

## Three Gold, One Silver, Three Bronze and 1 Honorable Mention for the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Physics Olympiad in 2016!

(Photo and Article by Chen Huei-e, Division of Academic and Vocational Senior High Education)



A victory has been claimed by our national team in the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Physics Olympiad in 2016. A total of 26 countries and regions, which sent out a total of 193 students, participated in this competition. Our team secured 3 Golds, 1 Silver, 3 Bronzes and 1 Honorable Mention. Based on the number of gold medal won, our country ranked after China (Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia won 2 Gold, and the host country—Hong Kong—won 1 Gold). This is something remarkable!

An advisory team was formed by National Taiwan Normal University to train our national team. The domestic tryout was consisted of four stages: the preliminary, semifinal, final and pre-training. There were 2,664 participants from 137 schools who attended the preliminary stage, and only eight of them managed to pass the semifinal and final to qualify for the national team. This year, our national team was led by Professor Chia Chih-ta of National Taiwan Normal University, with Professor Tsai Shang-fang of WuFeng University serving as the deputy leader. In addition, Professor Kao Hsien-chung and Fu Tsu-yi joined the team as observers. The national team left on May 1st, 2016, for this competition that was held in Hong Kong. The closing and awarding ceremony was conducted at 4:00 p.m. on May 8<sup>th</sup> (local time).

There were 26 countries and regions sending out their national team for this competition. In addition to our country, Australia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Hong

Kong, India, Indonesia, Israeli, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam and other countries participated in this competition. Taiwan participated in Asian Physics Olympiad since 2000 and has made good performance in each year. So far, a total of 57 Gold, 40 Silver, 33 Bronze and 14 Honorable Mention have been won. Our country ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the world in terms of the average medals won during the past 16 years ago. In terms of single year performance, our country ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the world in 2001, 2003 and 2010.

The medals obtained in each year are shown in the table below.

Year	Hosting Country	Number of Participating Countries	X <sup>th</sup> Competition	Results	Ranking in Asia
2000	Indonesia	10	1	3 Gold, 4 Silver and 1 Bronze	3
2001	Republic of China	12	2	4 Gold, 1 Silver, Bronze, and 1 Honorable Mention	1
2002	Singapore	15	3	3 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze, and 1 Honorable Mention	2
2003	Thailand	10	4	4 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze	1
2004	Vietnam	13	5	3 Silver, 2 Bronze and 3 Honorable Mention	2
2005	Indonesia	17	6	3 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Bronze and 1 Honorable Mention	3
2006	Kazakhstan	18	7	2 Gold, 2 Silver and 4 Bronze	2
2007	China	20	8	3 Gold, 3 Silver and 2 Bronze	2
2008	Mongolia	18	9	2 Gold, 3 Silver, 2 Bronze and 1 Honorable Mention	2
2009	Thailand	15	10	7 Gold and 1 Silver	2
2010	Republic of China	16	11	5 Gold, 1 Silver, 4 Bronze and 6 Honorable Mention	Team A won 1 <sup>st</sup> place Team B won 4 <sup>th</sup> place
2011	Israeli	16	12	3 Gold, 4 Silver and 1 Bronze	2
2012	India	21	13	6 Gold, 1 Silver and 1	2

				Bronze	
2013	Indonesia	20	14	5 Gold and 3 Bronze	4
2014	Singapore	27	15	1 Gold, 5 Silver and 2 Bronze	3
2015	China	25	16	3 Gold and 5 Silver	3
2016	Singapore	26	17	3 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze and 1 Honorable Mention	2 (based on the number of gold medal)

The background of the eight students in our national team and their performance:

Name	Studying at	Grade	Medal	Ranking
Syu Fang-cih	Changhua City private Ching Cheng High School	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gold	16
Lyu Jia-syuan	National Wu-Ling Senior High School	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gold	17
Cai Pei-kai	Taipei Municipal Jianguo High School	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gold	22
Chen Syuan-ruei	Taipei Municipal Jianguo High School	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Silver	29
Wu Siang-ruei	National Experimental High School At Hsinchu Science Park	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bronze	38
Lin Bo-han	National Chiayi Senior High School	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bronze	41
Wang Shao-cyun	National Tainan First Senior High School	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bronze	63
Bai Ci-gang	Taipei Municipal Jianguo High School	1 <sup>st</sup>	Honorable Mention	80

To encourage students with exceptional performance, the Ministry of Education has set up “Academic Incentives for Students Who Demonstrate Excellent Performance in International Mathematics or Science Olympiads and International Science Fairs,” which stipulates that gold-, silver-, and bronze-medal winners of this competition can be directly admitted to a university’s department of their respective major without exam or be recommended to other departments at universities. Those who win an honorable mention can be recommended to a department of the same major at universities. In addition, gold-and silver-medal winners will be awarded NT\$100,000 and NT\$50,000 by the Ministry of Education, respectively.

After this competition, our national team stayed at Hong Kong, conducting a cultural and educational visit. They returned to Taiwan on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We will continue training excellent students for this competition to facilitate international interactions and enlarge our worldview.