

VII. Users Societies, Conferences and Other Activities

Users Society

In May 1988, the User Group for Advanced X-ray Source was organized by potential users, aiming at discussing the research plan and user policy. On the basis of the achievements of this group, the **SPring-8 Users Society** was established in May 1993 to promote and advance the research activities of users, and it made a substantial contribution to the construction of SPring-8. The current goal is to support the upgrade of the storage ring and individual beamlines, and to promote the utilization of SPring-8. As of March 2011, 28 scientific research groups and nine committees of the Society are actively contributing to developing research activities and in information exchange between staffs members and users. The development of synchrotron radiation science for the next ten years has been discussed by these research groups, and the report entitled "Future Prospects for Scientific Activities at SPring-8" was published in March 2009. The number of members registered in the Society is 1,241 as of December 31, 2010. It changes from year to year, but it is far too small compared to that (about 4,500) of actual SPring-8 users. This situation needs to be improved to a large extent in order for the Society to play substantial role. Discussion is now being made to improve this situation.

The Industrial Users Society of SPring-8 was established by the members of various companies in September 1990 to promote the use of SPring-8 and to dedicate in the development of the SPring-8 user program. Several research groups focused on various fields of applications have been organized; nine are active. The main purpose of the society is not only to provide information on the trends of the synchrotron radiation facilities in Japan and abroad, and their latest research achievements, but also to enhance communication among the industrial sector, JASRI, and MEXT. As a result, the percentage of industrial applications has increased to 20% in terms of the number of proposals approved. The Society consists of 67 companies and one industry research organization as of December 31, 2010.

In 2009, the annual meetings of the two societies were jointly held for the first time, as the 1st SPring-8 Conference. Previously, these meetings were almost independently organized to report and discuss the outcomes from academic and industrial sectors, respectively. The success of the first joint conference was attributed to the direct exchange of information which made it possible to cross-fertilize both sectors.

Users Meeting

The 2010 meeting for users jointly organized by the SPring-8 Users Society and/or the Industrial Users Society of SPring-8, and JASRI and RIKEN.

- The 2nd SPring-8 Conference
November 4-5, 2010 - Tokyo Station Conference, Tokyo

Conferences and Workshops

The conferences and workshops organized, sponsored, or hosted by JASRI and/or RIKEN in 2010 are listed below.

- 23rd Annual Meeting of Japanese Society for Synchrotron Radiation Research, January 6-9, 2010 - Egret Himeji, Hyogo
- International Workshop on X-ray Imaging of Solidification of Metallic Materials February 8, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- The Report Meeting of SPring-8 Medical Bio Trial Use and Medical Bio EX Proposals in FY2009-2010 March 15, 2010 - Translational Research Informatics Center, Hyogo
- The 12th APS-ESRF-SPring-8 Three-Way Meeting April 12-14, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- The Annual Meeting of SPring-8 Priority Nanotechnology Support Program for FY2009 May 7, 2010 - Ritsumeikan University Biwako-Kusatsu Campus Rohm Plaza, Shiga
- The 7th Annual Meeting of Particle Accelerator Society of Japan August 4-6, 2010 - Himeji Culture Center, Hyogo
- The 9th Annual Meeting of Structural-Biological Whole Cell Project of *Thermus thermophilus* HB8 August 20-22, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- Future Trend in Softmaterial Research with Advanced Light Sources -Interdisciplinary of Bio- & Synthetic- Materials and Industrial Transferring- September 1-3, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- The 6th XFEL Symposium September 4, 2010 - Umeda Center Building Crystal Hole, Osaka
- Synchrotron Radiation Industrial Applications Seminar -SPring-8/Ritsumeikan University SR Center Collaboration- October 1, 2010 - Ritsumeikan University Biwako-Kusatsu Campus, Shiga
- The 3rd Workshop on the SPring-8 Budding Researchers Support Program October 1, 2010 - Campus Innovation Centre, Tokyo
- The 6th International Workshop on Nano-scale Spectroscopy and Nanotechnology October 25-29, 2010 - Kobe University Centennial Hall (Rokko Hall), Hyogo
- The 2nd Symposium on SPring-8 Upgrade Plan December 4, 2010 - National Center of Sciences, Tokyo

Other Activities

- The 18th SPring-8 Open House April 29, 2010
- The 10th SPring-8 Summer School 2010 July 24-27, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- The 4th AOFSRR School - Cheiron School 2010 - October 9-18, 2010 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8
- SPring-8 special lecture entitled "Science for Cultural Heritage Illuminated with Synchrotron Light" November 20, 2010 - Noh Theatre of Nara Prefecture New Public Hall, Nara



Ikebana Exhibition
at the Open House