



**Information Bulletin of  
The Union of National  
Economic Associations  
in Japan**

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# THE UNION OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC ASSOCIATIONS IN JAPAN

## 日本経済学会連合

The Union of National Economic Associations in Japan, established in 1950, celebrated its 40th anniversary in 1990, as the sole nationwide federation of administration. In order to obtain membership an association is subject to an examination of its academic work. As of 1997, the Union had a membership of 49 associations, as listed on pp.75-91.

The aims and objectives of the Union are to support the scholarly activities of its member associations and to promote academic exchanges both among members themselves, and between Japanese and academic societies overseas. The main activities of the Union are: (1) the publication and distribution of academic material concerning Japanese economics, and papers presented by member scholars, (2) the sending of members to overseas conferences, (3) the holding and supporting of international conferences in Japan, (4) providing financial assistance to member associations who invite foreign scholars to Japan, and (5) collecting information on activities of member associations and the issuing of a news bulletin.

The Union published in 1974 *Keizaigaku No Doko* (The Trend in Japanese Economics), based on a survey of economic studies undertaken in postwar Japan. A supplementary volume covering Japanese economic studies after 1974 was published in 1982.

The Union and the International Economic Association (IEA) jointly held the Fifth World Congress of the IEA in Tokyo from August 29 to September 3, 1978. The Union joined the International Institute of Public Finance in holding the Institute's 37th Congress at Tokyo in September 1981. The Union dispatched 20 member scholars to the Eighth World Congress of IEA held in India in 1986. Most recently the Union successfully sponsored the IEA Tokyo Round Table Conference on "Institutions in a New Dynamic Society" held between 15 and 17 September 1987, and hosted the 1996 IEA Tokyo Round Table Conference between 16 and 19 December, on the theme "The Institutional Foundation of Economic Development in East Asia"

The Union celebrated in 1980 the 30th anniversary of its founding by launching a variety of activities, including the publication of *The Information Bulletin*. Prof. Paul Snowden of Waseda University acts as editorial adviser.

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# THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SOCIETY OF JAPAN

## 1. History and Outlook of the Society

The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan (AESJ) was founded on November 19, 1924. The purpose of the Society is eloquently described in the prospectus as follows: "The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan aspires to study all problems related to agriculture and rural societies. Regardless of how such problems are approached—from agricultural management, agricultural policy, agricultural statistics, agricultural history or other theories or accomplish its purposes."

AESJ has steadily conducted its activities for 73 years since its foundation, and has published, on a quarterly basis, 64 volumes of *The Journal of Rural Economics*, also, on a yearly basis, two volumes of a special issue of *The Journal*.

The focal point of the Society's activities is the annual convention held at the beginning of April every year. The convention lasts for two days. A symposium on common issues is held on the first day, and on the second day individual presentations are made by Society members.

The Society's board of directors chooses the symposium theme and nominates the chairperson, who then nominates several reporters and commentators. For the individual presentations, every year over one hundred reporters are grouped into about ten concurrent sessions where they make their presentations, followed by question and answer sessions.

The society is made up of 1400 members under a president and three vice president (both with a tenure of two years) with a board of managing directors and a board of trustees to manage the affairs of the Society.

The AESJ has an award system under which it grants Academic Awards, Incentive Awards, and Best Journal Article Awards.

## 2. Major Topics discussed at Recent Annual Symposiums

### 1993 Symposium

The Symposium in 1993 was on Agricultural Successors at the Turning Point in Recent Japan. Yoshio Ito (Niigata University) chaired the symposium, which principally addressed and looked into the problems of how the scarcity of young farmer successors is recently endangering the survival of Japanese farming and rural communities. The symposium also suggested some remedial measures for the problems. Three speakers attended the symposium. The chairperson summarized the main points of the discussions as follows.

The first speaker, Shigeru USAMI (Utsunomiya University), advocated a "Theory of Polarization of Farmers in Japan". Medium-scale farmers having 1.0-2.0 ha of cultivating land increased in number during the period from the end of the

Meiji era (around 1900) to 1955. But when a sweeping change was wrought in Japanese capitalism in 1960s due to the appearance of large-scale industries, necessitating labor supply from farming sectors, the trend of such an increase in medium-scale farmers in number altered. Such an alteration in the trend polarized scholars into two groups having two completely different opinions. According to one opinion there would be an increase in the number of business-minded large-scale farmers as the consequence of the change in the trend. The other, different opinion strongly pointed out that there would be an increase in the number of farmers who would seek non-agricultural income.

The second speaker, Akira FUEKI (National Association of Professional Farmers), asserted that the Japanese agriculture has already restructured itself and moved to the stage of industry-type independent farms by replacing the so-called peasant-type middle-sized family farms. Both large-scale family farms and corporate farms are developing. He is optimistic that the labor force of farmers equipped with highly efficient agri-technology can be expected to assure the survival of Japanese agriculture.

The third speaker, Kotaro OHHARA (Mie University), opined that agricultural successors are decreasing in number due to the rapid change in economic growth that has had an overwhelming impact on the life-style of the young successors. When the successors choose between an occupation in the farming sector and one in non-farming sector, the major drawback they find involved in an agricultural occupation is that it is less attractive than any other non-agricultural occupation. In order to secure agricultural successors, the speaker suggested transforming the "homogeneous type" of rural society into a "heterogeneous type" of rural society by accepting the newcomers from other regions into the rural areas. Thus, young successors in the heterogeneous-type society will opt for agricultural occupations.

FUEKI and USAMI provided in-depth discussions focussing on the necessary institutional reforms to develop a new type of farm management so that securing young farmer successors is possible. They resolutely opposed the introduction of joint-stock corporations in the agricultural sector, because such a corporation pursues non-farming, speculative purposes while assigning the absolute priority to money-making, and does not fundamentally deal with the group farming activities of farmers.

### 1994 Symposium

In commemorating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society, the 1994 annual meeting of the Society started with Yasuo KONDO's (an honorary member) commemorative speech on "The Formative Period of the Society". His speech suggested that the economic problems facing Japanese agriculture, such as the small size of rice farms and the depressed product prices at the farm gate have remained almost unchanged for these 70 years in Japan. Names for the policy issues were "rationaliza-

tion" of the industry seventy years ago and "internationalization" nowadays. Agriculture has always been tackling adjustment problems in the process of structural change of the economy. At the same time, except for the Land Reform in 1952, hardly any policy innovations have been found which could improve the size distribution of farms and the relative economic welfare of food growers in this country.

At this annual meeting, a plenary session entitled "Symposium on the Prospects for Japanese Agriculture and Needed Policy Reform" was held. The Chairmanship went to Yukio MASUI (Kyoto University). The major concern in the session was centered on three topics. The first was "Forecasting the Labor Supply of Farming Family Members to Farm Work in Japan" read by Ryuuchi SHIGENO (National Research Institute of Agricultural Economics). The second was "The Direction for an Environment Protecting Rice Farms under Community Bonds" read by Akihiko KUDO (Tohoku University). The third was "Internationalization and a New Direction for Policy in Japan" read by Masayoshi HONMA (Otaru University of Commerce).

Using survey data by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, SHIGENO's paper foresaw a dislocation of the labor supply of family workers to farm work due to a drastic decrease in young workers on the farms on one hand, and much larger retirement of aged family workers who were born in the single-digit years of the Showa Period (1926-34) on the other hand, and ending up with part-time farms expecting capital gains from the farm land. He supported the NRIAE's estimate of the labor force engaged in farming in the year 2000 at nearly 2 million, of which one third would be occupied by workers more than 65 years old.

The decrease in farm workers does not necessarily lead to more farm land per worker. In most cases, scattered tiny farms operated by aged family workers could not be succeeded by their sons, and are left scattered and uncultivated as the aged workers are retired. It is very likely that such uncultivated farms could not be consolidated into fewer but more efficient farms because of their scatteredness in either urban or rural areas. The second speaker, A. KUDO, addressed the difficulties for the larger farms in consolidating the scattered farm land due to community bonds and to unfavourable farm prices.

The Uruguay Round of the GATT negotiations came to a close in December 1993. The agreement requires Japanese agricultural policy to shift to a more market-oriented one under the coming world trade system. Price support will no longer be applied when border measures are tarifficated and the domestic prices cannot be isolated from world prices.

In this respect, the third speaker, M. HONMA proposed four types of "decoupling" of the mismatching means-ends from the price support program in this country as follows. (1) Decoupling income policy from price support. (2) Decoupling environment protection policy from price support. (3) Decoupling farm income support from production policy. And (4) decoupling food security policy

from self-sufficiency policy as well. The political feasibility of the decoupling remained to be settled.

### 1995 Symposium

The symposium in 1995, entitled Issues of Regional Agriculture in Japan after the Signing of the GATT Uruguay Round Negotiations, was held at Kyushu University. It was aimed at discussing ways and policies to enable Japanese agriculture to survive under the conditions after the GATT-UR agreements. Stress was particularly placed on regional agriculture in this symposium.

Four speakers were invited to present their addresses on each of the predetermined topics. The symposium was co-chaired by Kenji CHO (Kyushu University) and Masaaki ISHIDA (Mie University). The opening speech was given by Teruo WADA (University of Tokyo), the president of the Agricultural Economics Society, and it was followed by a general introduction of the symposium given by Kenji CHO.

The first speaker was Kenji HORIGUCHI (Waseda University). The topic of his presentation was "Reform of Japanese Farm Policy Following the Agreement on Agriculture, the Act of the Uruguay Round and Its Implications for Developing Regional Agriculture". He dealt with a wide range of current policy issues. To sum up, he gave his appreciation on one hand to the conversion of government policy from that paid in directly by consumers to that paid in directly by government, the adoption of a new system of production adjustment of rice based on voluntary enrollment, and some other points, and on the other hand he criticized in detail the limitations and problems involved in the recent reform of government policies.

In his comment, Shinichi SHOGENJI (University of Tokyo) argued the further necessity of developing a more detailed plan of direct payments according to the cases and pointed out a contradiction between production control of rice and income support for farmers in less favored areas in Japan in comparison with the situation in the EU.

The second speaker was Hiroyuki TAKEYA (Nagoya University). The topic of his presentation was rice and rice farming issues. He first analyzed the New Food Law enacted in 1995 and expressed in his conclusion several fears regarding the effects of the New Food Law. Then he discussed the problems concerning the types of rice producers and the ways to strengthen them from both individual as well as regional points of view. He argued that the types of rice producers will become more diversified for years ahead, and adequate income, lower costs, conservation of the environment, and integration of rural life and production activities in each locality should be the key words in adopting measures for solving the problems.

The commentator, Shiro INAMOTO (Kyoto University), supplementarily dis-

cussed three points relating to the future issues of rice farming; they were the increased complexity of the concerns among or between different parties and different regions relating to rice production, the greater difficulty in adjusting the concerns, and the contradiction between the diminishing trend of total business size of farming and the increasing importance of the external value of agriculture.

The third speaker was Satoshi KAI (Kyushu University) and his subject was beef issues. Beef was a commodity whose market has been liberalized since 1991, prior to the GATT-UR agreements. Through an analysis of recent data, he concluded that the liberalization of beef markets have had a great influence on beef enterprises, especially on enterprises for production of dairy cow beef and beef calves. He addressed the necessity of further efforts to reduce the costs of beef production and the implementation of a new system to support and stabilize beef enterprises in order to maintain beef production and agriculture in those regions where beef production has been highly concentrated.

One of the comments raised by Shiro Inamoto was the necessity of structural readjustment of farming and the creation of necessary conditions which enable farmers to shift their farming toward a more intensive, diversified type in those areas where farming has been highly specialized in beef production of a rather less intensive type.

The last speaker was Yoshiaki MASUDA (Shiga University). The topic of his presentation was "The Role of Agricultural Cooperatives in Regional Agriculture". Under this topic he dealt with four subjects which are of major importance in the recent activities of agricultural cooperatives in relation to regional agriculture. They were: agricultural extension service, regional centers in cooperative organization, land use adjustments of the region, and partial or complete operation of farming by agricultural cooperatives. His arguments were, in short, that in spite of an increased demand it was getting more and more difficult for agricultural cooperatives to accelerate or develop such activities as above listed, mainly due to a rapid aggravation of the financial condition of agricultural cooperatives in recent years, and that activities should be economically valid in order to be carried out sustainably by agricultural cooperatives.

In his comment, Takaaki OTAHARA (Hokkaido University) expressed his support for the basic view of the speaker, and then he stressed the necessity to develop supporting activities of various types to meet the present demands of cooperative members.

In sum, problems of agricultural policies at both macro and micro level after the GATT-UR agreements, future ways and conditions for regional agriculture to serve, and the roles of agricultural cooperatives in relation with the matters concerned were discussed in the 1995 symposium.

## 1996 Symposium

The theme of the symposium set up during the general meeting of the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan in 1996 was "Realities and Prospects on Agriculture and Environment", the points of which were as follows.

Having experienced the postwar reconstruction period, the high economic growth period, and the low economic growth period after the second World War, Japanese agriculture as well as the Japanese economy itself is now confronted with new difficulties. As is well known, with the recent remarkable tide of globalization, economic dominant social and agricultural ideas have become more and more prevalent, and under the promotion of international division of labor, a typical phenomenon of the dominant economic social thought which is based on the principle of precedence of economic growth and the theory of comparative cost, production of material goods has increased dramatically. We cannot deny, however, that such development has caused a crucial deterioration of the ecological environment, and obliged us to sacrifice our own life in its quality, which means a decline of "humanistic life". As far as agriculture is concerned, we can observe not only the decline of food self-sufficiency and devastation of rural villages, but also a crisis of the ecological environment and human life as a result of mechanization or specialization of agriculture, excessive use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides, and incessant planting in the same land.

As many scholars point out, one of the most important problems today is how to understand Japanese agriculture in the recent globalized socio-economic situations. Economic factors still precede other senses of values, but for the future we have to consider environmental (ecological) and life values as well as economic ones, and aim to realize a well-balanced relation between them. This should be recognized as a serious question which is imposed not only on those engaged in agriculture in rural villages but on the whole of mankind.

In particular, to keep a balanced relation between agriculture and the environment is one of the most urgent and acute problems in modern society. We are obliged to investigate this problem thoroughly in order to perceive modern socio-economic contradictions and to make clear the question or object which we have to study. In this sense, we focused on agriculture and the environment in the general meeting in 1996 to clarify its problems, significance and prospects in general.

In the past, the environmental problem was discussed in the general meeting of the International Conference of Agricultural Economics (ICAE) held in Tokyo on the theme Sustainable Agricultural Development in September 1991, and in the spring meeting of the Farm Management Society of Japan in 1992. Based on these fruitful discussions, the Agricultural Economics Society of Japan attempted to wrestle with the environmental problem for the first time in the general meeting in 1996. Although studies on environmental problems are not yet numerous and there are still few experts in this field, it can be said that at present all scholars should carry

out studies considering this problem.

Concerning this environmental problem so many dimensions can be pointed out but in the limited time given to the symposium, we concentrated discussion on the following points presented by 4 persons.

SHOGENJI recognized it would be very difficult to take an internationally common attitude toward the problems of trade in agricultural products and a ecological environment because each country has its inherent historical background and peculiar institutional and economic conditions. He insisted, however that we should be more conscious of the extremely low rate of food self-sufficiency in Japan, which is a fatal weak point for maintaining national food security.

YOKOKAWA introduced environment policies of agriculture carried out in some countries, especially that in Germany, and indicated that it is time for the Japanese government to establish concrete methods for enforcement of a large-scale environment policy in agriculture.

GOHDA recognized various levels of development of sustainable agricultural management in Japan. He insisted, however, that more essential development is demanded in areas such as: invention of new technology and less harmful chemicals, improvement of marketing of agricultural products, raising customers' consciousness of the environment, and a drastic changeover in government agricultural policies, that is, a switch from the policy of pursuing economic efficiency to that of giving priority to environmental protection.

KADA said that a statistical econometric method to evaluate external effects should be created as soon as possible, and he emphasized the need for a policy to maximize the net social profit (external economy-external diseconomy).

### 1997 Symposium

The 1997 symposium of the Japanese Agricultural Economics Society was held at Tohoku University, discussing the main issues of the new act for management and control of basic food production and its distribution. Around 600 members participated on 2 April 1997.

