

# **MARSH WHITE AWARD REPORT**

**Project : K-12 Outreach Program, 'Taking Physics on the Road'**

**University of Nevada, Reno Chapter of the Society of Physics Students**

**Submitted May 7, 2004**

**Total Amount Received : \$294.00**

Report prepared by SPS treasurer Leslie Welser

### **Abstract**

The University of Nevada, Reno chapter of SPS is currently working on an outreach project called 'Taking Physics on the Road.' Our goal is to enhance the value of local science education by making our physics demonstration show available to K-12 students.

### **Report**

Our chapter of SPS at the University of Nevada, Reno was funded through the Marsh White Award Program. This funding allowed us to purchase almost \$300 worth of physics demonstration equipment for our K-12 outreach program, 'Taking Physics on the Road.' This year, SPS chapter members have worked alongside our department's outreach coordinator, Dr. Dave Bennum, to deliver physics demonstrations to hundreds of local elementary, middle, and high school students. Our physics department's new electric bus was used to transport a wide range of physics demonstration equipment to the schools, where we normally presented in the students' classrooms. In addition, we had a very popular table filled with demos at a local middle school science fair.

Outreach programs are the backbone of our SPS chapter. We feel it is very important to scientifically educate children at a young age. The Marsh White award allowed us to purchase a number of new demonstrations that made our presentations more current and practical.

**2003-2004 Physics Demonstration Activities SPS Participated In**

- Mamie Towles Elementary School (physics demos + star party)
- Jesse Beck Elementary School (assembly + physics demos at science fair)
- Diedrickson Elementary School (twice)
- Roy Gomm Elementary School (physics demos for 7 classes)
- Sierra Vista Elementary School (physics demos)
- University of Nevada, Reno Science and Technology Day (demos for local high school and middle school students)
- University of Nevada, Reno Engineers' Day (demos for local high school and middle school students)

**Marsh White Budget**

- **Magdeburg plates** – demonstration that creates a vacuum between two suction cups. \$71.00 (Pasco), **PURCHASED.**
- **Magdeburg accessory kit** – accessories to use with Magdeburg plates, which make water boil by evacuating the air in a vacuum chamber. \$28.00 (Pasco), **PURCHASED.**
- **3-D magnetic field demonstrator** – iron filings suspended in oil in an acrylic case align themselves when magnets are inserted into the case. \$59.00 (Pasco), **PURCHASED.**
- **Bar Magnets** – for used with the 3-D magnetic field demonstrator above. \$37.00 (Pasco), **PURCHASED.**
- **Tesla coil miscellaneous parts** - \$80.00, **WILL PURCHASE AND BUILD NEXT SEMESTER.**
- **Laser pointer** – for use with optics experiments. \$19.00 (Pasco), **PURCHASED.**

Total budget :           \$ 294.00





