

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Physics Department, University of Nairobi

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April solar academy 2013 successfully completed

The Department of Physics successfully held the 2013 April edition of Solar Academy that ended with a colorful closing ceremony on 25th April 2013. The training attracted over 50 interested participants but 20 participants were eventually trained. This is a third of its kind with the 1st and 2nd held in April and August 2012 respectively. The training is in line with the Government's regulations that require that for any solar installer to be licensed, must have undergone the mandatory training for T1 and/or T2 category. The training comprised of T1 and T2 categories and attracted participants from technical institutes, government parastatals like Kenya Power and KEBS, freelance installers and private companies undertaking installations in the country

Bank. In his key note address, Mr. Nana praised the University for initiating the program even before the government introduced the regulations and urged the university to keep up and take the opportunity to introduce solar thermal in the training.



Participants installing a solar system



The team Solar Academy 2013

The opening ceremony was graced by the Dean, School of Physical Sciences Prof. Lydia Njenga, the Principal CBPS Prof. Bernard Aduda and the Chief Guest was Mr Nana Asamoah-Manu, the Country Officer for Legal Services, Lighting Africa, which is a group of the World

The training lasted 9 days and comprised 60% practical sessions and 40% theory. The practicals were key to the training as they impart the skills the trainers required for their field application and also to prepare them for accreditation by the National Industrial Training Authority and further for licensing by the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC).

The Department plans to hold the fourth (and second for 2013) in August with the dates to be announced. We also are in advanced stages to launch the advanced training which is known as T3 that comprises Grid connected Systems and hybrid systems, among others. We are also constantly improving on our coverage to effectively cover the requirements of the courses.

Bett visited first international workshop on "Low-Cost 3d Printing for Science, Education and Sustainable Development" at ICTP Trieste, Italy



Workshop participants

Mr. Arnold Bett is a Senior Technologist at the Department of Physics. He is, like all other technical staff, engaged in training and advancement of technical skills and knowledge in order to ensure quality services are offered to students and also research work with fellow colleagues at the department.

Between 6th and 8th May, Arnold visited Trieste, Italy at The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) for a hands on workshop on 3D printing for science. There are many ways in which rapid prototyping can help accelerate physics experimental work at all levels. Armed with these skills, members of the technical team at the department can help students realize and better understand

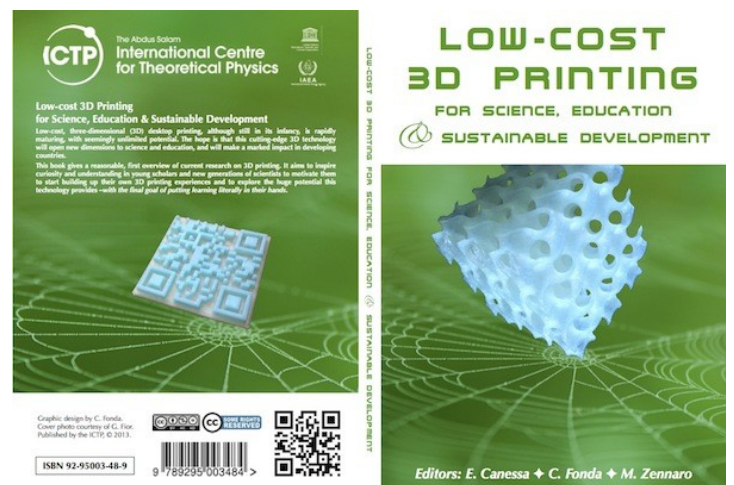
scientific concepts by conveniently printing out computer generated 3D models.



Some models printed at the workshop



In session



The book - find it here: <http://sdu.ictp.it/3D/book.html>