

The Hong Kong First Ever Team Award in International Junior Science Olympiad

The Hong Kong Team won the “Best Practical Team (2nd Place) Award” at the Eighth International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO) held in Durban, South Africa, from December 1 to 10. This is the first ever team award for Hong Kong students in the Olympiad contest.

The six team members, who are all Secondary four students, also won one gold and five silver medals at the IJSO.

The Hong Kong gold medallist is Justin Cheng Ho-ching (Queen’s College). The silver medallists are Cheung Ka-nam (Queen’s College), Lo Kwun-yu (King’s College), Jeffrey Chan Shi-kai (Diocesan Boys’ School), Wong Chun-yui (Diocesan Boys’ School) and Zachariah Lee Kwok-Tsat (St Paul’s Co-educational College).

The IJSO aims to promote science education and reinforce collaboration among science talent as well as provide a platform for nurturing the scientifically gifted from different countries and regions. The Olympiad invited 252 scientifically gifted secondary students from 40 countries or regions.

The content of the IJSO is adapted from the International Baccalaureate Programme for 15-year-old students and covers physics, chemistry and biology up to senior secondary level. The competition comprises one multiple-choice test, one theoretical examination and one experimental examination. The experimental examination consists of unfamiliar problems that require analytical and problem-solving skills.

Apart from taking part in the competition and meeting other scientifically gifted students, the participants are also provided with an invaluable opportunity to tour the organising country’s museums and historical centres. This in turn helps them to broaden their horizons and experience foreign cultures.

The Hong Kong team members were the best performers at the International Junior Science Olympiad - Hong Kong Screening 2010-2011. The Education Bureau commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong to provide seventeen months of training for the students from April 2010 to November 2011. Training on practical experiments was strengthened this year and The HKAGE ran courses for the first time to further boost the team members' confidence and problem-solving skills.

The Hong Kong team was led by the EDB Curriculum Development Officer, Mr Leung Kin-tak. The deputy leaders were Ms Chiu Shui-fan, a biology teacher at San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School, and Mr Choi Wai-ting, a physics teacher at Assembly of God Hebron Secondary School.

For more information about the Olympiad, please browse the website of the Gifted Education Section, Curriculum Development Institute of the Education Bureau (<http://resources.edb.gov.hk/gifted/ijso>) or the website of the HKAGE (www.hkage.org.hk)

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Press Release



From Left to Right:

Wong Chun-yui (Diocesan Boys' School), Cheung Ka-nam (Queen's College), Cheng Ho-ching, Justin (Queen's College), Lo Kwun-yu (King's College), Lee Kwok-Tsat, Zachariah (St. Paul's Co-educational College), Chan Shi-kai, Jeffrey (Diocesan Boys' School)

Ends.

December 13, 2011