

3rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

"HANDS-ON SCIENCE"

CALL FOR PAPERS

Following the success of our previous conferences HSCI'2004 in Ljubljana and HSCI'2005 in Crete, attended by 320 participants from 27 countries on 5 continents, with 133 different presentations, the third *Hands-on Science* annual conference, **HSCI'2006**, will be held at the Universidade do Minho in Braga, **Portugal**, (and at further locations in the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula), from **September 4 to 9, 2006**. The Conference will provide the ideal opportunity for presentation of works related to Science Education. The aim of the Conference is to promote an open broad exchange of experience on good practice, syllabus and policy matters, social factors and the learning of science, and other issues related to *Science Education* and its development... **through an enlarged use of hands-on experiments in the classroom**. In addition, results from activities developed on the first three years of the **Hands-on Science Network** will be reported discussed and conclusions established

...towards a better Science Education...

Proposals are invited for oral or poster presentations, workshops and group discussions, Comenius 1 and 2 project proposals, hands-on experiments demonstration sessions and Science Fair booths and exhibitions (*all accepted contributions will be published in electronic format and in printed form*). Inquiries should be addressed to the Conference Chair, Manuel Filipe Costa, Universidade do Minho, Departamento de Física, 4710-057 Braga, Portugal, phone: +351253 604334/20, fax: 678981, email: hsci2006@hsci-pt.com, or mfcosta@fisica.uminho.pt. Conference website: www.hsci.info/hsci2006/index.html.

Important dates:

Deadline for submission of abstracts: May 29, 2006 (www.hsci.info/hsci2006/index.html)

Until June 24 late submissions might be accepted depending on space availability and on the quality of the work submitted.

Oral and poster presentations

Oral presentations may be between 10 and 40 minutes in duration. Presentations using video conference links are possible. We expect that poster presentations will be available for the full duration of the meeting. An abstract of up to 300 words describing the main points and conclusions of the presentation should be provided as soon as possible and no later than May 29, 2006. Electronic submission is available (www.hsci.info/hsci2006/index.html or by email hsci2006@hsci-pt.com).

Discussion workshops and hands-on experiments demonstrations

Sessions will be scheduled for the discussion of particular topics (such as scientific literacy, women and science, science and society, ethics, R&D, life-long learning, science museums and informal learning) presentation and demonstration of experiments (hopefully, also presented in the Science Fair). Proposals for other workshops' topics are encouraged. A short abstract of no more than 500 words (with affiliation and figures) describing the activity must be submitted by May 29, 2006.

Science fair and robotics festival

Schools, research institutions, commercial companies, science clubs, teams and or groups of students or teachers, and individuals may prepare a booth to present their work at the Conference' Science Fair. A short abstract of no more than 500 words (two pages including affiliation and figures) describing the activity must be submitted by May 29, 2006.

A major Socrates/Comenius Contact Seminar "Building bridges. *Towards an improved Science Education in EU Schools*" will be held in parallel to promote the discussion and preparation of new Comenius 1 and Comenius 2 school projects.

Informal contacts between participants are considered of utmost importance. An extensive and diversified social and cultural program will be offered.

English is the official language of the Conference. Real-time translation will be available for plenary sessions, keynote presentations and several workshops and discussion groups. Abstracts received before March 12 will also be translated into English. The same will happen with a selection of the best manuscripts submitted.

**The H-Sci network (www.hsci.info) exists to promote the development of Science education and scientific literacy. It encourages a generalized use of innovative hands-on experimental approaches to science and technology in-school teaching. In raising the profile and attractiveness of Science in Education, we aim also to increase the desirability of a career in Science for all.*

