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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF VIGAN CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 1055, s.2026

INVITATION FOR THE INAUGURAL UNP LIKNAYAN EXPO 2026

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chiefs, CID and SGOD
All Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to the letter of Dr. Erwin Cadorna, SUC President, University of Northern Philippines (UNP), will conduct the **Inaugural Liknayan Expo 2026 on December 15, 2026 (8:00 AM- 5:00 PM)** at **University of Northern Philippines (UNP) Vigan City.**

2. The expo offers a lineup of competitions tailored to showcase the academic rigor, communication skills and innovative thinking of high school students:

- **Physics Olympiad:** a collaborative, two- hour theoretical and computational challenge for Grade 11 and 12 students.
- **Physics Explainer Video Competition:** A science communication event challenging students to distill complex physics concepts into engaging, accurate 3- minute videos.
- **Physics Research Idea Pitch Competition:** An innovation focused event where Grade 9 or 10 students pitch scientifically grounded methodologies to address pressing societal, environmental, or technological problems.
- **Seminar on Quantum Science and Technology.**

3. Participation of learners in this activity shall be strictly on a voluntary basis in compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2026 (Guidelines on the Implementation of the Three- Term School Calendar in Basic Education), participation must adhere to time- on – task mandates and avoid disruption of regular instructional classes.

4. School heads are advised to provide appropriate administrative support and learning interventions to ensure that participating learners do not miss essential learning activities. Written consent from parents or guardians must also be secured before learners are allowed to participate.

5. Attached are the guidelines and criteria for UNP Liknayan Expo 2026.

6. Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE
DEPED VIGAN CITY
25 NOV 2026
RELEASED
BY

VILMA D. EDA, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

SGOD/RQR/aca

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11-2207 -

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BAGONG PILIPINAS

November 11, 2026

DR. VILMA D. EDA, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent
Vigan City, Ilocos Sur

Subject: Update and Notice of Rescheduling for the Inaugural UNP Liknayan Expo 2026

Dear Dr. Eda:

Nabara a Kablaaw from the University of Northern Philippines!

We are writing to follow up on our previous communication regarding the inaugural **UNP Liknayan Expo 2026**, organized by the Bachelor of Science in Physics program under the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Northern Philippines (UNP).

First and foremost, we would like to express our gratitude for the positive reception, enthusiasm, and keen interest shown by school heads, science coordinators, and educators across the division regarding participation in our lineup of events, which includes the *Physics Olympiad, Physics Explainer Video Competition, Physics Research Idea Pitch Competition*, and the physics seminar on *Quantum Science and Technology*.

Following consultation and feedback from several prospective participating schools, concerns were raised regarding the initial event date of **October 28, 2026**:

> **Schedule Proximity to Exams:** October 28 directly precedes the Department of Education's Second Periodic Examinations scheduled for October 29.
>
> **Policy Compliance:** The implementation of the *no-class-interruption* policy poses constraints for schools sending student delegates immediately prior to examination periods.

To accommodate these concerns and ensure that all interested schools and students can fully participate without disrupting their academic calendar or assessment schedule, the University has officially approved the postponement and rescheduling of the UNP Liknayan Expo 2026 to:

- **New Date: December 15, 2026 (8 AM – 5 PM)**
- **Venue:** University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur

December 15 falls within the DepEd schools' end-of-term block, allowing student delegates and faculty coaches to prepare and participate seamlessly in all scheduled competitions and activities.

With this date adjustment, registration remains open, and we respectfully request your office's continued support and updated endorsement to inform and encourage high schools in your division to send their official delegates.

Quirino Blvd., Brgy. Tamag, Heritage City of Vigan, 2700 Ilocos Sur
(077) 644 2261 www.unp.edu.ph OP@unp.edu.ph

Attached are the updated event schedules and mechanics for your review and reference. Should your office or interested schools have any inquiries, please feel free to reach out to our team.

Thank you very much for your understanding, unwavering support, and shared commitment to empowering our young scientific minds.

