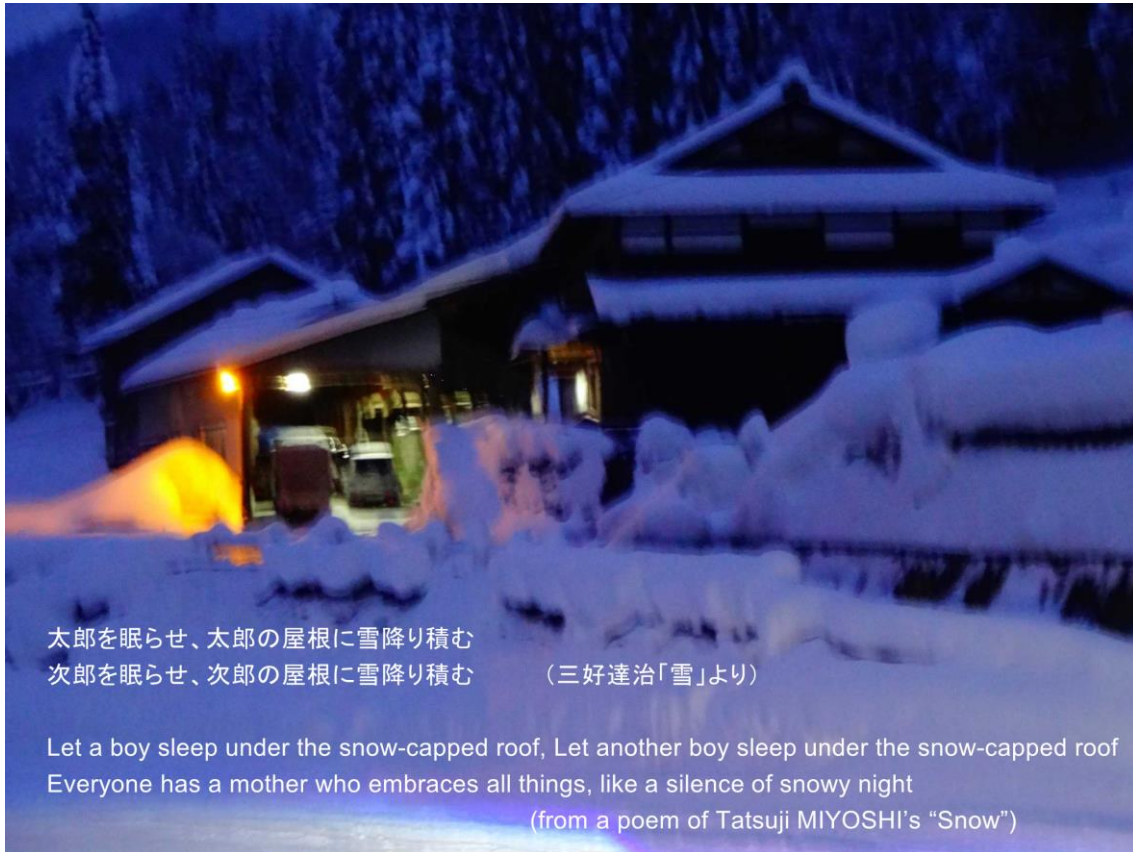


THE BULLETIN OF JSA

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(Photo: by Hajime Ono, December 31, 2021, in Otari-village, Nagano prefecture)

«CONTENT»

Activities

Events and Statements

*An Urgent Statement of JSA International Department about the European Commission's
Proposal on January 1, 2022*

What's New

About Us

2021 when the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons comes into effect:

Japan Council against Atomic Bombs 2021 World Congress Scientist Rally was Held

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons came into effect in January 2021. The “Scientific Meeting” was held in a webinar format with the cooperation of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University. The organizing committee has been organized around the JSA branch of the venue every year, but this time, JSA-Cross-Branch on Peace Issue Research Committee was the center.

In this, MASUDA Yoshinobu, former director of the Meteorological Research Institute, Meteorological Research Institute, former member of the Japan Academic Conference (12th and 13th term), reported “From the Stockholm Appeal to the Entry into Force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons: My Half-life that I Realized that I Could Change the Society.” HAMADA Ikuo, Co-representative of the Pacific Nuclear Disaster Support Center, reported “Protest Ship and Lawsuits against Bikini Labor Accident to Prevent the Christmas Island Nuclear Test.” LEE Jun-kyu, Kanshin University Unified Peace Policy Research, Senior Researcher, reported “Reproduction of Powerful Politics in the Age of Nuclear Weapons Ban and Peace in East Asia-Searching for Peace from the Korean Peninsula.” And TAKASAKU Masahiro, Professor, Faculty of Law, Kansai University, reported “Article 9 of the Constitution: Normative Power and Civic Movement: A Critical Perspective on Deterrence Theory and Realism.

