

THE BULLETIN OF JSA

THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

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"THINKING OF UNIVERSITY AFTER INSTITUTIONALIZATION" HELD

The JSA academic system section with Faculty and Staff Union of Japanese Universities organized a symposium with the above title on March 21 at University of Electro-Communications, Tokyo. The following five reports were made.

1) Prof. Nagayama (Shimane Univ.) "Problem of university as corporate agency – Case of Shimane University": Reporting an actual situation that the community spirit between teachers and students disappeared, teachers had hardly trust in each other, the university became to have a poor relationship with the region, and gaps with large-scale universities have been widened, the professor stressed the necessity to rebuild the higher education regardless of installation mode and scale.

2) Prof. Hirose (Toyama Univ.) "Case of Toyama University, president election problem": He reported president's top-down administration after 2005 establishment of new Toyama University unifying three national universities in Toyama Prefecture, and the role the labor union of university staff played in 2008 president election.

3) Prof. Matsumaru (Chuo Univ.) "Decision making in private university after institutionalization of national university": The law for private school revised in 2008 reinforced top-down university administration by establishing executive board. The professor explained basic regulations in Chuo University under which the university has been administrated in a democratic rule.

4) Dr. Saito (Gumma Univ., ret.) "High educated working poor – Origin, present status, and resolution": He offered a proposal of drastic measure to bring up young researchers in the true sense of the term.

5) Dr. Matsukawa (ex-secretary general, JSA) "Today meaning of the confirmation of Tokyo University agreed at university dispute 40 years ago": He stressed the significance of university autonomy in which students, teachers, and staff participate.

In the discussion some questions and opinions were presented. A) How can we overcome "competition" and "evaluation" which creates present crisis as key word? B) It is important to firm up education and research in universities under such crucial circumstances. C) It is necessary to find the radical solution to young researcher problem as structural problem. D) Self-reliance and independence of university are important to solve the issue. E) We must foster relationship among every installation mode of universities to take action in cooperation.

ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

The JSA headquarters organizes a number of research committees and groups undertaken on a nationwide scale, which are encouraging the members across the country

1) " 21ST CENTURY MEANING OF THE CONSTITUTION (6)" ORGANIZED

The JSA ad hoc committee of the Constitution has held a series of symposiums entitled above. On March 20 at Suruga Campus of Meiji University as part of such symposium "Today's environmental problems and questions in the theory of environmental right" took place, inviting Dr. Utagawa (National Industrial Research Institute) and Prof. Kanbe (Niigata Univ.).

In his talk "Issues of damages and measures caused by global warming", Dr. Utagawa mentioned that the CO2 emissions rate is increasing in emergent industrial nations like China, while a half of emissions are occupied by advanced nations, and 80% of accumulated emissions concentrate on advanced nations. Those are generated particularly in material factories such as electric power plants and ironworks. The global temperature rose by 0.8 degree centigrade than prior to the industrial revolution, being predicted to rise by 6.4 degrees centigrade over 100 years. He advanced a proposal on shift to reusable energy and its application to sustainable society.

Prof. Kanbe asserted that environmental right should have a significance basing on domestic laws such as the Basic Environmental Law and Environmental Impact Assessment Law and international law and fundamental agreements at international conferences. He also claimed that it should be legislated as a subjective civil right which places obligation on the nation and society, not as a right on jus civil that mainly aims at posteriori redress, emphasizing the necessity to conform precautionary principle, proactive principle, cooperation principle, and polluter pays principle to a common framework. Some of these principles are said in the environmental charter (France) and the maxim of legislative process and judiciary (Germany).

2) HOW MUCH PROGRESS IS MADE TOWARDS A GENDER-EQUAL SOCIETY? COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

While few attempts were made to improve and protect the status and rights of women in science and technology on a national level in 2009, activists continued to contribute to the advancement of female researchers and engineers on a regional level.

The Women's Sectional Committee was set up at the JSA Tokyo Science Symposium which was titled "Women's social status and rights, and their societal advancement." Since it is the 30th anniversary of the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, advocacy for the advancement of female researchers' working environments and their status quo were reported on and the elimination of gender discrimination was discussed.

We are calling for the new government to expand assistance to government-financed projects for female researchers in cooperation with external female researcher organizations. We also plan to fully utilize electronic mailing list services to provide opportunities for female researchers and engineers to share information amongst themselves.

A decade after the enforcement of The Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society, Japan still maintains its low rank compared to other developed countries around the world in the number of females involved in decision making and in the field of science and technology.

This led us to launch a sectional committee which focuses on the progress made towards a gender-equal society at our 18th General Assembly on Academic Research in November 2010.

