

THE 17TH COMPREHENSIVE SCIENTIFIC STUDY CONVENTION IN NAGOYA

On November 22-24 the JSA held the 17th Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention (CSSC) at Nagoya University under the theme "Peace establishment and the role of science", where several issues were discussed through 30 sessions (see below) and more than 150 reports were presented.

On November 22 morning Dr. Homma (ex-president, Ferris Univ.) gave a lecture for the special session on the recent circumstances in Japanese universities after the reformation basing on competition principle and emphasizing study results. In the afternoon Dr. Sawada (physicist) delivered a keynote address on the above convention theme, where he stressed that we stand at a crossroad where two super powers, the one intending to control with nuclear weapons and the one aiming to eliminate nuclear weapons and build the human society founded on rightness and justice, conflict, and that we meet a good opportunity to clarify issues of environments, poverty, and discrimination in Japan be caused by following the US's military and economical policy, and make a cooperation with international movements against nuclear imperialism. Prof. Mori (jurist, Ryukoku Univ.) addressed a memorial lecture on recent circumstances in constitutional amendment, explaining the history of his academic society and the JSA. Prof. Saruta (Chukyo Univ.) explained Toyota-way (Toyota City is near the convention venue Nagoya City) and its human resource management and employer-employee relationship, pointing out the in-house training program in Toyota Co. causes frequent karoshi (death from overwork).

[November 23] The session themes were as follows. In addition a special historical talk about the democratic research environment of Nagoya University when Prof. Masukawa and Prof. Kobayashi (2008 Nobel Prize winners in physics) were students was given by Dr. Sawada (then associate professor).

A-0: Special session on constitutional problem

A-1: Threat to peace creation – Transformation of the US military bases in Japan and Self-Defense Forces

A-2: Value of Article 9 in peace creation and its globalization

A-4: Education and theory of peace

A-5: Ethics of war and medicine

B-1: Actual status and task in establishing leaders aiming to revitalize local cities

B-5: Policy science of food and agriculture

C-1: Recent issues around nuclear power plants

C-2: Fish and shellfish contaminated by harmful substances

C-4: Environmental sustainability of River basins around Ise-Mikawa Bay

C-5: Climate change and energy question

D-1: To progress women researchers and technicians

D-2: Life and employment of young researchers

D-4: Science and technology salon – Talks about Japanese science and technology, and their romans

D-5: Scientists' right problem

E-2: Role of science education to build up individuality

E-4, 5: Evaluation of university and circumstances of study and education

E-6: Worsening university problem and its actions to overcome

[November 24] A special session to discuss the theory of the 21st society entitled "Crisis of global ecosystem or survival" was also held.

A-3: Concrete actions to build peace

B-2: Koizumi reformation and its reality in localities

B-3: Human rights of disabled people

B-4: Criticism of neo-liberalism

B-6: Medical care, nursing care, and welfare system for the elderly

C-3: Industrial waste problem in Chubu district

C-8: Life, development, and prevention of disasters

- D-3: Criticism of actual situations in science and technology – aiming at their sound development
- E-3: Individual characters and communication
- E-7: Actual status of national/public research institutes and problem of private institutionalization

CRISIS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND POSTDOCTORAL PROBLEM HELD

On November 16 at the University of Tokyo, the JSA and other friendly organizations together held a symposium under the above title, where Prof. Koshiba (Nobel laureate in physics) gave a keynote speech, encouraging young researchers especially in fundamental science, and further requested governmental support for them. A research assistant revealed it too difficult to try for a position in Japan during postdoctoral fellowship, asserting that the situation young doctors cannot dedicate themselves to study is harmful for academic progress and is a loss for the society.

<*DISTRICTS' ACTIVITIES*>

HOKKAIDO DISTRICT

On November 3 at Hokkaido University, Sapporo, the district held the 2008 Hokkaido Science Symposium, where they organized the morning session, general research presentations mainly due to graduate students and the afternoon session entitled "Safe and security of food for citizens" under the auspices of Co-op Sapporo.

Themes in the morning session: 1) adolescent education, 2) the green tourism net work in a farm village, 3) building regional resource circulation basing ties between agriculture and food industry, 4) is *Yukihikari* (the Hokkaido brand of rice) pre-biotic rice blocking food allergy?, 5) for protection of *Rebun-lady-slipper* from the viewpoint of gene, 6) taxonomy question seen in tansy, 7) what does the plate on the back of Stegosaurus serve for?, 8) point at issue on the task of Hokkaido forest industry and my opinion, 9) comprehensive thinking of energy consumption, 10) the possibility to use energy of uneatable part of farm product.

The afternoon session: 1) export strategy of Asian vegetable industry and food safety problem, 2) prevent recurrence of agricultural pollution since meat croquette and hand-made jiao-zi cases, 3) what is basic for safe and reliable diet?

<*LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN NOVEMBER*>

AKITA BRANCH

On November 9 at Akita University the Akita branch and Akita Article 9 Society together with Teachers and staff's union in Akita University and Akita University Article 9 Society held a gathering commemorates 4 years since the inauguration of the society, where Ms. Amamiya (novelist) gave a lecture on our life and peace, exchanging views with young participants.

TOKYO BRANCH

- 1) The Chuo University chapter on November 5 at Chuo University, organized a lecture meeting as a pre-symposium for the 17th CSSC where Dr. Maruyama (Tokyo Metropolitan Univ.) gave a report entitled "Neo-liberalism and city – focusing on political economical science of city since the theory of world cities".
- 2) Hachioji Science Forum was held on November 13 in Hachioji City, where Dr. Kawakami (Gramsci study) gave a lecture on the Gramsci's theory of nation extinction.

TOKUSHIMA BRANCH

The branch held a study meeting on non-regular employee's struggle and achievement in Tokushima on November 7 at Tokushima University, where Prof. Yoshida (Tokushima Univ.) reported on the labor issue occurred in companies in Tokushima and the dismissal of a whistle-blower that charged camouflage contract.

OKINAWA BRANCH

The branch organized Autumn Study Meeting on November 8 at Ryukyu University, which was to learn and think war and occupation Iraqi people underwent in relation to the US military bases in Okinawa. The meeting had two speakers from Iraq acting for peace movement.