

2 Public Events

2-1 Open House

The annual KEK Open House was held on August 31, 2008. The Photon Factory exhibited the experimental hall of the 2.5-GeV PF ring and part of the experimental hall of the 6.5-GeV PF-AR. The PF also opened the control room of the 2.5-GeV PF ring for visitors. The PF staff in the Light Source Division explained how the electron storage ring is operated and emits highly brilliant synchrotron radiation. In the experimental hall, visitors were able to directly observe many up-to-date apparatuses used for synchrotron-radiation experiments. The PF staff gave elementary and intuitive explanations of the principles, experimental techniques, and analytical procedures used to obtain microscopic information on interesting and important materials. The PF staff at some experimental stations also held scientific demonstrations, introducing visitors to part of the research activities at the PF. At the corner of "Scientific Entertainment," some of the PF staff performed educational experiments titled as "Rainbow Tapestry," which taught children how to make a rainbow in front of them. There were a total of 3800 visitors to KEK on the day. All visitors enjoyed the frontier world of modern materials, biological, and accelerator science.



2-2 Summer School

The 19th KEK-SOKENDAI Summer School was held on June 2-4, 2008 at the Tsukuba Campus of KEK. This Summer School is held every year in conjunction with KEK and the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI).

The purpose of the Summer School is for young scientists and students to come and study, and to enjoy working with active scientists at the scientific frontier. The participants are able to use huge experimental machines such as accelerators. In FY2008 there were 97 participants; mainly graduate and undergraduate students of universities and members from companies. They were able to choose to attend one of three lectures and one of 26 practice themes. We at the PF presented 8 practice theme of "Materials and Structure Science". These courses had a variety of content including physics, chemistry, biology, and medical applications. The participants listened to lectures with interest and eagerly joined in the experimental practices. They also enjoyed the party and the campus tour.



2-3 Visitors

To publicize our scientific activities to as many people as possible outside the PF, we receive general visitors at any time. These include junior-high-school and senior-high-school students, university students, government personnel, company members, and general citizens. During FY2008, 329 groups (a total of 4961 visitors) visited the PF. The visitors were provided with an overview of the PF, followed by an explanation of how the storage ring is operated, how intense synchrotron radiation is emitted, and how the radiation is utilized for modern materials and biological sciences, including technological applications. Questions from visitors are very much welcome, with the staff providing details on the more fundamental aspects of accelerators or on research activities at the PF.

