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THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION (JSA)

Chasu Bldg. 9F, 1-9-15, Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0034, JAPAN

FAX: +81-3-3813-2363 URL: <http://www.jsa.gr.jp/intl>

10TH CIVIC GATHERING TO THINK OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT

The organizing committee consisting of the Patent Office chapter and the JSA committee of science and technological policy held the above gathering on February 11 at Bunkyo Civic Hall, Tokyo. The chapter reported the issue point around the global standard and intellectual property right, and Mr. Kawakami presented his viewpoint in the definition of standard and intellectual property, from his experience to form the global standard in the area of factory automation. Subsequently intellectual property right in *You Tube* was discussed. The gathering was to put citizens on recent movement of building standard in intellectual property right in and outside Japan. The global standard recalls that Japanese standard such as clock movement and DVD regulation could not retain high profits and Japanese technologies as the third generation mobile phone did not widespread abroad. In these circumstances the Japanese government made a promotion plan to reinforce action to establish global standard and cooperation between industry and academia, and aim at seizing global standard so as to gain market share.

2ND FOOD CONTAMINATION SYMPOSIUM IN TOKYO

On February 14 at Bunkyo Civic Hall, Tokyo, the JSA research committee of pollution and environmental problems and Japan Association on the Environmental Studies held the second symposium on food contamination. The titles and speakers were as follows: i) "Fishery product contaminated by hazardous substances and security and safety of food eating" by Prof. Yamaguchi (Mimasaka Univ.), ii) "Security of tuna eating" by Mr. Kimura (journalist, Shizuoka Shinbun), iii) "To realize the secure of food and consumer rights" by Ms. Koyama (lawyer), iv) "Present state of relocation problem of Tsukiji Central Wholesale Market to the contaminated area where Toyosu plant, Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd., was located", by Mr. Nozue (Society to think of market).

<LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY >

MIYAGI BRANCH

On February 7 in Sendai the branch held a branch lecture on the international financial crisis. Prof. Yoshida (Graduate school of economics and management, Tohoku Univ.) explained facts, structure, and background of the crisis.

TOKYO BRANCH

1) The 64th new peace colloquium was organized on January 30, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) explained the system of citizen judge.

2) The branch organized a symposium on postdoctoral problems on February 8, where one of postdoctoral students spoke about a view concerning non-regular employees.

3) On February 12 the 31st Hachioji Science Forum was held, where Mr. Nagata (graduate student, Hitotsubashi Univ.) delivered a first lecture on non-regular employment in Japan.

4) On February 14 Machida Forum organized a regular meeting on deadlocked capitalism, where Dr. Imamiya (Emeritus Prof., Chuo Univ.) was invited as a lecturer.

5) The 14th Chofu Science Forum has held on February 21. Dr. Miyamura (Emeritus Prof., Japan Women's Univ.) expressed his thought about Japanese food production policy.

6) On February 21, the committee of science held a mini-symposium, where Mr. Akiyama (Japanese

association of graduate students) reported about real situation of graduate students viewing the results of questionnaire conducted by the association, and Prof. Oku (Univ. of Electro-Communications) called for forming a united front to enrich higher education.

7) The 66th new peace colloquium was organized on February 27, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) gave a final lecture on the system of citizen judge.

8) Machida Science Forum held a regular study meeting on February 28, where Dr. Imamiya (Emeritus Prof., huo Univ.) delivered a lecture entitled "Antirecession policy and the direction to regenerate Japanese economy – To realize society protecting employment, business transaction, and living".

KANAGAWA BRANCH

On February 16 the branch held a regular study meeting, where Dr. Matsukawa (oceanographer, branch representative secretary) explained the problematic points of skepticism on global warming basing on the paper of Prof. Asuka's (Tohoku Univ.) .

KYOTO BRANCH

1) On January 23 the JSA research committee of symbiotic society held a regular meeting in Kyoto, where Prof. Sakai (Emeritus Prof., Kyoto Univ.) delivered a lecture on world economic crisis triggered by subprime crisis.

2) The branch published Kyoto Branch News no.300 on February 13, where members celebrated the publication and looked back their experiences related to the branch activities.

OSAKA BRANCH

1) The branch is developing a financial campaign to ship to Mr. Nishimura, who is acting to establish a permanent exhibition pavilion in Italy, 66 display panels of atomic bomb sufferings.

2) On January 30 at Osaka University Forum, Dr. Komorita and Dr. Imaoka (branch members) reported about mercury contamination in Mongolia, which contaminates drinking water 10 g/L or more.

3) On February 8 at the branch office the Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises held a study meeting, where Mr. Miwa talked about how Dr. Noguchi, bacteriologist who discovered the agent of syphilis in 1911, had grown up in the environments of Edo. He points out that Dr. Noguchi was educated at *Terakoya* (private school in Edo Period), not affected by education system established by Meiji Period, and education circumstances in Edo Period recently have been paid attention to.

4) The study group of Philosophy held a regular meeting on February 26 at the branch office, where Dr. Sugano (branch representative secretary) talked about the history of concepts, matter and vacuum, as rudiments of Physics.

5) The study group of contemporary capitalism held a regular meeting on February 27, where Mr. Katabuchi (graduate student, Osaka City Univ.) proposed a new image of social security.

SHIMANE BRANCH

The branch and citizen groups to question the need of *National Foundation Day* (see below Note) held "21st gathering to think about *National Foundation Day*" on February 11 at Shimane Prefectural Hall. Mr. Watanabe (Shimane Constitutional Conference) talked his experience and thought about Japanese peace, human rights, and the Constitution of Japan, indicating the following photos: i) Imperial Rescript to Soldiers and Sailors, ii) collective worship at Yasukuni shrine, iii) victim of Maintenance of Public Order Law, a man with a wattle hat, iii) US Grumman came by air, iv) clamp down on human rights under the US military occupation.

[Note from No. 200] "National Foundation Day" was originally proclaimed under a different name (Kigen-setsu: Empire Day or Anniversary of Emperor Jinmu's Accession) in 1873 by the Imperial Meiji Government with the aim of deifying the Emperor. After WWII this day was repealed because it went against the constitutional principle that sovereignty rests with the people. The Liberal Democratic Party government, however, resurrected it in 1966.

FUKUOKA BRANCH

The research committee of energy held the 26th regular study meeting on January 31.