



## **International Antarctic Institute project in Hokkaido University, Japan, and an outreach event to promote cryospheric science.**

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The international Antarctic Institute (IAI) is an international, multi-campus program of education in cryosphere science. The institute was firstly proposed by the University of Tasmania and now 16 universities and institutions from 11 countries are involved as international partners. IAI aims to offer international standard education programs at undergraduate and graduate level with a special emphasis on Antarctic and cryosphere sciences. The universities and institutions share their curriculums within the framework of IAI partnership so that the students are able to take lectures and courses internationally. For those students who completed an agreed portion of the curriculum, bachelor and master degrees will be offered by IAI in addition to the degrees given by their home institutions. Hokkaido University is working in this project with the Graduate University for Advanced Studies and Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology to offer newly established lectures and field courses as a part of the IAI programs.

Two-week field courses studying glaciers and sea ice are conducted in Switzerland and at lake Saroma, East Hokkaido. A text book of glaciology will be published and e-learning system will be launched in 2007. The curriculum is specially prepared with an English environment to accept students from all over the world.

An outreach event will be carried out in February 2007, aiming to promote of this newly established curriculum and to motivate high-school and undergraduate students to the cryospheric sciences. The event includes "science cafe" to introduce the research

activities in Antarctica, inviting two researchers who experienced the over-wintering expedition. Tele-conferencing between Japanese Antarctic base will be also included, to provide a real-time experience to the participants. The questionnaire data from this event will be presented.