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54th SPSJ Annual Meeting

Yokohama, Japan, May 25–27, 2005

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The Society of Polymer Science, Japan (SPSJ) traditionally holds two national meetings per year: the Annual Meeting in the spring, usually in May and the Annual Symposium in the fall usually in September or October. This year's President, elected for two years, was Professor Yoshio Okamoto of Nagoya University; Dr. Toshiaki Ushijima is the recently appointed General Secretary for the society, a permanent position. SPSJ has approximately 12,000 members.

This year's 54th Spring meeting was held in Yokohama May 25–27, 2005 and 3,500 scientists and students in Polymer Science participated. The program consisted of: Invited Lectures; Polymer Chemistry; Synthesis and Reactions; Polymer Physics; Structure and Properties; Functional Polymers, Heteropolymers and Biorelated Polymers; Polymers and the Environment; and Polymer Industry and Technology: Processes and Products.

39 invited Lectures, 9 of which were from abroad, and 2,272 Contributed Papers and Posters were presented. The papers were recorded in *Polymer Preprints, Japan*, Vol. 54, No 1 in an abbreviated printed form. The details can be found in the CD-ROM version of the *Preprints*.

The contributed papers came from all over Japan and included contributions from both large and smaller universities. The Annual Meeting of SPSJ gave scientists and students an opportunity to interact with each other. There were many interesting and exciting results reported, which demonstrated the enthusiasm of the individual contributors.

Scientific groups like that of Professor Yoshiki Chujo, Kyoto, Katsura Campus provided as many as 34 contributions, others fewer. Many contributions were presented in poster form. For a participant from abroad, it was interesting to see the competitiveness and cordiality that the students displayed during the poster presentation.



The Grand Yokohama International

The important part of the meeting consisted of the Invited Papers. They provided the core and spirit of the meeting. The entire list of an Invited Papers is as follows:

Koji Takagi, Nagoya Institute of Technology, Gokiso, Nagoya
Photophysics Control of Conjugated Polymer by Carbonyl Group
Teruaki Hayakawa, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo
Hierarchical Structures of Block Polymer Thin Films



Hiroyuki Ohno



Jon C. Vogl

Kazumori Kataoka, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo
Block Copolymer Micelles as Nanocarriers for Gene and Drug Delivery

Francisco J. Balta Calleja, Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, Madrid, Spain

Novel Studies on Micromechanical Properties of Confined Polymer Systems used in Synchrotron Radiation Techniques and Nanindentation Methods

Francesco Ciandelli, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy
Distinguished Contributions to the Science of Semiregular and Functional Polymers

Mark, M. Green, Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, NY, U.S.A.
Global Studies in Polymers

Hisashi Ito, Almaden Research Center, San Jose, CA, U.S.A.
Developing Chemical Amplification Resist for Semiconductor Device Fabrication by Microolithography

Richard S. Stein, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, U.S.A.

Teaching about Polymers to Students and the Public
Hiroyuki Otsuka, Kyushu University, Fukuoka
Macromolecular Crosslinker and Scrambling Reaction Based Dynamic Covalent Bonds

Atsushi Shishido, Keiji Sasaki, Rieko Yamamoto, Tomiki Ikeda, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Nagatsuta, Yokohama

Two Dimensional Periodic Polymer Structures Fabricated by Holographic Photo-polymerization

Nikjoong Kim, Chul-Sang Choi, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea

Optical Image Processing Using Photoresistive Polymers
Masatoshi Iji, NEC Co., Miyukigaoka, Tsukuba, Ibaraki
Environmentally Safe Self-Extinguishing Epoxy Resin Compounds and Their Application to Electronic Components

Koshiro Maeda, Hideki Ohmori, Hisoki Gyotoku, Sanyo Chemical Industries Ltd., Kyoto

Development of Spherical Polystyrene Beads
Toshihisa Takata, Tokyo Institute of Technology, O-okayama, Tokyo

Design and Synthesis of Novel Polymers using Controlled Molecular Species

Toshihiko Nagamura, Kyushu University, Fukuoka
Molecular Photonics by Optical Control of Electronic States in Polymers

