08

NEWSLETTER

No 8, 3rd September 2011



Media patrons:











Saturday, 3rd September 2011

Today's Schedule

Students Katowice

7⁰⁰ – 9⁰⁰ breakfast at the hotel

 10^{00} — meeting on the buses in front of the hotel

10⁰⁵ – 10³⁰ transfer to the Entertainment Theatre in Chorzów

11⁰⁰ – 14³⁰ 5th IOAA Closing Ceremony

 14^{45} — meeting on the buses in front of the theatre

 $14^{50} - 15^{15}$ transfer to the hotel

 $15^{30} - 17^{00}$ lunch at the hotel

1700 - 2000 free time and group activities at the hotel

 $20^{00} - 21^{00}$ dinner at the hotel

First departures from Poland

Leaders Kraków

 $7^{00} - 8^{00}$ breakfast at the hotel

8¹⁵— meeting on the buses in front of the hotel

8²⁰ – 10⁰⁰ transfer to the Entertainment Theatre in Chorzów

11⁰⁰ – 14³⁰ 5th IOAA Closing Ceremony

 $14^{30} - 15^{30}$ banquet at the Theatre foyer

 15^{35} — meeting on the buses in front of theatre

 $15^{40} - 17^{00}$ transfer to Kraków

 $19^{00} - 20^{00}$ dinner at the hotel

First departures from Poland

Jury of 5th IOAA

Jury of 5th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics, Silesia, Poland



The photos by Piotr Matuszczyk

Thank you for your hard work



5th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics

One can have the impression that Olympic competitions have just started. It is hard to believe that they are actually about to finish. It seems that it was only vesterday when we saw the participants presenting their teams on the stage of the Entertainment Theatre in Chorzów. In fact, the rivalry is over now and everyone impatiently awaits the results. Leaders and jury are doing tough and responsible job, analyzing and assessing hundreds of papers. There is no secret that the verdict will be achieved in a fierce and most probably emotional discussion. The organizers are trying to make up for this nervous time of waiting and entertain the participants with trips, promoting the country and the region at the same time. Since we talked to the students, we know that they especially grew fond of the Silesian Culture and Recreation Park in Chorzów, together with the Planetarium situated within. The weather, perfect for excursions, did not foster the observational tasks. That is why this part of the competition took place under the artificial sky. However, thanks to this the participants could take the challenge to solve a rather untypical problem - observing the Sun from the surface of Mars.

For a few days, normally silent and peaceful corridors of Best Western Premiere Hotel in Katowice reverberated with the voices of young people from the whole world. Apart from the moments devoted to discussing the cosmic issues, they occupied their time playing and talking together. One can say that during those five Olympic days, they had no other choice — according to the Statuses of the Olympiad, the students had to be taken away all devices connecting them to the world: telephones, iPods, laptops, etc. In the whole hotel, a WI-FI system was blocked. The purpose was to prevent the students from receiving the slightest bits of information suggesting the solutions for the tasks awaiting them.

What is going to remain after the 5th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics? First of all, the participants will come back home with wonderful memories from the country that is so exotic for many of them. Strong emotions of struggling with difficult theoretical and data analysis tasks will certainly be engraved in their memory for long. What will also remain is the equipment – telescopes, computers and calculators that are going to replace old devices used during a local, Polish astronomy Olympiad.

Friendships made during the Olympiad will also last after its closing. Because of the fact that they originated on the foundation of a common passion. Maybe in the future these contacts will bear fruit in the form of common scientific works. There is no doubt that one day we will hear the news about some of the participants.

Stefan Janta Jarosław Juszkiewicz







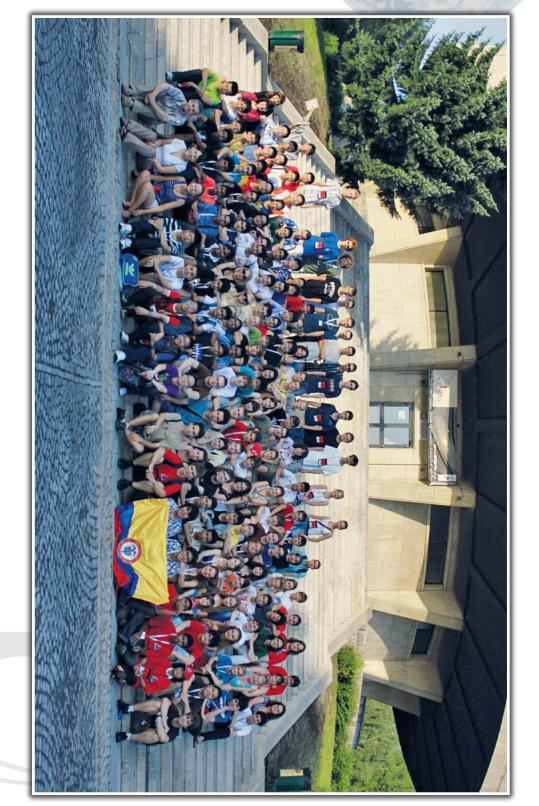
The photos by Damian Jabłeka

Eleven days of Olympiad, eight issues of our newsletter, dozens of conversations with participants and hundreds of photos to choose from...We would like to thank all of you for being with us.

Katarzyna Kowalska — The Olympiad Translator Jarosław Juszkiewicz — Editor of the newsletter



Family • picture



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR IN BRAZIL!