

Special Articles on World Year of Physics 2005

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UNESCO has designated this the "World Year of Physics 2005," in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of three extraordinary theories presented by Einstein (in 1905) which formed the foundations for modern physics: the photoelectric effect theory, the Brownian Motion theory, and the special theory of relativity. It also marks 50 years since the "Russell-Einstein Manifesto," which called for abolition of nuclear weapons.

JSAP has undertaken a number of projects in keeping with the World Year of Physics, through Society activities as well as the Japanese JSAP Journal "*Oyou Butsuri* (Applied Physics)" and the English Journal "JJAP." We are planning a collection of special articles for the World Year of Physics, featuring review papers and articles about research that has had a strong impact on the development of applied physics and research and technologies that have demonstrated Japan's strong leadership, written from a historical perspective by researchers who were involved in the actual research activities. As a lead-up to this project, JSAP conducted two questionnaires in 2004, and selected 20 highly original themes related to research and technology that had been presented by Japanese researchers. Over the next several years, we will have two or three review articles (in Japanese) and review papers (in English) written on these themes, and published in the JSAP Journal "*Oyou Butsuri*" and the English Journal "JJAP."

This month, as a special article for the World Year of Physics, we have included a Japanese paper by Dr. Hiroshi Ezawa entitled "Einstein's Visit to Japan: Impact on Physics in Japan," about Einstein's visit in 1922. The first two special review papers, "Development of the High Electron Mobility Transistor (HEMT)" (T. Mimura) and "Photocatalysis: Its Historical Overview and Future Prospects" (A. Fujishima and K. Hashimoto) will appear in the December 2005 issue of JJAP, and the first special review article, entitled "The History and Development of Plasma Display Panels (Tsutae Shinoda, Awamoto Kenji), will appear in the January 2006 issue of "*Oyou Butsuri*." Thanks to the efforts of these authors, we look forward to delivering these first-class materials of great historical value to all JSAP members. For more detailed information on the World Year of Physics, please refer to the official site at [<http://www.wyp2005.org/internationalyear.html/>] or the JSAP site at [<http://www.jsap.or.jp/>].

1) Honma, Yoshikazu: "Activities targeting the World Year of Physics 2005"; *Oyou Butsuri*, 74,131 (2005).
2) Sakaki, Hiroyuki: "The World Year of Physics and Applied Physics"; *Oyou Butsuri*, 74,145 (2005)
Oyou Butsuri, Vol. 74, No. 10 (2005).