WHAT WE DO

1. Provide rigorous physics training to High School teachers through interactive classes, problem solving, labs, and hands-on demonstrations.

2. Illustrate the connection between simple physics concepts, cutting edge research, and real world applications.

3. Evaluate physics skills of the teachers and impact of the program by using a variety of assessment instruments.

GOALS

1. Improve the level and knowledge of science teaching in Texas high schools.

2. Help develop an interest in the sciences for students in K-12 schools.

3. Help to improve the number of college ready students through better high school preparation.

4. Create a physics learning community, that teachers can rely on when they need ideas and answers.

ABOUT MIPEP

Approximately eighteen high school physics teachers are selected from a pool of candidates with little to no physics background, e.g. with 0-2 physics classes in college.

The program takes place at Cook’s Branch Conservancy, Texas, and is an intense two-week summer boarding school followed by online training and consultation, as well as an independent assessment of classroom performance.

ORGANIZATION

Mitchell Institute faculty Alexey Belyanin, Bhaskar Dutta, and Tatiana Erukhimova, along with Texas Region 15 master high school teacher and coordinator, Ms. Paula Hiltibidal, are involved in organizing this program. Instruction is provided by a select group of top-notch Texas A&M physics professors who excel in introductory physics teaching and science outreach.

This program would not be possible without the ongoing support from MI and the dedication of the Texas A&M Physics faculty, and Region 15 master teachers.