Kenji OZAWA (Niigata University) made a presentation on the current world situation of demand and supply of rice and the impact of Japanese involvement in the international rice market by the minimum access of the WTO (World Trade Organization). Under the long-term view of a short supply of rice due to the unlikelihood of much higher yield and greater planting area than now, he pointed out some issues of the Agricultural Accord of the WTO forcing more imports of farm products on the countries historically dependent on imported foodstuffs like Japan. What is more, rising trend in the world rice price has been found in the international market, partly because of Japan's higher imports of rice forced on it by minimum access, even though Japan faces to a problem of overproduction.

Tsuneo KOIKE (Shiga Prefectural University) discussed the current direction and dynamic change of rice distribution brought about by the new act for the management of rice. The reduced regulation of the rice business invited more competitors in rice distribution and gave more chances to each rice grower for direct sale to consumers and/or retailers resulting in the less close relations in rice dealing with the agricultural cooperative, which had previously been considered as top dealers in the rice industry.

Tamotsu TABATA (Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) made his presentation on the current farm situation from the view points of economy and productivity, especially the rice farm situation. The large-sized farms deeply depending on rice production, which is generally looked on as more productive and more profitable, faced the difficulty of low prices brought on by oversupply of both domestic production and more imports through minimum access. While the big farms have had trouble how to resolve their over-borrowing, the farms depending on more non-agricultural income, composing a large number of Japanese rice farms, have stuck to rice production with the help of non-agricultural income.

Masayuki KASHIWAGI (Ibaragi University) reported that in the less favorable areas for efficient productions, rice fields were abandoned and many farmers tended to withdraw from maintaining rice terraces and even from their own communities. The implications made by his discussion were that lost farm fields and lost communities may increase the danger of erosion and floods to towns and cities due to less maintenance of agriculture/forest and the lack of human activities involved in them.

After the four presentations, lots of questions and different views were presented to the chairpersons, Jyunichi SAKAI (Tohoku University) and Kenji HORIGUCHI (Waseda University). About the OZAWA presentation, some views claimed necessity of re-negotiation of the WTO principles, partly because of the mismatch of possible short supply in the near future against the current main rules based on oversupply, while other views gave a more optimistic outlook for much higher production of rice with more reasonable distribution between the developed and developing countries. The new channel of rice selling may bring higher prices to the big farms and more profit to the market-oriented farmers, some discussants insisted.

Discussing how to encourage the big farms, some members pointed out that the current agricultural land law regulating the requirements for operating farms in terms of agricultural land seems too strict, and they said a more open policy to the enterprises is now necessary.

Taking on the topic of unfavorable areas, direct payment from the public budget apart from the production stimulation policy should be discussed, some participants argued. They introduced some cases in western European countries which had brought about good maintenance of the resources not only for farming but also for sightseeing.



### 3. Issues the AESJ is facing

The coming symposium in 1998 is planned to take up the issue of a new fundamental agricultural law for Japan, which it is now intended to make in the near future. The new law will lead the Japanese agricultural policy in the 21st century. Therefore, the consequences of arguments on it have become the object of public attention from not only agricultural economists but also all the people of Japan. The Japanese self-sufficiency rate in food is very low. Especially on a calorie base, it is 46%. From the national food security and environmental point of view, this is a very important problem for us.

In the tendency toward internationalization, we need to publish a new journal in English. In Japan we have very good and important papers on agriculture, but they are almost all written in Japanese. Now we have started an editorial committee for a journal in English in our society. Through this journal we can prepare ourselves to have more communication with economists all over the world.

(Osamu SODA, Kyoto University)  
(Yoshio ITO, Niigata University)  
(Yukio MASUI, Kyoto University)  
(Kenji CHO, Kyushu University)  
(Kenji HORIGUCHI, Waseda University)

# JAPAN SOCIETY FOR COMMODITY SCIENCE

## 1. History and Activities of the Society

The Japan Society for Commodity Science assumes as its historical basis an association founded in 1935 by commodity scholars at commercial universities and colleges in the whole country. A national convention was held nine times before the War. The activities of the society were discontinued between 1941 and 1949; however, they recommenced on April 25, 1950 and have continued since then. Activities are as follows: (1) Regular issue of the journal *Studies on Commodities*, (2) Holding of national conventions, (3) Member participation in IGWT (Internationale Gesellschaft für Warenkunde und Technologie) and holding of international conferences, (4) Seven regional sections, (5) Participation in making study guidelines of the Ministry of Education, (6) Execution of training courses for teachers in charge of commodity-related subjects at commercial high schools, etc.

## 2. The Progress of Research in Current Commodity Study

The activities of this society started from research presentations on a free subject at the national convention. However, a symposium on a previously decided theme was added in 1963. Also, conferences for school education concerning commodity science have been held from the national convention since 1955.

The themes of the symposia have been as follows.

1963: Various Problems Concerning Quality Display

1964: Quality and Fineness

1968: Methodology of Commodity Science in the Present Age

1969: International Competitive Power of Commodities

1970: Diversification of Commodities

1971: Pollution and Commodities

1972: Value in Use and Quality of Commodities

1973: Quality and Price

1974: The Subjects of Commodity Science

1975: Theory and Practice of Commodity Science

1976: Commodities and Safety

1977: For a Systematic Methodology of Commodity Science

1978: Subjects and Methodology of Commodity Science

1979: Commodities and Resources

1980: The Social Role of Commodity Science

1981: Commodities and Packaging

1982: Thoughts on the Characteristics of Commodities from the Phenomena of Markets

1983: Some Aspects of Formation of Commodities  
 1984: Conflict in International Dealings of Commodities  
 1985: Commodity Science and Commodity Testing  
 1986: Regional Character and Commodities  
 1988: The Development of Commodity Science Today  
 1989: Commodity Science Today, Problems and Prospects  
 1990: The Relation Between an Economy Including Service or Software and Commodity Science  
 1991: Merchandise Systems for Twenty-first Century  
 1992: Production and Circulation of Commodities in East Asia and the Problem of Economic Blocks  
 1993: Current Problems of Commodities, and the Effect of the Commodity Making Mechanism  
 1994: The Originality and the Social Meaning of Commodity Science  
 1995: Industrial Society of the 21st Century and Market Creation  
 1996: Approach of Commodity Science to Industrial, Structural Revolution  
 1997: Environmental Change in Business Society and Problems of Commodities

The society's members have considered something to do with the identity of commodity science as the themes of the above-mentioned symposia show. It can be said that a long history of trial and error, despite some insufficiencies, has produced significant results. Although progress has sometimes been slow, and a lot of time has been taken up with presenting hypothesis and developing analytical tools, the Society has persistently moved forward to the practical application of commodities research. Commodity education and methods of commodity study apart, the focus of research has been an quality of commodities and the expansion of the commodity concept, followed by maintenance of the environment and consumer behavior.

### 3. Current High School Commodity Education

To activate commodity education chiefly at commercial high schools, a research conference for commodity education was established. This has been held every year since 1955. At first, presentations were in the form of a free subject, but since 1971, a conference title has been announced in advance. Conference titles have been as follows.

1971: Commodity Education and Pollution  
 1972: For New Commodity Education  
 1973: Recognition of Commodities and New Commodity Education  
 1974: Commodity Education at School and Its Relation to the Theory of Commod-

ity Science

1975:Commodity Education and the Commodity Department

1976:What is Taught in "Commodities"?

1977:Problem Areas of Commodity Education and Appropriate Regulations

1978:Considering the Subject of Commodities in Accordance with the Next Study Guidelines

1979:The New Study Guidelines and Commodities as a Subject

1980: Future Contents of the Subject of Commodities in Comodity Education, and How to Deal with Them

1981:How to Carry Out Case Studies and Guidance based on the New Guidelines

1982:On Case Study Again

1983:The Significance of Practice and the Experiments in Commodities

1984:Class Development of Import and Export Commodities

1985:Modern Problems of Commodity Education

1986:Restructuring Commodity Education

1988:National Life and Commodity Education

1989:Position of Commodities in High School Commercial Education

1990:Searching for the Activation of Commodity Education

1991:Development of Problem Research and Commodities

1992:Trade Commodities and Eating Habits

1993:Class Development in Commodities and Related Subjects

1994:Ideal Commodity Education in the Future

1995:Ideals and Practice of New Commodity Education

1996:How is Commodity Knowledge Put to Use in Commodity Education?

1997: Ideals and Practice of Commodity Education

As the above-mentioned titles show, activation of commodity education is the major aim. The Society's, members propose, as a means to achieve that aim, that commodity education should be included in the national curriculum.

#### 4. Recent Annual National Conventions

##### (1)The 45th National Convention

The 45th National Convention was held on May 21 and 22, 1994 at Nihon University. The theme of the symposium was The Originality and the Social Meaning of Commodity Science. The symposium was co-chaired by Yoshifumi ISHIZAKI (Kanto Gakuin University) and Kazuhiko SAKAIRI (Bunkyo University).

Hiroaki AOKI (Senshu University) spoke on "The Approach from History". He emphasized the need to take up the following three problems in future commodity science. 1) Expansion of research, 2) environmental problems, and 3) adapting to a more borderless world.

Yoshiro IJIMA (Waseda University)'s theme was "The Approach from Theory". He considered the social meaning of commodity science by advancing analytical investigations of marketability, the commodity phenomenon, commodity characteristics, and commodity classification, etc.

Masahiro IWASHITA (Doshisha University)'s theme was "The Approach from Policy". He proposed as follows. The understand commodities we need not a 19th century scientific consciousness, but a consciousness of relativity appropriate to the 20th century.

## (2) The 46th National Convention

The 46th National Convention was held on May 20 and 21, 1995 at Hitotsubashi University. Industrial Society of the 21st Century and Market Creation was set as the theme of the symposium, which was chaired by Takao IWASAWA (Kanto Gakuin University). The keynote lecture was given by Hiroshi KATAOKA (Hitotsubashi University) under the title "Industrial Structure of the 21st Century". He insisted that the methodology of future commodity science was not a confrontation or rivalry between social science and engineering or natural science, and had to be an approach in which both were fused.

After the keynote lecture had been given, the following five presentations were made. 1) Masahiro IWASHITA "Commodity Formation and Market Evaluation", 2) Hiroshi YOKOTA (The Ministry of International Trade and Industry Institute of Industrial Science and Technology) "View of Technological Development of the 21st Century", 3) Tooru SANPEI (Hitachi Ltd.) "Current State and Problems of R & D in Manufacturing Industry", 4) Ken KUDO (Seven-Eleven Japan) "Correspondence to Change and Commodity Development", 5) Shizuo MUKAI (Kitakyushu Technocenter Ltd.) "Regional Activation by Market Creation and Business Creation".

## (3) The 47th National Convention

The 47th National Convention was held on May 25, 26 and 27, 1996 at Yamaguchi University. The theme of the symposium was The Approach of Commodity Science to Industrial and Structural Revolution. The symposium was co-chaired by Yoshimitsu TORIGOE (Okayama University of Commerce) and Kazuko SAMEJIMA (Sapporo Gakuin University).

The following four presentations were made. 1) Toshihiro HINO (Towa University) "The Concept of Managing Academic Commodity Science", 2) Kiyoe SOMAYAMA (Nagoya Welfare College) "Welfare Service as a Commodity", 3) Mitsuharu MITSUI (Kobe University of Commerce) "Restructuring of Enterprise and Commodity", 4) Haruo MORIYA (Ryukoku University) "Artery Industry, Vein Industry, and Commodity".

#### (4) The 48th National Convention

The 48th National Convention was held on May 24 and 25, 1997 at Sapporo International Junior College. Environmental Change in Business Society and Problem of Commodity was set as the theme of the symposium, which was co-chaired by Masahiro IWASHITA and Koichi NAKAMURA (Joubu University). The keynote lecture was given by Masao UNO (Josai Kokusai University) under the title "Environmental Change in Business Society and its Chief Factors". He described the revolution in business society in the past half a century and emphasized the following three points as problems for commodity scholars to solve. 1) Systematization of Enterprise Management. 2) Viewing the Market from a Compound of Global and Local Points. 3) Approach to Environmental Problems.

After the keynote lecture had been given, the following four presentations were made. 1) Kazuhiko SAKAIRI "Problems of Commodities seen from Deregulation", 2) Kenichi IWAMI (Matsushita Consulting Company) "Problems of Commodities seen from the Law of Product Liability", 3) Kazuko SAMEJIMA "Problems of Commodities seen from Environmental Protection", 4) Yasuhiro KOSUGE (Marui-Imai Co. Ltd., Sapporo Headquarters) "Problems of Commodities seen from the Agreements of the World Trade Organization".

#### 5. Recent IGWT Symposia

##### (1) The 9th IGWT symposium

The 9th IGWT Symposium was held on August 23-27, 1993 at Budapest University of Economic Sciences in Hungary.

The common theme of the symposium was Environmentally Sound Products with Clean Technologies, including the following six topics:

- 1) Challenges in the Field of Commodity Sciences
- 2) Aspects of Product Life-Cycle Management
- 3) Development in the Food Industry
- 4) Pollution Control Alternatives
- 5) Challenges in the Field of Commodity Sciences II
- 6) Economy and Environment.

In this symposium, a serious discussion was done concerning the production of commodities keeping environmental protection on a world scale in mind, the system of distribution, and the recycling problem in waste processing, etc.

##### (2) The 10th IGWT symposium

In 1995, the 10th IGWT Symposium was held at the Chinese People's University (Renmin University of China) on Sep. 4-8. The common theme of the symposium was The Development and Future of Modern Commodity Science in

the Market Economy, including the following six topics:

- 1) Consumption Demands, Technical Progress and Product Innovation
- 2) Resource Exploitation, Commodity Production and Environment Protection
- 3) The Quality of Law and Regulation, Product Liability, Quality Assurance, Quality Supervision and Consumer Protection
- 4) Commodity Quality Testing and Comprehensive Quality Evaluation
- 5) Commodity Packaging, Conservation, Transportation and Goods Flow Management
- 6) Progress in Teaching and Research in Commodity Science.

The sites for the symposia of the IGWT had been limited to Europe, Japan, and South Korea up to now. This was a symposium in which it was actually felt that the China Society of Commodity Science (CSCS) had been started in China and the concern for commodity science was gaining strength.

### (3) The 11th IGWT Symposium

Vienna University of Economics was the site for the 11th IGWT Symposium from August 27th to September 1st, 1997 to the IGWT of the 11th times Symposium as a hall. The main subject of this symposium was Commodity Science and Sustainable Development.

More detailed discussion was scheduled to be divided into four sections on the law, resources, design, and marketing after the keynote lecture.

It is thought that these four sections will become the keys for the development of modern commodity science.

## 6. The Basic Frame of New Commodity Research and Commodity Education

So far, the range of commodities treated by commodity science has been material commodities. However, the range has come to include intangible commodities of service, software, and information, etc. besides material commodities at the present time. Research and education in commodities which can provide the solution to the problems concerning commodities in society are strongly needed. Both have different dimensions, but both are mutually related and supplement each other. This Society is fortunately in a situation to aid that essential relationship, and its efforts are sure to continue in the future.

(Ryojiro IWAKI, Chiba University of Commerce)

## THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT (SHET)

### (1) Introduction

The Society for the History of Economic Thought (SHET), founded in 1950 with an original membership of 123, is now approaching towards the half century anniversary with a membership of 864 at the end of 1996. As the membership has grown, SHET has, from time to time, adapted itself to the growing size in various ways.

It is, however, quite recent that in and out of SHET not a small number of changes have taken place. All the members who graduated from the universities under the pre-war educational regime are giving up their power and influence over the administration of the Society to a much younger generation, almost all of whom were born after 1940, and with whom a new wave is coming into the Society. It is, of course, natural that the collapse of the East European regimes has had some effects on the Society.

More broadly speaking, different kinds of changes in social situation, in circumstances concerning historical research and in the intellectual concerns of historians have jointly exercised their powers over the Society in different ways such as administrative policies, organizational structures, and deepening, widening and internationalization of research.

### (2) Administrative and organizational reforms of SHET

As to the administration, demand for an annual English bulletin has originated among some members as research work has been internationalized and members' abilities in English writing have improved. This led to the reconsideration of the current bulletin (*the Annual Bulletin of the Society for the History of Economic Thought*) and its editing system, and in May 1991 the Committee for Examination of the Bulletin, composed of five members (chair: Takumi TSUDA, then Hitotsubashi University), was set up and produced a recommendation to the General Assembly (through the executive committee) that an Editorial Board of the *Bulletin* of five members should be established so as to maintain the consistency and continuity of editorial policy. This recommendation was immediately put into practice from bulletin No. 30, 1992, abolishing the former practice of putting the editorial burden on main universities on a rotating system.

