

## Introduction of Our School

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School name:	National Institute of Technology, Wakayama College (独立行政法人 国立高等専門学校機構 和歌山工業高等専門学校)
School address:	77 Noshima, Nada, Gobo, Wakayama, JAPAN (和歌山県御坊市名田町野島 77)
School URL:	<a href="http://www.wakayama-nct.ac.jp/">http://www.wakayama-nct.ac.jp/</a>
PR message:	N.I.T., Wakayama College fosters flexible thinking and rich creativity (柔軟な思考力と豊かな創造力を育む和歌山高専.)

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National Institute of Technology, Wakayama College is located in Gobo City, Wakayama Prefecture, Japan (Fig.1). Wakayama Prefecture is the southernmost prefecture in Honshu island. Our college is combined with a high school and a university, so we study engineering expertise for 5 or 7 years from 15 years old. Our college has four departments: Intelligent Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Applied Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Civil Engineering. The number of the students who study for five years is about 800, and that of the students for seven years is about 50. Most of the students get jobs after graduation, and the rest enter universities or a graduate school after graduation. Both of the employment rate and the advancement rate are 100%, and this is the greatest selling point of our college. The reason is that lots of practice classes are provided as well as the lectures in our college.

Some students join club activities. Robot contest team, Japanese archery team, Volleyball team, etc. often win the local tournament, and they sometimes participate in the national college competition. Robot contest team won the Design Award at the national competition last year. For the competition, Robot contest team developed a giant maid robot named “Ekusumakina-san” (Fig.2).

The Kinokuni Robot Festival is an event that is held at Gobo City Gymnasium every December (Fig.3). This event consists of the All Japan Elementary School Robot Contest, Junior High School Robot Contest and the Senior High School Student Robot Contest. In addition, the latest robots of our Robot Contest Team and the cutting-edge robots of companies are demonstrated there. The purposes of the Kinokuni Robot Festival is not only the robot contests but also opportunities to see various robots and to receive specified knowledge. It is also expected that the creativity of the participants will be increased through this festival. Every year, many students from inside and outside of Wakayama prefecture enjoy to the event.

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Our college expects students to become excellent engineers in their future, and it also offers public lectures for children who live in the neighbor area. They can experience the same/similar science experiments in the public lectures as that we college students experience in our college. For example, it offers courses about making a computer program, making an electronic circuit etc. Some movies of the public lectures are introduced on the YouTube channel (Fig.4), so anyone can enjoy the lectures even if they cannot participate in the lectures. Our college expect the children to be attracted to science by participating in such lectures.

In such public lectures, not only the college professors but also the college students play a role of a teacher. So, we college students can understand deeply what we have learned by playing a role of a teacher. Moreover, we can receive new stimuli from the sensibility of the attending children. We believe that these experiences will let us acquire various viewpoints that are required in the engineering fields. At this International Robot High school, we would like to study the latest technologies about robots, and we also want to talk with other participants. We are looking forward to seeing friends!



Fig.1 National Institute of Technology, Wakayama College

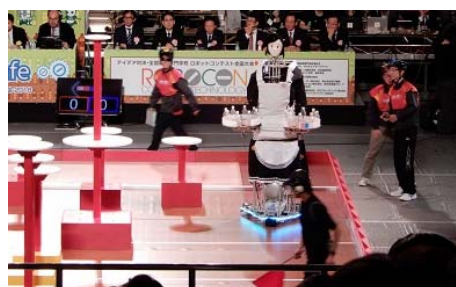


Fig.2 Giant maid robot named "Ekusumakina-san"



Fig.3 Kinokuni Robot Festival



Fig.4 Our college YouTube channel