

Dear Editor

We would like to thank the referee for taking the time to review our HEASA 2023 conference proceeding titled 'Engaging Physics Departments and Science Faculties in Outreach Activities'. We have taken all of the referee's comments into consideration, and have responded to them (in red) after each comment in this response letter. We mention details of the changes that have been made in the proceedings. We hope that all of the corrections and changes made will be in order.

Kind regards  
The Authors

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Reviewer: The manuscript "Engaging Physics Departments and Science Faculties in Outreach Activities" summaries various outreach activities conducted by the Centre for Astro-Particle Physics (CAPP), Department of Physics, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. The manuscript is descriptive and crisp, hence serves its purpose optimally. This draft signifies the wide ranges of topics covered by the HEASA-2023 program. Specially, such an effort of propagating societal cause and seeking feedback from the professional astronomers from a wide range of expertise and geographical origins, should be more encouraged in the future. I have a few minor suggestions to improve the readability of the draft. This draft can be accepted for the publications after these improvements.

**Authors: We have revised the manuscripts taking into account the comments. We hope that the revised manuscript is now acceptable for publication.**

General comments on the draft:

Reviewer: Since this draft is all about the outreach activities from one institution, i.e., CAPP, the title seems to be misleading as it implicates that the authors are discussing about outreach activities from various institutions and concluding some general aspects. I suggest the authors should rephrase it to make it singular. Optionally, they may also mention CAPP or the University of Johannesburg in the title itself.

**Authors: We have changed the title of the conference proceeding to reflect that we are discussing only examples from the Centre for Astro-Particle Physics at the University of Johannesburg. The new title is: 'Engaging the University of Johannesburg's Centre for Astro-Particle Physics in Outreach Activities'**

Reviewer: The authors have used several words with first letter CAPITAL which are unnecessary. I suggest to replace all of those words which are not 1) Starting word of a sentence, 2) used to make an abbreviation, and 3) section headings, etc to the regular format words.

Example: Second sentence of abstract: Faculties --> faculties  
section 2.2: Faculty of Science --> faculty of science  
Department --> department

**Authors: We have taken the comment into consideration and looked at all of the examples in the text that the comment refers to. We have converted the initial capital letters of words like: physics, faculties, astro-particle physics, physics revision boot camp, research fellow, department, virtual reality, outreach plan, and astronomy and astrophysics etc. to lowercase letters. After due consideration and research, we decided to keep the capitals with the initial letter in phrases such as "Faculty of Science", "Department of Physics", and "Soweto Science Centre" as these are referring to a specific name assigned to a department, faculty etc. at the University of Johannesburg. We also changed the section headings and subheading to the regular format of words, such as: Investing in the future: CAPP outreach activities 2023. The lowercase does work better here and reduces the unnecessary use of capitals in the proceeding.**

3. Miscellaneous:

Abstract:

Sentence 2: community outreach --> outreach (No need of community: obvious)

Authors: We agree that the use of 'community' is not needed in this instance as it is obvious. We have removed the word as suggested.

engage learners (both High School and Undergraduate) --> rephrase, maybe something like 'engage students of different education levels such as high school and undergrad courses'

Authors: We have taken the suggestion to rewrite the sentence indicated in the abstract to improve clarity. The new sentence is: 'significant role in outreach by organising various activities that cater to students from high school through university, and even the general public.' We have revised the sentence and removed the unnecessary capitalisation to improve readability.

Introduction:

Sentence 2: The word 'Centre' represents CAPP and hence I suggest to use that instead. 'research that ...' --> 'research areas centered around'

Authors: We have implemented both suggested changes and the new sentence reads: "CAPP focuses on research areas centred around..."