



***St. Louis Area Physics Teachers
31st Annual High School Physics Contest
2016 Contest Results***

On Saturday, April 23, 2016, the St. Louis Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers and Washington University hosted the 31st edition of the St. Louis Area Physics Teachers High School Physics Contest. The contest was held in historic Crow Hall at Washington University in St. Louis.

161 students from 14 schools participated in this year's contest. The test period was 2 hours for both the Mechanics Division, a 50-question test dealing with only mechanics topics, and the Senior Division, a 50-question test that included questions from mechanics, fluids, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, optics and modern physics. Awards were given in each division for first through third place for individuals, as well as honorable mention awards for the next highest 20% of the scores. Team awards were given in both divisions to the top three scoring teams, based on the sum of the four highest scores from each school for schools with more than 500 students. For schools with less than 500 students, team awards were also given to the top three scoring teams in both divisions based on the sum of the three highest scores from each school.

There were 116 participants in the Mechanics Division in each of two levels.

This year's individual awardees for large schools are:

- 1st Place, \$100 – Kevin Jiang – Ladue Horton Watkins High School
- 2nd Place, \$50 – Donovan Smith – Webster Groves High School
- 3rd Place, \$25 – Clare Huang – Parkway Central High School

There was tie for 2nd place, with Donovan winning on a score sheet tiebreaker. Honorable Mention Awards were given to the next highest scoring 20% of the participants. Recipients include Michael Yu, Liam Bloebaum, and Steven Haarman of Francis Howell Central High School, Caroline Stewart of Governor French Academy, Achintya Benegal, Rounak Bera, and Aidan Kelley of Lindbergh High School, Tony Chen, Amy An, James Kim, Gao Yuan, and Jessica Sun of Parkway Central High School, Aditya Gokhale, Tobie Ola, and Patrick Yang of Parkway North High School, Connor Monahan and William Robison of Timberland High School, and Yuzhu Fu, Brendan Gillow, Luke Beggs, Ben Keller, Nicholas Haines, Easton Culver, and Prem Rao of Webster Groves High School

Team awards for the Mechanics Division, Large School are:

- 1st Place – Parkway Central High School
- 2nd Place – Webster Groves High School
- 3rd Place – Parkway North High School

Team awards for the Mechanics Division, Small School are:

- 1st Place – Thomas Jefferson High School
- 2nd Place – Marquette Catholic High School
- 3rd Place – Governor French Academy

There were 45 participants in the Senior Division.

This year's individual awardees for large schools are:

- 1st Place, \$100 – Aditya Cowsik – Clayton High School
- 2nd Place, \$50 – Daniel Greenblatt – Clayton High School
- 3rd Place, \$25 – Omkar Venkatesh – Clayton High School

Honorable Mention awards were given to Xuechun Qian, Leah Peipert, Sarah Widder, Kentaro Umemori, Gabrielle Choo-Kang, and Maria Belean of Clayton High School, Gajan Kumar and Sharanya Kumar of Parkway Central High School.

Team awards for the Senior Division, Large School are:

- 1st Place – Clayton High School
- 2nd Place – Webster Groves High School
- 3rd Place – Parkway Central High School

Team awards for the Senior Division, Small School are:

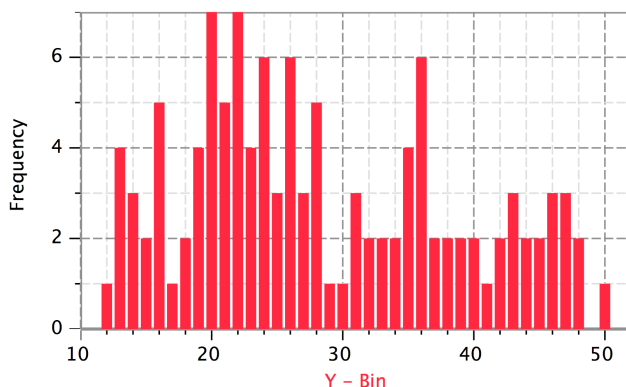
- 1st Place – Marquette Catholic High School
- 2nd Place – Trinity Catholic High School

2016 SLAPT Physics Contest Statistics

2016 SLAPT Mechanics Division Results

Mechanics Division

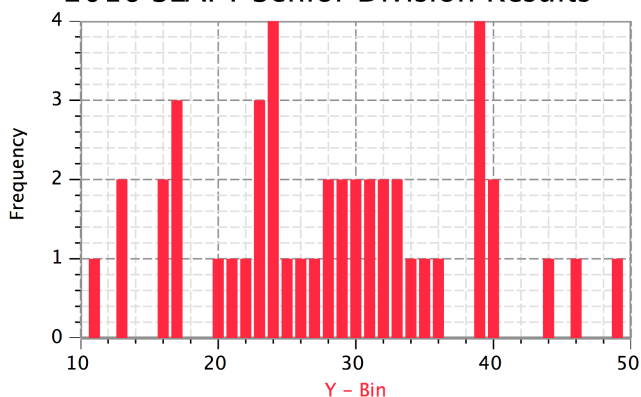
Number of Participants: 116
Mean: 32.5
Median: 33.0
Standard Deviation: 7.43
Lowest Score: 12
Highest Score: 50
Highest Possible Score: 50
Cutoff Score for Hon. Mention: 37



Senior Division

Number of Participants: 45
Mean: 28.3
Median: 28.0
Standard Deviation: 9.22
Lowest Score: 11
Highest Score: 49
Highest Possible Score: 50
Cutoff Score for Hon. Mention: 35

2016 SLAPT Senior Division Results



The St. Louis Area Physics Teachers Association wishes to congratulate all students who participated and to thank all of the physics teachers who brought students to the contest this year. Special thanks go to Washington University, and particularly to Adam Archibald of Washington University for coordinating the production of the test. We'd also like to thank Professor Emeritus Pat Gibbons and Professor James Buckley of Washington University for hosting the contest. We'd like to thank Mike Johns, for his diligent work to send announcement and reminder emails and to advertise the contest on the SLAPT website; Gabe de la Paz and Rex Rice for analyzing the test data and producing the award certificates; John Barr, Steve Braun, Jane Knitig, Elegan Kramer, Jenna Piazza, and Christine Stewart, who helped diagnose test errors and assisted in proctoring the contest and producing the awards; and Frank Cange, whose passion for the continuation and growth of the contest has allowed it to continue for 31 years. Without David Schuster, who coordinated the event, the 2016 physics competition would not have been possible.

The 31st Annual SLAPT High School Physics Contest featured a 17% increase in the number of schools and a 14% increase in the number of students participating compared to last year. According to our resident historian, Frank Cange, we topped the 5,000 student mark in the total number of students who have participated in the 31 year history of the event. We hope to continue the growth of this event when the SLAPT High School Physics Contest celebrates its 32nd anniversary in 2017.

Bob Brazzle, President
St. Louis Section
American Association of Physics Teachers