

Attracting girls to physics

In many countries attracting girls to study physics is the main issue. This is made worse by poor career advice. In others a large proportion of students are girls, but the career progression is difficult.

Therefore a major feature in attracting girls to physics is to highlight the width of career opportunities for those with physics qualifications.

A number of very good presentations were given with examples of activities and best practice during the workshop.

Enabling outreach to school pupils, both boys and girls:

- Including young children
- Explanation of activities should be clear and logical, starting with basic principles
- Involving active participation by the children
- Activities should be fun
- Relating the physics to the children's experiences and everyday life
- Include parents

Role models are needed who are:

- Mainly young
- From a wide variety of backgrounds
- Engaged in numerous areas of physics
- At different educational and academic levels
- Real people with interests and families

Teachers and teaching practice:

- Diverse teaching methods promoting creativity and collaborative work are beneficial to girls
- Curricula should include examples showing physics can solve human problems
- Teachers play an important role in encouraging girls to *for* study physics *studies* and should be aware of best practice
- Teaching strategies that enhance the self-confidence of girls are important

Sharing resources:

- A large number of web resources have been developed over the last years and are available for everyone to use freely.
- These resources should be available from links on a public web site.
- The web site should identify contact names for individual resources.