

The 2nd ICYS Symposium was Held

On December 1, 2005, the 2nd symposium was held at Tsukuba International Congress Center. The subject is "To realize the international research environment developing young research leaders" which includes ICYS's target as a keyword. The number of participants reached 178. Opened by greetings of Teruo Kishi, President of NIMS, and the guest Takeshi Maruyama, Director-General, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, the symposium started with Akio Etori, President, Edogawa University, in the chair.

Yoji Totsuka, Director General, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization delivered the keynote lecture on "Japan as Science and Technology-based Nation and Internationalization" and mentioned that the "key" to develop science and technology-based nation is development of human resources, governmental investment in science and technology and internationalization.

Koichi Kitazawa, Executive Director, Japan Science and Technology Agency, delivered the lecture on "Environments

surrounding Young Researchers," particularly on the postdoctoral. He pointed out the problem, and mentioned what the postdoctoral system will be.

Tetsuhiko Ikegami, President, Aizu University, delivered the

lecture titled "From International to Global" and discussed internationalization from the standpoint of "innovation."

Yoshito Kaziro, Director, Horizontal Medical Research Organization, Kyoto University, mentioned the history of introducing systems called Kyoto University method for education and development of young researchers. He insisted it important to recruit research leaders in their 30s and let them carry out free and creative research.

Between the symposium lectures, 30 ICYS research fellows gave presentation with posters and actively discussed with participants.



ICYS Calendar

Sep 30: Recruitment of research fellows (long-term and short-term) in 2005 resulted in 104 total applicants.

Oct 3: International Affairs and Information Office of NIMS was reformed to International Affairs Office. Internationalization Promotion Committee was established.

Oct 6: ICYS visiting advisor, Professor Michael Gillan, University College of London has taken up his post until Nov 11.

Oct 19: From South Africa Ministry of Science and Technology, the managers in charge of nanotechnology Dr. P. Maruping, Dr. C. Mokonoto and Mr. V. Lingera visited ICYS.

Oct 26: Dr. A. Leson, Director, Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology, Germany, visited ICYS.

Nov 1: ICYS received the midterm evaluation hearing by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology.

Nov 16: The 1st NIMS/ICYS School was opened. The lecturer was Associate Prof. H.Y. Hwang, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, University of Tokyo. (Also opened on Nov 22 and Dec 6)

Nov 30: Dr. Jose-Lorenzo Vallés-Brau, European Commission Head of Unit G3 "Materials" DG for Research visited ICYS.

Nov 24-25: ICYS co-organized the 3rd International Symposium Bioscience and Nanotechnology on organized by Bio-Nano Electronics Research Centre, Toyo University. (Seven ICYS research fellows joined it.)

Dec 1: The 2nd ICYS Symposium was held at Tsukuba International Congress Center (as referred before).

Dec 6: Professor R. Chang, Director, Materials Research Institute, North Western University visited ICYS.

Dec 20: NIMS/ICYS - UNC-CH (The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) Workshop was held.

Personnel Changes of ICYS Research Fellows

► Adoption

Oct 3: Dr. Yung Yuan Hsu (Taiwan), Dr. Janos Volk (Hungary) arrived.

Oct 11: Dr. Diedrich Schmidt (USA) arrived.

► Leaving posts

Aug 31: Dr. Jose Antonio Alvarez: to be Research Associate, Laboratoire de Genie Electrique de Paris-Supelec-CNRS

Sep 9: Dr. Wolfgang Schmitt: to be Lecturer, Inorganic Materials Chemistry, Trinity College Dublin

Sep 30: Dr. Chang Liu: returned to Shenyang National

Laboratory for Materials Science, Institute of Metal Research, Chinese Academy of Science

Oct 14: Dr. Arcan Dericioglu: to be Assistant Prof., Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Dec 2: Dr. Nicole Pamme: to be Lecturer, The University of Hull

Internationalization Under Way!

Inescapable Problems of Tax

ICYS research fellows are doctoral researchers with the 1-year contract to which the National Personnel Authority regulation applies. Different from permanent staffs, they receives daily payment in the following month. Although this way of payment is often the case, the problem occurs when research fellows take up the posts in the overseas.

A foreigner who works more than 1 year in Japan shall pay an income tax and a residents' tax as a resident. As most of research fellows stay in more than 1 year in Japan, they pay an income tax as residents. If they move from ICYS to foreign institutes, they usually leave Japan before the last pay day. However, the payment rule at NIMS charges the last payment 20% non-residents income tax. If they change jobs inside Japan, they don't lose their Alien Registration and are successively treated as residents. Furthermore, they can receive the year-end tax adjustment and pay a residents' tax in the following year.

For example, a foreigner with dependents paid JPY 170,000 income tax when he received payment of the last month as a non-resident while he paid only JPY 50,000 income tax when he received whole payment as a resident.

Is it fair or not that an income tax thus differs between the same amount of labor? However, research fellows generally feel that the Japanese tax is much lower than that of their home countries thanks to an extra payment like family allowance.

Now, NIMS changed the rule to pay the last payment in the last month in Japan during employment, which has caused another problem of complicated procedures to collect a social insurance tax. This problem was solved if an estimated monthly payment could be paid.

The more foreigners have become postdoctoral, the more often they go in and out of Japan somewhere during the fiscal year, which causes problems. NIMS targets from Japan's core institute to the world's core institute, the reform has just started from the rule limited to Japanese and inside Japan to the rule for the day people frequently move throughout the world. (XYZ)



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