

PHYSICS IS PHANTASTIC PHUNSHOP 2008

PRESENTED BY THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PLATTEVILLE
SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS

MARSH WHITE AWARD
PRELIMINARY REPORT

PREPARED BY

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PROGRAM ABSTRACT

The U.W. Platteville Society of Physics Students is putting on our 9th Annual Physics is Phantastic Workshop. This event invites 6th Grade students from 25 area schools to spend a day participating in physics workshops and demonstrations. This year we would like to incorporate the physics of rocketry into our workshops.

INITIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Although the U.W. Platteville 9th Annual Physics is Phantastic Workshop is still a little over 6 months away, our club has already begun to initiate the first crucial steps in the planning process for this outreach activity. One of the first things our club did was in the Fall of 2007 a committee was formed to investigate the possibility of having model rocketry for an upcoming theme for our 2008 Phunshop. This committee is composed four SPS members: Justin Reeder, John Grueter, Josh Baranowski, and Alyssa Butterfield.

One of the first things our committee had to consider was that if we went with model rocketry as a theme for our Phunshop how would we cover the costs of purchasing model rocket kits, engines, and a launch system for our estimated 70+ students we would probably have attending the event. So the committee performed some research to determine what sources of financial support were available for outreach programs.

In September of 2007 two SPS student representatives, Josh Duran and Nick Confer approached U.W. Platteville's Segregated University Fee Allocation Commission (SUFAC) with our estimated yearly budget of which included our expected expenses for the 2008 SPS Physics Phunshop. Later that month Justin Reeder submitted a request to SPS National requesting funding assistance through the Marsh White Award. At the end of the month John Grueter approached the Platte River Association for Science Education, U.A. for additional assistance.

In the spring of 2008, our committee learned that we had successfully secured funding from SUFAC catering and room reservations for our event. We learned from SPS National that we had also won the \$300.00 Marsh White Award Grant. We are still awaiting word from the Platte River Association, U.A. as to their available funds for the event. At our last official SPS meeting of the Spring Semester our club had planned to put in for time slots for selling brats on campus which will assist in the funding.

With our financial resources secured for the project our committee has progressed onto the next stage of our planned timeline which is over the summer months to contact possible sources of educational material which would assist in our presentation of rocket technology to the 6th graders. One possible source is to contact NASA Glenn's Education Division to request for any props, handouts, and other materials which could be useful in our project. Another contact available to us is Margueite Blodgett who has gone through training courses at NASA Glenn for the Girl Scouts of America. She has also worked extensively with this age group and in similar programs so she will be an excellent source of information.

With my analysis of what our committee has already accomplished our project is progressing quite smoothly and is progressing to be on time. With the tasks already completed by our initial committee it is looking like this will be U.W. Platteville's best Physics Phunshop yet.

CURRENT TIMELINE

November 2007	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply to U.W. Platteville Segregated University Fee Allocation Commission for funding for outreach events. Completed 2. Apply for Marsh White Award from SPS National. Completed 3. Apply for funding from Platte River Association for Science Education U.A. Completed
May – June 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send request to NASA Glenn for free educational material and information on rockets. Pending
September 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fall semester organizational meeting. 2. Order model rockets and engines for event.
October 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send informational flyers to 6th grade teachers in area schools for event.
November 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Event held 1st or 2nd week of month on Saturday.

CURRENT MARSH WHITE FUNDING USED TO DATE

\$0.00 of \$300.00