We are hoping to take steps for a better working environment for both women and men and to contribute to the increasing number of female researchers in science and technology through the sectional committee in which progress made at universities and research centers will be discussed. We encourage participants to share their opinions and achievements to make our meeting fruitful.

DISTRICTS' AND BRANCHES' ACTIVITIES

The JSA consists of 47 branches which are grouped into 9 districts, and they are independently and/or cooperatively carrying out their activities in addition to the headquarters' ones

1) SYMPOSIUM "JAPANESE ROLE TO MAKE THE YEAR 2010 A TURNING POINT FOR PEACE"
On Mar. 13, 2010, the above titled symposium was held at Center for the inhabitants of Bunkyo ward in Tokyo before review conference of Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) on May 3. There were three reports as followed.

A) "Good intentions and deception of President Obama" (Prof. Kimura, Kagoshima Univ.): He told the views and problems for NPT based on evaluation of President Obama.

B) "The 50 years of Japan-US security treaty" (Mr. Maeda, Military commentator): He pointed out the contradiction point between the Constitution and "secret agreement and Japan Status of Forces Agreement". In relation to this report, there were two comments. First one is "U.S. bases in Kanagawa Prefecture and foundation for 'Nationwide report association for transformation of U.S. bases'" (Dr. Konno, Kanagawa branch). Second one is "Removal of Futenma U.S. base and a repeal of the law of the promotion as for the reorganization of U.S. Forces Japan"(Dr. Kameyama, Univ. of the Ryukyus)

C) "The 100 years since Japan's annexation of the Korean Peninsula" (Prof. Arai, professor emeritus Ibaraki Univ.): Asserting Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty was entered into under saber-rattling by the bureaucrat of the Foreign Ministry, established as a bequest of cold war, he presented a reservation that the thought of East Asian Community Japan proposed in 2009 would become a mere façade if based on the standpoint that the treaty was in operation.

2) 28TH KYOTOCSSC HELD

On March 13 at Kyoto University 28th Kyoto Comprehensive Scientific Study Convention was held to debate how Japan should be in the 21st century. A) Prof. Makino (Hannan Univ.) talked about justice and peace, especially right of peaceful life. Defining the universal justice to be realization of the human dignity and rights, he stressed that renouncement of war is inseparably related with the personal dignity and fundamental human right, and remarked the peaceful constitution of Japan lives vitally in the activities of Article 9 Society and the decision of Nagoya superior court two years ago. B) Dr. Utami (Wakayama Univ., ret.) discussed the nation's land and disasters from the viewpoint of security in flood control. He asserted the failure of present high water work viewing in Tomata Dam (Okayama Pref.) and Otaki Dam (Nara Pref.), and to secure drainage area it needs to take action for not only technology but land use and production system. C) Dr. Wada (Ritsumeikan Univ., ret.) talked on the relation between environment and energy. He asserted that it is inevitable to shift to the regenerable energy (RE) in order to avert the crisis caused by global warning, expecting that civitas-lead institutional reckoning and promotion of RE could change production relation and conduce to the development of sustainable society. D) Prof. Yoneda (Chuo Univ.) treated the latest change of administration and new development model of Japan. He pointed out the task of the Democratic Party of Japan is to overcome neoliberalism considering the Liberal Democratic Party lost the power since it advanced neoliberalistic structure reform without safety net. E) Prof. Ishii (Nagoya Univ.) argued the neoliberalistic reform of education as a historically transitional one. Pointing out the reform is to cut educational budget, shift public education into market and state control with the object of capital's survival in global competition, he stated that to build movements of education and scientists against the reform is required.

3) SYMPOSIUM "WHAT DO CITIZENS ASK FOR A UNIVERSITY?"

Hokuriku district (Fukui, Ishikawa and Toyama branches) held a symposium of on April 17-18, 2010 at Kanazawa City. In the first day five reports were presented. Mr. Hirose (Toyama Univ.) pointed out that at the business world's request to university the national control of education has been strengthened since the end of 1990s. The incorporation of national universities and the amendment of the Fundamental Law of Education were performed. Mr. Goga (Kanazawa Univ.) mentioned that the examination for service is inclined to check one's potentiality only because of deterioration of the employment for young generation. He worried alienation of the actual education from the university educational idea to study truth.

