

Feedback from CWINT - Center of Knowledge and New Technologies John Paul II (CWINT),
Kobyła Góra, Poland
by Piotr Duczmal, Martyna Adamska - CWINT
CMS Virtual Visit, 20 June 2015

The video conference was held as part of open scientific and educational event CWINT - OPEN DAYS – ASTROSHOW organized by the Center of Knowledge and New Technologies based in Parzynów, Poland. The educational picnic aimed to increase general knowledge in the field of astronomy and physics and was dedicated to the young people from ground, secondary and high school as well as for adults. There were a lot of attractions at the picnic but interest in CMS virtual visit in and the world biggest laboratory of physics exceeded our expectations. This is how the event was commented in the local press:

“But it was a direct video conference from CERN that overshadowed other events. It raised such an interest among both young and adults that the classroom where the conference was held could barely hold the spectators...” [Czas Ostrzeszowski]

According to our estimates the video conference was attended by more than one hundred people. The meeting hosts from CERN- Piotr Traczyk and Marzena Lapka, and their colleagues Noemi and Zoltan were step by step unravelling the secrets of the LHC and the CMS experiments. We got a rare chance to look into a Control Room and we were explained about work of the experts controlling the CMS experiment. We were also shown a visualization of the currently recorded collisions of particles of cosmic radiation. We even got a glimpse of the shaft of the detector. As expected, the hosts were asked many questions – the activity of the attendants was so high that we had to prolong the time of the meeting in order to get the answers at least for some of the questions.

This is how the video conference has been reviewed by Hania, a student at the lower secondary school and winner of numerous Mathematics competitions:

“This way of gaining knowledge is way more attractive and interesting, especially for us, kids and young people, because it let us gather information directly from CERN workers on how one of the most important laboratories in Europe works. We could explore the mysteries of physics, get to know what’s divine about the Higgs boson, often called the “God particle,” or why the detector had to be built underground. For sure it was a great experience and we are waiting impatiently for the next conference.”

In conclusion the meeting was extremely interesting. Our workshops and video conference prove that transferring knowledge and information directly and directly educating on sophisticated and often hard to understand matters is the best way to awake interest in science among children and young people, not to mention effectiveness of teaching.

It should be underlined that adults were preliminarily prepared by us for the meeting and quite interested in what is being done in CERN. Thus, many questions were born. To organize the meeting we used our own materials, knowledge we gained while visiting CERN and educational materials provided by CERN. Appropriate preparation is a guarantee of success!

We are already waiting for the next video conference and perhaps also another meeting in CERN.

We want to thank again all those involved in this meeting for their cooperation and commitment.

Attached files:

1. Press report about the educational picnic in Czas Ostrzeszowski - pdf
1. Press report about the educational picnic in Nasze strony ostrzeszowskie - pdf
2. Report – Radio SUD website- link
3. TVPROART footage - link
4. Photos – when showing pictures please incorporate information about the authors