

Report on the outreach activities on the JOIDES Resolution IODP Exp.324

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The Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) is an international marine research drilling program for the advancement of scientific understanding of the Earth by monitoring and sampling seafloor environments. Japan is one of the main countries leading this large international program. To gain long-term societal support for the program, it is therefore very important to show the contents of activities of this program to the public and to communicate the significance of its contributions for revealing the history of Earth and life and environment. Outreach activities about the program have already been carried out in the field of education.

On JOIDES Resolution IODP Expedition 324, which lasted from Sep. to Nov. 2009, outreach staffs from the National Museum of Nature and Science, Japan and from the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, USA participated and were involved in many activities. Outreach activities of the National Museum of Nature and Science focused particular on reaching the young generation, and especially to attract female junior high school students to natural sciences, a field in which they are currently underrepresented. Our activities included:

1. Coverage of the whole process from drilling to research conducted on the recovered core sample on the ship. Many photos and movies were taken, which we can use for educational activities post-cruise,
2. Interviews of researchers and technical staff to get personal information about each person's background and their research,
3. Direct involvement of outreach staff in core handling and scientific operations,
4. Daily blog-type report on a website (<http://www.kahaku.go.jp/ship/index.php?month=200911>),
5. Live broadcasts from JOIDES Resolution to National Museum of Nature and Science, Japan to show the conditions of life and research onboard the drill ship.

In this presentation we will report the details of these outreach activities and present planned post-cruise activities.

Keywords: IODP, Expedition 324, Outreach activities