

1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
on
"HANDS-ON SCIENCE"
Teaching and Learning Science in the XXI Century

Science Education has a decisive impact on the improvement of Science and Technology that is fundamental to a sustainable development of our Society.

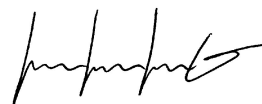
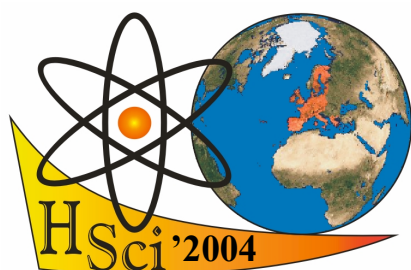
Science' teaching should be generalized aiming not only the sound establishment of a "Science" culture in our societies but also to guarantee a steady basis for the improvement of Science and its technological applications. It is urgent to improve the quality and effectiveness of in-school Science learning. By leading the students to an active volunteer and committed participation in the teaching/learning process through hands-on practice and experimentation, making intensive use of the new instruments and resources of the Information Society.

The EC founded Hands-on Science (H-Sci) network is promoting an international forum for an open informal discussion on these topics aiming the assessment of current situation and the identification and definition of new pedagogical tools and approaches to hands-on teaching of Science in our Schools.

The H-Sci network (www.hsci.info) exists to promote the development of Science education and scientific literacy. It encourages a generalized use of innovative hands-on experimental approaches to science and technology in-school teaching. In raising the profile and attractiveness of Science in Education, we aim also to increase the desirability of a career in Science for all.

As Coordinator of the Hands-on Science network it is my pleasure to invite and welcome you to the 1st International Conference on "Hands-on Science. Teaching and Learning Science in the XXI Century" in Ljubljana, Slovenia, July 5 to 10, 2004.

Universidade do Minho, Portugal, 27 January 2004.



Manuel Filipe Pereira da Cunha Martins Costa
(Chair)



Education and Culture

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The focus of the Conference Hsci'2004 is on Computers and its potential use in hands-on experimental teaching of Science. Papers and other presentations may address, among other issues, school education, hands-on learning of science, science & technology and scientific literacy, gender bias in the presentation and teaching of science, case studies,..., in all fields of natural Sciences. English is the official language of the Conference.

Proposals are invited for oral or poster presentations, hands-on experiments demonstration' sessions and Science fairs' boots. Submissions and inquiries about the Conference content should be sent to the Vice-Chair: Sasa Divjak, University of Ljubljana, Fakulteta za racunalnistvo in informatiko Univerza v Ljubljani, Trzaska 25, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, Tel. + 38641468884, Fax + 3861424647, sasa@fri.uni-lj.si.

All accepted submissions will be published in CD format. Selected papers will be published in printed form.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: April 14, 2004

Notification of acceptance: April 24, 2004

Deadline for pre-registration: April 30, 2004

Final program available: May 10, 2004

Camera ready manuscript: May 20, 2004

Oral and Poster Presentations

Oral presentations may be between 10 and 40 minutes in duration. Presentations in the form of video conference are possible. Posters will preferentially be posted for the full length of the meeting. An abstract of approximately 300 words describing the main points and conclusions of the presentation must be submitted by April 14, 2004. It should include a front page with the title of the presentation, authors (presenting author in bold), affiliation, and type or proposed length of the presentation.

Hands-on Experiments Demonstrations

Sessions will be scheduled for the presentation and demonstration of experiments. A short abstract of no more than 500 words (two pages including affiliation and figures) describing the experiment must be submitted by April 14, 2004. The experiments will be included in the Science Fair

Science Fair

Schools, research institutions, industries, Science clubs, groups of students and or teachers, or individuals may prepare a booth for the Conference' Science Fair. A short abstract of no more than four pages (including affiliation and figures) describing the booth must be submitted by April 14, 2004.

Conference fees

Regular	150€ (200€ after May 15)
Reduced fee for participants presenting a communication	100€ (200€ after May 15)
Teacher and students	50€ (This fee will be fully waived upon request for teachers and students or teams of students of Science Clubs that will present their work at the conference).

Further conference fee reduction and or other support (travel, lodging or meals) may be awarded upon request for works of exceptional quality or significance. All requests should be made as soon as possible before May 1.

For further information and registration please contact the Local Organization (sasa@fri.uni-lj.si), or visit the Conference' website at <http://www.hsci.info/hsci2004/index.html>.



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