Together with this reform of editorship of the Bulletin, as reported in this *Information Bulletin* No. 13, the Society issued the first number of its biannual *Newsletter* in 1992, replacing the former *News*.

The newly born *Newsletter* absorbed announcements and attendants' papers of relevant international conferences, which were formerly contained in the *Bulle-*



tin. This virtually was the first stage of the administrative reforms. In June 1993, two committees came into being: one for inquiry into the English Bulletin (chair: Takashi NEGISHI, then University of Tokyo) with five members, the other for reconsideration of the national conference composed also of five members (chair: Hiroji NAKAMURA, Kumamoto Gakuen University). Each committee drew up their respective recommendation for the General Assembly of SHET in the same year.

The former committee rightly found it quite unexpected for the Society's English Bulletin to have some circulation in the Western countries because it was the Society's organ, and hence, in its stead, recommended us to edit and commercially publish, in three or five years, a volume of the English essays written by selected members on particular subjects. This recommendation was positively received, though accompanied by an increase in subscription for membership of ¥1,000.-, and the Editorial Board for English Publications of five members (chair: Takashi NEGISHI, Aoyama Gakuin University, succeeded by Toshihiro TANAKA, Kwansei Gakuin University, and then Yuichi SHIONOYA, Institute for Social Securities) was authorised to start by the General Assembly in November 1993. The General Assembly in 1996 recognized it for the volume of English essays entitled *Economic Thought and Modernization in Japan*, edited by Shiro SUGIHARA and Toshihiro TANAKA and written by eleven members including two editors to be published by Edward Elgar (London) in September 1998. It is needless to say that this attempt is an example of an internationalization of our studies in a regional country in Asia.

After various discussions and investigations lasting more than a year, the Committee for the Reconsideration of the National Conference, the other of the twin committees, made up the following recommendations, which were affirmatively accepted by the General Assembly in 1994. A symposium, which used to be held in the second day afternoon of the national conference, should hereafter be held once in two years, while instead, in between, some fora should be organized for that afternoon, and that a sub-committee should be set up for both symposium and fora to be smoothly performed. In addition to this, they recommended that two other sub-committees should be established: one to arrange the conference programme consisting of probably more than twenty proposed papers, and another to edit, publish and distribute all the papers in full or in fairly detailed resumes, including symposium papers.

What led to these administrative reforms was relevant to the sub-divisions of research subjects, the result of which was to deepen inquiries into detailed subjects, at the cost of weakening the concerns of each scholar for broad subjects suitable for being taken up in a symposium.

The remedies, however, of the distribution of papers before the conference and of reducing the time for paper reading by 10 minutes (maximum half an hour) and extending, on the other hand, discussion time by the same length (maximum 25 minutes) were quite adequate for making the discussion in greater depth possible.

The Committee for Reconsideration of the National Conference was replaced by the Committee for Organising the National Conference, thanks to which, after a year, Proceedings of 120 pages (160 pages in 1996) were published, which made it possible to delete the national conference report from the *Bulletin*. And in the same year, 1995, the first three fora commenced, the first one on "The light and shade of civilized society--the ideal task of the Scottish enlightenment" consisting of three papers, the second forum on "The British 'economic decline'--Marshall and Keynes" with three papers, and the third one of three papers on "Ethnic problems and economics--centering on the period before and after the Russian Revolution". Incidentally, the titles of symposia in the two previous years were "The history of economic thought in Japan" in 1993 and "Quesnay?" in commemoration of the tricentennial anniversary of his birth in 1994. In 1996 the symposium on "The world of the Historical School" was held, as usual, in the afternoon of the second day of the national conference.

The decision was also made, in the General Assembly of 1993, to exchange the English titles of national conference papers with counterpart societies in five countries: Britain, America, Australia, Germany and France. This is another example of the internationalisation of our research.

Furthermore, in the autumn of 1994, major organizational reforms were proposed concerning various electoral systems, and resulted in June 1995 in the setting up the Committee for Revision of the Society's Rules and Regulations, composed of seven members (chair: Takumi TSUDA, Toyama International University), whose recommendations were, generally speaking, six in all: first, establishment of the Board of Election Management; second, limitation of the period of serving as an executive up to three successive terms; third, election of the President by executives; fourth, exclusion of executives over 68 years of age; fifth, limitation of the number of standing executives to five, each being, with the exception of the President, chairpersons of the four Standing committees — the Editorial Board of the *Bulletin*, the Committee for Organizing the National Conference, the Editorial Board for English Monograph, and the Board for Projects and Communications; and sixth, no more awards of honorary membership after 2000. Thus democratization of SHET can be said to have fairly been carried into effect, which means a sign of the lost influence of the older generation.

### (3) Recent trends of the historical research of economic thought

SHET, as a member society affiliated with the *Kenkyu Renraku Inkai* (Research Communication Committee) of the *Nihon Gakujutsu Kaigi* (Japanese Congress for Arts and Sciences), has held, since 1993, four successive open lecture meetings together with other member societies. The first lecture was given, in March 1993, under the unified theme on "Socialism and Market Economy--in quest

for a desirable economic system," by three scholars including Mitsuharu ITO (The University of the Air) of the Society, whose own title was "Reconsideration in the history of economic doctrines". Masatatsu TAKAHASHI (University of Kyoto) gave a lecture entitled "Theoretical framework for treating women" at the second lecture meeting in March 1994, whose common theme was "Economics and Women--around the solution by market mechanism". In April 1996, Mitsuharu ITO again presided over the third public lecture meeting on "The Twentieth Century and Keynes", whose closing address was delivered by our colleague the late Professor Ryusho TAMAI. "The Twenty-first Century and Capitalism" was the common subject of the fourth public lecture meeting in April 1997.

In the 1995 national conference, another important new trend could clearly be seen, in that Michio AKAMA (Ehime University) appealed in his paper for the rest of the members to form a computer network, SHET, the initials of the Society, which was repeated by Kiichiro YAGI (University of Kyoto) in the older *News of the Society*.

Also in June 1995, the proposals for commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Society in 2000 were passed and (1) Hiroji NAKAMURA (Kumamoto Gakuen University) took charge of editing and publishing a booklet on the half a century history of SHET, (2) Hiroshi TAKEMOTO (Osaka College of Economics) of holding a commemorative lecture meeting, (3) Yuichi SHIONOYA (Institute of Social Securities) of editing and publishing the English Monograph, (4) Kiichiro YAGI (the University of Kyoto) of compiling a data-base of studies and achievements on the history of economic thought, and (4) Shouken MAWATARI (Tohoku University) of editing and publishing *The Encyclopedia of the History of Economic Thought* through Maruzen Publishing Co. in 2000. Comparing these extensive projects with previous memorable years' events will easily show how much SHET's capacities have increased in these years, and in what direction the various circumstances in and out of SHET are moving.

New trends in studies of the history of economic thought can also be seen in the Special Issues of our recent *Bulletins*. The title of No. 33, Oct. 1995, was "Smith, Ricardo and Marshall: illuminations from the environs" written by Daisuke ARIE (Yokohama National University), Masaharu HATTORI (Rikkyo University) and Tamotsu NISHIZAWA (Hitotsubashi University); No. 34, November 1996, contained four articles on Evolutionary Thought and Theory of Institutions by A. ISOGAI (Kyushu University), H. ISOKAWA (Kinki University), Tetuso TAKA (Kyushu University) and Yukihiro IKEDA (Keio University). What can be seen in these titles is the trend of widening of research; that is, not only main subjects in our studies but also a number of minor figures around them and not only the orthodox school but also other schools outside of the Classical and Marxian Schools have become the popular objects of research, not for abandoning the main and orthodox subjects, but rather for throwing more light on them from the environs and abroad.

The following short lists are the product of recent years, expressive of the new trends.

Studies on the Scottish Enlightenment, however, are still thriving. Main products on the subject are: Yasuo AMOH, *Ferguson and the Scottish Enlightenment*, Keiso Shobo 1993; do., *Adam Ferguson, Collection of Essays*, Kyoto 1996; Tatsuya SAKAMOTO, *The Civilised Society in Hume: Industry, Knowledge and Freedom*, Sobun sha 1995; Gentaro SEKI, *Economic Thought for Forming a Market Society: A Study on the Ideas of Economic Reform in Eighteenth Century Scotland*, Minerva Shobo 1994; Shoji TANAKA, *Adam Smith's Natural Theology: A Foundation for Establishing the Social Sciences of Enlightenment*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1993 (this should be read together with his *Adam Smith's Natural Jurisprudence*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1988); do., *Theories of Civil Society and Modern Times: The Present Tasks of Ideas and Re-interpretation of Modern Thoughts*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1994; Satoshi NIIMURA, *The Making of Political Economy: Adam Smith and Modern Natural Jurisprudence*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1994; Akio HOSHINO, *Systems of Market Society: Hume and Smith*, Shin Hyoron 1994; Hiroshi TAKEMOTO, *The Initiation of the Political Economy System: studies of James Steuart*, Nagoya Daigaku Shuppan Kai 1995 (Takemoto and others discharged the difficult task of translating James Steuart's *Principles of Political Economy* in 1993), Kyoji TAZOE, *Some Groups in the European History of Economic Thought*, Hakuto Shobo 1995 (includes W. Petty and Karl Marx); Chikakazu TADAKOSHI, *"History of Astronomy" and the Moral Philosophy of Adam Smith*, Taga Shuppan 1995; Hideo TANAKA, *Civilized Society and the Public Mind: A Ground for the Scottish Enlightenment*, Showado 1996; Ikuo OMORI, *Steuart and Smith*, Minerva 1996; Takeo NAKATANI, *State and Finance in Adam Smith's Political Economy*, Nakanishiya Shuppan 1996.

Other topics of the history of economic thought in England:

Toshihiro NAKAYA, *Studies on Cambridge Economics: Malthus, Keynes and Sraffa*, Dobunkan 1997; Saburo SHINOMIYA, *J.S. Mill: Development of Ideas*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1997; Hiroharu NAKAMURA, *Studies on Ricardian Economics*, Kyushu Daigaku Shuppankai 1996; Naobumi HIJIKATA, *The Growth of Co-operative Ideas: Studies on Robert Owen in the Former Half of His Career*, Chuo Daigaku Shuppanbu 1993; Etsuko YASUKAWA, *Irish Questions and Socialism: Studies on the Socialist Revival in Britain and Contemporary Social Thought*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1993; Izumi HISHIYAMA, *Contemporary Assessments of Sraffian Economics*, Kyoto Daigaku Gakujutsu Shuppankai 1993; Takuyoshi INOUE and Masashi SAKAGUCHI (eds.), *Marshall and the Contemporary Economics*, Minerva Shobo 1993; Ryoichi EBIHARA, *Ricardian Socialism: Some Arguments on Early English Socialism*, Sekai Shoin 1994; Tadao OHNO, *Liberty, Justice and Market: Essays on the History of Economic Thought*, Sobunsha 1994; Jiro KUMAGAI, *History of the Free Trade Move-*

*ment in the British Cotton Industry: Manchester Chamber of Commerce, 1820-1932*, Minerva Shobo 1995; Tamotsu NISHIZAWA, *Unorthodox Economists: Nineteenth-century Birmingham School's Ideas of Economic Policy*, Iwanami Shoten 1993; Tsutomu HASHIMOTO, *Some Arguments on Freedom — Popper, Mises and Hayek*, Sobunsha 1994; Toshio OGATA, *Undercurrent of Modern Economics — Marshall, Keynes and Kaletzki*, Chudai Seikyo Shupppankyoku 1995; Yuichi SHIONOYA, *Schumpeterian Ideas*, Toyokeizai Shinposha 1995; Takuya HATORI, *Theoretical Range of Ricardo*, Sekai Shoin 1995; Hideo TAMURA, *Thomas More*, Kenkyusha Shuppan 1996; Masao HAMABAYASHI, *Locke*, Kenkyusha Shuppan 1996; Sonoko YAMADA, *Religious Ideas in the English Revolution*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1994.

German history of economic thought, including Marxism and Marxian economics:

Shin-ichi AIDA, *Kautzky Studies: Races and Decentralization of Powers*, Showado 1993; Kunihiro UEMURA, *Assimilation and Emancipation: Nineteenth-Century "Jewish Questions" Controversy*, Heibonsha 1993; Toshihiko HOZUMI, *Political and Economical Ideas of German Socialism*, Horitsu Bunkasha 1993; Shinichi TAMURA, *Studies on Gustav Schmoller*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1993; Isamu KAMIJO, *History of Social Thought of Ethnicity and Ethnic Questions: re-assessment of Otto Bauer's theory of Ethnicity*, Azusa Shuppansha 1994; Ichiro TAMURA, *State and People in Modern Germany: the Young Edgar Bauer Studies, 1842-1949*, Shin Hyoron 1994; Masaaki KUROTAI, *Rudolf Hilferding's Theoretical Legacy: From Finanzkapital to Posthumous Manuscripts*, Kindai Bungeisha 1995; Sho SUGIHARA and others (eds.), *Engels and the Modern Times*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1995; Akihiro MATOBA, *Marx in Paris: Marx and Paris in 1840's*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1995; do., *Germans in France: Immigrants, Refugees and Tramps with Regard to the Socialist Movements around the 1848 Revolution*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1995.

Italy:

Jun-ichiro KUROSU, *The History of Italian Social Thought: Ideas and Behavior of the Democratic Section of the Risorgimento*, Ochanomizu Shobo 1997; Seizo HOTTA, *Beccaria and the Italian Enlightenment*, Nagoya Daigaku Shuppankai 1996.

With regards to France:

Toshimi MORIMURA, *Honours and Pleasures: Helvétius's Utilitarianism*, Hosei Daigaku Shuppan Kyoku 1993; Katsujiro FUJITA, *Proudhon and Modern Times*, Sekai Shoin 1993; Shigeyuki SATO, *Ideology and Mythology: Parato's Theories of Social Sciences*, Bokutakusha 1993; Takashi UENO, *Studies on Michel Chevalier*, Bokutakusha 1995.

America:

Toshihiro TANAKA, *Studies on the American History of Economic Thought: focused on the Neo-classical School and the Institutional School*, Koyo Shobo 1993; Kenji SASANO, *Institutionalist Economist Mitchel*, Nakanishiya Shuppan 1995; Tetsuo

TAKA (eds.), *Economic Society as the Institution*, Kyushu Daigaku Shuppankai 1996.

Japan:

Shiro SUGIHARA (ed.), *Modern Japan and British Ideas*, Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha 1995; Takashi FUJII, *Yanagida Kunio's Theories of Government and Relief of the Poor: Economics, Ethics and Paedagogy*, Nagoya Daigaku Shuppankai 1995; Norio YOSHIDA, *Ideas of Das Kapital: Marx and Hiromatsu on Theory of Fetishism*, Tokyo Shuppan 1995.

Other works of importance:

Fumitaka WAKAMORI, *Political Economy of Capitalistic Development*, Kansai Daigaku Shuppanbu 1993; Takao KATSURAGI, *Philosophy on Market Economy*, Sobunsha 1995; Atsushi SHIRAI, *Universities and the Asian-Pacific Ocean War*, Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha 1996; Nobuo SUZUKI and others (eds.), *The World of Transition*, Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha 1997; Kiyoshi TAKASE, *The Range of Contemporary Social Science*, Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha 1997; Yuichiro NAKAGAWA, Kenji TOMIZAWA and others (eds.), *New Horizon of Workers' Co-operative Union*, Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha 1996; Shigeatsu MATSUSHIMA, *The History of Modern Economics, 1870-1970: Developments of Competitive Paradigm*, Nagoya Daigaku Shuppankai 1996.

#### (4) Assessment and re-assessment

As to the Scottish political economy studies, I would like to make two points here: first, it is quite remarkable that James Steuart has entirely been re-assessed as the first builder of economic science in Britain, and second, natural theology and natural jurisprudence are now indispensable to Smith studies.

I do expect, however, that Scottish Studies should be united with the eighteenth century English studies to understand eighteenth century Britain as a whole under the Union Act of 1707. Also, in spite of the rapid advancement of Scottish Enlightenment studies, James Steuart is still not seen in terms of it.

I should be quite happy to find (1) that minor figures and peripheral topics are now more and more becoming the research subjects, (2) that original studies based on manuscripts are recently increasing, (3) that solid studies backed by literary and bibliographical evidences are also increasing and (4) that these tendencies are able to get great help from computers.

