



July 14, 2005

Japan Committee on WYP2005

WYP2005 Activities in Japan

Establishment of Japan Committee on WYP2005

In Japan, on September 30, 2004, Physical Society of Japan, Japanese Society of Applied Physics, Japanese Astronomical Society, Japanese Society of Physics Education, Biophysical Society of Japan, Japanese Society of Engineering and Japanese Science Foundation established “Japan Committee on World Year of Physics 2005” (JCWYP) to coordinate and to promote activities of WYP2005 in Japan. Later other academic societies, scientific research organizations, governmental organizations, and many individual persons joined JCWYP2005. The role of JCWYP is to coordinate these activities and to announce them on the web page of JCWYP in order that everyone can access to information of WYP2005 activities. The president of JCWYP is Dr. A. Arima, former minister of Education, Science and Culture, now the president of Japan Science Foundation.

Events organized by JCWYP

There are so many activities of individual societies and organizations going on but we list here the activities organized by JCWYP.

1. Japanese Delegation to Launch Conference of the International Year of Physics, Jan.12 – Jan. 17, UNEASCO, Paris, sending 5 physics students of age 20-21 and a graduate student as leader.
2. Publication of pamphlet “Einstein and Japanese” was made on the occasion of APS Launch Meeting of WYP2005 on February 20.
3. Science Show “Future Einstein: Dialogue with physicists: Part I” for primary school children and high school students, March 21-22, Science Museum, Tokyo. 5,000 participants enjoyed demonstrations of modern physics and technology and lectures by excellent scientists.
4. Physics Enlightens the World on April 19. We transmitted signals among 17 academic institutions and at each institution students and faculty got together to think about the great scientist, who made great scientific achievement and contribution to the peace. We asked general public to participate in “Wave of Light and Darkness” event. As soon as a participant made registration to the event, he/she

got the time of putting off the light depending on the longitude. Thus the wave of putting off the light propagated from the easternmost of Japan to the westernmost part. 5,000 people made the registration but we expect that more people participated the event because some newspaper announced the time of putting off the light for various cities.

5. Commemoration Ceremony of WYP “Physics, mankind and future: Physics of the 21st century from beauty of Nature”, April 23, MY Plaza, Tokyo, including lectures, “Future themes of physics” by Prof. Jerome I. Friedman, “What physics can say about life” by Prof. Steven Chu and “Impact of Einstein on physics of the 21st century” by Prof. C. N. Yang. Then we announced and approved “Tokyo Declaration for the future of science, technology, global environment and mankind”. Then followed the symposium “Arts and Science”, whose plenary lectures were “Life and beauty” by Painter I. Hirayama and “Science on beauty of Morphoblu” by Prof. S. Kinoshita and panel discussions by scientists, artists, science writer and science philosopher.
6. Dialogue between High school students and Nobel laureates, Dr. Friedman, Dr. Yang and Dr. Wiesel took place on April 24 in Tokyo. The morning session of plenary lectures was with audience of 400 high school students. The afternoon session consisted of three seminars, each of which was made up with 20 students, a moderator and a Nobel laureate.
7. Noh play “Hermit Isseki” (Einstein) was given at Shinjuku Culture Center on July 4 with a talk show “Why Einstein and Noh play?” The text of the noh play was made by Dr. Tomio Tada, immunologist to describe the world of relativity and ethical issue of scientists on nuclear weapons. There were 1,000 spectators of various backgrounds including noh fans, scientists, Pugwash members and so on.
8. “Future Einstein: Dialogue with scientists: Part II” for primary school children and high school students, July 29-August 2, Science Museum, Tokyo. Chemists, geologists, seismologists, electrical engineers, mechanical engineers will also participate.
9. “Physics Challenge 2005”, August 12-15, Okayama, Physics contest of high school students for the participation in Physics Olympiad in 2006
10. “Physics and Life”, October 15, Tokyo, including public lectures and exhibition of instruments
11. “Visit to Foundation of Science”, November 9-10, Museums in Osaka area, public lectures and open laboratories
12. Symposium “Launching Science Literacy Project”, planned in December

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