“In the keynote speech, MASUDA began to say the doubts when he began to work at the Miyazu Weather Station in 1941. Then, like an epic, He continued to say about the dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, about the Stockholm-Appeal in 1950, that stated that “the absolute ban of nuclear weapons is demanded,” about its signature movement, about *Daigo Fukuryu Maru* (Lucky Dragon No.5) Incident on March 1, 1954, and the Atomic Bomb Prohibition Signing Movement that originated from it, about the “Nuclear Winter” research that was undertaken after his retirement of the Meteorological Agency in March 1984, and about the “Appeal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki” signing campaign since February 1985, which was clearly positioned that the abolition of nuclear weapons as “urgent and important issue” through the 1984 movement and in international public opinion, and looking back on the process, he commented about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. And nostalgic speaking, he said, “I realized that society can be changed through our struggle.” In addition, he explained about the rainfall range of “black rain” (Masuda rain area),

which was adopted by the Hiroshima High Court's decision on July 14, 2021.

In the second report, HAMADA claimed the needs about the fact-finding survey of the exposure of 1,000 vessels and 23,000 people nationwide, which should have occurred since the Bikini Hydrogen Bomb Incident. In the third report, LEE took measures to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula. It was necessary to create an environment where North Korea could make decisions. Finally, in the 4th report, TAKASAKU said that the normative power of Article 9 is the “star” in “our constitutional politics”, and for that purpose, it was necessary to deepen the “social imagination” by the civic movement. In the question, regarding the abandonment of the appeal of the “Black Rain Lawsuit”, there was a question “What does the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare think about using scientific judgment as a shield?” MASUDA said, “The government has used the 'scientific reasonability' to prevent the expansion of the rainfall area, but from now on, it is very important that 'scientific reasonability' is used for the relief of A-bomb survivors.”

A total of 211 people participated, including general participation and panelists. For details, please refer to the report collection scheduled to be published.

(MAEDA Sadataka, Japan Council against Atomic Bombs 2021 World Congress)

Activities (2) JJS Vol.56, No.11 November (2021), p.54 (518)

Information from the JSA Female Researchers and Engineers' Committee

The 16th National Female Researchers and Engineers' Symposium

The Female Researchers and Engineers' Committee has been preparing to hold a symposium on the subject online. Several new JSA members from all over the country have joined the committee.

Online holding has the disadvantage that it is difficult to interact between regions and individuals, but it has the advantage of low costs required and easy preparation for holding. Since the previous (2020) online national symposium was highly evaluated, this time's 16th National Symposium on Female Researchers and Engineers will also be held online on Sunday, December 19, 2021. The theme is “the actual situation of compound discrimination over female researchers and engineers — Message from the JSA Female Researchers and Engineers' Committee.” Other details are undecided, so we will inform you as soon as they are finalized.

Compared to 30 years ago when gender equality and women's advancement began to be required, the current situation seems to have improved considerably. Furthermore, the “#Me Too” movement

that started in 2017 has led to women's voices in many fields. However, in recent years, there have been cases of discrimination against women by Japanese politicians and celebrities. The reality of gender equality is far from the goal, and the problem seems to be deep-rooted.

Looking at the results of the election of officers at the regular meeting of the Japan Scientists' Association (JSA) held in June of this year (2021), two of the 28 secretaries are female and the other 26 are male. One of the two female secretaries is the representative secretary, and the other is me as the person in charge of the "female researchers and engineers' issues." The imbalance in the number of men and women in the secretariat is big and lonely.

At the 16th National Female Researchers and Engineers' Symposium, I would like to invite not only female researchers and engineers but also citizens and male JSA-members to participate in a large number and to discuss the above issues all together. Let's work together as an overall issue of the JSA. (SASAKURA Mariko, Chairperson of the Female researchers and Scientists' committee)

Activities (3) JJS Vol.56, No.11 November (2021), p.54 (518)

8.2 Gathering of citizens and academicians aiming to overcome the crisis of academics and universities

The "Gathering of Citizens and Universities" was held on the night of August 2 with the theme of "How to overcome the crisis of Japanese (JSA) academics and universities." The organizer was the Kyoto Branch of the Japan Scientists' Association (JSA). This branch served as the secretariat. The executive committee consisted of five organizations: the Kyoto University Staff Union, the Kyoto Prefectural Public University Corporation Labor Union, the Kyoto-Shiga Private University Faculty and Staff Union, and the Kyoto University Volunteer Association for Freedom and Peace. Approximately 60 people participated face-to-face and online. This was a joint effort of Kyoto university officials following the "Kyoto Emergency Rally to Protest Political Intervention in the Science Council of Japan (SCJ) and Request Explanation and Withdrawal" held on October 20, 2020.