Mitsuo Maeda, Riken, Hiratsawa, Wako
Synthesis and Application of DNA-Conjugated Polymers
Masayoshi Higuchi, National Institute for Material Science, Tsukuba

Functional Molecular: Creation of Organic-Metallic Hybrid Nano-Materials

Hisashi Maeda, Takuya Matsumoto, Shigeki Takigawa, Tachino Toyooka, Hiroyuki Ito, Nippon Oil Corp., Chidorigicho, Yokohama

Development of Liquid Crystalline Polymer Films for Liquid Crystal Displays

Toshihiko Suzuki, Teiji Kohata, Masayoshi Ohshima, Tadao Natsuno, Masahiro Yamazaki, Zeon Corporation, Matsumoto, Tokyo

Development and Commercialization of High Performance Cyclo-Olefin Polymer

Junji Watanabe, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo
Cell Membrane-Inspired Bio-interface

Masam Tanaka, Hokkaido University, Sapporo
Fabrication of Polymer Based on Self-organization and its Application

Yasuyuki Teruka, Tokyo Institute of Technology, O-okayama, Tokyo

Topological Polymer Chemistry for the Design of Novel Macromolecular Architecture



Yokohama Harbor



President Yoshio Ohmura and Otto Vogl at the Presentation



Conference Center Pacifico Yokohama, 5 p.m. This ceremony was preceded by the business meeting.

Otto Vogl, a long-term friend of the SPSJ, was named an Honorary Member of the Society, a distinction that is reserved to past presidents of the Society and rarely bestowed on foreigners.

Foreign speakers received two kinds of awards. Mark M. Green, the Distinguished Scientist Award and Francesco Ciardelli and Francisco J. Balta Calleja, the International Award. Several awards were given to Japanese scientists who distinguished themselves in their contributions in Polymer Science. Some awards were given to senior scientists and a different award was reserved for young scientists who had achieved distinction and showed future promise of achievements.

An award was also given to the authors of the best article published in *Polymer Journal* (Japan), the scientific journal of the SPSJ in English by scientists under the age of 40 years. Another award was given to authors of an article in *Kobunshi Kagaku*, the Japanese journal of the Society.

After the award ceremony a grand reception was held in the ballroom of the The Grand Yokohama Intercontinental. Several hundred participants attended. It was buffet style with Japanese and Western delicacies. Japanese whisky and Japanese beer were served, as is the case at all such receptions.

In his speech at the reception, President Ohmura greeted the participants and especially thanked those who were responsible for the arrangements for such a successful meeting. He also briefly mentioned the status of the society and thanked all



At the reception.



Dinner in Chinatown.



Makoto Kamachi and Michie Shima



Nagao Yoshio

contributors and participants for attending. Otto Vogl replied on behalf of the visitors from abroad and congratulated the SPSJ for its achievements. He then gave a short overview about the 40 years he had frequently attended Annual Meetings and Symposia of the SPSJ. He mentioned also that he had interacted with four generations of Japanese scientists and still remembers personally those who started the SPSJ.

Finally, Teiji Tsuruta, the senior functionary of the SPSJ (he was also a former president of the Chemical Society of Japan), reminisced about the achievements that occurred during his active years in the SPSJ and gave some visionary views for the future.

In concluding his remarks and because it is tradition, he proposed the toast (Kampai) for the reception.

Many scientific contributions to the meeting were represented in poster sessions. It was with great pride that we saw in the poster sessions the enthusiasm and dedication that the young scientists displayed. Their results from their research were displayed with enthusiasm and competence that is highly commendable.

The last session was concluded on Friday morning. The impression was left that the young scientists were looking forward to the Annual Symposium in the fall. It was gratifying to see they had great expectations to achieve new research results as they stride into the future.

Some of the senior members of the society could not attend the Annual Meeting and sent their greetings, as for example Shigeharu Onogi.

The 54th Annual Meeting, as many Annual Meetings and Annual Symposia before, ended with a feeling of great satisfaction, satisfaction that many tasks had successfully been completed. It was a wonderful Annual Meeting that provided many new and exciting scientific results. For us that have participated in numbers of Annual Meetings and Annual Symposia of the SPSJ for many years (even decades), we have the feeling that polymer science is in good hands in the 21st century.



Shigeharu Onogi