However, I am, at the same time, quite sorry to see (1) that still vast areas of East Europe, most of Asia, and Africa are outside our research, (2) that most of our researches still remain disciplinary studies and are not oriented towards intellectual history, (3) that we are abusing the terms "market", "market society", "market system", or "market economy" with no clear definitions, and (4) that our attention to the critiques of economics by outsiders or protectionists of circumstances

such as English romantics seems to me fairly weak. These seem to be remaining to be tackled as soon as possible.

(Yoshio NAGAI, Kanto Gakuin University)

# THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHERS

## 1. Brief history and recent development

This report mainly deals with the activity of the Japan Association of Economic Geographers (JAEG) in the last decade. A reverse wind against the development of the JAEG has recently been blowing, because of the disappearance of faculty posts in economic geography, and the absorption of economic geography into other disciplinary sections of economics in the process of the series of university restructuring projects. Thus, from an institutional point of view, the reproduction mechanism of economic geography is disappearing. In the discipline of economics, both courses and divisions of economic geography have been abandoned or altered to new names: regional or environmental studies. In addition, most economic geographers who had supported the early activities of the JAEG having retired, reproduction of graduate students in economic geography has now almost halted. The steady developments of regional economics and spatial economics have already become influential in the arena once taken by economic geography. In the discipline of human geography, economic geography used to be seen as the social science of region or space. This uniqueness has now become weak, since new perspectives of social science are very influential. The identity of economic geography has actually become vague. However, a few new movements are emerging, which aim to create plural identities in the JAEG.

Here are some statements made when the JAEG was established in the year 1954: a founding member gave his retrospect on the academic atmosphere at the time when the JAEG aimed to proceed her way along the discourse of social science, in that, on one hand, she adopted the theory and outcomes of social sciences especially economics, and, on the other, she succeeded to the positive tradition of geography by attaching value to field surveys; the prospectus statement of the JAEG claimed that, in order to create, develop and diffuse economic geography as a social science, the JAEG should strive to heighten the theoretical level of economic geography as well as to push forward studying the actual economic geographical issues. Thus, the JAEG originally had the intention to lead deductive theory rather than to discuss individual facts and outcomes, in other words to present economic geography as a pure social science. The leading members when the JAEG was established mostly consisted of researchers coming from faculties of economics. Geographers were not so academically influential in this association as they are today. Location theory and ground rent theory were being discussed eagerly and fascinated researchers. In addition, issues of regional problems and regional policies often received attention. Academic orientation among the members of the JAEG was directed toward both theory and actual problems. These two orientations used to be regarded as the hallmark of economic geography as a social science as opposed to other subdisciplines of human geography. But these features of economic



geography became less distinct after the introduction of social scientific methods into human geography. From a geographer's point of view, let us consider the reasons for the difficulty in distinguishing differences between the activities of the three major geographical associations in Japan: The Association of Japanese Geographers, The Association of Human Geographers and the JAEG.

Four reasons can be pointed out: 1. The main themes such as location theory and ground rent theory are not being so eagerly discussed as before. The retirement of professors who were mainly engaged in these theories coincided with this tendency. Only a few universities can reproduce graduate students in the subject of economic geography. 2. Industrial geography and studies of industrial regions are still being constantly produced. A few universities where several economic geographers gather could successfully reproduce researchers in this field. Although field surveys in overseas regions have been increasing, these studies seem like examination of industrial structures than area studies. 3. Contributions from the sub-disciplines of ordinary human geography such as urban geography, commercial geography, studies of urban system proliferate in the journal of JAEG (*Annals of the JAEG*). Most of these contributors are graduate students and younger university faculty members, who actually aim to gain credentials through contributing papers evenly to the three major associations. This tendency weakens most of the existing features of economic geography. 4. Theories of spatial configuration, and social space, and theoretical studies of space and society have recently emerged. These themes have had a great influence not only on the themes of economic geography but also on those of general human geography. This shakes the monopoly status of economic geography as the sole social science in geography.

The following sections clarify how these tendencies are manifested in the journal of the JAEG, and introduce several problematic issues and orientations shown in the symposium at the annual conference of the JAEG.

## 2. Current research concerns

Table 1 shows the classification of papers in the last decade which were contributed as either "article", "note" or "review" to the *Annals of the JAEG*. Papers are classified according to category of geography, considering that three-fourths of contributors are geographers. The arrangement of the column of Table 1 runs in order from economic geography proper (economic theories, industrial geography, studies of enterprises and firms, rural and primary industrial geography) to studies of regional policies and regional development, other fields of general human geography (other than economic geography in a stricter sense, such as physical distribution, service, commercial, quantitative and urban geography), studies in urban society, urban planning to social geography to the bottom. Each paper could be classified into more than one sphere; however, general features might be roughly illustrated.

Table 1 Classification and distribution of papers contributed to the *Annals of the JAEG*

CATEGORIES			1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987
economic theory	general	6							•	••			•••
	location theory	4									••	••	
	regional structure	1									•		
industrial geography	historical study	2	•			•							
	production system	15	••			•	••		•	••	••	••	•••
	labour market	9		•	•	•			••		••	••	
enterprises/firms		13		••				•••	••	••	•	••	•
primary industry		8		•	••		•••			•			•
rural area		9			••			••		•	••	••	
regional development/													
regional policy		9		•		•		••	•		••	•	•
physical distribution		7		•	•		•			•		••	•
service/office		13			•••		••	•		•••		•	•••
commercial		5	••						•		•		•
quantitative		4			•			••			•		
behaviour		3		•					•		•		
population		3			•				••				
urban system		8	•	•	•	•	•				••	•	
metropolitan areas		5	•	•		•			••				
urban study	urban planning	2				••						•	
	urban society	4	•		•	•		•					
social geography	empirical study	1			•								
	theory	3			•	•					•		
others		3					••		•				

In the last decade, studies on economic theory were on the decrease, while urban studies and social geography emerged in the 1990s. Except for this example, the share of economic geography amounted to more than 50 % of this journal. This share seems to have been established at the beginning of the 1980s and continued constant in the next twenty years.

It should be pointed out firstly that theoretical contributions on location theory did not appear in the 1990s. The reason for this is the retirement of the leading location theorists. Concerning the search for theories, the political economy approach in human geography and socio-economic theory such as regulation theory became popular, while purely economic theories declined.

Most of the empirical studies in economic geography have been carried out in the fields of industrial geography. Regional geography of industry, describing both historical development and existing condition, has been constantly produced. Empirical surveys dealing with economic restructuring are contributing to strengthen the potential of economic geography. However, it is an urgent task to generalise these valuable research assets on the Japanese production and labour system in an international context and to examine their theoretical implication.

As Table 1 shows, studies of enterprises and firms, which include not only secondary industries but also commercial, service- and office-related industries and their regional structure, appeared most in the *Annals*. Urban and commercial geographers also contributed a lot. Most of these studies were, however, unable to present a new frontier in these fields, except for some research that proceeded to analyse further the decision-making process and marketing.

Rural or primary industrial geography are also constantly appearing. In addition to the steady appearance of works on the restructuring of agriculture and the distribution mechanism, issues on the introduction of manufacturing industries into the rural areas of developing Asian countries are also becoming popular.

Traditionally, economic geography in Japan has been fond of issues on regional development and policy. Most of the studies are case studies of foreign countries. However, the dynamism of political issues remains unclear, and no policy proposal can be suggested from these researches.

More than one-third of the papers are studies in subdisciplines in human geography outside of economic geography proper. Regrettably, most these cannot neither go beyond existing levels of analysis, nor propose new analytical frameworks or fact-finding for the development of economic geography. The originality of *the Annals* suffers badly from these contributions.

Rather, attention should be paid to the following two types of research which have recently appeared in the category of urban studies. Firstly, a focus on lived space rather than space for production, which aims to examine the transformation of urban communities and the role of urban planning. Although regional economists have already dealt with these issues, economic geographers have nearly ne-

glected these dimensions. Secondly, introduction of spatial socio-economic theories, such as theory of social space, structuration theory, theory of spatial configuration, and also their empirical analysis, which might open up a pass to the development of the whole of human geography. Among these theories, issues such as flexible accumulation, "regulation" system, global system, international division of labour, postmodernism, and socio-spatial dialectics lead us to anticipate the construction of more fruitful theories of economic geography. Both socio-cultural geography and socio-economic geography play significant roles for renovating problematics in human geography.

### 3. Special issues chosen for annual meetings

Let us turn to examine the recent discussions in the annual meetings of the JAEG. The papers and discussions at the annual conference are contributed to the *Annals of the JAEG*. Table 2 illustrates the past ten years' trend, using the same set of categories as Table 1.

Another research orientation of the JAEG can be clearly seen in the themes of annual conferences. Reflecting the themes selected in each conference, Table 2 shows a research trend different from that of Table 1. Although issues on industrial geography are often chosen, problems of regional development and policies are the most popular topics. The frequent selections of special themes in regional development and policies are regarded as a manifestation of the JAEG's intention to tackle policy-oriented issues. However, these themes are less often dealt with in the general contributions to the *Annals of the JAEG*, which shows that they are weak points of the JAEG; there are few original articles with constructive proposals for policy-making.

Special themes concerning the contribution to theories are also often selected. The conference in 1993, "Space and Society", can be especially regarded as an epoch-making project. After this conference, themes diversified into either economic theory or social theory.

In the last decade, there have been three types of conference themes: 1. spatial and geographical effects of the economic changes in Japan (including proposals for regional policy-making); 2. spatial changes of the economy in Japan and neighbouring foreign countries; 3. theoretical contributions from economic geography.

The themes belonging to the first type were taken up at the annual conferences from 1984 to 1988. Stimulated by the ongoing restructuring in the late 1980s, economic geographers proper actively participated in these conferences.

The theme for 1987, Structural Change of Economic Activity in the Fringe of the Metropolitan Area, focused on the surrounding area of the metropolis. It followed the previous conference theme of The Changing Industrial Structure and Metropolitan Regions in Japan. Most reports for 1987 remained at the level of

examining current conditions, in comparison to the variety of previous years' reports. On the contrary, the theme for 1988, Structural Adjustment of Industry and Regional Economy in Japan, dealt with the regional economic problems in other areas of Japan. It was very critical for economic geographers, who could not propose a counter-policy against the problem of polarised concentration in Tokyo.

The theme for 1989, Searching for a New Perspective on Economic Geography, was selected quite aptly and timely, as the Study Group for Regional Structure was dissolved and economic geographers had to reexamine new theoretical and empirical issues. Regional distribution of industry through location studies of industrial enterprises was especially discussed here: it had been mainly pursued by the above-mentioned study group. Among their efforts, debate about studies of peripheral regions was worthy of note as it aimed to compensate the insufficiency in analysis of regional problems.

At the beginning of the 1990s, a series of symposiums on similar themes were held, which dealt with regional development and policies in Japan and neighbouring countries: "Recent Aspects of Regional Development in Japan" in 1990, "Some Problems of Foreign Area Studies—the case of Asia" in 1991, and "Changing Economy in Regions on the Sea of Japan" in 1992.

The symposium in 1990, ambitious in its content, discussed endogenous economic development, concepts of region in terms of regional economics, and conceptual differences between space and region. However, no mutual understanding was reached in this debate. The latter two symposiums were planned in a situation where quite a few geographers were actively engaged in area studies in foreign countries. In these circumstances, analytical framework and methodology for pursuing area studies should have been presented. In fact, most studies done by economic geographers were descriptions of economic or social features of particular regions. Toward more fruitful analysis, it is necessary to grapple with the dynamics of the global economy.

There always exists an intra-disciplinary tension in geographical methodologies that economic geographers present. Among the various methodologies, the most influential method is the political economy approach in human geography which is deeply related to the theory of spatial configuration. The theme in 1993, Space and Society, was deeply associated with this approach. This theme was thought to be a very aggressive project to examine space and society through interdisciplinary discussions with a historian, a political scientist, an economist and a sociologist who gathered together with geographers.

After this symposium, "Dynamism of Japan's Regional Economic Structure in the 1990s" in 1994 and "The World City, Tokyo" in 1995 keenly recognised the urgency in both creating spatial theories and following up our changing world. The symposium in 1994 reflected attempts by existing mainstream economic geographers to construct a theoretical idea which could bridge the space of enterprise

activities with a global economy. The latter symposium on the World City, Tokyo, stressed the importance of new regional geography which could vividly describe local problems. To capture these problems, economic geographers must draw attention to the outcomes of neighbouring disciplines dealing with the globalisation of the economy.

The theme in 1996, "Economic Growth in Asia and Japanese Local Economies" does not seem to have presented a new methodological perspective, in spite of the encouragement from the participating policy-makers in regional planning.

#### 4. Future challenges

The advent of socio-economic theories of spatial configuration and regulation theory in the 1990s has had a great influence on such existing theoretical orientations of the JAEG as location theory and regional structure. The academic frontier of JAEG seems to have greatly shifted. The annual conferences have no doubt been planned to respond to this shift. However, general contributions of articles and notes to the *Annals of JAEG* have not reflected the current trend enough. It is clear that the stimulating spatial discourse has been addressed not by economic geographers but by economists and sociologists. New contributions from economic geographers are seen in the arena of international locational behaviour of enterprises and new spatial divisions of labour. However, almost all examinations of regional structure remain case studies of industrial activities. In these circumstances, economic geography should introduce the dynamic investigation of political and social aspects into their analysis. At the same time, this challenge might obscure the relative distinctive character of economic geography. This global age cannot be captured from a perspective of an isolated discipline. Therefore, economic geographers should not be particularists in support of the relative autonomy of their sub-discipline but venture into construction of a robust spatial theory of geography.

(Toshio MIZUUCHI, Osaka City University)

Table 2 Classification and distribution of conference papers contributed to the *Annals of the JAEG*

CATEGORIES			1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987
economic theory	general	1				•						
	location theory											
	regional structure	3			• •					•		
industrial geography	historical study											
	production system	3									•	• •
	labour market	2										• •
enterprises/firms		5	• •	• •	•							
primary industry												
rural area												
regional development/ regional policy		17	•				• • •	• • •	• • •	•	•	•
physical distribution												
service/office		1								•		
commercial												
quantitative												
behaviour												
population												
urban system		1	•									
metropolitan areas												
urban study	urban planning	1										•
	urban society	2		•		•						
social geography	empirical study											
	theory	5		•	•	• • •						
others		1						•				

## JAPAN ECONOMIC POLICY ASSOCIATION

### History of the Japan Economic Policy Association

The Japan Economic Policy Association, established in 1940, is one of the oldest academic associations in Japan in the field of economics. Since its foundation, it has given birth to a number of other academic organizations related to the discipline of economics. The association was reconstructed in 1948, three years after the end of World War II, when it resumed its activities. A brief history of the activities of the association for the period from its reconstruction to the 39th annual conference in 1987 is given in this *INFORMATION BULLETIN*, NO.7 (1987), reported by Toshinobu KATO (Asia University), Reishi MARUYA (Kobe University), Kenji YAMADA, (Gifu Economic University) and Yoshinobu TAKAHASHI (Kagoshima Economic University). In 1988 the association celebrated the 40th anniversary of its post-war reconstruction. Those activities from 1988 to 1994 are reported in *INFORMATION BULLETIN*, NO.14 (1994) by Toshinobu KATO (Asia University).

Recently, a large number of researchers in public and private research institutes or laboratories and students at post-graduate schools have become members of the association. Consequently, the membership has grown remarkably and currently amounts to approximately 1250.

### General Activities

The major activity of the association is its annual conference. A conference common theme is chosen on the criteria of intellectual appeal and current relevance by the program steering committee composed of members of the association, including those of the regional chapter responsible for sponsoring the conference in a particular year. In addition, a subsidiary theme has also been selected along with the main one since the 1989 convention, for promoting and deepening the discussion on the main one.

The association consists of four regional chapters: the Kanto district chapter, the Chubu district chapter, the Kansai district chapter and the Nishi-Nihon district chapter. Each chapter holds its own academic meetings once or twice a year separately .