Sincerely yours,

ERWIN F. CADORNA, PhD
SUC President

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SAPERE AUDE PHYSICS
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

UNP LIKNAYAN EXPO 2026

December 15, 2026

Tadena Hall, University of Northern Philippines

Overview

The UNP Liknayan Expo 2026 is the flagship inaugural event of the Bachelor of Science in Physics program at the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Northern Philippines (UNP). Derived from Liknayan, the Filipino term for Physics, the expo is designed to ignite scientific curiosity, foster creative problem-solving, and demonstrate the real-world impact of physical sciences among the youth. The event brings together the brightest high school students, educators, and science enthusiasts from across the province. Through a blend of rigorous theoretical challenge, creative digital storytelling, and practical innovation pitching, the Liknayan Expo positions UNP as the region's premier hub for future physicists, researchers, and innovators. Lastly, this event aims to build strong, long-lasting partnerships between UNP and secondary schools throughout Ilocos Sur to strengthen regional STEM education.

Competition Details

1. PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Event Overview

A rigorous academic challenge designed for students who excel in theoretical and computational physics. In this collaborative, two-hour exam, pairs of senior high school students test their mastery of core domains: *Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Electricity and Magnetism, Optics, and Modern Physics*. It is the ultimate test of pure problem-solving skills, analytical thinking, and teamwork under pressure.

Eligibility

Each participating high school may send only one (1) representative team consisting of two Senior High School students (Grade 11 and/or Grade 12) and one official coach.

Registration

Teams must register through the official QR code or link on or before **November 30, 2026**.
Registration Link:
https://forms.gle/ihZgB6y4ebARRmqB6

Competition Mechanics

- **Coverage:** The exam will cover Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Electricity and Magnetism, Optics, and Modern Physics (Relativity and Quantum Physics).
- **Format:** A 2-hour multiple-choice problem-solving examination. The two team members will take the exam collaboratively.
- **Materials:** Exam booklets, a list of possibly useful formulas and physical constants, answer sheets, pencils, and scratch paper will be provided by the organizers.
- **Calculators:** Only standard non-programmable calculators are allowed. Proctors will inspect all calculators before the exam begins.
- **Attire & Identification:** Students must wear their official school uniform and bring their school ID for verification.
- **Tie-Breaking:** Ties for the Top 3 placements will be resolved through a live, on-stage sudden-death clincher round prior to the awarding ceremony.
- **Awards:** The top 3 highest-scoring teams will be awarded during the closing ceremony.

2. PHYSICS EXPLAINER VIDEO COMPETITION

Event Overview

Inspired by the Breakthrough Junior Challenge, this multimedia competition transforms students into science communicators. Participants are challenged to distill a complex physics concept into an accurate, creative, and easily digestible 3-minute video. By combining scientific accuracy with engaging visual storytelling—and rallying public support on social media—students demonstrate how physics can be both fun and accessible to the general public.

Eligibility

Each school may submit only one (1) video entry.

Registration & Submission

A designated team representative must complete registration through the official QR code or link on or before **November 30, 2026**. The final video must be in MP4 format and uploaded via the provided submission link on or before **December 07, 2026, at 12:00 NN**.

Registration Link:
https://forms.gle/1G159DbbVnjuVVBq9

Submission of Video Entry:
https://forms.gle/HPHz2Vk4mgDQDKEy6

Competition Mechanics

- **Video Specifications:** The video must be exactly 3 minutes or less. It must explain a chosen physics concept accurately and in an easy-to-understand manner. The video must feature an appropriate and creative title.
- **Language:** Explanations may be in English, Filipino, or Ilocano.
- **AI Policy:** Purely AI-generated videos are strictly prohibited. While AI may be used for minor graphic elements or audio enhancement, the core explanation, script, and presentation must be entirely student-driven.
- **Public Engagement & Posting:** All valid video entries will be officially posted on the UNP Physics Program Facebook page on October 24, 2026. Total public engagement (reactions, shares, and comments) will count as 10% of the final score.
- **Engagement Cutoff:** The strict cutoff for accumulating and counting engagements will be on October 26, 2026, at 12:00 NN.
- **Fair Play Rule:** The use of bots, fake accounts, purchased engagement, engagement manipulation rings, or other artificial means to inflate metrics is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification.