Technician Mr. Miyamoto emphasized that training of the ability to think basically and essentially is most important in education. Mr. Yokokawa (Kanazawa Univ. Coop) reported that the investigation of actual condition of student shows the reduction of student living expense, the loss of will for studying and the uneasiness of employment. Mr. Naoe (Kanazawa Univ.) reported the various entrance examinations and the student deterioration of academic ability and mentioned that it is essential problem what is the academic ability educated in universities. The second day three reports were presented. Mr. Kanamori, who is famous for the practice of child education, pointed out that for the education where the student can have the self-affirmative impression universities should research the actual state of student and perform the education that makes the connection of the student and actual society rich. Mr. Mori reported the activity in the school teaching at graduate school of Fukui University. He mentioned that studying the experience that solves the problem of school with cooperation of the graduate school staff and the teachers can actualize the succession cycle among different generations and the ability of teacher. Ms. Honda, who is the chair of the executive committee of "Earth day Toyama 2010", claimed that university should foster students who can train persons acting by the thought of oneself and be an organization that can perform the cooperation with citizen.

4) "UNIVERSITY AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY OF JAPAN AT THE TURNING POINT"

On Apr. 23, the above titled welcome lecture for graduate school freshmen of Hokkaido University was held at Hokkaido University, Sapporo. Prof. Ikeuchi (The Graduate Univ. for Advanced Studies) was invited to give a lecture on his experience and recent actual conditions around young researchers. Comparing to the academic research environment at his graduate school age, he said that recent university is under the pressure of securing competitive funds, and such a tendency becomes stronger, and now is the day to reexamine how the university should be. In Japan nation's politics placing a premium on technology has been taken after Meiji Restoration, and to be of use or not has been the evaluation standard. He criticized that high school expenses and high burden are obliged on the ground of the benefit principle, and university was degraded to school only for finding employment. University must be evaluated not as a beneficial one but a leader of culture. From this viewpoint Japanese government's refuse of ratification of free-charge higher education (the UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966, Article 13) should be criticized. Prof. Ikeuchi stressed that we need to attach a weight on science as a culture without subordinating to technology and work with the people on that ground.

5) REGULAR MEETING ON BREAKDOWN OF MEDICAL CARE HELD IN MIYAZAKI

The Miyazaki branch held a regular meeting entitled "Breakdown of medical care – the poverty and gap are widening" on April 20 in Miyazaki City. This meeting was projected to know the practice status of breakdown of medical care, the title of which was treated in *Journal of Japanese Scientists* vol.45 No.2. The branch invited Dr. Hidaka (director, Miyazaki Coop Hospital), participating actively in regional medicine. According to his explanation, the policy to restrain medical expenditures since Ad Hoc Commission on Administrative Reform causes the collapse of medical care system. This means the restraint of consultation by raising individual payment rate and that of medical service by cutting whole medical care expenses. On the pretext of the cutting of medical care expenses, the training of medical doctors was restrained, which brought about an acute shortage of medical doctors and deteriorated the management of medical institution. In Miyazaki Prefecture the same collapse is seen: every medical institution meets a difficult management and doctors are forced into severe work. While the number of doctors and medical staff in Japan is scarce and insufficient by international standards, the medical care is esteemed because of healthy life expectancy highest in the world and universal health care system. Dr. Hidaka, from the standpoint to protect the people's life, stressed that Japanese people should be aware of the practical status of medical care collapse and appealed the necessity to fundamentally readjust the policy

to restrain medical expenditures and build an opulent country with social security.

JSA^{NOW}
Briefings from organizers

SCIENTISTS' FORUM AGAINST A & H BOMBS HELD IN SHIZUOKA

The 2010 scientists' forum under the theme "Let's enlarge the tendency toward the elimination of nuclear weapons", a session of the World Conference against A and H Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki from August 3 to 9, was held on August 1 in Shizuoka. After the keynote speech of Prof. Urata (Emeritus Prof., Waseda Univ.) on the task of and circumstances around the World Conference and Scientists' Forum" five reports were made: A) Prof. Kameyama (Univ. of the Ryukyus) "Realignment of Japan-US alliance in the stormy age – Viewing the transformation of Okinawa bases"; B) Dr. Shoji (Emeritus Prof., Nagoya Univ.) "New START Treaty between Russia and the US and Nuclear Posture Review of the US"; C) Mr. Braun (director, German Branch, International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms); D) Mr. Hata (student, Shizuoka Univ.) "Thinking at the 2010 NPT review conference"; E) Prof. Noguchi (Nihon Univ.) "Peaceful use of atomic energy and nuclear proliferation"; F) Dr. Sato (ex-President, Shizuoka Univ.) "Significant establishment of Yaizu peace prize".

CRITICISM OF TECHNOLOGY OF GENETIC MODIFICATION

The research committee of foodstuff problems organized a civic lecture entitled "Criticism of technology of genetic modification", where Dr. Namai (Univ. Tsukuba, ret.) raised a scientific question about the technology.

