



*Louis Palmer (in white) with staff and faculty of PI*

## As part of its world tour, “Solar Taxi” lands in PI

The Mechanical Engineering Program and Arzanah’s Environmental Club sponsored an inspiring lecture by Mr. Louis Palmer, a Swiss High School Teacher who is living through his childhood dream of going around the world in a solar-powered vehicle. Once completed, Mr.

Palmer’s journey would take him 12 months, covering 50,000 kilometers, 50 countries and five continents. The aim of the mission is to shed light on alternative energies, especially solar energy, and the need to find workable solutions for global warming.

The event was organized by

Dr. Kubo (Director of Mechanical Engineering) and Mr. Yahya Al Rayyes (Foundation Program Science Instructor), and was attended by Mr. Andreas Maager (Counsellor-Deputy Head of the Swiss Mission), Dr. Nadia M. Alhasani (Arzanah Campus Director), as well as a number of



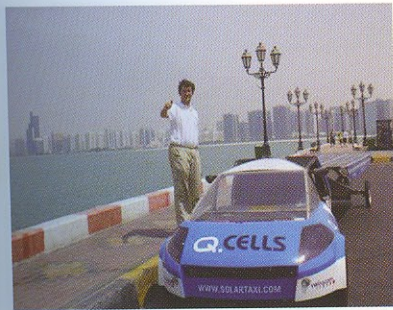
*Public interest in Palmer’s solar taxi*



*Palmer lecturing students*



*The solar taxi*



Palmer and his vehicle at the waterbreak



... in front of Hilton Abu Dhabi



... in front of Bur Al Arab in Dubai



... offroad



... in Budapest



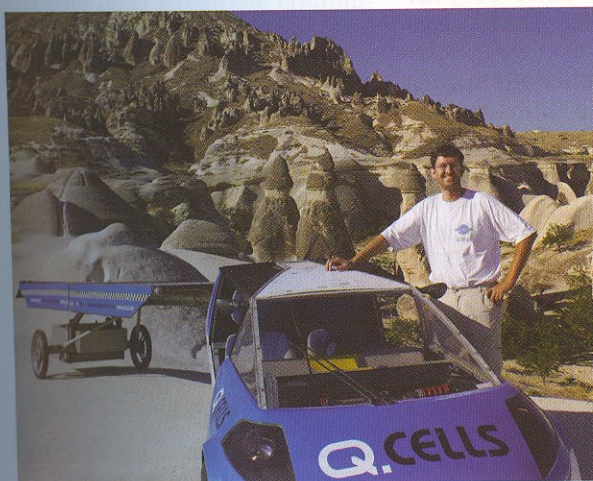
... in Berlin - Germany

faculty, students and staff.

Mr. Palmer who is driving around the world in a



... in Austria



... in Turkey

solar-powered vehicle to highlight the advantages of solar energy is overwhelmed by the encouragement he has received from Gulf countries, the land of oil.

SOLARTAXI features a 6 square meter surface of photovoltaic cells mounted on a trailer, and can travel at a speed of 90 km/hr. The single passenger three-wheeler has traveled through Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. After a few days in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, SOLARTAXI is headed to India.

The car can travel 90 kilometres per hour totally free of cost as sunlight is free and it never affects the environment at all according to Mr Palmer.

His aim is to encourage the elimination of carbon emissions which cause global warming and climate changes. An avid traveller who has visited most parts of the world, Mr Palmer wanted a solution to environmental disasters witnessed everywhere.

He made the solar-powered car in cooperation with four Swiss technical universities and ten private companies as a solution to global warming and climate change.

Mr Louis Palmer, the Swiss adventurer, has learnt one important life lesson while travelling around the world - that one should never give up. His experience during his travels to more than 50 countries has taught him how to overcome obstacles.