Criteria for Judging (Based on Breakthrough Junior Challenge)

- **Engagement & Illumination (35%):** Does the video capture the viewer's attention and make a complex physics concept accessible and clear?
- **Creativity (30%):** Is the approach to explaining the topic fresh, imaginative, and visually effective?
- **Difficulty & Scientific Accuracy (25%):** Is the chosen physics concept challenging, and is it represented accurately without misconceptions?
- **Public Engagement (10%):** Authentic Facebook reactions, shares, and relevant comments.

Note:
For a sample explainer video, see Hillary Andales' winning entry to the 2017 Breakthrough Junior Challenge: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLfZiGQjVT8
The Top 3 teams will be invited to the awards ceremony for the official announcement of winners.

3. PHYSICS RESEARCH IDEA PITCH COMPETITION

Event Overview

An innovation-focused event that challenges students to apply physics to real-world problems. Rather than presenting completed research, participants identify a pressing societal, environmental, or technological issue and pitch a scientifically grounded methodology to solve it. Through a rapid 3-minute slide presentation and a live Q&A defense, students must convince a panel of judges that their conceptual idea is not only theoretically sound but also highly feasible and impactful.

Eligibility

Each school shall be represented by **one (1) Grade 9 or 10 student** and one official adviser.

Registration & Submission

A designated representative must complete registration through the official QR code or link on or before **November 30, 2026**. The Concept Paper must be submitted by **December 07, 2026**.

Registration Link:
https://forms.gle/fJ8g8nywaAToUaKL7

Submission of Concept Paper:
https://forms.gle/Z2yaX9wvqC3JSWKGA

Click here for the official template of the Concept Paper:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pl54r2WlMwbhUelM3jZxoqusZrJ0YyWR/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108973449893759537660&rtpof=true&sd=true

Concept Paper General Formatting Guidelines

- Document Size: A4
- Length: Maximum of 3 pages
- Font: Times New Roman, Size 11
- Spacing: 1.5 Line Spacing
- Submission Format: PDF document
- Use APA 6th edition for short in-text citations and a full reference list

Competition Mechanics

- **The Challenge:** Step beyond the textbook and use physics as a tool for real-world innovation. Identify a pressing societal issue, environmental challenge, or technological limitation, and propose an original, scientifically grounded solution.
- **Scope:** The goal is not to present completed research, but to pitch a completely new concept or a smarter approach to an existing problem. Students must formulate a compelling research question and design a feasible methodology.
- **Pitch Format:** Participants will deliver a 3-minute pitch using a slide presentation during the actual event. Slide decks must be submitted on a flash drive before the event begins.
- **Q&A:** The 3-minute pitch will be immediately followed by a short Question & Answer segment where the student must defend their idea to a panel of judges.
- **Attire:** Participants must wear business casual or their official school uniform.

Criteria for Judging

- **Scientific Soundness & Physics Integration (30%):** Are the underlying physics principles accurate, logically applied, and central to solving the identified problem?
- **Innovation & Originality (25%):** Does the pitch offer a novel approach or a significant, creative improvement over existing solutions?
- **Feasibility & Real-World Impact (25%):** Is the proposed methodology realistic to execute, and does the idea hold genuine potential for practical application?
- **Presentation & Communication (20%):** Did the student deliver a clear, persuasive 3-minute pitch and effectively defend their rationale during the Q&A?

This event is co-organized with the Physics Association of Students and Enthusiasts (PhASE) and the Students of Arts and Sciences Organization (SASO).

For queries or concerns, please contact:

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Please visit our official Facebook page for official announcements: **UNP Physics Program** (https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61590684141003)