



جامعة منتوري، قسنطينة
قسم الفيزياء وكلية العلوم
لجنة تنظيم الاحتفالات بالسنة العالمية للفيزياء 2005



Year of Physics 2005 in Algeria

We are pleased to report on the activities which took place in Algeria in relation with the celebrations of the Year of Physics 2005.

Indeed, quite few Physics Departments at various universities undertook activities in connection with it, but since they were *no national coordination*, we could only report on the activities we have been aware of.

It seems that the main activities took part in the Eastern region, notably at Mentouri University at Constantine and at Annaba University.



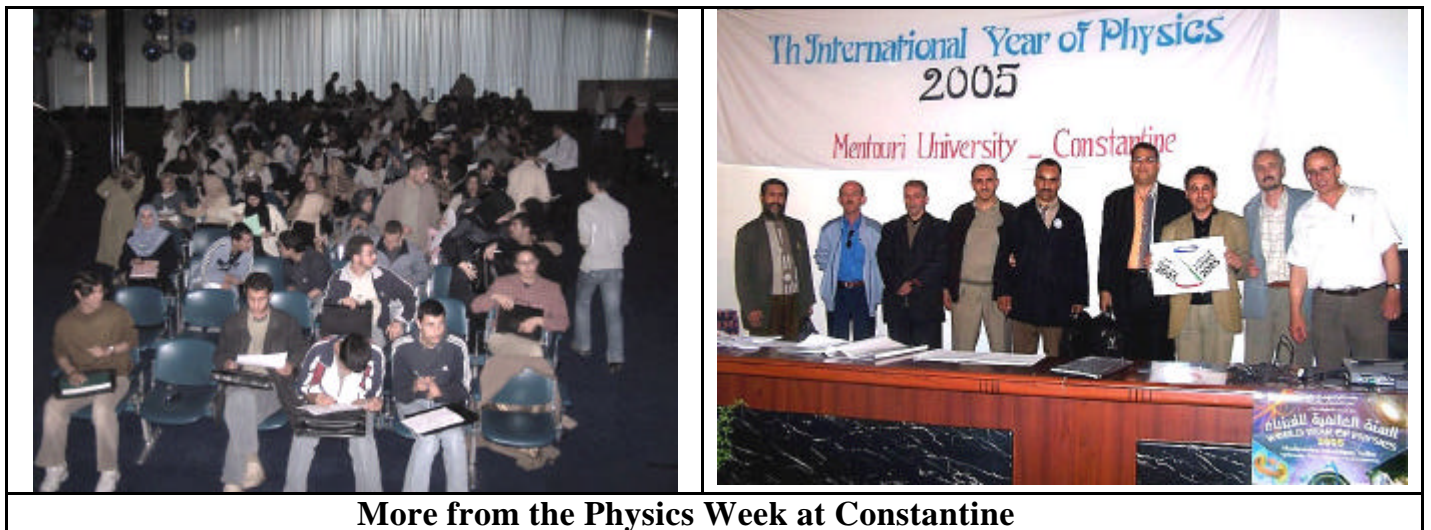
A rich program of activities was carried out at Mentouri University, Constantine

The Activities at Constantine and Annaba

By far the largest activities at the national level took place at Mentouri University at Constantine, the second city in Algeria. At the initiative of the LPMPS (*Laboratoire de Physique Théorique et de Physique Mathématique*), a committee was set up at the level of the Faculty of Science including quite few professors and administrators involved with the scientific research and decision making. This committee was able to organize throughout the year several large events aimed at the University at large and in particular the science and technology students. It also helped organize similar events at Universities in the area

We mention in particular the Physics Week (From 23-27 April 2005), a highly successful week long activities comprising lectures, competitions with prize distributions. A physics exposition was set up which draw hundreds of eager students to its various stands. This exposition (*Physique à la Portée de*

Tous) was set up, thanks to the efforts of Faculty members of all the specialties and their graduate students.



The acme was on Sunday were a day long program of lectures, scientific movies, and scientific competition took place. In order to allow for a large student participation, an exceptional decision was taken to stop the teaching activities for the First year students in Science and Technology and for the Physics students.



Various lectures on nanotechnology, relativity, astronomy took place at various times during the year. For more details see the special site: <http://www.geocities.com/mentouri05>

The activities at the High school level have been limited save for few lectures done in High Schools of the Constantine area.

In addition, a Regional Seminar on the teaching of Physics for the benefit of High School physics teachers took place at Souk-Ahras during the period of 10-12 May 2005 organized by the National Education Department, and which was staffed with members of the Physics Department at Mentouri University.

The Physics Department at Annaba Univ. also carried out a year long series of lectures and other activities with invited guests from all over the country and abroad (More at <http://www.geocities.com/mentouri05/annaba.htm>). Some public lectures were also organized by the physics departments of universities at Béjaia and M'sila.



Activities at Annaba University

In the Center and the Eastern regions

We are aware of a Physics seminar organized for the World Year of Physics at the Houari Boumedienne University of Science and Technology at Algiers on Quantum physics and Relativity in early November.

In the Western region, a dynamic program of activities was carried out at Tlemcen University. See more at the site:

<http://www.univ-tlemcen.dz/manifest/physique/phys.htm>



Activities at M'sila University

Perspectives and prospects

There are ongoing activities as a continuation of the Year of Physics 2005 program. We mention in particular a very nice physics exhibition produced by the Centre-Science of Orléan in France: *La Petite Mosaïque de la Physique* which will tour most of the main Algerian Universities (Some 12 universities) during 2006 starting from Mentouri University at Constantine on the 11th of February 2006. It will stay two weeks at each University and will mobilize a number of physicists at each place during the period of exhibition. Regional formation days are programmed in each zone in coordination with the Centre-Science of Orléan with will involve many physicists and will train them in exhibition making and managing.

More public lectures at schools are planned in the wake of the lectures at schools which were organized during 2005.

As a way of concluding, certainly those activities had some impact on the student's bodies at the various universities where they were carried out, but it is not possible to quantify it in any clear way. We already broke a taboo of holding on campus activities celebrating physics, if not as a source of entertainment at least as a respectable activity which be brought to the University community at large with confidence. Physics went out the closets and even got some good press, which is quite uncommon and an accomplishment in itself.

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