

8. Fusion Science Archives

Extensive archival studies were made in the fiscal year of 2006.

The main activities are on the followings: collection and registering of documents, oral history, disclosure of archives and resource sharing by means of EAD (encoded archival description) that is the international standard. Those were carried out under domestic and international collaborations.

The collaboration research this fiscal year consists of 6 research subjects by which an essential part of fusion archives is covered: 1) Archival studies on nuclear fusion research, 2) Complementary studies of nuclear fusion research archiving by means of oral history, 3) The role of inter-university institute for nuclear fusion research in early period, 4) Studies on the problems related to information disclosure at nuclear fusion archives, 5) Historical research on fusion-plasma research devices 6) Chronological studies on international collaboration of nuclear fusion research in universities of Japan.

The activities on collaboration researches were presented 1) at The 6th Joint Conference for Fusion Energy in June 2006, 2) at the meeting of the Physical Society of Japan in September 2006, and 3) at the annual meetings of the Japan Society of Plasma Science and Nuclear Fusion Research in December 2006. In the meetings, the following posters were presented, respectively: “Fusion Science Archives in Universities in Japan”, “An Archival Study on the Role of Inter-University Institution in Nuclear Fusion Research”, and “Construction of electronic finding aids for Fusion Science Archives Database”. In plenary workshops on archives (in April 2006 and in March 2007) held in Sokendai (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies), the activities in NIFS FSA and topics of oral history were presented. In August 2006 the talk “Hybrid Collaboration in NIFS Archives” was presented in EASST (The European Association for the Study of Science and Technology) held in Lausanne. In workshops targeting oral history held in Sokendai the interview to Dr. Katsumi Kimura, Professor Emeritus of IMS (Institute of Molecular Sciences), was conducted by the member of NIFS FSA.

The general meeting on collaboration researches was held twice, in October and in February, where the collaborators nationwide took part in to discuss the status and strategy of collaboration researches. The presenters were from Nihon Univ., Sokendai, KEK, NIJL (National Institute of Japanese Literature), IMS, Nagoya Univ.,

Kyoto Univ., Tohoku Univ., Univ. of Tsukuba, Osaka Univ., and NIFS. Along with discussions on the six collaboration research subjects, the detailed discussions on database sharing on the basis of EAD and on tasks related to the disclosure of archives were made, and the progress in fusion archives in Kyoto Univ., Osaka Univ. and Univ. of Tsukuba was introduced. British Library Sound Archives in London and oral history on fusion research conducted in France were also introduced.

The total number of database registered amounted to more than 17,000. The documents from late Tadashi Sekiguchi, Prof. Emeritus of The University of Tokyo, were newly added. Surveyed were the documents of Kenzo Yamamoto, Prof. Emeritus of Nagoya University, which were kept in JAEA (Japan Atomic Energy Agency) in Naka-site. Efforts were also made to promote archival activities elsewhere; the instructions used in NIFS on how to register documents were proposed to JAEA and University of Tsukuba to ask them to adopt the same format as in NIFS. Indices of data should be appropriate for persons interested to search by means of EAD. The collaborators of NIFS FSA, mainly Professors Emeriti, reviewed the database.

The records resulting from oral history are regarded as the document. The transcription on Prof. Emeritus Kenzo Yamamoto was completed and registered in NIFS Fusion Science Archives (NIFS FSA). Continuous efforts were made to finalize the transcriptions of interviews with Dr. Nobuyuki Morino (Hitachi Ltd.), Dr. Shoichi Yoshikawa (PPPL) and Dr. Kenneth Young (PPPL). Prof. Sharon Traweek (UCLA), Dr. Maria Ong (Harvard Univ.) and Dr. Kenji Ito (The University of Tokyo) stayed in NIFS for three days to conduct oral histories on four female researchers and two foreign researchers. Informed consent and Deed of Gift appropriate for NIFS FSA were finalized after discussions between Sokendai and NIFS FSA.

Contents of the home page on Fusion Science Archives were almost completed. The home page links to the Physical Society of Japan. The Japan Society of Plasma Science and Nuclear Fusion Research decided to start the program “History of Fusion Research” commemorating its 50th anniversary, to which NIFS FSA is expected to make substantial contribution.

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