



EAJ NEWS SUMMARY No.164 (January 2015)

Topics from the EAJ newsletter are listed up.

If you like to know further on particular topics, please contact EAJ Secretariat.

1. New Year's Greetings from the President

Recently, things that nobody has ever imagined have been happening, and the world grows more complex and changes faster than ever before. Engineering and technology are involved in such phenomena in various ways including negative and positive aspects. For example, climate change and the ageing society are one aspect of civilization, for which engineering and /or technology are largely responsible. As far as they are involved in a cause, they should be involved in a solution. It leaves no doubt that engineering should play a significant role. The point would be whether we would be able to take up the responsibility. With this as an issue in my mind, I assumed the office of President and six years is going to pass. In order to strengthen the Academy structure, I firstly encouraged to establish a branch in Kyushu and Hokkaido & Tohoku expecting more active community-based activities. I also placed an emphasis on the programs to foster younger generation and on international activities. Recently, I have stepped out efforts of expanding the Academy members. I believe that some positive results are being achieved. And now, I aspire to establish a base for engineering feeling the urgent need of creating a technology system to address rapidly changing society and of fostering engineers who will take responsibility of the system. The idea is compiled into the blue print of "Technology Museum" and is under discussion with the stakeholders to realize it. Your continued support until the upcoming end of my term of office would be grateful.

2. The 18th EA-RTM in Wuhan, China

The 18th EA-RTM (East Asia Round Table Meeting of Academies of Engineering) was held on 2 and 3 November in Wuhan, China. On 2 November, a symposium was held on the theme of "Advanced Manufacturing." Greetings from Mayor of Wuhan Municipal Government and representatives of the three academies of engineering in China, Korea and Japan were followed by four sessions of "Development Trend of Advanced Manufacturing," "Intelligent Manufacturing Technology," "Low-Carbon and Energy Conservation in Green Manufacturing and Intelligent Manufacturing" and "Services of the Manufacture." About 100 attendees. On 3 November, a closed round-table meeting was held followed by a tour to the Wuhan Citizens Home. In the meeting, the CAE reported on the joint survey 2015 on "Advanced Manufacturing" (http://www.eaj.or.jp/glance/2015_Questionnaire_e.pdf). The EAJ made a proposal of the next RTM in Fukuoka, Japan on 31 August and 1 September on the theme of "Advanced Manufacturing" and the CAE and the NAEK agreed on it.

3. "Meta Engineering" Project participated in the Science AGORA 2015: World Café "Let's Design our Future Society: Tokyo in 2020 and after"

“Meta Engineering” Project participated in the Science Agora that was organized by the JST (<http://www.jst.go.jp/csc/scienceagora/en/about/>) on the afternoon of 14 November 2015 at the AIST, Tokyo Waterfront. NPO ZESDA, a group of young individual members, planned and organized this event, in which about 30 participants with different background were divided into six groups and designed “a Tokyo in 2020 and after” through the MECI process of Meta Engineering. After each group discussed a specific topic, the brief explanation of the MECI process and the points were provided: Mining of potential issues and needs in society---through continuous questions of WHY, Exploring of necessary knowledge and KANSEI for solutions from a panoramic point of view---through elimination of constraints, Converging of solutions---not only through technological point of view but also cultural and artistic points of view, Implementing of solutions to create new social value—through appreciation of true stakeholders. Each group derived a unique design of Tokyo 2020 from active discussion developed by the first three steps of Mining, Exploring and Converging. For details about Meta Engineering and MECI process, please visit <http://meri.saloon.jp/?lang=english>