The three pillars of the meeting were the issue of refusal to appoint a candidate for membership of the SCJ, the reform of governance of national universities, and the crisis of university education in the Corona disaster. Regarding the issue of refusal of appointment, a lecture delivered by the president of the SCJ was planned, but could not be realized. There were a brief status report on the side of the organizer and two messages from ASHINA Sadamichi and MATSUMIYA Takaaki who were refused

appointment.

There were two lectures by KOMAGOME Takeshi at Kyoto University entitled “National University Governance Reform and University Crisis” and by MITSUMOTO Shigeru at Hokkaido University entitled “The State of the University Asked by the Corona Pandemic.” KOMAGOME talked about “governance reform” focusing on the revision of the “National University Corporation Law.” MITSUMOTO revealed that there are many problems with the way universities have been up to now after the COVID-19 crisis has caused.

Both of the lectures were substantial, but due to inadequate procedure, we were unable to deepen the discussion with the participants. There was also a problems in managing a project that used both face-to-face and online. Through this project, I believe that we have gained an opportunity to promote the collaboration of university-related people in Kyoto in the future. I would like to continue to make such projects in future. For details, please refer to the August issue of Kyoto Branch News.

(TAKANAKA Kanji, former Kyoto University)

Activities (4) JJS Vol.56, No.11 November (2021), p.55 (519)

Discussing the current situation and support measures for female researchers: Hyogo Branch Forum

On August 21, the JSA Hyogo branch held the postponed 2021 convention and commemorative forum “Academic and Gender: Thinking about Supporting Female Researchers” in Kobe City. The following is a summary of the lecture by HOUNOKI Kaoru (Professor Emeritus, Kobe University) at the forum.

According to the Science and Technology Research Survey (2020, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications), the number of female researchers in Japan is 158,900, which is 16.9% of all researchers, the lowest among OECD countries, this is only 3.1 percent increase only from 13.8% of 2010. The ratio of females in academia is 13.6% for technical colleges, 53.4% for junior colleges, 25.5% for 4-year colleges, and 24.3% for females in the natural sciences (science, engineering, agriculture, medicine, teeth, medicine) by specialty. Even in high-ratio fields, home economics is 57.3% and education is 34.6%. The percentage of females by academic position at universities is 17.8% for professors, 25.7% for associate professors, 33.2% for lecturers, 31.6% for assistant professors, and 58.4% for assistant professors.

It is reported that the reason why there are less female researchers (especially science) is because of the social division of labor and the difficulty in balancing family and work, but it is also possible that the environment and the perception of adults learned during the primary and secondary education period may have an effect.

The female researcher support policy was led by the “Science and Technology Basic Plan,” and a certain proposal was made from 1996, and a numerical target was set in 2006 (the recruitment rate of female researchers is 25% for the entire natural sciences). How they report the expected goal number changed, but the goal itself has not achieved. The 6th Science and Technology Innovation Basic Plan (2021-2025) also sets a goal to increase the ratio of females. Since 2006, a female researcher research activity support project has been carried out with competitive research fund, but there remains a problem that the researched fund is in large-scale and tends to be awarded to universities centered on science.

In addition to the Science Council of Japan (SCJ), the JSA has also held academic symposiums since 1974.

As future issues, it is necessary to broaden awareness of the problems, not only by supporting work-life balance, but also by providing women who remain single or women without children with various support projects, and to consider what should come next to the competitive funding.

(HIROMORI Katsuhisa, Hyogo Branch)

Activities (5) JJS Vol.56, No.11 November (2021), p.55 (519)

Can disinfectant commodities really prevent the growth of microorganisms? JSA Gunma Summer Online Seminar

Related to the epidemic of the new coronavirus infection, effective alcohol preparations have disappeared from the store, and some disinfectant commodities with questionable effects have begun to appear in the store. So JSA Gunma hosted an online seminar on that effect of those disinfectant commodities based on an experiment they had conducted. The experiment was conducted using the number of colonies of Takara Bio Escherichia coli used in molecular biology and bacteria existing as indigenous bacteria on the finger and nasal mucosa appearing in the medium as an index. About 56 colonies remained on the fingers with the medium used, but the keyboard had about the same amount of bacteria, and the coins and keys had about 1/10 of the bacteria attached. So it could not be reduced

to 0, confirming that an alcohol preparation is essential.

For verification, deodorant, alcohol preparation (including gel preparation), benzalkonium chloride and alcohol-containing one, sodium hypochlorite (so-called bleach), hypochlorite water, germicidal lamp (ultraviolet rays) were tested. Of these, it was found that some alcohol preparations, gel preparations, and most hypochlorite waters had a sterilizing effect of only about 50%.

The effect of hypochlorite water turned out to be effective only immediately after it was generated by the device, and it was found that the effect of commercial products mainly composed of this hypochlorite needs to be tested. Since I, reporter, have many opportunities to go in and out of the ICU and operating room for work, I once again realized the difficulty of hand hygiene management.