### Recent Annual Conferences

In 1995 the 52nd annual conference of the association was held at the University of Tokyo on May 13th-14th. Prior to session meetings, the presidential address was given by Taketoshi NOJIRI (Osaka Gakuin University) on the subject of "Another Third Way". The common theme of the conference was Economic Rules in the Age of Internationalization. The system of foreign trade and direct investment, government regulations, anti-monopoly laws and intellectual property rights



must necessarily be harmonized or unified among countries or economies under the rapid globalization of economic activities. Now the need for new economic rules has become more evident from the viewpoint of international harmonization and economic development. This is the reason why that particular title was selected by the program steering committee as the conference common theme.

The chairpersons of the special session were Hiroshi KATO (Keio University), and Kojiro NIINO (Kobe University). Reporters and their subjects for the common theme were as follows.

- (1) Mikoto USUI (Keio University), "Toward International Harmonization of Economic Rules"
- (2) Akira NEGISHI (Kobe University), "Japan's Task in the Era of Globalization"
- (3) Toshimasa TSURUTA (Senshu University), "A Way of Existence for Government Regulation in The Age of Internationalization"

A concluding summary was made by Hiroshi KATO (Keio University) and Kojiro NIINO (Kobe University). Commentators were Ryuhei WAKASUGI (Yokohama National University), Mitsuo EZAKI (Nagoya University) and Itsuta KOBAYASHI (Tokai University).

Two sessions were set up for the subsidiary themes: "The Formation of Economic Rules" and "Internationalization of Economic Rules". Reporters and their subjects in Sessions 1 and 2 were as follows.

(Session 1)

- Takanobu TOJO (Waseda University), "Wilson and Keynes — Who Formed the System and Rules of the World in the 21st century"
- Shuichi NAKAMURA (Chiba Keizai University), "The Evolution of Institutions and Rules: A Modern Austrian Perspective"
- Sadao TAMURA (Waseda University), "A Practical Model for Evaluation Rules in the Non-Market Economy — Based on a Comparative Study of Denmark, Switzerland and Japan"

(Session 2)

- Yukimasa NAGAYASU (Reitaku University), "On the International Decision Systems of Global Rule"
- Nobuhiko SUTO (Tokai University), "Economic Sanction as an International Economic Policy"
- Hirokuni IJIMA (Chuo University), "Economic Relations between Japan and US, and Japanese Bureaucracy: Bureaucratic Behavior and Macroeconomic Theory"
- Yuichi KISHIMOTO (Momoyama Gakuin University), "New Economic Rules for the Rice Trade in a Liberalized Rice Market under the WTO — In the Context of Potential Reformation of the Rice Future Market in Japan"

In addition to these sessions, there were seven more sessions for the following

themes of free choice: "Transformation of Japanese Economy"; "The Theory of Economic Policy"; "International Economy — (1)", "International Economy — (2)"; "An Economic Analysis of Population, Labor and Education"; "Industrial Organization — (1) System and Behavior of the Firms"; "Industrial Organization — (2) Government Regulation"; "China's Economy"; and "Environmental Issues".

In 1996 the 53rd annual conference was held at Kansai University in Osaka on May 25th-26th. In addition to the main sessions for the common and subsidiary themes, a symposium was held as a special session. The common theme of the conference was Economic Development and Institutional Change — the Japanese Path toward the 21st Century. This session was chaired by Masu UEKUSA (The University of Tokyo) and Taketoshi NOJIRI (Osaka Gakuin University). The following were its reporters and subjects.

- (1) Hiroyuki KAWANOBE (Tokai University), "Institutional Change and Economic Policy"
- (2) Shigenobu YAMAMOTO (Kansai University), "Economic Globalization and the Change of the System"
- (3) Minoru NISHIDA (Kwansei Gakuin University), "Institutional Shift and Innovation"

Masu UEKUSA and Taketoshi NOJIRI summarized the reports of the session and Hiroo HARADA (Senshu University), Masumi KISHI (Chuo University) and Hiroshi SAITO (Aichi Gakuin University) were commentators on these reports respectively.

The symposium titled "Reconstruction of Local Economy damaged by the Big Earthquake and Transformation of the Existing Systems" was coordinated by Shinichi MIKI (Kobe University of Commerce). A keynote report was made by Kojiro NISHIO (Kobe University), and the panelists were as follows: Toshihiko HAYASHI (Osaka University), Senri HAGIO (Kansai Keizai Doyukai), Nobutsugu HAYASHI (Kwansei Gakuin University) and Yoshishige ANDO (Kobe City).

The session for the subsidiary theme was divided into two parts. The theme of the first part was "Institutional Transformation Concerning Technology and Information" and that of the other part was "Institutional Transformation Concerning Market and Systems". The reporters and their themes were as follows.

(Session 1)

- Yoshihiko AKASHI (Osaka City University), "Quality Control Style, Small Group Activities, and the Suggestion System in Japanese Firms"
- Toshiro HIROTA (Kansai University), "Evolutionary Corporate Innovation"
- Koichiro HAYASHI (International University of Japan), "the Gaps in the Application of Information Technology between the US and Japan"

(Session 2)

- Koshi TAKESHITA (Kansai University), "Transitional Economies and Economics of Institutions"
- Akira YAMAZAKI (Kyushu University), "Paradigm Shifts in Regional Policy"

- Naonori TSUDA (Momoyama Gakuin University), "Property Rights and Decision Rights: Efficiency of Corporate Democracy and Reform of the Economic System"

There were 10 more sessions for the themes of free choice: "The Theory of Economic Policy — (1) Macro Economic Policy"; "The Theory of Economic Policy — (2) Principles"; "International Economy — (1) Economies of Europe and the USA"; "International Economy — (2) Asian Economy; Environment Economy"; "Regional Economy"; "Consumer Behavior"; "Welfare and Employment"; "Industrial Organization — (1) Innovation"; "Industrial Organization — (2) Research and Development"; and "Industrial Organization — (3) Industrial Policy and Business Behavior".

In 1997 the 54th annual conference was held at Chuo University in Tokyo. On the first day of the conference, there were two kinds of programs: the first one was ordinary reports and discussion concerning the main conference theme, the second one was a symposium as a special session.

The theme of the former was What is the Effectiveness of Economic Policy: Its Idea, Subjects and Instruments. The chairpersons of this session were Toshinosuke KASHIWAZAKI (Waseda University) and Takashi SUZUKI (Kwansei Gakuin University). The reporters and their subjects were as follows:

- (1) Hiroshi YOSHIKAWA (The University of Tokyo), "Macro Economic Policy"
- (2) Ichiro SHIRAKAWA (Ritsumeikan University), "Reform of The Social Economic System"
- (3) Takashi OMORI (Osaka University), "International Policy in the Asian Age"

The selected symposium theme was "The Idea, Subjects and Instruments of Decentralization toward a Society Composed of Elderly People as its Major Component". A keynote address, "The Drive for and the Strategy of Decentralization" was made by Masaru NISHIO (The University of Tokyo). The coordinator of the session was Naohiko JINNO (The University of Tokyo), and the panelists of the symposium were Takafumi ISOMURA (Mayor of Osaka), Kazuyoshi KUROKAWA (Hosei University), Tetsuo TSUJI (Ministry of Health and Welfare) and Mari NISHINO (Meiji University).

For the subsidiary themes on the second day, two sessions were set up: "The Theory of Economic Policy I; Ideas", and "The Theory of Economic Policy II; Macro-Economic Policy". The first session consisted of the following speakers and subjects.

- Hiroshi SUZUKI (Hokkai Gakuen University of Kitami), "Development of Economics and Subjects of the Theory of Economic Policy"
- Yasuaki NAGAYA (Osaka Prefectural University), "The Political Conception of Social Market Economy"

- Richard T. DAILEY (Montana University), "Economic and Social Indicators as a Measure of the Efficiency of Economic Policy in Selected APEC Countries."

The following were reporters and their subjects in the second session.

- Haruki NIWA (Osaka Gakuin University), "Effectiveness of Keynesian Policy"
- Souji OKAMURA (Daito Bunka University), "The Theory and The Political Implication of the New Keynesians"
- Fujio SUGIYAMA (Bunkyo University), "Monopolistic Competitive Economy and Economic Growth Theory by Harrod"

Besides these main sessions, there were 7 more sessions for the themes of free choice: "Social Security and Welfare I,"; "Social Security and Welfare II"; "Industrial Policy I – Business Behavior"; "Industrial Policy II – Industrialization"; "Industrial Policy III – Region and Industries"; "Industrial Policy IV – Shift to Service Industries and Stocks"; and "Environment Policy" .

The 55th Annual Conference of the Japan Economic Policy Association will be held at Osaka Gakuin University in 1998.

#### Publications

The association publishes *The Annual of Japan Economic Policy Association*, and volume 46 carrying the articles and reports of the activities of the association in 1997 will be published in March 1998.

The *Annual* contains all of reports: the presidential address, full papers on the conference common theme, comments on those papers, summary on subsidiary common themes and free themes and an outline of the symposium at the Conference. In addition, it includes book reviews, the proceedings of the association itself and regional subsections; manager meetings, research meetings and so on.

(Mari NISHINO, Meiji University)

# JAPANESE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING STUDIES

## Research Trends of International Accounting in Japan: 1972-1996

### I. Introduction

It was not until the 1970's that serious studies on International Accounting (IA) began to surface in Japan. Globalization of business activities and capital markets strongly influenced the emergence of accounting research on international dimensions. In 1984, the Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies was established, which again stimulated IA research in Japan.

In this paper, research trends of IA for the recent twenty-five years (1972-1996) will be analyzed based on survey results of the literature. Preceding studies include Kazuo HIRAMATSU (Kwansei Gakuin University), "State-of-the-Art of International Accounting Research in Japan," *Shogaku Ronkyu (Journal of Business Administration of Kwansei Gakuin University)*, Vol. 30, No.1 (July 1982), pp.70-108, which conducted a survey for the period of 1970-1982. Another preceding study is Kiyoshi KOCHIYAMA (Kansai Jogakuin Junior College), "Trends of International Accounting Research in Japan," *Kwansei Gakuin Shogaku Kenkyu*, No.35 (March 1994), pp. 1-18, in which a survey was conducted for the period of 1982-1992. For convenience in this paper, these two studies will be called "H-K Research".

A new survey was conducted in this paper for the period of 1992-1996. This result is combined together with the survey results of H-K Research to provide data for the analysis of IA research trends in Japan.

### II. Survey Method of International Accounting Research Trend

The survey method which was used in H-K Research is outlined below. First, for each year, the number of publications which were classified as accounting in "The Monthly Report on Economic Literature" was counted. This "Monthly Report" was included in the journal entitled *Keizai Hyoron (The Economic Review)*. Prepared by the Research Institute of Economics at Osaka City University, "The Monthly Report" covered articles from over 700 journals and books which were associated with economics in a broad sense. Publications were classified into sixteen categories, with "accounting" as one of the sixteen.

Second, from among the above publications, the articles which were regarded as dealing with IA issues were selected and summed up.

Third, IA articles were then broadly classified into three categories: (I) accounting for multinational corporations, (II) international comparisons of account-

ing and financial reporting, and (III) introduction/explanation of foreign accounting regulations and practices.

Fourth, IA articles were further classified by topics.

Fifth, in KOCHIYAMA [1994], the articles written in non-Japanese languages were counted and shown in category (IV).

In this paper, the same survey method as the one used by H-K Research was used in principle. However, for the additional survey conducted in this paper, some changes were made to H-K Research.

The first change relates to the classification of articles. For categories (I), (II), and (IV), the classification method was the same as in H-K Research. Additions were made to category (III), where the articles were classified not only for each country, but were classified and summed up for each region.

The second change relates to the source of information for this survey. *Keizai Hyoron* (*The Economic Review*) became out of print in May 1993. Thus "The Monthly Report on Economic Literature" which was included in *Keizai Hyoron* was transferred to "The Quarterly Report on Economic Literature" in *Kikan Keizai Kenkyu* (*Quarterly Economic Research*) starting with the issue for Summer 1993. This journal is published by the Research Institute of Economics at Osaka City University. For this reason, "The Quarterly Report on Economic Literature" was used for the additional survey.

The third change relates to the determination of the "year". The additional survey in this paper defines a year as the period from April to next March, while H-K Research defines it as the period from January to December. For the year 1993, articles included in the April and May issues of "The Monthly Report", and Summer 1993, Fall 1993, Winter 1993 and Spring 1994 issues of "The Quarterly Report" were considered. For the year 1994, articles from the Summer 1994 issue to the Spring 1995 issue were used. The same procedures were followed for the years 1995 and 1996.

The fourth change relates to the period. H-K Research showed the survey results for each year. But in this paper, the results are shown for each "period" of five years. The twenty five years of the survey were divided into five periods, with each period covering five years as follows: The first period: 1972-76, the second period: 1977-81, the third period: 1982-86, the fourth period: 1987-91, and the fifth period: 1992-96.

### III. Trends of International Accounting Research

#### (1) Number of Publications on IA

Let us first observe a general trend in the number of accounting and IA publications. Table 1 shows the total number of accounting publications for each period. After showing a peak in the second period with 4006 articles, it shows a

stable number with 3200-3300 articles for each period.

In contrast, the number of IA research articles increased from 248 in the first period to 755 in the fifth period. Likewise the percentage of IA research to the total number of accounting publications also increased from 7% in the first period to 22% in the fifth period.

From this fact, it can be indicated that IA now forms an important part of accounting research.

## (2) Research Trends of Accounting for Multinational Corporations

Let us now analyze and discuss the research trends of (I) accounting for multinational corporations, (II) international comparisons of accounting and financial reporting, and (III) introduction/explanation of foreign accounting regulations and practices, based on Table 2.

First, publications on accounting for multinational corporations are increasing as a general trend. The number of publications in this category recorded a great increase from 79 in the first period to 188 in the fifth period. However, its percentage to the total of IA publications was the highest in the first period with 32%. After dropping to the lowest percentage of 17% in the third period, it recovered to 25% in the fifth period.

Throughout all periods, most of the articles in this category dealt with financial accounting issues, especially issues like international accounting in general, foreign currency translation and harmonization of accounting standards, covering almost 80% of this category. As a natural result, the number of articles in management accounting is relatively small.

A recent characteristic is that foreign currency translation, which was predominant at an early stage is stable recently, while articles dealing with international accounting in general and harmonization of accounting standards are increasing. Articles on international auditing, which were observed less often, are gradually increasing, although their percentage is still small.

Within managerial accounting area, articles on performance evaluation are steadily increasing, although it is still small in both number and percentage. Again, as compared with the financial accounting area, IA research in managerial accounting is relatively small.

As a whole, the percentage of articles in this category is increasing recently.

## (3) Research Trends of International Comparisons of Accounting and Financial Reporting

It was not easy to identify the publications of this category solely from the title. Hence we cannot conclude anything definitely about the trend in this category.

From the data in Table 2, it can be indicated that the number of publications

in this category has increased throughout all periods. There were only 7 articles in the first period, while there are 51 in the fifth period. Among them, comparative accounting in general and comparisons between Japan and foreign countries are increasing.

In contrast, international patterns of accounting or financial statements, which once attracted researchers, dropped in the fifth period after a peak in the fourth period.

#### (4) Research Trends of Introduction/Explanation of Foreign Accounting Regulations and Practices

By observing the sub-totals of (III) in Table 2, it can be indicated that the number of publications in this category tripled from the first period, although it remained at the same level from the fourth period to the fifth period. Countries which were added to H-K Research are Austria, the Philippines and Morocco. Among these articles which were counted under "A. Several Nations", Asia NIES, Scandinavian countries and NIS countries were newly added.

Let us observe the trends in regions from Table 2. Among the ten regions, Western Europe is the top throughout all periods, with a share of 50% in the fifth period. Next comes North America with a share of 34%. And the third, but far below from the top two, is East Asia with a share of 7%.

These top three regions cover more than 90% of all the articles in category (III). However, Western Europe and North America were at their peak in the third period, and decreased after that. In contrast, East Asia is growing recently in percentage. Furthermore, ASEAN countries, which were not found in the first and second periods, are steadily increasing, although the absolute number is not big yet.

Now, let us observe the number of publications for each country. Articles on the United States are the most numerous, with a share of 32% in category (III) in the fifth period. Following the United States, former West Germany is the second with 19%, the United Kingdom is the third with 14%, France is the fourth with 12%, and the People's Republic of China is the fifth with 4%. Articles dealing with these top five countries occupied more than 80% of category (III), which is more than 60% of the total IA research.

Within Asia (including East Asia, ASEAN and other Asian countries), the PRC is the most numerous, followed by South Korea, Taiwan and Singapore. Articles on Asian countries are still few. However, taking into account the fact that only the PRC, Korea and Taiwan appeared in the first and second periods, it is noticeable that articles have appeared on eleven countries in Asia by the end of the fifth period.

