

Report of 9th Asian Aerosol Conference, AAC 2015 in Kanazawa

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The 9th AAC2015 was the second AAC we hosted in Japan since the 1st AAC was held in Nagoya in 1999. The organizing committee of AAC2015 mainly consisted of the faculty staff from institutions located in the Hokuriku district. Despite it being the rainy season, the weather was moderate and all attendees enjoyed the academic and technical programs as well as sightseeing and seafood cuisine.

1. Before the conference

Since JAAST decided to hold AAC2015 in Kanazawa, we dispatched more than ten attendees to AAC2013 in Sydney from Kanazawa University to make a proposal to host AAC2015 at the AAAR board meeting. We appealed that great financial support from Ishikawa Prefecture and Kanazawa City would be possible since Kanazawa had announced that itself as a convention city. In addition we emphasized that we could keep the registration fee at less than US\$ 500 and promote the attendance of students by offering a special discount for registration. As a result, at the AAAR board meeting the invitation was officially accepted. Following AAC2013, we sent more than 20 students from Kanazawa University to IAC2014 in Busan, and 106 Japanese were present at the IAC, which later contributed to the increase in the number of Korean participants at AAC2015. In the proposal during AAC2013, we originally planned to hold AAC2015 in September but as a result of negotiation at the AARA board meeting, the term of AAC2015 was fixed from June 24 to 27, 2015.

Initially we were planning on holding the meeting simultaneously with ISO/TC142 Cleaning gas equipment for air and other gases, but ISO provisions states that 6 months must pass before another meeting can be held so AAC 2015 was held on its own. This meant that we would be hosting two international conferences in one year in Kanazawa. Looking back I believe that it worked out better this way as we were able to concentrate solely on AAC.

In the planning stage of AAC2015 it was important to decide on a budget and so we predicted that there would be 250 participants from abroad and 250 domestic participants for a total of 500 participants. Our first step was to put in a grant

request to Ishikawa Prefecture and Kanazawa. Kanazawa having declared itself as a convention city has said that if an international conference is held a subsidy will be granted. A conference would be considered international if there are more than 20 participants from two or more countries. The subsidy limit is 7million yen with 16000 yen per overseas participants and 4000 yen for domestic participants. If approved by Ishikawa Prefecture, Kanazawa would also pay half of the subsidy so we applied for a grant of 7.5 million yen. We had not heard back from the prefecture as of March which was one of the reasons that preparations were delayed. If the conference was not declared international by Ishikawa Prefecture the subsidy that we would receive would be reduced to 800 yen from the prefecture and 400 yen from the city which is a big difference.

2. Presenters, Total participants

There were 14 countries represented, 16 keynote speakers, 125 oral presentations, and there were 285 poster presentations mainly by students. The breakdown of participants of AAC2015 is shown in the Table. There were 270 domestic participants and 250 participants from abroad. In the beginning the turnout was slow and the applications were also slow in coming but we were able to reach our target number. In addition exhibitors were present. Our main sponsors were Nippon Muki Co. LTD., Japan Kanomax Co., TSI Inc. and Koken Co., Ltd and we also received the cooperation of 21 companies. We would like to thank all of the AARA board members and companies for their support.

Pre-registration	
Austria	1
Australia	2
China	87
Germany	1
India	2
Indonesia	2
Japan	270
Korea	77
Malaysia	1
Poland	1
Singapore	2
Taiwan	57
Thailand	6
USA	11
Total	520

2. CONFERENCE

June 23 (day before)

The Japan Association of Aerosol Science and Technology sponsored a half day symposium “Analysis of Aerosol by Young Asian Researchers” which I feel was a great opportunity for the formation of networks of young aerosol researchers for the future of

Asian research. A reception party was held with more than 200 people in attendance that evening.

June 24 (Day 1)

The conference was opened by Japanese Aerosol Society President, Prof. Tohno, followed by Prof. Howard Bridgeman, chairman of AARA, with proposal on future activities of AARA. The first plenary was from Prof. Hatakeyama, prior president of Japan Association of Aerosol Science and Technology who presented his life work. This was followed by a coffee break at which time the room being used was partitioned off into three different rooms to allow us to hold three sessions simultaneously. The symposium on PM_{2.5} was held for two days. Lunch was provided and the first round of the poster session was also held.

June 25 (Day 2)

From 8:30 AM Prof. Rugin Huang, China, held a Plenary Lecture, presentations followed in the three rooms provided.

Drinks were available and the second poster session was held.

June 26 (Day 3)

Plenary lecturer was Prof. Hee Dong Jang. Following the plenary AARA Fellow Awards were presented. I think that this helped boost the number of participants. The following 6 were selected.

1. Chuen-Jinn Tsai (TAAR, Taiwan)
2. Sang Soo Kim (KAPAR, Korea)
3. Panuganti CS Devara (IASTA, India)
4. Junji Cao (CAAST, China)
5. Shiro Hatakeyama (JAAST, Japan)
6. Tawatchai Charinpanitkul (CEPT, Thailand)

AARA Fellows are researchers who represent their countries in Association of Aerosol Science and Technology. They will also become key persons for various activities of the AARA. At this meeting I was selected as the new president of the AARA. I accepted the position with assurances of full support from Prof. Seto (Kanazawa University), Prof. Takami (National Institute for Environmental Research) and also the full support of the Japan Association of Aerosol Science and Technology. I would like to thank you in advance for your support in the coming year.

Following the AAAR Fellow Award ceremony there was a report on the activities of the Asian Associations of Aerosol Science and Technology.

In the afternoon a tour of Shirakawa-go was set up by popular demand. Unfortunately the weather which had been very nice until this time decided to change. Some

accompanying student staff missed the bus but they drove from Kanazawa University to catch up them in Shirakawa-go. The trip was a success although I later heard that many were hesitant to get off the bus in the extremely heavy rain.

A banquet was held from 18:00 in the same room that had been used for presentations. The partitions were removed and the ballroom was ready. More than 300 participants made the banquet a success. Welcome speeches were given by Vice Chairman Prof. Hayakawa, Prof. Yamazaki, President of Kanazawa University and Prof. S.S. Kim. The toast was given by Prof. Emi (Professor Emeritus Kanazawa University) known as the father of aerosol in Japan, and the banquet started. Food was provided by Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel in the form of a buffet with steak, a sushi bar, tempura as well as local confectionary. Also the five Best Poster Awards were announced.

June 27 (Final Day)

After the plenary lecture by Prof. Wen-Jhy Lee of Taiwan, Prof. Kang-Ho Ahn, Chairman of the Korean Aerosol Society introduced the next AAC venue, Jeju Island. The AYASA Award was given to Prof. Jingkun Jiang of China Tsinghua University and Tomoaki Okuda Keio University, Japan.

Once again the room was partitioned into three and the final oral presentations were given. Unfortunately with this being the last day there were a lot of vacant seats but those that were present showed no signs of fatigue.

4. REFLECTION

We received many words of praise from the participants and the JTB staff, who were in charge of the reception said that it was one of the best international conferences that they had worked. We surpassed the number participants of EAC with 500 participants an achievement that was commented on,

AAC 2017 will be held in Jeju Island, South Korea from July 3 to 6, 2017. I will be participating as AARA chairman then. The AARA Board Meeting not only works on AAC every two years but also proposes small scale symposiums on topics of interest.