



Social Activities in 1st AOCNS

As the first event of social activities of 1st AOCNS, the reception party was held in the multi-purpose hall of Epochal (the venue) on November 20 (Sun). More than 200 people joined the reception party. The party was quite informal; without any opening address and speech. All the participants enjoyed talking, drinks and foods.



The participants are taking foods in the reception party

On November 23 (Wed), the following three social events were prepared for the participants of the conference and their accompanying persons: (1) Japanese flower arrangement (*Ikebana*), (2) Shopping at Akihabara and Asakusa, (3) Walking in Mt. Tsukuba. In the first event, Japanese instructors taught how to arrange flowers from the basic level for 8 participants. After the event, the arranged flowers were displayed at the entrance hall of the venue (please see the photo). In the second event, the participants enjoyed the shopping at Asakusa (for traditional Japanese souvenirs) and Akihabara (for modern electric equipments) with a Japanese guide. In the third event, the participants enjoyed seeing autumn color of leaves in Mt. Tsukuba with a Japanese guide.



The *Ikebana* flowers displayed in the entrance hall

The conference banquet was held at Hotel Grand Shinonome on the evening of November 23. The

number of the participants was 319. At the beginning, Prof. Y. Noda (Co-chair of program committee, Tohoku University) gave an opening address on behalf of the organizing members. Then, Prof. R. Robinson (ANSTO, Australia), Prof. A. Taylor (ISIS, RAL, UK), and Dr. Y. Kawakami (Eisai Co., Ltd) made speeches to celebrate the 1st AOCNS. Next, we had a ceremony of Opening Sake Barrels (*Kagami Biraki*). The following 11 members opened the barrels with wooden hummers: Prof. J. White (President of AONSA, ANU), Prof. M. W. Kim (Past-President of AONSA, KAIST, Korea), Prof. S. L. Chaplot (BARC, India), Prof. K. B. Lee (POSTEC, Korea), Prof. C. Loong (Sun Yat-Sen Univ., China), Prof. W.-H. Li (NCU, Taiwan), Dr. E. G. R. Putra (BATAN, Indonesia), Dr. A. A. Mohamed (MNA, Malaysia), Prof. J. Carpenter (ANL, USA), Prof. T. Kanaya (Chair of 1st AOCNS, Kyoto Univ.), Dr. M. Arai (J-PARC), Dr. F. Muelhauser (Scientific Secretary of Technical Meeting, IAEA).

Prof. J. White made a toast and the time of talking, drinking, and eating started. Japanese, western, and vegetarian foods were served buffet style. Special foods of Ibaraki (Hitachi beef, etc.) were also presented. The guests enjoyed exciting Japanese drum (*Wadaiko*) performance by Team Dokkoi; all members are working in Public Work Research Institute in Tsukuba. Then, Dr. J. Suzuki (Chair of local organizing committee) introduced the members of the local organizing committee and supporting members. Before closing the banquet, the host of 2nd AOCNS, A/Prof. C. Ling (Univ. of Sydney) gave a message to welcome the participants to the 2nd AOCNS. It was really a joyful banquet.



The Opening Sake Barrel ceremony in the banquet

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