#### (5) Research Trends of Publications in Foreign Languages

Finally, the number of publications in foreign languages is increasing as can



be seen in Table 3. The articles dealing with Japanese accounting are also showing an increase. Among them are not only articles written in English, but also some written in German, French and Russian. The articles of IA research published in English during the fifth period are listed below.

1. Akira NISHIMURA (Kyushu University), "The Development and Future of Management Accounting in Japan and the U.S.A.," *Keizaigaku-Kenkyu (Journal of Political Economy)*, LVII-3·4, 1991.
2. S. NISSAN, "Cash Flow Disclosures in the United States of America and Japan," *Chukyo Business Review*, 13, 1991.
3. Kaoru ISHII (Toyo University), "Issues on Current Governmental Auditing in Japan," *Keiei Kenkyujo Ronshu (Studies of Business Administration)*, 15, 1992.
4. Susumu KATSUYAMA (Nihon University), "A Study on Accounting for Valuation Profits and Losses in Japan — With Special Reference to Stock and Land," *Shogaku Shushi*, LXII-1, 1992.
5. T. E. COOKE (University of Exeter) and Masato KIKUYA (Kokushikan University), "International Comparison of Segmental Reporting in the US, UK and Japan," *Keiri-Kenkyu (The Accounting Research)*, 36, 1992.
6. Fumiyasu TAKAHASHI (Nihon University), "Cost Accounting Practices in Japan," *Shogaku Shushi*, LXII-3, 1992.
7. Kazutaka SHIRAISHI (Kitakyushu University), "The Main Differences between American GAAP and Japanese Accounting Principles," *The Review of Business and Economics*, XXVIII-4, 1993.
8. Shigeo AOKI (Tokyo International University), "Accounting Characteristics and Financial Structure in Japan," *The Journal of Tokyo International University (The School of Commerce)*, 47, 1993.
9. Akira NISHIMURA (Kyushu University), "The Recent Developments in Japanese Management Accounting and their Impact on British and New Zealand Companies," *Keizaigaku-Kenkyu (Journal of Political Economy)*, LIX-3·4, 1993.
10. Ichiro SHIINA (Chuo Gakuin University), "Culture, Business and Accounting Environment in Japan," *The Chuo-Gakuin University Review of Economics & Commerce*, VIII-2, 1994.
11. Yoshiro KIMIZUKA (Sakushin Gakuin University), "Cost Accounting and The War — the Japanese Experience," *Shogaku Ronsan (The Journal of Commerce)*, XXXVI-5·6, 1995.
12. Junichi CHIBA (Tokyo Metropolitan University), "Two Aspects of Japanese External Accounting in the Socio-Historical Context of Modernization," *Keizai to Keizaigaku (Journal of the Faculty of Economics)*, 79, 1995.
13. Yoshihiro TOKUGA (Kyushu University), "The Obstacles to International Har-

monization of Accounting in Japan," *Keizaigaku-Kenkyu (Journal of Political Economy)*, LXI-3·4, 1995.

14. Yoshinao MATSUMOTO (Kagawa University), "The Countervailing Power of Japanese Auditors," *The Kagawa University Economic Review*, LXVIII-2·3, 1995.
15. Yoshihiro ITO (Seikei University), "Integrating Quality Costing and ABC with Japanese Quality Management," *Review of Asian and Pacific Studies*, 13, 1996.

Judging from the titles of the articles, they are mostly introduction/explanation of Japanese accounting or a comparison between Japan and a foreign country.

#### IV. Summary

In this paper, research trends of international accounting were analyzed for five periods covering the recent 25 years through the survey of accounting literature. It was revealed that the total number of IA research articles showed growth both in number and in the percentage to total accounting publications. It is regarded as a sign of growing importance of IA research, reflecting the globalization of the Japanese economy.

Remarkable increase was observed in categories (I), accounting for multinational corporations, and (II), international comparisons of accounting and financial reporting, although the absolute number of publications is smaller as compared to the articles in category (III), introduction/explanation of foreign accounting regulations and practices. In category (III), it is observed that its share is decreasing, although the number of publications is still predominant. Based on the fact that Japanese corporations now have a strong commitment with Asian countries, international accounting articles on Asia are rapidly increasing. Today, with the development of the borderless economy, there are strong demands towards the international harmonization of accounting standards. This again will further enhance the importance of international accounting research in the future.

(Kazuo HIRAMATSU, Kwansei Gakuin University)

Table 1

Number of Publications on Accounting and International Accounting/By Period (Summary)

Topics/Periods	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Total Number of Accounting Publications (A)	3376	4006	3374	3257	3383	17396
Number of Publications on International Accounting (B)	248	508	564	677	755	2752
Percentage of (B) to (A)	7.35	12.68	16.72	20.79	22.32	15.99

Table 2

Number of Publications on International Accounting/By Period • Category

Periods	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Topics/Years	72-76	77-81	82-86	87-91	92-96	72-96
(I) Accounting for Multinational Corporations						
1. International Accounting in General (Financial Accounting Issues)	5	6	12	24	49	96
2. Foreign Currency Translation	44	49	26	37	47	203
3. Harmonization of International Accounting Regulations	15	20	35	24	50	144
4. Disclosure by Multinational Corporation	4	9	6	7	15	41
5. International Auditing (Managerial Accounting Issues)		4	4	3	9	20
6. Performance Evaluation		1	3	5	14	23
7. International Transfer Pricing		1	1	3		5
8. International Taxation (Other Issues)	2		2	5	2	11
9. International Consolidation	8	4	2	4		18
10. Overseas Financial Activities		3	4	3	2	12
11. Survey of Accounting for Foreign Transactions	1					1
SUBTOTAL (I)	79	97	95	115	188	574
(II) International Comparisons of Accounting and Financial Reporting						
1. Comparative Accounting in General	1	4	13	3	23	44
2. International Patterns of Accounting	3	1	7	15	4	30
3. Comparisons between Japan and Foreign Countries	3	9	11	30	24	77
SUBTOTAL (II)	7	14	31	48	51	151

(III) Introduction / Explanation of Foreign Accounting Regulations and Practices						
A. Several Nations	7	14	3	8	14	46
B. North America						
1. U.S.A.	56	121	153	164	157	651
2. Canada	2	2	2	10	12	28
3. Mexico		7			2	9
B. SUBTOTAL	58	130	155	174	171	688
C. Central and South America						
4. Brazil	4	5				9
5. Argentina	2	2			1	5
6. Cuba			1			1
C. SUBTOTAL	6	7	1	0	1	15
D. Western Europe						
7. EC (EU)	9	11	19		13	52
8. United Kingdom	11	53	73	76	68	281
9. Former Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)	32	52	73	76	68	392
10. France	22	72	40	62	47	243
11. The Netherlands	3	6	4	4	3	20
12. Belgium	1	2				3
13. Denmark			1			1
14. Sweden	1					1
15. Norway		1				1
16. Italy			2	1		3
17. Spain		2		1		3
18. Switzerland	2		3	3	4	12
19. Austria					2	2
D. SUBTOTAL	81	199	230	257	247	1014
E. Former U.S.S.R. / Eastern Europe						
20. Former U.S.S.R. (Russia)	4	9	6	7	15	41
21. Former German Democratic Republic (East Germany)		3	1		2	6
22. Former Yugoslavia		2	2		5	9
23. Poland		2		1		3
24. Hungary			1	1	1	3
25. Bulgaria				1		1
E. SUBTOTAL	4	16	10	10	23	63

F. Africa						
26. Egypt	1			1		2
27. OCAM		2		3		5
28. South Africa			3			3
29. Morocco					1	1
F. SUBTOTAL	1	2	3	4	1	11
G. East Asia						
30. South Korea		4	10	7	11	32
31. Taiwan	2	1	2	7	4	16
32. China	2	15	11	26	30	84
33. Hong Kong				6		6
G. SUBTOTAL	4	20	23	46	45	138
H. ASEA N						
34. Singapore			3	6	1	10
35. Indonesia			1	2		3
36. Thailand				1		1
37. Malaysia					1	1
38. the Philippines					1	1
H. SUBTOTAL	0	0	4	9	3	16
I. Other Asian Nations						
39. India				3		3
40. Mongolia			1			1
I. SUBTOTAL	0	0	1	3	0	4
J. Oceania						
41. Australia	1	8	6	2	7	24
42. New Zealand		1	2	1	4	8
J. SUBTOTAL	1	9	8	3	11	32
SUBTOTAL (III)	162	397	438	514	516	2027
Total (I+II+III)	248	508	564	677	755	2752

Table 3  
Number of Publications in Foreign Languages/By Period

Periods	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Topics/Years	72-76	77-81	82-86	87-91	92-96	72-96
(IV) Publications in Foreign Languages			20	32	45	97
Publications on Japanese Accounting in English			1	10	15	26

## THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

The Japan Society of International Economics (JSIE) was founded on April 29, 1950. Its constitution states that the aim is to promote academic research of theoretical, empirical and policy-oriented international economics. It holds an annual all-Japan conference, publishes proceedings in the official bulletin *International Economy* and promotes coordination with academic associations inside and outside Japan.

The conference location alternates between Kanto and Kansai-Chubu. The Society holds occasional local conferences as well as district conferences in each district (Kanto (East of Japan), Chubu (Center) and Kansai (West)). Its membership is 1190 as of June 10, 1997. The Kanto district has 689 members, the Chubu 77, and the Kansai 399. The rest consists of 14 institutional members and 11 overseas members. The membership increases year after year.

The all-Japan two-day annual conference usually consists of free-theme sessions on the second day as well as a plenary session on the first day. The plenary session consists of three keynote speeches, which are subject to objective and comprehensive comments by three panelists. Other members join the following afternoon overall discussion, which is extensive, intense and profound, contributing to higher quality of the JSIE and better fellowship among the members. Young rising economists get academically stimulated by being involved in the lively first-rate plenary discussion by scholars of international economics representing Japan. A five-member program committee, officially selected at the plenary session of the conference held a year before, carefully and objectively selects first-rate presenters and disinterested discussants from purely academic viewpoints.

The JSIE members are made up of academic and business economists. Business circles inside and outside Japan show increasing interest in the activities of the JSIE. Scientific cooperation in general between business and academic circles in Japan still lags behind that in other advanced countries, as pointed out by former JSIE presidents. It has therefore become customary since 1992 to add an open symposium to the conference, as stipulated in the constitution. The symposium is general, timely and open to all citizens including local businessmen, thus enhancing the social contribution of the JSIE and contact with the business community.

Because Japan is increasingly involved in the world community, the importance of the JSIE tends to rise year after year. The number of papers written in English is increasing. So is the number of papers presented and commented in English. Some sessions use no Japanese. The door is now open for economists from abroad, and this will help the JSIE become truly international.

Noteworthy is the recent tie with the Korean International Economics Association (KIEA), initiated in 1995 by the Presidents of the two associations: Masaru

SAITOH (Chuo University, Japan) and Choong Yong AHN (Chung-Ang University, Korea). The latter's presentation at the 1995 convention "Korea-Japan Partnership in a Dynamic but Turbulent East Asian Economy" symbolizes increasing academic mutual relationship. Papers on Korea had already appeared increasingly. The academic tie is in line with various ideas of preceding JSIE presidents, especially Kiyoshi IKEMOTO (Kobe University, the 1992-1994 JSIE President). The Japan-Korea Partnership Agreement refers to the promotion of mutual understanding of world, Asian and Japan-Korean economies, mutual invitation to respective annual conferences, promotion of joint research, mutual payment of expenditures based on reciprocity, etc. Similar academic ties with other countries are desired in line with the JSIE constitution.

The Table shows the themes of the annual conferences. The themes are diverse and change from year to year, reflecting changing major trends in international economy. Here are some features of the JSIE conferences noted in the Table.

#### (1) OVERVIEW 1950-1997

During the 1950s, Japan was in the process of economic recovery and the cold war was widespread. The themes were directed toward Japanese trade, the Soviet economy and typical topics of traditional international economics. In the 1960s, new phases emerged with focus on the North-South problem and related issues. The Asian economy has already attracted much attention, as seen in the 1969 conference. Theoretical papers and ones on currency continue to attract much attention. The two oil crises in the 1970s and related issues brought about fundamental changes of the world economy, causing the conferences to focus on these new issues year after year. The 1985 Plaza Accord constituted a historical landmark in the world economy. Forty years had passed after World War II. Timely discussion in this line was made at the 1985 and the 1988 conferences. The end of the cold war around 1990 marked a new phase for the JSIE, with interests shifting to such topics as the new role of Japan or Japanese-style management, sustainable development, environment and resource issues, etc. The importance of Asian countries (Asian NIES, ASEAN, China, India, and other Asian followers) will continue to attract much interest for JSIE members. Their presentations in English will continue to increase, enhancing its contribution to the academic world community of international economics.

#### (2) THREE-POLE WORLD

The world economy consists of three poles, which are in the order of GDP (a) the EU, (b) the US, and (c) Japan. Behind the EU lies Africa, behind the US Latin America, and behind Japan Asia. The number of JSIE presentations are in the reverse order. Many papers have been presented on Japan, the Asia, and the Pan-Pacific, followed by the US and NAFTA, but very few on the EU and Africa. Also

few are papers on former socialist countries.

### (3) INTEGRATION

The three-pole world is getting smaller. This means globalization or unification on the one hand, but regional integration on the other. In what relations do the two stand? This seemingly contradictory trend has long attracted much interest, as reflected in the themes of the Table. One solution is "open regionalism", to which many agree.

### (4) CONTRASTS

Such opposing concepts tend to be taken up one after another in the main theme of the plenary session. It is the tradition already to contrast regionalism with globalism, bilateralism with multilateralism, and nationalism with internationalism. These contrasts will be focused on in the future, too. The JSIE has seen academic progress by thoroughly examining such contrasts and by synthesizing and overcoming contradictions.

### (5) CONFLICTS

A shrinking world implies increasing conflicts, e.g., US-Japan trade conflicts, and the papers on these issues are on the increase. The Japanese economy and Japanese business are critically discussed in comparison with other countries, developed and developing.

### (6) GLOBALIZATION

It goes without saying that the globalization process per se of the world economy has been a major focus of the JSIE with the 21st century just around the corner. Meaningful in this respect are the 1960 conference on a new phase of the world economy, the 1979 conference with the 1980s in prospect, and the 1985 conference discussing the forty years after the war.

### (7) BALANCE

The keynote presenters used to consist of those members belonging to so-called modern economics, and those belonging to so-called Marxist economics in order keep balance. The balance, however, has been losing importance since the collapse of the USSR and other socialist countries. Gaining importance are such subjects as transition, environment, sustainability, economic aid, philanthropy, etc. It was at the 1995 conference that "environment" first entered into the main theme of the plenary session.

### (8) REAL ASPECTS

Emphasis is placed more on real-side issues than on monetary-side issues.



Currency, financial capital movements, balance of payments, international finance, and the like tend to be less frequently discussed than trade, direct investment, economic development, terms of trade and the like.

#### (9) PURE THEORY

A gradual shift in interest from purely theoretical to empirical or policy-oriented papers has taken place in the JSIE in recent years. In Japan, there is a bigger association, the Japan Association of Economics and Econometrics, which has sessions devoted exclusively to theoretical issues of international economics. Purely theoretical papers tend to be taken up there.

#### KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS 1990-1996

Here are recent themes as well as interesting highlights of annual conferences dating back to 1990. We go backward, starting with the latest year. Some features of three keynote speeches are introduced in relation to the overall theme.

(1999 (theme still unknown, conference site in the Kansai region))

(1998 Economic Growth of East Asia: Will It Last in the 21st Century too ?)

(1997 Economic Development and World System: Market Economy, Aid and Environment)

1996 Unification of World Economy and Internationalization of Japanese Business

The theme focused on new trends in Japanese business in the increasingly borderless world. The three keynote presentations centered around the theme and revealed new in-depth analysis.

Akihisa YAMADA (Yokohama University of Commerce) revealed his field surveys of Japanese companies in Russia, US and Europe, pointing out the need for Japanese business behavior to change drastically in the age of globalization. Japanese MNCs must conform to internationally known codes of behavior to prevent corporate-culture friction.