As there were many clusters of new coronavirus infections in Gunma, there were many Q & As, discussions on droplet infections, airborne infections, the rate of contact infections and the effects of the new coronavirus vaccines (effective for breakthrough infections). Also, there were a lot of debates about the outlook for supply (the existence of domestically produced vaccines) and the problems of government policy.

(AOKI Takeo, Gunma Prefectural College of Health Sciences)

Activities (6) JJS Vol.56, No.12 December (2021), p.55 (695)

By the authors of the Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS) special issue “Thinking about 10 years of Reconstruction from the Great Earthquake” joint lecture series held

From August 23 to September 27, 2021, every Monday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, a series of 6 lectures was held online. Lecturers were the authors of the *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)* of July 2021 which featured on “Thinking about 10 years of Reconstruction from the Great Earthquake.” It was a three groups’ joint project; the initiator was the Miyagi Earthquake Reconstruction Research Center (Miyagi Shinsaiken), cooperated by the Miyagi Prefecture Residents Support Center for the East Japan Great Earthquake Reconstruction and the Japanese Scientists’ Association (JSA) Miyagi Branch.

Proposed consecutive lectures were: TSUNASHIMA Fujio’s “Multiple Disaster and Human Reconstruction” and SHIGIHARA Atsuko’s “Uncompleted ‘Regeneration of Living’ and Problems of Disaster Victim Support” in the first session, KATAYAMA Satoshi’s “Fishery Industries and Fishermen’s Villages in Affected Areas of the East Japan Great Earthquake” in the second, OGAWA

Shizuharu's "'Creative Reconstruction' means Excessive Reconstruction taking advantage of Disasters" in the third, ABE Shigenori's "Current Situation and Problems of Reconstructed Town Development Project" in the fourth, and ENSHU Hiromi's "A Result of the East Japan Great Earthquake Reconstruction" in the fifth. The sixth session was a general discussion in which lecturers gave a panel talk based on the summary report by Miyagi Shinsaiken's researchers HASEGAWA Koichi and MASUDA Satoshi.

The first thing that became clear in the series of lectures was the fact that the victims and the affected areas were left behind even 10 years after the earthquake. The special reconstruction income tax was imposed, the reconstruction budget increased hugely and, as a result, a top-down management of civil engineering projects such as large-scale tide embankments was carried out. Especially in Miyagi prefecture, the governor of neoliberal and bureaucratic standpoint disregarded the interests of affected residents. Nevertheless, some of local communities had been successfully reconstructed with the power of residents' own autonomous activities. It should be stressed that there is an important cue of reconstruction here.

Secondly, the fishermen's villages damaged by tsunami had ironically lost their sustainability due to "creative reconstruction" projects which lacked reconstruction policies based on livelihood. Such a problem is not limited to the disaster-stricken areas. The government accelerated local retrenchment policies with an excuse of depopulation. We could find out here the same stance of decision for ocean dumping of contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant (NPP). It is clear that a national political change is indispensable without delay. Additionally, this lecture series posed detailed survey results of reconstruction process.

Thirdly, the unprecedented seriousness of this disaster had been resulted not only from earthquake and tsunami but also from the severe accident at the Fukushima Daiichi NPP. This was demonstrated by the fact that disaster-related deaths were prominent in Fukushima prefecture. The governor of Miyagi prefecture made a top-down decision to restart the Onagawa NPP's Unit 2, i.e. the same type of boiling water reactor as the Fukushima Daiichi NPP, without any consideration of the situation in the neighboring prefecture. In the consecutive lectures, it was pointed out that it were dangerous if the policy would be proceeded without verification of the accidents.

This lecture series was the first step for verification based on a thorough investigation.

This was the first attempt to hold a lecture series based on a special issue of the *JJS*. Because of the COVID-19 we were obliged to take an online style. Fortunately, it had reduced our burden to organize lecture series. Above all, we must not forget that disaster reconstruction remains uncompleted. Our efforts will continue in the future.

(OGASAWARA Taku, Miyagi Branch)

Activities (7) JJS Vol.56, No.12 December (2021), p.56 (696)
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Basic Income Reading and Discussion Meeting with the Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS): JSA Miyazaki Branch

On August 2 the Miyazaki Branch of the Japan Scientists' Association (JSA) held the first reading session in 2021 with the *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)* in a remote format. This meeting was open as a place for free exchange of opinions on the theme of papers published in the *JJS*. This meeting has been held two or three times a year on topics selected from the special features of each issue likely to be of interest to the members.

The theme of this meeting was from the February 2021 issue focused on "Basic Income for a Sustainable Society," out of which the HIROI Yoshinori's "Basic Income in a Stationary Society" was chosen. The tutor was FUJIWARA Hiroshi, a JSA member.

