Participants from VAST/STI

Mr. Nguyen Thanh Tuan and Mr. Bui Nam Duong from VAST/STI (Vietnam) visited Japan on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and they have participated in the STAR Program and the UNIFORM Project until 30<sup>th</sup> August. Mr. Tuan and Mr. Duong both specialize in mechatronics. Their interests for our program were power consumption simulation, structure design and cooperation with researchers from other countries. During their stay, they experienced various activities at the JAXA Sagamihara Campus and the University of Tokyo, where the UNIFORM Project office is located. On their return, their Exit Briefing was held at the University of Tokyo on 29<sup>th</sup> August, and they reported on their work and life in Japan. It was stated that they had been in charge of their interests, and that the experiences and skills they had gotten in Japan would certainly be beneficial to develop their own satellites. In addition, their researches, for example a part of attitude control simulation and routing of wire harness, also contributed toward developing the UNIFORM satellite.

We hope to continue good cooperation and relationship with those participants through international projects such as the STAR Program and the UNIFORM Project.

The STAR Program will be shifted to the UNIFORM (UNiversity International FORmation Mission) Project by the end of March 2012. The UNIFORM will take over the responsibility for capacity building in the Micro STAR.

28<sup>th</sup> ISTS at Okinawa

The 28<sup>th</sup> ISTS (International Symposium on Space Technology and Science) was held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June at Okinawa where is the southernmost prefecture in Japan. Mr. Kim from KARI (Korea) and Mr. Tuan from VAST/STI (Vietnam) made their presentations on structure design and small satellite development. Mr. Duong from VAST/STI (Vietnam) and Mr. Satoh from JAXA also took part in the symposium.

Mr. Tuan gave his impression that he had got very useful knowledge of satellite technology. Also, it seems that the STAR participants were fascinated by the culture and scenery peculiar to Okinawa, which are different from those in Tokyo.