

<DISTRICTS' ACTIVITIES >

SYMPOSIUM "THINKING OF FUTURE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY" HELD

The Tyugoku district (Okayama, Hiroshima, Tottori, Shimane, Yamaguchi prefectures) held the above symposium on December 20 at Yamaguchi University. The aim of this symposium was to think about environment and energy referring to the 4th appraisal report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which asserts the necessity of drastic carbon reduction according to that mass fossil fuel use is the major reason for the global warming. The following lectures were given: (i) "Recent moves in global warming problems" by Prof. Uesono (Shimane Univ.), (ii) "Global warming and energy problem" by Prof. Yamamoto (Okayama Univ.), (iii) "Middle-aged men's life style shining in exercising bioenergy" by Mr. Fujita (Tottori middle-aged men club), (iv) "Introduction of pellet implantation in our town" by Prof. Sato (Nirosima Univ.), and (v) "Green cools down the city" by Prof. Yamamoto (Yamaguchi Univ.).

<LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER >

MIYAGI BRANCH

The branch organized the 3rd branch lecture on December 6 in Sendai City concerning wartime research and war responsibility in Tohoku Imperial University. The lecturer says that the university in wartime hastily reinforced faculties of natural sciences and placed institutes along with Japanese military policies as a late imperial university.

TOKYO BRANCH

1) Chofu Science Forum was held on November 15 at University of Electro-Communications, where Mr. Ida (doctoral student, Univ. of Electro-Communications) gave a lecture on the study of earthquake prediction using electro-magnetism.

2) On December 23 at Tama Zoo the individual member group organized a year-end fieldwork, where Dr. Matsui (JSA secretary) gave a lecture on the ecology of butterflies.

KANAGAWA BRANCH

1) On November 18 the branch held a regular meeting, where Dr. Shioya (branch secretary-general, communication engineering) showed his sketches of Viennese landscape and street scenery during May, 2008.

2) The branch held a study gathering on December 20 at Tsurumi University, Yokohama, and thereafter a year-end party. The gathering had 7 talks as follows: (i) "History of human body – *Encephalism* (Brain controls body) vs. *Visceralism* (Internal organs do)" by Prof. Goto (Tsurumi Univ.), (ii) "Cost for generation of electrical energy in nuclear power plant" by Dr. Shioya, (iii) "Temporary transfer problem" by Dr. Akiyama (employee in a private company), (iv) "Relation between JSA and Japanese Peace Association" by Dr. Hori (irenology), (v) "Why did the clam fare in Japan drop sharply?" by Dr. Matsukawa (JSA secretary-general), (vi) "Channel project around Kasumiga-ura Lake – United struggle against the land waste" by Dr. Kawasaki (Emeritus Prof., Tohoku Univ.), and (vii) "Real feature of the US-Japan Security, a lesson from homeport of nuclear carrier vessel at Yokosuka" by Dr. Konno (Yokohama National Univ., ret.).

SHIGA BRANCH

On December 5 at University of Shiga Prefecture the branch held a lecture meeting for students and graduate students, where Prof. Kikuchi (engineering, Univ. of Shiga Pref.) gave a lecture entitled "Nano-bubble

generation through water electrolysis and its application". He first discovered the existence of hydrogen bubble of 20 ~ 600 nm in diameter in electrolytic water. The engineering society has not accepted the existence at first, but recently recognized it and noticed its application to cleaning by electrolytic water as technology causing no environmental damage.

KYOTO BRANCH

- 1) The group of individual members organized hiking around Kitayama in Kyoto, which is famous of autumn leaves and big Japan cedars. Participants learnt geological history of Kitayama as it had been an ocean trench in Jurassic period.
- 2) The Kansai study group of peace question held a study meeting on December 7 in Kyoto, where Prof. Nishikawa (Dokkyo Univ., ret.) gave a lecture entitled "Military industry of the USA – Focusing on aerospace industry".

OSAKA BRANCH

- 1) The group of individual members organized a regular meeting where Mr. Kunimura talked about the judicial trial system of EU and US on December 7 at the branch office.
- 2) On December 13 the study group Hegel's 'the Great Logic' held a regular meeting, studying the 72nd chapter of the text book "The Logical Lecture (1831)".
- 3) The branch and the group of university staff thinking of prefectural administration organized a symposium concerning Osaka prefectural administration problem, where Mr. Kizugawa (journal publisher) gave a lecture "Class and culture of city – Exploring Osaka" and Prof. Nakayama (Nara Women's Univ.) "Reconstruction of Osaka – A counterproposal to governor Hashimoto".

HYOGO BRANCH

- 1) The branch held a symposium entitled "Thinking waste problem from global environment" on November 15 in Kobe under the auspices of Hyogo Eco Club. It had three sessions with specified titles.

I) Basics for waste problem

1. Eight years of the Basic Law of Recycle-Oriented Society
2. Governmental measures concerning resource and energy problem, dioxin pollution, and global warming
3. Biodegradable plastics

II) Waste treatment

1. Health hazard such as Neyagawa disease and Suginami disease caused by toxic dose of chemicals emitted from waste plastic plants
2. Still-serious pollution problem in industrial waste disposal plants in Shiga Prefecture
3. Actual situations in Kyoto, the government of which charged household rubbish two years ago
4. Challenge to "Zero Waste" in Kamikatsu Town, Tokushima

III) Discussion

A lot of views were expressed from municipal employees, habitants around waste disposal plants, and citizens opposing paying for household rubbish.

- 2) On December 6 in Kobe the branch held a symposium on food and agriculture. The following lectures were delivered: (i) "Worldwide food shortage and Japanese agriculture", (ii) "Now, farm villages are fascinating", (iii) "Being particular about home grown foodstuffs".

TOKUSHIMA BRANCH

On November 17 at Tokushima University the branch held the second session of lecture "The trend and prospect of discussion on Article 9 in Japanese Constitution Society", where Prof. Aso (Naruto University of Education) explained his interpretation of the Article 9 of the Constitution as unarmed pacifism basing the peace theory of Immanuel Kant.

FUKUOKA BRANCH

The environmental study committee of the Fukuoka branch held a regular meeting on November 15 at Kurume University, where Prof. Fujimoto gave a lecture on the previous and coming environmental educations.