

## Assistant Minister of Science, Education and Sports of Croatia Visits AIST

Dr. Radovan Fuchs, Assistant Minister for International Cooperation, Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, paid a visit to AIST Tsukuba, on March 9th. After exchanging greeting with Senior Vice-President Kodama and associates, Dr. Fuchs was given a general explanation of AIST. The explanation went well over the scheduled time, with Dr. Fuchs asking questions about AIST's various innovative changes in its transition from the Agency of Industrial Science and Technology to its current status as an independent administrative institution and the process of going from its first period to its second. In particular, Dr. Fuchs related reforms in his own country's research organizations with such issues of the Full Research concept, the autonomy of research units, proper research

management, and the granting of incentives to researchers, which led to a frank exchange of opinions.

Dr. Fuchs's subsequent tour of the "Science Square Tsukuba" was rushed yet also exceeded the scheduled time as he and the staff discussed the positioning of the various research and development and Full Research, among other topics.

The Assistant Minister left AIST with these words: "I was deeply impressed with AIST's reforms and research achievements. My country's researchers have great potential in mathematics and other fundamental research, and I would be delighted if they were given a chance to come here & jointly conduct research with your staff."

**AIST**  
**TODAY**

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