Liberia: Two US scientists motivate Liberian teachers and students at UL

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by Michael Kpayili / Staff Writer

LU Students test the experiment that was designed from local resources.
Teaching these universal scientific skills and concepts do not require expensive technology, special equipment, or a modern laboratory: your environment and the world around you, your laboratory and classroom if you choose to view them as a scientist and a teacher of science.

These were the direct quotations of the two visiting science lecturers at the Fendell campus of the University of Liberia on Monday, June 15, when both students and teachers converged at the underground biology laboratory at the University to grip some new ideas from the guests.

Dr. Adam Cohen and Mr. Benjamin Rapoport are guests of the I-Help Liberia Project and LIMANY currently visiting Liberian schools and creating awareness on the importance of science and research work.

Dr. Adam Cohen lectures UL students at Fendell Campus.

At Monday lecture session, both the lecturers and participants were able to explore several core areas in science education as, creative exploration; systematic observation and management (Data collection); analysis and presentation of data (descriptive statistics, graphical presentation and analysis, trends and correlations); controlled experiments and scientific method; and principled engineering.

According to the guest lecturers, fair objective competition has the potential to motivate students and inspired them to innovate, participate
actively in learning, and seek answers to their questions. “Wins and losses in team-based individual competition can all be emotional and memorable experiences, and when closely tied to scientific and engineering principles can be effective approaches to teaching” the lecturers revealed.

Dr. Cohen demonstrates experiments at LU

The visiting science experts are expected to meet with all teachers from various Universities and High School in Monrovia on Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at the Tubman High School in Sinkor.

Their former teacher, Asumana Jabateh Randolph will be back in Liberia to continue the awareness campaign. He called this media to say thanks to the Liberian science teachers for taking care of his children (Dr. Cohen and Mr. Rapoport).

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Mr. Ben Rapoport tutors UL students on the Texas Instrument calculator from Vernier Technology

Dr. Adam Cohen explains to students at UL about the strength of research in any institution.
Michael Kpayili is a staff writer for TheLiberianTimes.com. Kpayili has written articles which have appeared on TheLiberianTimes.com since late 2005, and his hard hitting investigative journalism has earned the respect of the Liberian press community.

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