KINKI DISTRICT

- 1) The Kansai-area's colloquium for scientific workers in private enterprises on July 4 held a regular meeting at Osaka branch office. They discussed the way of research development presented by Mr. Kushimoto.
- 2) Kansai peace forum held a meeting on July 11 in Kyoto, where Prof. Okumoto (Osaka Jogakuin College) delivered a lecture under the theme "Peace and art, apology and amiable settlement".
- 3) The 19th Kansai study group of peace question was held on July 18 in Kyoto, where Prof. Asai (Hiroshima City Univ.) gave a lecture on the post cold-war global strategy of the US and Prof. Matsumura (International Research Center for Japanese Studies) a lecture on globalization of manufacture of arms and the strategy of the US.

MIYAGI BRANCH

The branch held a branch lecture on July 24, where Dr. Ozawa (Tohoku Univ.) explained the role of biomedical engineering from his study on biomodel using polymeric materials.

TOKYO BRANCH

- 1) The 81st new peace colloquium was held on June 25 at Bunkyo Kumin Center, Tokyo, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) gave a lecture "Japan-US Security Treaty (1)".
- 2) Tama Hegel study group held a regular meeting on June 27 at Chuo University, where they studied pages 51-82 of *Hegel's Great Logic study* (2nd ed.) written by S. Mita.
- 3) The 21st Chofu science forum was held on July 24 at University of Electro-Communications, where Dr. Daimatsu talked on ship model experiment tank and wave.
- 4) The 82nd new peace colloquium was held on July 30 at Bunkyo Kumin Center, Tokyo, where Prof. Kaneko (Rissho Univ.) gave a lecture "Japan-US Security Treaty (2)".

KYOTO BRANCH

- 1) On June 21 at Kyoto Private University Hall, the branch held a study meeting, where Prof. Iiyoshi (Osaka City Univ.) gave a lecture entitled "Examination and consideration of the claim of postwar Japanese business world for university education".
- 2) JJS (Journal of Japanese Scientists) club held a regular meeting on July 6 at Kyoto Prefectural University, where three reporters commented on their articles appeared in No.5-7.
- 3) On July 17 at Kyoto University the group of individual members held a regular meeting, where Dr. Iwamoto (Osaka branch) gave a lecture on the objection against CO2 origin of climate change (global warming) and Dr. Tanaka (Kyoto branch) a lecture on the point at issue of Copenhagen agreement.

OSAKA BRANCH

- 1) The 15th Science Café was held on June 19 at Nakazaki shopping mall, Osaka, where Ms. Shirai (The Foundation for Environmental Rehabilitation and Redevelopment of Mizushima) talked on the contemporary evolution 200 years after Lamarck
- 2) The study group Contemporary Capitalism held a regular meeting on June 24 at the branch office, where Prof. Yasuki (Osaka International Univ.) delivered a lecture on Russian business circumstances in the Far East (1).
- 3) The study group of "The Capital" held a regular meeting on June 28 at the branch office, where Ms. Yokoyama read chapter 3 in charge and Ms. Hirasawa chapter 4.
- 4) The study committee of philosophy held a regular meeting on June 29 at the branch office, where Dr. Komorita (Representative Secretary of the JSA) talked about the possibility of solar energy generation in Mongolia.
- 5) The 16th Science Café was held on July 17 at Nakazaki shopping mall, Osaka, where Dr. Iwanaga and some branch members organized a scientific lecture for children.
- 6) The study group of "The Capital" held a regular meeting on July 26 at the branch office, where Ms. Hiraishi and Mr. Hiraishi read Chapter 4.
- 7) The study group Contemporary Capitalism held a regular meeting on July 29 at the branch office, where Prof. Yasuki (Osaka International Univ.) delivered a lecture on Russian business circumstances in the Far East (2).
- 8) On August 2 at Toyonaka campus of Osaka University, the Osaka Univ. chapter organized a lecture concerning medicine in the age of globalization given delivered by Prof. Kasuga (Osaka Univ.).
- 9) The dialectic champuru study group held a regular meeting on August 9 at the branch office. Two reports were given: Mr. Fujita "The dialectic of Lenin" and Mr. Takei "The gender theory of Illich".

TOKUSHIMA BRANCH

2010 Shikoku peace action relay was organized on July 24 in Tokushima Prefecture, which has been projected every year on the day of air attack on Tokushima City.

FUKUOKA BRANCH

On July 10 at Tenjin satellite of Kurume University the environmental study group held a study meeting, where Mr. Doi (grad student, Kyushu Univ.) explained his study on public works and political participation especially the case of Kawabe River dam construction in Kumamoto Prefecture.

ARTICLES OF "JOURNAL OF JAPANESE SCIENTISTS"

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