

**The Symposium in Gifu on Education Utilizing Advanced IT had about 570 participants and was successfully concluded. Thank you very much.**

The "Symposium in Gifu on Education Utilizing Advanced IT" (organized by the Center for Educational Computing and co-organized by Gifu Prefectural Government and Gifu Prefectural Board of Education) was held in Softopia Japan Center Building from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4, 2004.

First, a greeting was given from Mr. Tatsuoki Miyajima, the chairperson of CEC, as the organizer and another greeting was given from Mr. Masayuki Hara, the vice governor, as the representative of the co-organizers. Then, the program continued as follows: a keynote speech, presentation of cases of the consortium-style projects, presentation of cases of practices in schools, presentation by universities, presentation by companies in the sectional meetings, and a panel discussion in the general meeting. The participating IT-related companies including e-blackboard and e-textbook companies conducted explanation in corners. About 570 education-related and business-related people in and out of Gifu prefecture participated and explored the future possibilities with the theme, "Understandable Classes and Pleasant Classes realized by IT".



The hall for the main session.

Dr. Yasutaka Shimizu, chairperson of the National Institute of Multi-media Education, an independent administrative corporation, kindly made a keynote speech on a theme, "What are methods and evaluation of effective utilization of IT?".

Following the presentation of six cases of practicing utilization of advanced IT, the panel discussion was conducted with Prof. Koichiro Murase of the Gifu University as the MC and education administrative officers, currently-working teachers and IT-related business people as panelists, five in total, on a theme, "IT that supports learning corresponding to each individual: utilization for communication networks and educational contents".



The panel discussion.



Presentation of the cases in schools.

In the other room, presentation of the cases of practicing classes utilizing IT devices and systems (six cases) was presented and presentation by universities and companies was presented.

In the exhibition corner attached to the main hall, IT devices and systems utilized for education of 30 companies were exhibited.



The exhibition corner.