

## Background Information

*Physics on Stage* is an initiative for European science educators. Physics and other natural sciences need to be made more attractive to young people.

A consortium of seven large research organisations called EIROforum wants to help teachers reach this goal.



Winners of the first European Science Teaching Awards

*Physics on Stage* provides teachers with opportunities to exchange innovative ideas, successful educational tools and good practice. It also offers the teaching community a direct link to the combined expertise of Europe's leading scientists.

*Physics on Stage 3* is part of the European Science and Technology Week 2003, an initiative by the European Commission.

### Who is EIROforum?

The seven organisations forming the EIROforum consortium are:



The European Space Agency (ESA)



The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)



The European Southern Observatory (ESO)



The European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)



The European Fusion Development Agreement (EFDA)



The European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF)



The Institut Laue-Langevin (ILL)

For more information, please visit the website at [www.physicsonstage.net](http://www.physicsonstage.net) or contact [Physics.on.Stage@esa.int](mailto:Physics.on.Stage@esa.int)

"I got a lot out of the festival and felt fortunate to be involved. In fact, as the week progressed and I became more and more aware of the high quality of the conference, I realised that I was indeed lucky to be talking with some of the leading physics educators from other European countries."

*Jim Tisel, the Netherlands*

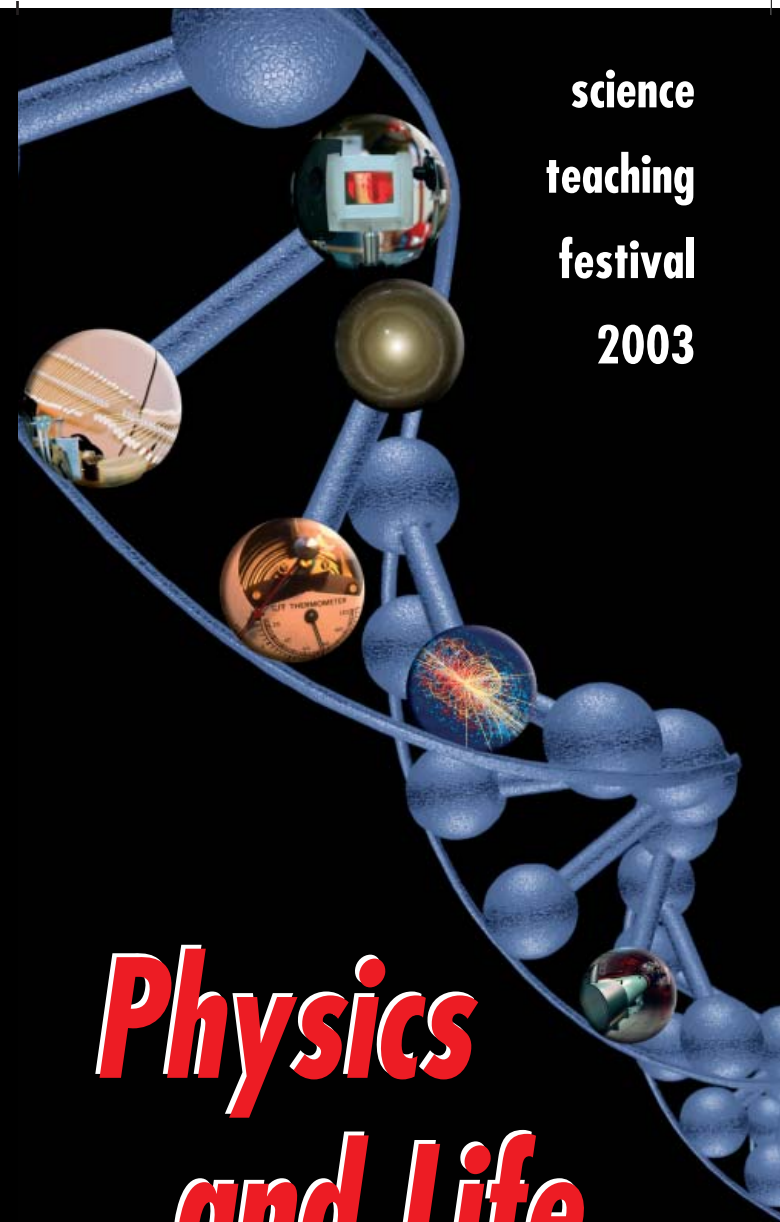
"The Spanish national event was an excellent motivation and provided an opportunity for teachers to enjoy their work in a way that today is not easy in our country."

*Rosa M. Ros, Spain*

Countries involved: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.



[www.physicsonstage.net](http://www.physicsonstage.net)



science  
teaching  
festival  
2003

# Physics and Life

PHYSICS  
*on Stage 3*

## National Activities March – September 2003

The theme for this year's project will be 'Physics and Life'. Teachers are challenged to submit original projects related to this theme to their national steering committee.

Some ideas already proposed are:

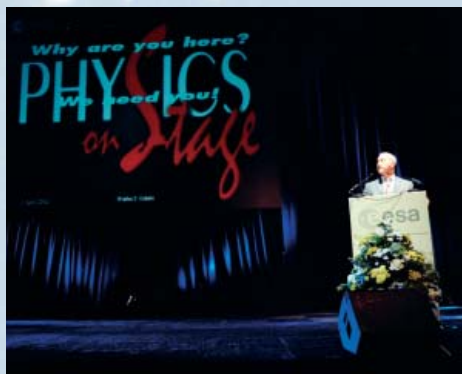
- radiation effects on the growth of plants,
- physics and the environment,
- astrobiology,
- medical applications of physics

...and there are many more!

The science of today is increasingly inter-disciplinary. *Physics on Stage 3* aims to open up the areas of crossover to all teachers and students and offer fresh teaching ideas to bring new life to classroom physics.



The best teaching ideas on display



Grand opening ceremony with VIP guests



Hands-on demonstrations at the fair

## International Festival 8-15 November 2003

Outstanding participants identified through the national activities will be invited to take part in the International *Physics on Stage 3* Festival, during the European Week of Science and Technology 2003, between 8-15 November.

400 teachers and education experts will come together at ESTEC, the research centre of the European Space Agency in the Netherlands, for an exciting programme of presentations, demonstrations and workshops.

Participants will present their work in a lively fair of activities and materials and have the chance to interact with like-minded teachers and leading scientists from across Europe and beyond. At the end of the week, the European Science Teaching Awards will be presented to those judged to have the most stimulating materials and projects.

- Are you a physics teacher?
- Do you have an idea or project to make learning physics fun?
- Would you like the opportunity to share your opinions with those of colleagues from all around Europe?

Then get involved with  
*Physics on Stage!*



Exhibits from leading European Research Organisations



Special performances put physics on stage

circulated to education ministries and other stakeholders. Follow-up meetings and workshop continuations will be held to allow the physics teaching community to find ways to continue improving the scientific literacy of young people.



Presentations show exciting experiments and new teaching methods

## Follow-up Activities

*Physics on Stage* has already formed a network of science teachers across Europe, which is set to grow throughout 2003. A growing archive of teaching materials is available online at the project website.

In addition, teachers are invited to become involved and have their opinions heard by decision makers up to the highest levels. *Physics on Stage* proceedings and video reports will be