dr. Yohanes Surya – e-mail: yohaness@centrin.net.id

Current information on the competition and related topics can be found also in the subdirectory pub/competitions of the regular anonymous on the ftp server <ftp.ifpan.edu.pl>. See also:

<http://nobelprizes.com/firststep/> (maintained by Mr. Boris Pevzner from the Almaz Enterprize in the USA).