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The current month is a hot season for physics in the country.

Two physics societies will be holding their respective annual conventions this month in different places in the country.

The Samahang Pisika ng Pilipinas, a national physics organization based in Metro Manila will hold its annual congress in Los Banos, Laguna.

Another society, the Samahang Pisika ng Visayas at Mindanao (SPVM) chose as its venue the beautiful island of Bohol, in the city of Tagbilaran, from 25 to 27 of this month at the Holy Name University.

There is a third physics society based in the Visayas called the Philippine Physics Society that holds their annual gathering in April of each year. The three groups are so far the only surviving national physics societies in the country today.

SPVM is an organization of physicists, physics teachers, students and physics enthusiasts based in Mindanao but has members from almost all regions in the country.

In fact, its slated annual physics conference and workshop next year will be held in the cool, beautiful pine city of Baguio.

Apart from the usual fare of changing pedagogies in teaching physics, the participants will be updated on some of the current physics research and development works in the country.

Aside from citations and recognitions in the country, there is a call for the Philippine government to invests significantly on basic physics R&D in particular, and science and technology in general to reach higher goals in the field, perhaps lead to Nobel prize-winning work.

For the mean time, some bright, young Filipino physicists are sticking it out in poorly paid academic positions rather than join the bandwagon in finding greener pastures abroad.

At least for them, understanding the deep secrets of physical nature and communicating it to the younger generation of Filipino students is an attraction and a great motivation in itself.

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And maybe their own native inventions will bring economic success.

A case in point is the World Wide Web or WWW. It's hard to imagine what global business would be like without the web. And the web's impact on culture worldwide is still evolving.

Tim Berners-Lee invented WWW in a high energy physics laboratory in Geneva to be used by people asking questions like: what is matter made of? Will forces in the universe become one? Why are there quarks and electrons and neutrinos? Or like how did the universe come to be? Or are there extra dimensions of space?

During the congress in Tagbilaran City, teachers and young people will hear also some physicists coming from India, Japan, Korea and Taiwan on possible answers to these tantalizing questions.

Are these really important topics? Well, at least they are for the Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy because the Office of External Affairs of ICTP has just given SPVM a generous funding to bring some of these physicists to Bohol for the First Asian Regional High Energy Physics Meeting in conjunction with SPVM 2007.

If you are a physics student or a physics teacher or just a plain enthusiast but are interested about new stuff please visit <http://physics.msuiit.edu.ph/spvm> for details. Or you may contact directly the Convention Director, Engr. Juliet Espiritu of the Holy Name University in Tagbilaran City at 09173044609 or at 09173949220.

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