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SPACE EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH IN KOREA

Abstract

In most of space activities in Korea, educational institute have played important role and formed educational potential of Korean space program. First Korea satellite 'Uribeol' was developed in educational institute, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), many engineering school participated in developing space experiments during first Korean astronaut program, and payload of first Korean space rocket, NARO, the science and technology satellite was also jointly developed by the KAIST and the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST). Nowadays, the publicity surrounding the first astronaut flight and the first space rocket launch provides a perfect base for advancing young people's knowledge about and interest in future space activities, whether those missions will be primarily Korean or primarily collaborative with people in other programs, public or private, in other countries. Through the broadcasting of the whole process of the first astronaut program, especially activities in ISS, a great many students learned about interesting phenomena in space and started to feel curious about the future space program of Korea. Even though 1st trial of the rocket launch in 2009 was not that successful with failing to put the satellite on the orbit, this event made most people in Korea be interested in space activities and more chances of EPO near next rocket launch can be expected. This mood among young Korean people is expected to be a good educational potential of the future Korean space program.