



Meet a Mentee

Emilyn Navia

High School affiliated to
Nanjing Normal University
Nanjing, China

eMentor: Marc Reif

After serving my home country for more than a decade, I started my international teaching career in 2008. I have taught IGCSE and A - Level Physics at Wuxi No. 1 High School from 2008-2009. Then, I went back to my home country to teach again teach Physics at my former school. In 2011-2012, I taught Physics and Mathematics at Wuxi International School. Presently, I am teaching AP Physics for American Program students at the High School Affiliated to Nanjing Normal University, Jiangning Campus. I enjoy working with motivated students who truly have the desire to continue their academic pursuit in a western country.

We cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening our own. Thus, my quest for learning is unstoppable.



I have continued to pursue my graduate studies in enhancing my knowledge on the subject that I have learned to love and cherish. I have attended seminars and more significant trainings conducted by the school where I was still teaching then, including events spearheaded by some agencies and other private organizations that drew me closer to loving Science & Technology even more as an interesting subject in the world today. Mastery of the subject has pushed me to study advanced lessons and other related subjects focusing on science and technological advances that would certainly be beneficial to my teaching career - in turn, keeping me an effective Science teacher, teaching Physics specifically, in the most crucial way, meeting the demands of time.

After becoming a member of AAPT, I had this goal of increasing my knowledge, gathering more resource teaching materials, and learning from experienced American teachers since I am teaching AP Physics courses. I explore the benefits and privileges of being an AAPT member, and I had this chance to be a mentee in the eMentoring Program. Thanks to Ms. Rebecca Vieyra for the opportunity and encouragement despite the fact I learned this program is only open to teachers in the US. Teaching AP Physics courses in China is a tough job when it comes to materials. First and foremost, College Board materials are audited, and to get access, there are so many requirements that I must comply with. Secondly, some websites are blocked in China, which makes it more difficult to access the Internet. And I am lucky enough to have my eMentor Marc Reif, who was very supportive when I told him my issues. He assisted me to become a member of <https://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/Secure-PGP>, where I gained access to AP Physics past papers. It helped a lot in my revision. I also consult to him about some physics concepts for which I need a physics buddy to explain further, and he was very patient to elaborate his opinion.

Attending the 2015 AAPT Summer Meeting will be a great opportunity for me. I will have a chance to participate in workshops and plenary sessions that will again increase my knowledge and help me to be updated on the current trends in physics teaching. Likewise, this is an opportunity to interact with fellow Physics teachers, learn from their Western style classroom teaching, and, most importantly, it is a chance for my continued professional development.

Do you have a story you would like to share? If you are a Mentor or Mentee, we would love to hear from you!

ementoring@aapt.org