In the beginning, FUJIWARA explained (1) the concept of basic income (BI), (2) the relationship between BI and Article 25 of the Constitution of Japan, (3) the relationship between BI and the impasse of capitalism, and (4) the financial resources of BI. After his explanation, he introduced the contents of the paper and commented that the idea of partial BI could be a realistic policy issue. In the first place, the BI concept has emerged as an objection to capitalism. I myself felt that it is now necessary to re-examine the fragility of the capitalist economy and look at a "society that coexists with the Corona virus."

17 people including JSA members participated in the meeting. Due to the online format, three people from other branches also joined. At the meeting, participants actively exchanged opinions from various perspectives and were able to deepen their awareness of BI. Such a reading session started in February 2008 and has been held continuously until now. Before I started this type of reading session, I could not make good use of the *JJS* in the branch activities, and I could not read it just by piling it on my desk. By continuing this kind of reading session, I feel that I am putting this journal at the center of my activities.

(KINOSHITA Osamu)

Activities (8) JJS Vol.56, No.12 December (2021), p.56 (696)

Report on “Master's Thesis Training Room” planned by graduate students of JSA Tokyo branch

As a graduate student project of the JSA Tokyo branch, a research exchange project “Master's Thesis Training Room” centered on master's thesis reports was held online on August 7, 2021. The interim reports of three master's theses were the center of the project. The themes were “Host community in the wartime evacuation of school children,” “Toward an interview survey with the anti-poverty network” and “How did the anti-corruption movement take root in the Philippines after democratization?” Fifteen people participated in the meeting.

As Covid-19 pandemic lasts, many graduate students are confronted by difficulties such as restrictions on seminar activities, data collection, and fieldwork ever since the current second year master's students entered graduate school. They have always been in a situation where they are under pressure to deal with this infectious disease.

From this interim report, all three of us felt the connection between our own awareness of social issues and the theme we are currently working on. Every reporter has an interest in the issue of thinking straight about what to do to create a better society, and I think that the collection of such reports was an attraction that was unique to JSA's events.

Even in the discussion, various questions were asked, from questions about the correspondence between the issues common to the master's thesis and the conclusions, to in-depth questions from nearby fields, and I felt that it was exciting enough to wish that I had more time.

After the report, we used an online tool called “Spatial Chat” as a place for social gatherings. With Zoom, it is always one-to-many, but with this tool we can freely get together and talk in groups of several people. Not only was it possible to exchange impressions, but it was also a good place to discuss recent news and issues related to research life.

(KUZUYA Taikan)

Activities (9) JJS Vol.56, No.12 December (2021), p.57 (697)

Fukuoka Branch Online Lecture, “Climate crisis as a state of emergency on earth Current Stage: UN IPCC 6th Report”

The “Online Lecture on Climate Crisis” hosted by the JSA Fukuoka Branch was held on

September 19, 2021, and ITO Hisanori gave a lecture on the theme of the title. First, he pointed out that global climate change is happening now, presenting concrete facts, and stated that we are now in a climate crisis. Next, the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) was explained, focusing on the summary for policy makers (SPM). He claims, “There is no doubt that human influences have warmed the atmosphere, oceans and land. Extensive and rapid changes are emerging in the atmosphere, oceans, cryospheres and biospheres. Many changes due to past and future emissions of greenhouse gases, especially those in the ocean, cryosphere and world sea level, are irreversible on a 100-thousand-year timescale. From a natural science point of view, in order to limit anthropogenic global warming to a certain level, it is necessary to limit the cumulative emission of CO₂, achieve at least net zero CO₂ emissions, and significantly reduce other greenhouse gases.” The technical contents were explained in an easy-to-understand manner using charts. Time scale of change was too short compared to the time scale of the earth, and such a gap results in an “emergency situation on the earth,” he says. As a member of inhabitants on the earth, he concluded his lecture by proposing that society should be transformed in line with the way the earth should be.

In the discussion, many opinions were expressed, such as the importance of reducing energy consumption of humankind as well as carbon neutrality, and understanding that global warming issues and energy policy are the pressing political issues. When we sent guidance to the national office and each branch of Kyushu and Okinawa, there were many participants from outside the area, and about 40 people participated more than usual.

(DEGUCHI Hiroyuki, Fukuoka Branch)

Activities (10) JJS Vol.56, No.12 December (2021), p.57 (697)
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Aichi Branch Academic Lecture: Report on “Evaluation and Problems of the 6th Basic Energy Plan (Draft)”

On September 25, 2021, the above mentioned lecture by SAGAWA Kiyotaka, a renewable energy researcher at Nagoya University, was held online.

Due to the global climate crisis, water shortages, major extinctions of species, and declines in food productivity have been foreseen, and even today, abnormal weather is rapidly increasing, and heat waves and droughts are occurring frequently. If we continue to emit CO₂ on the present scale, we are unable to achieve emissions goals to keep the global temperature rise 1.5 °C in less than 10 years,

so it is crucial to take measures and raise the emission reduction rate by 2025 and 2030.

