

About the activity of The astronomical observatory Faculty of Education and Human Studies, Akita University in 2008 fiscal year

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Introduction

There is an astronomical observatory in Faculty of Education and Human Studies, Akita University, and it has a lot of astronomical equipment. The astronomical observatory is holding an astronomical observation meeting and an astronomical lecture meeting at night, as activity of a community contribution, since 2006 fiscal year. This announcement reports the astronomical event in the 2008 fiscal year, and future activity is considered.

Outline of Akita University astronomical observatory

The astronomical observatory in Akita University is the institution installed in 1973 for education and research. The main equipment of an astronomical observatory is a reflecting telescope of caliber 35cm and ten sets of the refraction equatorial telescope of caliber 10 cm. Educational activities used for training of the astronomical observation performed in a university. At the astronomical observatory, the citizen-oriented astronomical event is carried out from the 2006 fiscal year as use expansion of astronomical equipment, the open enterprise to the citizen of a university institution, and community contribution activities.

Content of activity in 2008 fiscal year

In the Heisei 20 fiscal year, the annual schedule was created at the time of a fiscal year, and the astronomical event was carried out intentionally. Night astronomical observation meeting was fundamentally carried out on the 3rd Saturdays every month.

The astronomical lecture meeting and the astronomical lecture were held every two months. The event was carried out in the form united during the campus festival, as a cooperation organization of the star week which is a nationwide astronomical event week, and as a registration event for the technology week of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology-Japan. Supported by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, the synthetic astronomical observation which utilized the astronomical telescope was practiced. And the astronomical event was carried out by support of the Foundation for Promotion of Astronomy. Except the enterprise which the astronomical observatory sponsored, activity using an astronomical observatory institution was carried out in instruction which brings up the juvenile student of the science lover of the Akita University child inspection day and the Akita synthesis educational center, and a school visit of one junior high school within the prefecture and one high school in the city. Moreover, the theater of the 4-dimensional digital space project which the National Astronomical Observatory is developing was introduced by the budget of the fiscal year planned promotion cost of Akita University. At the time of a night astronomical observation meeting, when astronomical observation was not able to be performed because of a clouded sky, the theater was shown.

Future work

The 2009 fiscal year has much subject about astronomy. It is the world astronomical year which United Nations, UNESCO, and International Astronomical Union defined. A total eclipse of the sun happens in Japan on July 22. Repair of an astronomical dome is performed at the astronomical observatory of Akita University, and the large-sized astronomical telescope for research is due to be introduced. It is important to develop activity which gets more citizens to come to an astronomical observatory, taking advantage of this opportunity. Center on an astronomical observatory development of the learning materials for heightening the learning effect of the science of the astronomical educational spread activity juvenile student of an area, and it is improved the mechanism in which the citizen for raising civic scientific literacy can work continuously. It is necessary to contribute to a community as the Public astronomical observatory loved from an area, and an attractive university.