

ICR News 2014

The ICR International Symposium 2014 (ICRIS'14) “The Science and Technology of Smart Materials”

■ Prof TSUJII, Yoshinobu



10—12 March 2014, Uji, Japan, organized by the Institute for Chemical Research (ICR), and co-organized by ICR Joint Usage/Research Center, Institute of Advanced Energy (IAE), and Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH) of Kyoto University

The Institute for Chemical Research (ICR) planned at the 70th anniversary in 1996 and since then has been organizing a series of international symposia as ICRIS covering various chemistry-related fields with selected topics. The symposium in 2014 targeted the field of multidisciplinary science under the title including three main topics, bio-inspired systems, green innovation, and advanced analysis/design. This symposium was supported by the “Zengaku-keihi” project of Kyoto University especially from the viewpoint of international exchange of young researchers. On the basis of a special lecture by the 2010 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry, Emeritus Professor Akira Suzuki (Hokkaido University, Japan), 21 keynote/invited lectures, and 91 poster presentations, high-quality and fruitful

discussions on the selected topics were engaged in. The Mayor of Uji, Mr. Tadashi Yamada, and the Executive Vice President of Kyoto University, Professor Nobuyoshi Esaki, kindly joined the symposium banquet, giving a very inspiring speech. 381 participants, much more than expected, got together, clearly indicating deep interest in this field. One of keys to success of this symposium is the joint-research activity organized by the ICR Joint Usage/Research Center. Many of joint researchers gave poster presentations and actively participated in discussions. This symposium must have provided an opportunity of exchanging up-to-date information and having dense scientific discussion in the multidisciplinary science, thereby greatly accelerating the international cooperation.



Poster Session



SUZUKI, Akira, Special Guest Speaker's Lecture



Banquet

The 2nd Kyoto University & National Taiwan University Joint Symposium Nanoscience and Technology Session @ Uji Campus

■ Prof TOKITOH, Norihiro

The 2nd Kyoto University and National Taiwan University Symposium (1-2 September 2014) was held at Kyoto University with the objective to promote international research between the two schools. Under the witness of the more than one hundred academic and administrative representatives, the two schools officially signed the agreements to implement faculty exchange and dual degree projects. After the opening session at the Clock Tower Centennial Hall, Nanoscience and Technology Session was held at Uji Obaku Plaza for two days. This session was successfully co-coordinated by Prof. Li-Chyong Chen (NTU) and Prof. Norihiro Tokitoh (KU) and consists of 11 speakers from NTU (Dept. of Chem., Dept. of Mat. Sci. and Eng.,

Dept. of Phys., and Center for Condensed Matter Sciences (CCMC)) and 7 speakers from KU (ICR). The participants of this session from NTU and KU have fully enjoyed the discussion on the latest results and new techniques in the fields of Nanoscience and Technology, which will be of great interest and importance from the viewpoints of not only fundamental science but also near future application. In 2014, Institute for Chemical Research (ICR) has concluded MOUs individually with Dept. of Chem. (18 March), Dept. of Mat. Sci. and Eng. (30 May), and CCMC (4 April). We are now on the way of discussion to exchange the researchers and students each other based on these MOUs to develop our longtime mutual research exchange and friendship.



The commemorative photo of the Symposium



CHEN, Chun-Wei, representative from National Taiwan University

ICR and iCeMS Provided the First edX Lecture from Japan

■ Prof UESUGI, Motonari

Kyoto University has started providing Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on a U.S.-based nonprofit online learning platform, edX, for the first time from Japan. As the very first KyotoUx-series course, Prof. Uesugi of ICR and iCeMS taught “Chemistry of Life,” a 15-week full lecture broadcasted from April thru July 2014. The goal of this course is to develop skills for generating new ideas at the interface between chemistry and biology by analyzing pioneering studies. By bringing together knowledge from multidisciplinary fields, we are empowered with the ability to generate new ideas. A total of 20,269 students participated in this course from the world. Among them, 6 top performing students were invited to visit Kyoto University for a week in

July 2014. The students from U.S., Peru, Vietnam, Serbia, Latvia, and the Philippines made a short visit to ICR and its state-of-art facilities and gave a presentation at Prof. Uesugi’s real course. Their Kyoto visits were highlighted by major newspapers and broadcasted by NHK.



edX - Kyoto Ux
<http://ocw.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/edxkyotoux>



6 top performing students invited to visit Kyoto University took a look at ICR on 9 July.