As to European power generation, the electricity generated by renewable energy generation will be 38% and fossil fuel power generation 37% in 2020, renewable energy will catch up with fossil fuel power generation, and coal-fired power plants with much CO₂ emissions are decreasing. Re-energy and decarbonization are being promoted worldwide.

Japan's 2030 target is a 46% reduction compared to 2013, which is not a high target compared to Europe and the United States. In 2030, almost all nuclear power plants will be restarted, and there are problems such as the reduction rate of LNG power plants being larger than that of coal-fired, the latter emits a large amount of CO₂. Most of the 2050 carbon neutrals depend on “innovation” and lack certainty. The “2030 Report” of the Energy Conversion Research Group for the Future was introduced as an alternative. Multiple areas with zero free capacity on transmission lines are an obstacle to the introduction of renewable energy.

We concluded that Citizens' movements pave the way for denuclearization and global warming control. The problem of protest campaign against mega solar power generation, the problem of earthquakes caused by burying CO₂ underground, the problem of less coverage of the risk of climate change, and the problem of global-warming skeptic scientists became hot topics in our discussion. There were 17 participants including other branch members.

(NISHITANI Tadashi, Aichi Branch)

Activities (11) JJS Vol.57, No.1 January (2022), p.61 (61)

Report of the 28th JSA Tohoku Symposium “10 years after the East Japan Great Earthquake and the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Accident: Challenges and Prospects”

The 28th Tohoku District Symposium was held on October 9th under the auspices of the Miyagi branch. This time, the event was held before the spread of the new corona infection had been contained, so the number of people gathering at the venue, Tohoku University Faculty of Agriculture, was limited, and the event was held in a hybrid format centered on online participation.

Since this symposium will be held in the 10th anniversary of the East Japan Great Earthquake, the unified theme is “10 years of the East Japan Great Earthquake and Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) Accident: Challenges and Prospects,” and the first and second parts of the symposium were dedicated for lectures and presentations in line with this theme. Presentations on

arbitrary themes from each branch in the Tohoku region were allocated to the third part.

Regarding the issue of the East Japan Great Earthquake in Part 1, ENSHU Hiromi, who is actively engaged in research activities at the “Miyagi Earthquake Reconstruction Research Center” and the “Miyagi Prefectural Citizens Center,” spoke as an invited speaker. In his lecture, the current situation of reconstruction from the earthquake and the problems of administrative response, mainly in Miyagi prefecture, were clarified in detail and issues for future reconstruction were discussed. In the discussion after his lecture, there was an argument that the results of this research should be utilized for the disaster countermeasures for the Tonankai earthquake, which is predicted to occur in the near future, and lively discussions followed.

In Part 2, which was a session on the nuclear accident, we invited a geological expert, SHIBASAKI Naoaki (Fukushima University), as an invited lecturer to give a lecture on the theme of “Issues of Contaminated Water from and Decommissioning of the Fukushima-Daiichi NPP.” In the lecture, he pointed out that the frozen soil wall used by the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) as an impermeable wall is inefficient considering the structure of the groundwater vein directly under the Fukushima-Daiichi NPP, which was clarified based on the results of the geological survey of the area around the Fukushima-Daiichi NPP by volunteer members of the geological organization study group, and proposed a more effective impermeable method to replace it. The content of his lecture was easy to understand and persuasive, and lively discussions followed after his lecture. In Part 1 and Part 2, in addition to these invited lectures, there were also two general lectures discussing “proposal of new reconstruction rights” and “isotope ratio of radioactive Cs released in the nuclear accident.”

In the presentation from each branch in the Tohoku area of Part 3, the Aomori branch introduced the lectures on “nucleus and nuclear power” currently being given to undergraduate students at Hirosaki University, and the Akita branch presented the details of the issue of Aegis Ashore whose deployment to Shinya exercise area was canceled and the efforts of the opposition movement, and reports on the research misconduct problem from the Iwate branch and Miyagi branch (research fraud in the faculty of education, research misconduct by the former president of Tohoku University). In addition, the symposium covered various themes such as the presentation by the Yamagata branch on a topic in the field of mathematics (quadrature possibility of Riccati's equation).

Since this symposium was held online, we also accepted the participation of people outside the Tohoku region. As a result, there were more participants than expected, and it became a symposium to realize the usefulness of online.

(KOYAMA Tomio, Miyagi Branch)

Report on “19th Annual Symposium of the Japan Inter-Society Liaison Association Committee for Promoting Equal Participation of Men and Women in Science and Engineering (EPMEWSE)”

I attended the “19th Annual Symposium of the Japan Inter-Society Liaison Association Committee for Promoting Equal Participation of Men and Women in Science and Engineering (EPMEWSE)” held on October 9, 2021. The EPMEWSE is officially joined by 54 science and engineering academic societies in order to promote gender equality efforts in each academic society.