Likewise Fukunari KIMURA (Keio University) and Hirohisa KOHAMA (Shizuoka Prefectural University) maintained, on the basis of their investigation of the recent behavior of Japanese *sogo-sosha* (general trading companies), that their importance in Japanese trade transactions is on the downside and that they need to be diversified to include such businesses as initiating trades between third countries, developing new imports according to their design, and planning, building and maintaining new industrial parks in emerging economies. The general trading companies

serve and will serve still as important information center to which other information-seeking companies flock.

Tamotsu TAKASE (Tokai University) illuminated his long research on a code of ethics on international business and argued that corporate ethics is deficient particularly in Japan. Japanese businessmen sometimes run the risk of becoming unscrupulous for the interest of their own companies. University education on corporate ethics needs to be improved. The floor agreed that Japanese companies must "live and work together for the common good" (*kyosei*) and satisfy the needs of "stakeholders". Japanese-style management reached a peak in the late 1980s, thereafter needing drastic change in the face of growing globalization. Japanese common sense is the world's uncommon sense.

#### 1995 Environment-Resource Problem and International Trade

Commonly focused on by the keynote presentations of the 1995 annual conference was the issue of sustainable development, or sustainable trade, very important for the 21st century.

Akihiro AMANO (Kwansei Gakuin University) analyzed in the first keynote paper "Trade, Environment and Development" the theoretical internalization of global externalities, and proposed more rigorous application of the OECD Polluter-Pay Principle, abstention from using ecology as pretext for trade-protectionist measures and the like.

Hiroaki FUKAMI (Keio University) in the second keynote paper "Resources and International Trade" focussed on the three-E trilemma (trilemma among Environment, Energy and Economy) and called for (a) reorientation of international trade per se toward "sustainable trade", (b) internalization of external diseconomies (like AMANO), and (c) reconsideration of resource trade in the wider context of North-South Trade.

Jun NISHIKAWA (Waseda University) likewise discussed in the third keynote paper "Resource and Sustainable Development" resource-environment problems and sustainable development and concluded that sustainable development must be supported by sustainable livelihood. This in turn calls for a transformation of our value system and our paradigm on economic development with the focus on human beings in social development.

#### 1994 Regional Integration and Global System

Contrasts are made between regional and world-wide integration in money, trade and business.

Yoshihiko MOTOYAMA (Kyoto University, 1996-98 President of JSIE) analyzed the world monetary system made up of three poles (US\$, Yen, DM), the destructive bad effects of huge speculative derivatives on financial stability and calls for a revaluation of gold. The discussant Takuji SHIMANO (Gakushuin

University) suspected that there was no meaning to reconsider gold or gold-backed currency now and pointed out the importance of policy coordination, gaining some support from the floor.

In the second keynote speech, Yoko SAZANAMI (Keio University) analyzed recent changes in world trade rules in the global system and pointed out the important constructive role being played by the WTO (e.g. service trade, intellectual property rights, trade-related investment). She stressed the importance of supporting the WTO for the sound growth of the world economy. Events thereafter have moved in line with what she said.

Tetsuo ABO (University of Tokyo) revealed the result of comparative analysis of the international transfer of management and production technologies by Japanese firms and the relationship between regional differences in the degree of transfer of Japanese business system and movements towards greater regional integration, using his well-known Application-Adaptation (Hybrid) model. The degree of the transfer differs from country to country, resulting in differences in business performance. Many pertinent comments and questions were raised from the floor, contributing to the JSIE quality.

#### 1993 Present and Future of Pan-Pacific Region: Role of Japan

The role of Japan was discussed, following the extensive diversified examinations of various Pan-Pacific issues.

Twu Jaw-yann (Nagoya University) presented "Regional Integration in the East Asia: Implication in Perspective" and discussed clearly the localized economic zone in East Asia (say, China) which is different from expanding regionalism (say, EU). The fundamental differences between the two were supplemented by his discussant, Toshio WATANABE (Tokyo Institute of Technology).

Ippei YAMAZAWA (Hitotsubashi University) and Peter DRYDALE (Australian National University) presented the second keynote paper "Tasks Ahead for Asia Pacific Economies" and focussed on APEC and its difference from the EC (now the EU). Full-fledged institutional integration as seen in European Community is neither feasible nor necessary in Asia-Pacific. It will be a loosely organized structure for a wide range of cooperative activities. All member economies who are committed jointly to the task of sustaining growth and cooperation will maintain their autonomy in economic policies in Asia-Pacific.

Hiroshi BABA (Tokyo University) presented the third keynote paper "World Economy of fin de siècle (end-of-century) and the Pacific Area" and discussed overaffluence in some advanced countries, as seen in the fads of esthetics, dieting, jogging, etc. in the context of appearing environmental constraints.

#### 1992 Integration and Disintegration of the World Economy - The Role of Japan

Integration and disintegration were contrasted with the focus on the EC, USSR,

and East Europe. MNCs and the role of the US were also considered. The role of Japan was common to all keynote speakers. The 1992 conference was characterized by five, instead of the usual three, keynote presentations. These five dealt more or less with world integration and disintegration seriously, deeply and extensively. It was indeed a very busy conference, but also quite meaningful, making another success story for the JSIE.

Sadatoshi SHIMIZU (Ritsumeikan University) in the first keynote speech "Completion of EC Internal Market and Japan" expressed cautious optimism about the future of European integration after pointing out inherent difficulties on the road.

Serguey BRAGUINSKY (Yokohama City University) in the second keynote presentation "Disintegration and Economic Integrity in the Former Soviet Union" used the Shang-Jin Wei model and analyzed the former USSR in terms of interdependence vs. disintegration.

Hirohisa KOHAMA (Shizuoka Prefectural University) in the third keynote speech "Economic Transition in Eastern Europe—A Structural Adjustment Approach" examined the process of transition from planned to market economy in Eastern Europe, which would require extensive long-term structural adjustment. In this requirement, developing countries in other continents were no different. In the 1980s, developing countries had been shifting to market-guided strategies based on World-Bank-type advice of structural adjustment. Japanese experiences of structural adjustments, it was pointed out, would prove beneficial for Eastern Europe. Herein lay the role of Japan.

Shohshichi SUGIMOTO (Kyoto University) in the fourth speech "Integration and Disintegration of the World Economy—Position of Japan" concluded that there would be unification of advanced countries and incorporation of developing countries therein. This was something new and could be called a new historical stage, with unification and incorporation taking place at the same time. It was MNCs that would play a central role in this historical process. The MNCs (e.g. Japanese big businesses) would build up and keep supply networks throughout the world (e.g. Asia), contributing to the above process.

Fukutaro WATANABE (Gakushuin University) in the fifth speech "U.S. Policy for Integration and Disintegration of the World Economy" referred to the end of the Pax Americana, the rise of the EC and Japan relative to the US, the consequent three-pole system, and the importance of the principle common to Europe and the US, viz., free market economy and parliamentary democracy. Japan would follow. The US would pursue its national interest in the new three-pole political system.

1991 Turbulent World Economy: In Search of New International Economic Order

The focus was on some world turbulences in currency, trade and the emergence of the West Pacific. A comprehensive discussion by one noted member was

another feature.

Shojiro TOKUNAGA in the first keynote paper "Fluctuating Exchange Rate System and Financial Globalization—National Interests and Optimal Currency Area under Dollar System" argued that the float promoted national interests and changed the Dollar-standard system. Nationalism with the float would lead to a mosaic optimal currency area. The current Dollar-Standard System involved structural contradictions with the floating exchange rate system. His comprehensive analysis contributed to a unification of both the currency system argument and the international financial organization argument, causing active discussion among participants.

Makoto IKEMA (Hitotsubashi University) delivered the second keynote paper "Free Trade Area and Regionalism" and considered from a long-term aspect the relation between regionalism and multilateral trade liberalization. He concluded that GATT should function beyond regionalism and that Japan should play a positive role in strengthening the GATT system.

Toshio WATANABE (Tokyo Institute of Technology) in the third keynote speech "On the Development of the Western Pacific Economy" analyzed the chain reaction of growth among East Asian countries which were enjoying the benefits of backwardness. His cogent reasoning on Asian dynamism is now well known.

As comprehensive discussant, Takuji SHIMANO (Gakushuin University) gave comments on the three keynote presentations. His comment was based on the criterion of symmetry and that of flexibility for the first monetary paper, and on the criterion of efficiency, effectiveness and consistency for the second and third real-sector papers. Such comprehensive comments require sharp insight and profound knowledge of advancing international economics, which is not always possible.

## 1990 Regionalism and World Economy

Various aspects of emerging regionalisms were analyzed, with the focus on Pacific, US-Japan and EC integration. A comprehensive discussion by one noted member was a feature.

Ippei YAMAZAWA (Hitotsubashi University) in the first keynote "Pacific Cooperation and the Global Economy" traced the historical evolution of the APEC and characterized it as the Pacific version of the OECD, its features being open regionalism, non-exclusiveness and gradual liberalization.

Minoru SEKISHITA (Ritsumeikan University) in the second keynote speech "A View of the Structural Impediments Initiative between Japan and US" explained the historical process of politicizing US-Japan economic conflicts and referred conclusively to the inevitability of the bilateral structural adjustment or SII.

Soko TANAKA (Tohoku University) in the third keynote presentation "The Development of European Integration and some Prospects for the Reconstruction of Europe" discussed regionalism, German reunification and prospects of European

reorganization, favoring Euro-optimism rather than Euro-pessimism.

As comprehensive commentator for the three keynote speeches, Jun NISHIKAWA (Waseda University) pointed out that further research should be made in the relation between globalism and regionalism, between economic nationalism and borderless economy, and between regional integration and functional integration. Shohshichi SUGIMOTO (Kyoto University) said that these researches were needed and were expected to lead to an "economic theory of interdependence". The JSIE conferences thereafter have tended to follow the path outlined by them.

(Kiyoshi ABE, Chiba University)

TABLE All-Japan Conferences of the Japan Society of International Economics (JSIE)

No	Month, Year	Place	Theme of Plenary Session
1	April, 1950	Tokyo University	(Inauguration)
2	November, 1950	Osaka Municipal University	International Values
3	May, 1951	Hitotsubashi University	International Values (Cont'd) Soviet Union and Eastern Europe
4	November, 1951	Kobe University	Japanese Trade: How It Should Be
5	June, 1952	Keio University	Analysis of Soviet Economy
6	November, 1952	Kyoto University	Dollar Shortage
7	May, 1953	Waseda University	Structural Disequilibrium of Postwar World Economy
8	October, 1953	Nagoya University	Asian Economy and Japan
9	May, 1954	Tokyo University	Imperialism Controversy
10	November, 1954	Kobe University of Commerce	Business Fluctuations and Balance of Payments
11	May, 1955	Hitotsubashi University	Economic Development of Backward Countries: Theory and Practice
12	November, 1955	Kansai Gakuin University	International Capital Movements
13	May, 1956	Keio University	System of International Trade and Finance
14	November, 1956	Osaka University	Economic Development and Foreign Trade
15	June, 1957	Tohoku University	Japanese Economy and Trade
16	November, 1957	Osaka City University	Japanese Economy and Trade
17	November, 1958	Yokohama National University, etc.	World Business Fluctuations and Japanese Trade
18	July, 1959	Hokkaido University, etc.	Structural Inconsistencies of World Economy
19	July, 1960	Fukuoka University	New Phase of World Economy
20	October, 1961	Toyama University	World Economy and International Currency: Postwar Practice and Mechanism

21	November, 1962	Kyoto University	Economic Development and Trade — with Focus on Backward Countries
22	October, 1963	Meiji University	World Business Conditions: Analysis and Countermeasures
23	October, 1964	Kobe University	Course of World Economy
24	October, 1965	Chuo University	International Cooperation: Current Situation and Prospects
25	October, 1966	Kansai University	Fundamental Issues of International Economics
26	October, 1967	Kokugakuin University	Theory and Practice of Regionalism
27	October, 1968	Nagoya University	International Currency: Current Situation and New Developments
28	October, 1969	Yamaguchi University	New Developments in Asian Economy
29	November, 1970	Gakushuin University	International Capital Movements and World Market
30	November, 1971	Nagasaki University	Japanese Trade Policy in Transition
31	November, 1972	Musashi University	International Currency System: Reconstruction and Problems
32	October, 1973	Kwansei Gakuin University	Future of International Currency System and Floating Exchange Rates
33	October, 1974	Waseda University	Confusion and Reorganization of World Economy: Current Analysis and Policy Aspects
34	October, 1975	Kyushu University	World Economy in Crisis: Structure and Suggested Solution
35	October, 1976	Hitotsubashi University	Liberalism and Regionalism: Review of the Principle of Multilateralism, Freedom, and Indiscrimination



36	October, 1977	Osaka University	Survey of International Economics with Focus on Trade and North-South Problem
37	October, 1978	Keio University	Friction and Coordination in International Economy: With Emphasis on Balance of Payments and Industrial Adjustment
38	October, 1979	Kumamoto University of Commerce	Overview of World Economy: 1980s in Prospect
39	October, 1980	Nagoya City University	Contemporary Capitalism and International Economy: Ideological vs Institutional Approach
40	July, 1981	Otaru University of Commerce	US-Japan and Europe-Japan Economic Conflicts
41	October, 1982	Kobe University of Commerce	Present and Future of International Trade System: In Search of an Orderly Trade
42	October, 1983	Nihon University	World Recession: Solution and Countermeasure
43	October, 1984	Kobe University	International Currency and Financial Issue: Market-Opening Problem
44	October, 1985	Meiji University	Forty Years after the War: Structural Transformation and Prospects of World Economy
45	October, 1986	Hiroshima University	International Economic Organization: Ideas and Reality
46	October, 1987	Tohoku Gakuin University	Internationalization in Progress and Business Activity
47	October, 1988	Doshisha University	Current Stage of World Economy: Retrospect and Prospect
48	October, 1989	Chuo University	Technological Innovation and World Economy
49	October, 1990	Ritsumeikan University	Regionalism and World Economy

50	October, 1991	(Nagoya City)	Turbulent World Economy: In Search of New International Economic Order
51	October, 1992	Fukushima University	Integration and Disintegration of World Economy: Role of Japan
52	October, 1993	Osaka City University	Present and Future of Pan-Pacific Region: Role of Japan
53	October, 1994	Niigata University	Regional Integration and Global System
54	October, 1995	Kansai University	Environment-Resource Problem and International Trade
55	October, 1996	Chiba University	Unification of World Economy and Internationalization of Japanese Business
56	October, 1997	Sei-nan Gakuin University	Development and World System: Market Economy, Aid and Environment
57	October, 1998	Kanto Gakuin University	Economic Growth of East Asia: Will It Last in the 21st Century too ?
58	(1999)	(Kansai)	

## THE JAPAN PORT ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION

### Common Issues in the Past Five Years — 1992 to 1996

#### 1. 1992 Globalization of Economy in Local Areas and Ports

Six members delivered presentations, subject as indicated, in relation to the above 1992 theme. Their presentations are summarised as follows:

"Ports in Regional Areas in the Age of Internationalization," Etsuko SHIBATA, Shimonoseki City College:

It is hoped that a community group be formed in the port city to approach international society through cultural exchanges. For this purpose, it is necessary to activate international exchanges on an age, school level, and individual citizen basis.

"Internationalization of Hokkaido Economy and Ports," Norimasa KUMASHIRO, Kumashiro System Design Office:

A key point for internationalization is that a plan for a systematically consistent distribution function should be promoted across the inland-to-sea zone in relationship with the industrial and port function, by the joint efforts of the government and the private sector.

"Business Concentration and Port Activities in Hokkaido," Taro MATSUZAWA, Hokkaido Foundation for Youth Scientific Culture:

It is pointed out that excessive business concentration in Sapporo comes from two aspects :history and geographical position. The outlets of most governmental organizations and public financial activities are located in Sapporo. These are a great factor for business concentration.

"Internationalization of Economy in the Zone of Northern Kyushu and Port Roles," Masatoshi KAGAWA, Kumamoto University:

In the Japan Sea coastal zone, where the local government and the private sector attempt to address internationalization jointly, speculation is said to be comparatively less united, especially in Fukuoka and Yamaguchi prefectures. Their coordination and adjustments seem to be preceded by competition and confrontation even in improving Kitakyushu, Hakata and Shimonoseki ports.

"Northern Territory and Ports," Fujio CHISUMA, Hiroshima Mercantile Marine College:

Japan, a small capital country in the past, now has excessively accumulated capital. If its capital is invested internationally in improving the lives of people in neighboring countries and economic development, this could result in mutual benefits. Corporate investment should not be sought for profits only.

