15. Division of External Affairs

The Division of External Affairs has been focusing on the following six activities with a view to increasing social recognition of the necessity of nuclear fusion research and also NIFS's scientific achievements.

- Planning and conducting NIFS Tour
- Participation in local events and festivals
- Publication of the PR magazine "NIFS NEWS"
- Creation of showpieces and booklets to make PR efforts more attractive and effective
- Update of the NIFS website
- Educational tie-ups with national high schools / Educational programs for local communities (e.g., work experience, scientific demonstrations, and workshops)

Fig. 1 A photo at the Tajimi Festival in Tajimi city

Below are details of the PR efforts made by the Division of External Affairs.

- NIFS Tour
  - Handling requests, coordinating schedules, and conducting tours of the institute: A total of 4,280 visitors enjoyed the NIFS Tour.
  - Development of various materials and devices for scientific demonstrations/attractions during the tour
  - Upgrading of the scientific exhibit space "Kids Corner"

- Publications
  - Design, publication, and distribution of the PR magazine "NIFS NEWS"
  - Design, publication, and distribution of the PR booklets: "NIFS 2017-2018," "Fusion – Energy to Pave the Way for Future," "NIFS Does Research Aimed at Extracting Energy from Sea Water," and "Introduction to NIFS and the NIFS Tour"
  - Design, publication, and distribution of the PR leaflet "Plasma-kun Dayori"

- Web
  - Release of information through Web pages, mailing lists, and SNS (Twitter and Facebook)
  - Design of signs and other advertisement materials
  - Creation of special website featuring scientific events, symposia, and conferences
  - Creation of frames for research divisions' pages
  - Upgrading of various on-line application forms
  - Expansion of in-house contents

- Educational contributions
  - Educational partnership activities of Super Science High School (SSH): Thirteen high schools and 441 students participated.
  - Special alumnus lectures and other visiting lectures: Twelve high schools were visited.
  - Internship and working experiment programs for junior and high school students: Four schools were accepted.
  - Internship programs for college and technical college students: Fourteen students were accepted.
  - Science handicraft workshops for local communities: Thirty-six workshops were organized and a total of 1,367 participants attended.

Fig. 2 Working experiment for junior high school students

Fig. 3 Science handicraft activity at kindergarten

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