

Einstein-First

Every child has the right to share our best
understanding of physical reality.

Einsteinian Physics Education Research Collaboration (EPER)

ARC Centre of Excellence for Gravitational Wave Discovery, OzGrav

LIGO Scientific Collaboration Education and Public Outreach Working Group

18th November 2020

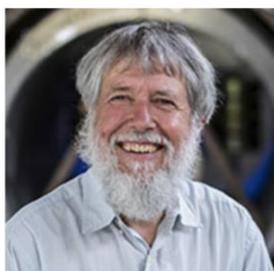
Prime Minister's Prize for Science

The Einstein-First team is delighted to share the news that the two chief investigators of the project won the Prime Minister's Prize for Science on 28th October 2020. The Prime Minister's Prizes for Science are Australia's most prestigious awards for outstanding achievements in scientific research, research-based innovation and excellence in science teaching.

Emeritus Professor David Blair from The University of Western Australia and Professor Susan Scott from the Australian National University were recognised for their critical contributions to the first direct detection of gravitational waves, thereby opening a new window into the Universe with gravitational wave astronomy.

In addition, one of our partner teachers, Darren Hamley from Willetton Senior High School, was acknowledged for his extensive knowledge and infectious enthusiasm which gives him an innate ability to engage and inspire students and cultivate students' love of science and lifelong skills in science inquiry.

Our heartiest Congratulations to David Blair, Susan Scott and Darren Hamley.



Emeritus Prof. David Blair



Prof. Susan Scott



Mr. Darren Hamley

Black hole program at UWA

During the term 3 school holidays, Roshan Dattatri ran a four-day program on black holes twice in two weeks at UWA. The program was well-received by students. The report on the program can be found [here](#).



Photo 1: Students learning about black holes on the spacetime simulator setup.

Lesson plans for primary and secondary schools

The Einstein-First team's draft lesson plans and PowerPoints for primary and secondary schools are being placed in a secure area of the website. Lesson plans for Year 3 (*Hot Stuff* topic [physics] and *Sweet and Shiny* [chemistry]), Year 5 *Fantastic Photons* and *Our Place in the Universe* and the Year 7 *Gravity* lessons are now available. Please contact Jyoti Kaur at tejinder.kaur@uwa.edu.au for the password.

The lesson plans for Years 4, 6, 8-10 are still under development. They will be made available on the website once they are ready.

Primary and secondary school teachers' workshops at UWA

The team has commenced training workshops with both primary and secondary school teachers. The team discussed the lesson plans with the teachers and went through the related activities. The lesson plans for Years 3, 5 and 7 are ready for implementation. Teachers from partner schools have tested the activities, allowing us to refine the lessons where needed. If you are interested to being trained in the Einsteinian concepts and resources please feel free to contact us.

Professional development workshops with Independent primary and secondary school teachers

Thank you to Glenda Leslie from AISWA who helped the Einstein-First team organise workshops for Independent school teachers. Two full day workshops were run by the team; one was for primary

school teachers and the other for secondary school teachers. The team is now following up with teachers who might be interested in becoming partners of the project.

Seeking ethics approval from the department of education

We are continuing to await Ethics Approval from the Department of Education and anticipate this will be provided in the near future. As soon as this is received, we will be in contact with Government schools to confirm their involvement going forward.

The Einstein-First website

The revamped Einstein-First website is now live: <https://www.einsteinianphysics.com/>

We hope that everyone involved in the Project will bookmark the site for easy access to the latest news and secure access to the curriculum resources as they are being developed and released.

Interested in joining the project?

If you are interested in running Einstein-First programs in your classrooms and have not sent us an expression of interest yet, please feel free to contact us.

The Einstein-First team is looking for PhD and Master students. We have received expressions of interest from five teachers who want to contribute to this research by joining either as Masters or PhD students. We are still looking for more. If you are interested in joining us, you may still do so. Please feel free to contact project coordinator Jyoti Kaur at tejinder.kaur@uwa.edu.au. If you know of anyone else who might be interested, please pass on our details to them.