



## Organization Committee Chair's Report

The 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Oceania Conference on Neutron Scattering (1<sup>st</sup> AOCNS) was held during the period from 20<sup>th</sup> November to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 in Tsukuba, Japan, which was organized by the Asia-Oceania Neutron Scattering Association (AONSA), the Japanese Society for Neutron Science (JSNS) and many other institutes and universities. This first neutron conference in the Asia-Oceania region was surely a historical event.

The JSNS established the pre-organizing committee in 2009 to prepare the conference. As everyone knows a big earthquake hit Japan on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2011, and the subsequent Tsunami caused unbelievable destruction of many lives, cities, towns and villages. The nuclear reactor disaster in Fukushima also caused serious problems. In such situation the organizing committee discussed postponement or cancellation of the conference. However, we received many of warm messages from neutron colleagues of all over the world and kind supports from neutron facilities in the world. Encouraged by them the organizing committee decided to hold the conference as originally scheduled.

The number of the participants was 586; 375 from Japan, 69 from Korea, 53 from Australia and New Zealand, 30 from Taiwan, 12 from India, 12 from China, 10 from Indonesia, 3 from Malaysia, 14 from Europe and 8 from North and South America. The number was much larger than we expected. This is a big success. The organizing committee appreciates their participation to the conference.

In the conference there were 24 scientific sessions including various fields such as Fundamental Physics, Hard Matter, Soft Matter, Chemistry, Materials Science, Biological Molecules, Industrial Applications, Complementary Use of Various Methods, and so on. There were also 8 Facility Reports in the Asia-Oceania region, Global Cooperation Sessions I and II, and AONSA Prize Ceremony and AONSA Prize Lecture, which are reported in details in separated articles by Professor Fujii. Poster Awards to young students were also arranged. In these sessions, 4 plenary talks, 24 keynote lectures, 35 invited talks, 41 contributed talks and 386 poster presentations were given. In addition to the scientific sessions, the conference banquet, 3 social



Group photo of the AOCNS participants



events, and site tours to J-PARC/JRR-3 were arranged during the conference. The reports on those can be found in the articles in this issue.

On the first day of the conference, Instrumental Scientist Workshops (ISWs) were held to discuss the present situation and the future directions of the neutron instruments, which is reported by Professor Shibayama in this issue, and the AONSA Executive Committee decided to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> AOCNS in Sydney, Australia, 2015.

The organizing committee believes that the conference was really successful to show the power of neutron researches in the Asia-Oceania region and the future directions. This is surely owing to the efforts of all presenters, International Advisory Board members, International Scientific Program Committee members, Local Organizing Committee members, Sub Program Committee members, Conference Supporting members, many sponsors to support the conference financially, and all of the participants to the conference. We, the organizing committee, express again our sincere gratitude to all of the participants to the conference.

See you in Sydney in 2015!

**Toshiji Kanaya**

*Chair of the Organizing Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> AOCNS*



The Asia-Oceania Conference on KARAOKE



Passing a baton to 2<sup>nd</sup> AOCNS in Closing Session