

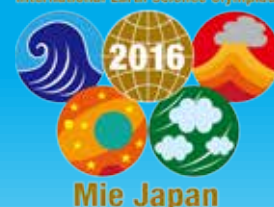


IESO2016

The Suzuka Times No. 5

Thursday, August 25, 2016.

第10回 国際地学オリンピック
International Earth Science Olympiad



Practical Test Finished

The practical tests of the 10th International Earth Science Olympiad were held yesterday. The test of astronomy used a portable planetarium, diameter of which is 7 m, installed in a room in Mie University. In the planetarium, diurnal movements of the Sun and stars observed from an imaginary astronomical object in the solar system were simulated. Based on the movement, students answered about astronomical parameters, such as the revolution period and size of the object.

The test of meteorology requested students to measure temperature and solar radiation in the campus. Based on the data, students calculated the albedo and infrared radiation. They also calculated the power generation efficiency of solar panels and wind turbines in the test of renewable energy. The test of geology evaluated the geological literacy at two sites in the city of Tsu.

The faculty staff of Mie University designed the practical test and finalized it after slight editing in the Wednesday review meeting. The test quality was praised by the mentors and observers.



Clockwise from top left; Portable planetarium, and its inside, measuring solar radiation, examining a rock specimen, measuring strike, welcomed by local residents.

Today's Schedule

Students

- 06:30 - 08:00 Breakfast
- 08:10 Departure to Kumano
- 11:15 - 11:45 Lunch
- 12:00 - 14:50 International Team Field Investigations in 4 sites
- 15:15 - 16:00 Exchange meeting in Kumano civic hall
- 18:30 - 20:00 Dinner - rotation
- 19:30 - 21:00 Preparations for ITFI presentation

Mentors and Observers (Alterable)

- 07:00 - 08:00 Breakfast (Room Ise)
- 08:30 Departure
- 09:00 - 12:00 Visit to World Heritage Kumano Kodo
- 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 - 15:00 Visit to ITFI sites
- 15:15 - 16:00 Exchange meeting in Kumano civic hall
- 18:30 - 20:00 Dinner (Room Ise)
- 20:00 - 21:00 Jury Meeting 3 (Room Aoi)

Weather Forecast

Today (25)



max 31 °C
chance of rain 50%

rain, sunny in pm

Friday (26)



min 26 °C
max 31 °C
chance of rain 10%

sunny, partly cloudy

Saturday (27)



min 26 °C
max 31 °C
chance of rain 40%

cloudy, partly sunny

Incidents

[Suzuka] An Indonesian student was trapped in an elevator in her accommodation, Sportsman House Suzuka, yesterday, at 5 pm. She made a call to outside in a calm manner using an emergency phone installed in the elevator. She was rescued 50 minutes later by a maintenance engineer. No earthquake was observed when the elevator stopped.

[Ise] A mentor left her iPad at Jingu Kaikan yesterday morning. A staff of Jingu found it and handed it to a Japanese IESO staff. The IESO staff easily recognized the owner from the idle screen of her portrait. Japanese IESO staffs were impressed by her ingenuity; no high-tech, such as name tag, laser-engraving or GPS monitoring, but just a simple way of identification.

[Tsu] Prof. Sugi kindly brought back *Akafuku* from Ise to staffs in the IESO headquarter in Tsu. *Akafuku* is a well-known specialty sweet of Ise, but also sold in Kyoto or Nagoya. Prof. Takigami, head of the administration section, tasted the sweet and insisted that *Akafuku* sold in the main store is definitely different from that sold in other places.



Profs. Sugi and Takigami with a box of *Akafuku*.



Earth Science Project

Students tackled the Earth Science Project (ESP) on Tuesday night. They were given a theme, "Living on the edge of a tectonic plate". They made a research on the theme using information on the Internet and had discussions to make a poster presentation. Since the 2 hours-period given to students was rather short, many teams could not complete their poster presentations. However, their serious and enthusiastic discussion was impressive.



Today's Quiz

Tsunami is a complex word made up of "tsu" and "nami" and means "port wave". Tsu, the capital of Mie prefecture, also means port and its Chinese character is the same as *tsu* of tsunami. In fact, Tsu was an important port in ancient times but was destroyed by the tsunami generated by an earthquake occurred in 1498. This earthquake occurred in the Nankai Trough, which is a convergent plate boundary between the Philippines Sea and Eurasian Plates. The question is: how many megathrust earthquakes in the Nankai Trough are recorded in the historical documents? Choose the closest number from the following:

- A) 3 B) 6 C) 12



Station sign of Tsu. Three expressions in different characters are seen.

