

## Go Team USA! Traveling Members of The U.S. Physics Team Are in Mexico to Compete in the International Physics Olympiad



July 13, 2009, College Park, MD – The five students representing the U.S. Physics Team as the 2009 Traveling Team, and two of their coaches, are competing with high school students from 84 nations this week at the 40th International Physics Olympiad in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

The U.S. Traveling Team Representatives are:

David Field, of Andover, MA, a sophomore at the Phillips Andover Academy in Andover, MA;  
Bowei Liu, of Fremont, CA, a sophomore at Mission San Jose High School in Fremont, CA;  
Marianna Mao, of Fremont, CA, a senior at Mission San Jose High School in Fremont, CA;  
Anand Natarajan, of San Jose, CA, a senior at The Harker School;  
Joshua Oreman, of Los Angeles, CA a senior at Harvard Westlake School, Los Angeles, CA;

The traveling team coaches are:

Paul Stanley, Academic Director, Dobson Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Beloit College;  
Warren Turner, Senior Coach, Assistant Professor at Westfield State College in Massachusetts.

The US Physics Team Traveling Representatives participated in a two-day mini-camp at the University of Maryland, College Park, where they reviewed problem solving skills and sharpened their laboratory skills. The mini-camp ended with a visit to the Mexican Embassy in Washington, DC where the students met with Antonio Ortiz-Mena, Head of Section Economic Affairs. The team members presented an art glass globe representing the world, as a gift to the people of Mexico during their embassy visit.

The Traveling Representatives arrived in Merida on July 11 and will spend the next week participating in a unique opportunity to meet with other high school students, demonstrate their abilities in physics, exchange experiences, and build cross-cultural contacts. They will have the opportunity to make new and lasting friendships with peers from all over the world; visit archeological sites full of ancient history; and to attend talks by world renowned scientists regarding interesting research in physics.

Team members will have the opportunity to add to the medals received by previous U.S. Physics Teams. Last year's team brought home one silver medal and four gold medals. This year's awards will be presented on July 19, 2009.

MORE ON THE WEB: Main website of the U.S. Physics Team: <http://www.aapt.org/olympiad2009/>  
History of the physics team, including past winners: <http://www.aapt.org/Contests/olympiad.cfm>  
The official website of the International Physics Olympiad: <http://ipho2009.smf.mx/home>  
Donations to support the U.S. Physics Team: <http://www.aapt.org/physicssteam/donate.cfm>

About AAPT: AAPT ([www.aapt.org](http://www.aapt.org)) is the leading organization for physics educators—with more than 10,000 members worldwide. Our mission is to advance the greater good through physics teaching. We provide our members with many opportunities for professional development, communication, and student enrichment. We serve the larger community through a variety of programs and publications. AAPT was founded in 1930 and is headquartered in the American Center for Physics in College Park, Maryland.

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