

Physics 150 Homework 6

Physics 150
Fall 2004
K.Pitts
Due: Oct. 13

This homework assignment is to write a short “research” paper on one topic on science and/or technology that is an issue in the upcoming presidential election. Here are the instructions:

- 1) Choose a science or technology based issue that is important for the presidential campaign. Some sources of example questions that are being asked of the candidates are linked from our web page:
<http://www.physicstoday.org/vol-57/iss-10/p28.html>
<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/rapidpdf/1104420v1.pdf>
<http://www.nature.com/news/2004/040913/pf/431238.pdf>
You are not limited to the questions that were raised in these articles. Other issues are acceptable, provided that you can show that the topic is relevant. You are welcome to clear your topic with me in advance.
- 2) Write a paper that is no longer than one page that includes the following pieces of information:
 - a) A description of the topic.
 - b) A discussion of why it is important in this election.
 - c) A brief description of the candidate’s stances on this issue.
 - i) You can find information on the candidate’s positions at their web sites:
<http://johnkerry.com>
<http://georgewbush.com>
 - ii) Do not rely on one candidate’s description of the other’s stance.
 - d) Your assessment on which candidate’s position is supported by the science and why.
 - e) Be sure to reference any information (in the form of endnotes or included in the text) that you use in the summary.
- 3) Turn in three copies of your paper.
 - a) Do not put your name on any of the three copies. Put only your Phys 150 student number that I give you in class.
 - b) The original plus two Xerox copies is fine. Be sure that all three copies are legible.
 - c) Turn the three copies in during class on October 13, 2004. **Late assignments will not be accepted!**

50 points total