The Japan Scientists' Association (JSA) is one of the 60 academic societies which participate in the EPMEWSE as observers. The EPMEWSE holds an annual symposium. The symposium of this year was held online as well as last year. 5 members of the JSA, 4 females and 1 male, attended the annual Symposium this time.

I wrote that “I attended,” but we had no time to ask a question at this symposium. In other words, we only listened to the lectures. I wonder if it is enough. By not only giving a one-sided talk, but also asking questions after that, everyone's understanding will deepen and problems will become clearer. If you have no time to ask a question, the value of the symposium will be halved.

At this symposium three women who are the president of a university or the president of an academic society gave lectures as a “message from the top” in the morning. In the afternoon, we had reports of the MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology), the METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) and the EPMEWSE Proposals & Requests Working Group. The content of the lectures was, for example, attempts to increase the number of female students at the university. However, I was worried that several people mentioned “reforming women's consciousness” regarding the theme of this symposium “Making more female researchers and engineers a place for decision-making.” Of course, I think they mentioned it as one of several factors, but looking at the current situation, I think it is men, not women, who must change their consciousness. Furthermore, it is obvious that a change in consciousness is necessary, and the current issue is how to do it.

(SASAKURA Mariko, Okayama Branch, The Chair of the Committee of Female Researchers and Engineers)

Report on the October reading party of the Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS) at Kyoto Branch

The Kyoto branch holds a reading party of the *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)* once a month. This meeting, a main activity of the Kyoto branch, has been held 180 times since September 2006. Every time, three papers are selected and explained, and at the same time, a book review is also conducted. Depending on the theme of the special feature, the related matters of that theme are investigated, reported, and discussed. It is an advantage that we can broaden our perspectives and reflect it in our activities by selecting one paper for each reporter and reading the papers in a field different from the reporter's specialty.

Many branch secretaries can participate in the reading party because it is held during the time period before the monthly branch secretary meeting. It can be held continuously. Recently, by using ZOOM, it is possible to participate easily even from home or university. It's why the number of participants has increased. The online meeting is also used as a place for members to interact.

In the afternoon of October 26th, the October reading party had reports on three papers of the JJS's September special feature "Human Rights of Foreign Workers amid the COVID-19 Disaster." There it is explained in detail that various jobs like manufacturing of everyday items, sorting work for courier services, nursing care services, etc. are supported by the labor of foreign workers and foreign technical intern trainees and how the rights of these foreign workers is in Japan today.

I describe comments on the three papers that we took up. On SAKAMOTO Megumi's paper: "In Korea nearly 30 support centers for foreign workers are nationwide set up by the employment permit system to provide substantial acceptance support. Canada is popular as a destination of migrant labor for Southeast Asian workers because it is easy to obtain permanent residence. Japan should follow this example." On KUREMATSU Saichi's paper: "This essay reports examples of foreign trainee counseling, though they are limited on SNS. It shows us the actual situation of the training system clearly, which the national policy does not match. On KURODA Tomonari's paper: "I would like more detailed theoretical reference to the revision of the course book (reform of teaching method = language acquisition theory that is not sentence pattern acquisition)".

(SAKON Takuo, Secretary General of Kyoto Branch)

Multicultural Coexistence in Gunma Prefecture: An Autumn Seminar of the JSA Gunma Branch

A seminar of the JSA Gunma branch was held at ZOOM on October 28, 2021. The lecturer was NISHITATE Takashi, Associate Professor of Kyoai-Gakuen Maebashi International University, and there were 21 participants.

At the beginning, NISHITATE explained the statistical trend of foreign workers in Gunma prefecture as a whole, and told about actual experiences of graduates and present students of his seminar. According to NISHITATE's report, there are some negative discourses such as security deterioration and tax burden in public comments while the term of multicultural coexistence has been widely known among Gunma residents. He pointed out also that there are 1,261 students in Gunma prefecture who need Japanese language instruction and therefore educational support for school children is indispensable. A survey for foreigners has shown many problems; e.g., it is hard to support foreign children's learning including their homework.

A graduate of NISHITATE's seminar reported about the international classes in the school where he is currently working. Students presented the result of a questionnaire for foreign part-time workers with Japanese roots at a supermarket.

The discussion was lively with various questions. For me personally, the following two arguments were especially interesting: On the one hand, the lecturer said that one would have right to vote if he/she gets Japanese nationality replying to the question whether to choose Japanese nationality or to remain native nationality. On the other hand, he wondered if the idea of multicultural coexistence might be trivialized into a multicultural coexistence which is one-sidedly convenient for Japanese people. It was a high-quality seminar because of realistic remarks of researchers who is actively involved in the practice of multicultural coexistence in Gunma prefecture and young concerned persons in 20s. It was interesting that some keywords such as building role models and dialogue between Japanese were proposed.

