

The outreach event in parallel with a conference of space development and space science

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<http://moon.jaxa.jp/ja/events/2007/sapporo/>

On 28 October 2007, an event called *The symposium for citizens — enjoying the space *was held at the headquarter building of The Hokkaido Shimbun Press, Sapporo, Hokkaido. This event was jointly organized with The Japan Society for Aeronautical and Space Sciences (JSASS) and Space Education Center, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), as an outreach activity of the Space Education session of the 51th Space Sciences and Technology Conference. The day of the event was the previous day of the conference.

The aim of the event is to pass along the most current topics on space development and space science more deeply by addressing directly to the attendees. Although the information and preliminary results obtained by many space explorers including Kaguya (lunar explorer) and Hayabusa (asteroid explorer) are spread on the television, newspapers and the Internet, there are very few opportunities which the project scientists and engineers directly address to the citizens about their efforts and motivations. The conference is the most suitable place to establish such events in parallel as the scientists and engineers gather at one place. Utilizing this chance in maximum, we can realize the direct communication between researchers and citizens.

The event exceedingly caught on by the people as they regarded this is a very precious opportunity to obtain the fresh information on space development. The fact that the one-hundred-and-twenty-seated reservation was filled in one day shows the vogue of the event. The result of questionnaire also points out that attendees had very high interest in this event and Japanese space exploration.

In this presentation, we will touch on the meaning and importance of the event in parallel with a conference, and show the summary and outline of the event. Additionally, the analysis of the reaction of attendees will be presented. Discussions on the significance of the outreach event in parallel with a conference and problems arose in this event will also be presented.