(NAGATA Shun, Takasaki City University of Economics)

Activities (15) JJS Vol.57, No.1 January (2022), p.63 (63)

A meeting was held to think about Fukushima 10 years after the nuclear accident

On October 21, 2021 (from 6:30 pm), a meeting of "Thinking about Fukushima Thinking" was held at Kamoike Public Hall in Kagoshima City. Based on the request from the JSA secretariat, I accepted the role of the reporter. I had already participated in a local inspection tour related to the 59th meeting of the Geographical Education Study Group held in Fukushima City from August 14 to 16. The report was named "10 Years of Fukushima Reconstruction: Looking at the Site," because we had special concern about "what is reconstruction?" I had been also inspired by SHIGIHARA Atsuko's "Who are the main actors of reconstruction in the first place?"

In the first half part of the lecture, I referred to related data and explained two types of reconstruction are thinkable: One is the true reconstruction which seeks to restore the original conditions such as livelihood, lives, communities and natural environment of hometowns. The other type of “reconstruction” is e.g. the “Fukushima Innovation Coast Concept” which is actually executed by the national government.

In the second half, I explained with photographs which I had taken in the viewpoints along the tour course set by the guide, YOSHIMOTO Kenichi (Shigakkan University); “Michinoeki (roadside station) Namie” which started operations in March 2021, “East Japan Great Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Center” in Futaba Town, “Futaba Town Industrial Exchange Center” where we had heard about the interim storage facility, the unmanned “Japan Rail’s Ohno station” in Okuma Town, and so on.

Finally, I presented my impression entitled “Two Angers and One Respect.” One of the angers was from the terribleness of the affected regions, and another was from a Memorial-Center’s five-minute video which illustrates that residents should not be blamed for disaster caused from natural phenomenon. At the same time, I should have a respect to YOSHIMOTO, a guide who has been involved in this issue since the accident.

Although meeting’s participants were eight, all of them gave their opinions to my report. The discussion was so lively that we were able to deepen this problem, i.e., so-called a “huge incident”, I think.

(TAJIMA Yasuhiro, Professor Emeritus at the University of Kagoshima)

An Urgent Statement of JSA International Department about the European Commission’s Proposal on January 1, 2022

JSA International Department, January 13, 2022

It was reported that the European Commission declared its intention to regard nuclear power generation as useful energy resource in the fight against climate change. According to the following reasons, the international department of the Japan Scientists’ Association (JSA) argues the European Commission’s proposal on January 1, 2022 is a wrong direction which might pave the way for nuclear expansion:

- Nuclear power generation not only threatens human lives with the risks of radioactive

radiation and potential severe accidents but also burdens our future generation with negative legacies such as nuclear waste and spent fuel from nuclear power plants (NPPs). Nuclear energy is neither clean nor safe and therefore it should not be regarded as an energy option.

- Some insist as if NPPs without CO₂ emission were advantageous for global warming prevention. Such a discourse is derived from industrial (and military) interests rather than from scientific evidences. If we see the process as a whole from upstream (uranium mining) to downstream (nuclear waste disposal), nuclear energy is far from carbon-neutral.
- A transition from fossil and nuclear energy to renewable energy should not be retreated.

The JSA is a scientists' community in a country which has experienced not only miseries of atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki but also severe nuclear accident in Fukushima. We hope the European Commission will not include nuclear power generation into the European Union's "green list" (EU taxonomy for sustainable activities).

Events and Statements

[イベント情報 - 日本科学者会議 - The Japan Scientists' Association \(JSA\)](#)

What's New

In December 2021, the JSA national executive committee adopted the "Appeal to appoint 6 candidates for the Science Council of Japan (SCJ) immediately and not to 'amend' the SCJ-Act" (<https://jsa.gr.jp/d/scj/202112appeal>). We would like to ask for your cooperation in our signature-collecting campaign.

About Us

"In order to harness and develop science for human beings, it is necessary for scientists especially to

conscience their social responsibility, synthetically develop every field of science, and work the society to peacefully use the fruits. **The Japan Scientists' Association (JSA)** was established and has been acting for these purposes. Hoping independent and synthetic development of Japanese science consistently since its foundation in 1965, to carry out its social responsibility, the Association has been tackling several problems: peace and disarmament problem like as elimination of nuclear weapons, environmental conservation to defense human life and living, protection of university autonomy, and establishment of right and position of scientists.”

(From “Introduction of the Japan Scientists' Association”, [introduction - JSA](#))

The *Journal of Japanese Scientists (JJS)*, a monthly magazine published by the JSA, is a unique comprehensive academic journal, in which scientists and citizens share various subjects relating to contemporary human society and interests in nature (https://jsa.gr.jp/intl/Introduction_of_JJS.pdf). You see all contents of back-numbers: [日本科学者会議 - The Japan Scientists' Association \(JSA\)](#). Every JSA member can submit manuscripts to the JJS editorial commission. The papers in English are published online on the JSA web page.

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