"Globalization and the Free Port System," Toru YAMAJI, Nihon University:

One issue today for the Japanese long-term trading policy is to build a globally opened port base in the long term for physical distribution. Toward this end, transient, entrepot, and intermediate trade should be promoted. This way of revolution

for a highly free port system provides a milestone to take a direct look at the global economy.

## 2. 1993: Asian Economy Advancement and Ports

Six members delivered presentations, subject as indicated, in relation to the above 1993 theme. Their presentations are summarised as follows:

"The Change in Asian Physical Distribution and That in Circumstances Surrounding Container Ports," Sho-Hang PARK, Koshin University, Korea:

Freights handled by the eight major ports in Asia accounts for about 45% of container freight at the 20 major ports in the world. If the Asian economic zone is developed in the future, the amount of freight is bound to accelerate, eventually the world.

"The Growth of East Asian Economy and Unequal Growth of Container Ports," Takehiko KIMURA, Nagoya Port Authority:

The dynamism of economic growth in east Asia brings about unequal growth of container ports, and world first and second rank container ports emerge. This fact leads to the theory for repetitive investment led by the government in ports, including their front and back zones.

"The Economic Growth in East and Southeast Asia and Major Container Intermediate Transport," Masayuki DOI, Kobe University of Commerce:

It is a characteristic point that intermediate transport occupies a very high proportion of Korea-Japan container transportation. The amount of container transportation from China is rapidly increasing now. The rate of transportation increased by 46% in Korea and by 41% in Yokohama from 1991 to 1992. This tendency is remarkably the case with Thailand among ASEAN countries.

"The Unity of the Asian Economy and Ports," Toru YAMAJI, Nihon University:

Given the historical position of our country, free ports are believed to be an essential means, and a free port with strong authority should also be founded in our country. This idea is a desired option from the world viewpoint.

"The Kyushu Economic Zone and Sea and Air Ports in Asia," Masatoshi KAGAWA, Kumamoto University:

Efforts for internationalization are needed for the Kyushu economic zone and Asia. This concept is important and essential for the advancement of the zone. These are dynamic and favorable conditions to realize the concept. An experiment being carried out in the Kyushu zone is greatly significant.

"An Example of Cooperation for Internationalization in a Regional Port City," Etsuko SHIBATA, Shimonoseki City College:

In the circumstances under which trade among Japan, Korea and China is actually activated, the east Asian six-city meeting held spontaneously by the regional cities involved is believed to trigger the progress of full economic exchange. It is important for major foreign trading ports in China and Korea on the shore of the

Yellow Sea to find a way to grow cooperatively without falling into destructive competition.

### 3. 1994: Regional Activation and Ports

Three members delivered presentations, subject as indicated, in relation with the above 1994 theme. Their presentations are summarised as follows:

"Area Vitalization and Port Cultural Position," Mitsunobu HIBINO, Nagoya Port Culture Center:

Port and harbor vitalization and community building begins from producing characteristic ports. This means that port buildup must take precedence over the lives of people. Therefore, port and harbor must mean a place and space used as a zone for the lives of people enhancing interdependence and a physical distribution and production base.

"The Development of Physical Distribution in Tomakomai, Hokkaido," Hideki YOSHIOKA, Hokkaigakuen Kitami University:

Individual ports in Hokkaido should not be involved in small communityism. Although the concentration of city function in one place gives rise to various problems such as extremes of dense and sparse population, that of distribution function does not. The latter should be accepted from the viewpoint of enhanced distribution efficiency and cost reduction. Now is the time to cooperate to expand Tomakomai port to be a really large physical distribution base in Hokkaido.

"Changes in the Bay Marine Products Industry in Port and Harbor Cities," Shinichi WANO, Bureau of Port and Harbors, Tokyo Metropolitan Government:

Ofunato has the ability to do about four times more popular fish processing quantity-wise per fish processing concern than other cities. This is a characteristic point of the city. Ofunato's issue from now on is that it must turn the business from quantity into quality from the viewpoint of a possible increase in demand for marine products throughout the nation. This means that the city must pursue value-added marine products i.e., how it must increase sales of those products. Toward this end, it is an issue for Ofunato to take measures to improve the marine environment and its fishery industry, and use the port for multiple purposes, etc.

### 4. 1995: People's Life and Ports

Seven members delivered presentations, subject as indicated, in relation to the above 1995 theme. Their presentations are summarized as follows:

"The Function of Yokkaichi City Port along with the Overseas Development of the Petrochemical Industry," Tatsuo Ito, Mie University:

Since major countries in Asia would establish their self-supply system for petrochemical products in the early part of the 21st century, shipment from the Yokkaichi City port is predicted to be substantially reduced. As for the city tax, it is urgent to

plan and implement measures for port economic promotion to maintain export freights.

"The Social Environment of Ports and Citizens' Vitality," Mitsunobu HIBINO, Yokkaichi City University:

The improvement and expansion of the Yokkaichi port could lead to the remarkable urban growth and changes in the shopping quarters. I feel that this results from the measures to be taken for the port and harbor advancement chiefly led by the area (people). Furthermore, I feel nostalgia for the old good days of Yokkaichi port, which advanced as a result of efforts by people, businesses and the port."

"Effects on People Living by Port and Harbor Developments," Kaoru SEINO, Ishikari Bay New Port Authority:

For activating exchanges with other countries chiefly in northeast Asia with its great potential, (1) to develop an industry to produce export products making use of geographical features with the new Ishikari Bay port in the background, (2) to improve facilities in the port front area that allows effective intermediate trading of products exported from the coastal industrial regions in the Pacific Rim zone and other areas, and (3) to review the plans for the improvement of a free port zone.

"The Hanshin Earthquake and Reconstruction of the Kobe Port," Shozo TANAKA, Institute of Traffic and Transportation Policy:

For rebuilding the city focusing on a nucleus — the lives of 1.5 million people in Kobe city, where there were more than 6,000 casualties, 28,000 people injured, and some 200,000 people badly affected in the 1995 earthquake, (1) to refer to Kobe people a plan for the contents of port recovery and reconstruction beforehand, (2) to demand responsibility from the Kobe City government, the Kobe Port Front Public Corporation should be abolished and governing right returned to Kobe City, and (3) to give importance to measures to be taken for improvement in the Kobe port as a base port in Asia from the viewpoint of international competition.

"The Hanshin Disaster and Kobe Port," Etsuko SHIBATA, Meijo University:

Kobe city is rapidly reconstructing its port now. The first line opinion should have been reflected in the current plan. I propose that a new type of Kobe reconstruction program be established in such a manner that Kobe people may get involved, e.g., by seeking their ideas for quicker Kobe port reconstruction.

"Relationships of People's Lives and Ports from the Viewpoint of the Function Aspect of Korean Ports and Harbors," Byoung-Hong PARK, Enko University, Korea:

At first, regional ports may be vitalized by the people's own autonomy based on the lives of inhabitants when the decentralized locality, port individuality, and necessity of developing a cultural zone are demonstrated. The port has a multipurpose construction from the viewpoint that a port is a city. Then I see a port having personality rather than a part of the city function as seen in conventional ports.

"Significance and Issues of People's Lives and Ports," Toshiro KITAMI, Shizuoka Sangyo University:

Although decentralization of people in cities is sought for generally, there is a lack of healthy local autonomy. That should be formed and the independence of a 'community group' should support the local autonomy. To be concrete, the really great issue is how to make possible a western way of port and harbor management and administration free from that based on the Japanese traditional bureaucratic system.

#### 5. 1996: International Based Port and City

Six members delivered presentations, subject as indicated, in relation to the above 1996 theme. Their presentations are summarized as follows:

"Current Issues from the Viewpoint of Port Physical Distribution Activities," Manabu YAMAMURA, Shizuoka Sangyo University:

The port is the major core of physical distribution for our country. The port should have economic power behind its zone and should use the feature of physical distribution to get a position strong enough to tolerate international competition. At the same time, it should appropriately identify changes in the activities of physical distribution and should be built up to sensitively meet the market needs.

"Integration of the International Base Ports and Urbanization," Toru YAMAJI, Nihon University:

To survive competition particularly with Asian ports, as a marketing strategy to develop 'an internationally based port,' a free port city should be built identifying economic power provided by urbanization. This seems only one solution to address the above-mentioned competition. Therefore, I propose that a certain area be designated in our country for a free port city under a long-term plan, and further that the economy of matured urbanization be accomplished.

"A Study on Mokpo Port Sustainable Revitalization and Kwangju City Redevelopment," Jae Ha KIM, Sea Transportation Port International Academy, Korea:

Revitalization of ports leads to the creation of a city's strong point, and development of the city (function) is realized from the port. Mokpo Port can realize natural development and development of a greater sphere. Kwangju City contributes to the creation of productive nature, and the development of a greater sphere of Kwangju City. Revitalization of Mokpo Port is a sun for the greater sphere of Kwangju.

"Making of the City System and Port Functions," Sachiko ENDO, Kawamura Gakuen Women's University:

Decentralization of production and distribution facilities has advanced. But that of the economic central management function has done otherwise. As seen in employee reduction and movement of headquarters of Osaka businesses to Tokyo or employment reduction in their offices, the economic ground in the Kansai area chiefly in Osaka has subsided relatively, leading to the integrated concentration of the central economic management function in Tokyo.

"Growth of Fushiki Toyama Port and Urbanization," Ichiro TACHIBANA, Port Transportation, Fushiki Sea and Land Transportation Co., Ltd:

Comprehensively promoting economic activities will make a Fushiki community with rich features based on a variety of historic cultures over the last 1,000 years or more. Furthermore, the international exchanges of personnel and physical distribution activities to meet today's needs, would build a community as a port city in Fushiki with a wide range of time as well as space on the stage of the Japan Sea.

"An Idea for a Japan Sea Museum and Urban Development," Yoji AMEMIYA, Toyama Mercantile Marine College:

I would like to propose two things to solidify my idea about the Japan Sea Museum. First, the Japan Sea Museum from the viewpoint of urban development surrounded by sea. The idea would get the museum closely connected with the sea. Second, the idea would embrace a total waterfront to be developed along the Toyama Coast including a new port as a core of the idea, reclaimed land in the east, Toyama Fushiki Port, Himi Port, Uozu Port, etc.

(Isao TOMITA, Yokohama Harbor Polytechnic College)



# JAPAN SOCIETY OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION ON PUBLIC AND CO-OPERATIVE ECONOMY (CIRIEC Japanese Section)

## 1. Outline of the Society

The Society of Research and Information on Public and Co-operative Economy (CIRIEC, Japanese Section) was established in 1985 as the Japanese sub-division of CIRIEC (International Center for Research and Information on Co-operative Economies) which had been in activity mainly in Europe.

CIRIEC is an international society for research on public and co-operative economies, now having sub-divisions in no less than 20 countries worldwide and being actively engaged in research that lays emphasis on the issue of privatization of public enterprises as well as on the ideals for co-operative organizations. CIRIEC will see its 50th anniversary in September, 1997.

Like CIRIEC, the Society has been pursuing research studies extensively in the fields of public economies. [See the themes listed below which were taken up for discussion in its past domestic general meetings.] What is especially noteworthy is that the Society took up, in commemoration of its 10th anniversary, the issue of Social Economy as the unified theme for the three consecutive general meetings from the 9th to the 11th. In 1995, the Society held a commemorative conference on October 7-8th at Toyo University in celebration of this 10th anniversary. This event gathered together most of the members of the Society. An international symposium was also organized with invited guests, including Professor THIRY, from the headquarters of CIRIEC. At the International symposium, on October 8th, the following panelists gave lectures around the general theme.

- Bernard THIRY (Liege University; the Director of CIRIEC International)
- Shunzo NITTA (Toyo University; the Secretary General of the CIRIEC Japanese Section)
- Jun NISHIKAWA (Waseda University)
- Hirobumi SHIBATA (Ritsumeikan University)

The Society prides itself that the research results that were obtained in these meetings did much for the cause of learning in this specific field of study in Japan, which had been considered comparatively behindhand.

Since 1986, the Society has sent a delegation to the international conference of CIRIEC that takes place in alternate years. Among those who have read papers representing the Society in the past international conferences are: the late Mr. Saburo OKITA (former special adviser of the Society), Mr. Tomoji ICHINOSE (adviser of the Society and professor of Ishinomaki Senshu University), Mr. Hisao ONOE (the hon-

orary chairman of the Society), and Mr. Kohei SAKAMOTO (a director of the Society and the former head of the Toray Research Institute of Management).

The Society aims to continue to further its research on public and co-operative economies in close contact with CIRIEC.

## 2. Outline of CIRIEC International

CIRIEC International--the headquarters of CIRIEC Japanese section--is a non-governmental international organization. It enjoys corporate status in Belgium, under a Royal Order dated 27 July 1961, as an international organization pursuing objectives of a scientific character.

The International Center of Research and Information on Collective Economy was founded in 1947 by Professor Edgard MILHAUD, a French economist teaching at Geneva University, who had earlier founded the review then known as the *Annals of Collective Economy*. With the active assistance of Swiss friends, MILHAUD founded CIRIEC and kept it going in Geneva until 1957. The headquarters of the association were transferred to Liège (Belgium) in 1957. Professor Paul LAMBERT became Director of CIRIEC and later its President.

The expression "collective Economy", which Milhaud invented to embrace all the different sectors of the economy oriented towards the pursuit of the general interest, did not win general acceptance in economic terminology. To avoid all misunderstandings, CIRIEC changed its name slightly in 1974, to be known henceforth by the more precise--if not more attractive--name of "International Center of Research and Information on Public and Cooperative Economics".

Currently CIREIC has national sections in some 20 countries: Argentina, Austria, Belgium-Luxembourg, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom.

## 3. Themes for the Past General Meetings of the Society

### 1st General Meeting:

November 28 and 29, 1986 at Asaka Campus, Toyo University  
Shift in Public Factors - Deregulation and Privatization

### 2nd General Meeting:

November 7 and 8, 1987 at Konan University  
Public Factors and Efficiency

### 3rd General Meeting:

November 18 and 19, 1988 at Koyu Kaikan, Tokai University

## New Relationship between State and its Economy — In Consideration of the Stream of Information Orientation and Internationalization

### 4th General Meeting:

December 8 and 9, 1989 at Hosei University

Cross-Border Public Responsibility — Creation of a New Definition of International Public Responsibility

### 5th General Meeting:

December 15 and 16, 1990 at Ritsumeikan University

Environment Cost and Economic Growth - Role of Public Sectors in Continuous Growth

### 6th General Meeting:

December 6 and 7, 1991 at Surugadai Memorial Hall, Chuo University

Public and Private Sectors in Urban Development — In Consideration of Unipolar Development Concentrated in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area

### 7th General Meeting:

December 12 and 13, 1992 at Osaka Sangyo University

Public Factors in a Global Society

### 8th General Meeting:

December 11 and 12, 1993 at the International Conference Hall, Waseda University

Decentralization of Power, and Public Finance Policy — Considerations for Optimum Sharing of Power and Revenue

### 9th General Meeting:

December 3 and 4, 1994 at Ryutsu Kagaku University

Social Economy — Public Responsibility and Profit-making Standard

### 10th General Meeting:

October 7 and 8, 1995 at Hakusan Campus, Toyo University

Social Economy — Market and Society

### 11th General Meeting:

December 14 and 15, 1996 at Shiran Kaikan, Kyoto University

Social Economy — Environment and Socio-economic System

### 12th General Meeting:

December 14 and 15, 1997 at the University of Tokyo  
Public Responsibility and Information Orientation in a Global Era

### 3. Record of Participation in International Conferences of CIRIEC

1986 at Brussels, Belgium  
The Financing of Public and Co-operative Economy

1988 at Bordeaux, France  
Mixed Economy Systems in Modern Economy

1990 at Porto Rosa, Yugoslavia  
Mixed Economy Systems in Modern Economies  
Saburo OKITA  
"World Issues for the 90's"

1992 at Valencia, Spain  
Public Enterprises, Co-operatives, Mutuels and Non-profit Organizations in the new Europe  
Hisao ONOE  
"Public Factors in Japanese Economy Compared with European Cases"

1994 at Graz, Austria  
Cooperation Instead of Confrontation Strategies for the Future Mixed Economy  
Kohei SAKAMOTO  
"Changes in Industrial Policy and Japanese Management"

### 4. Future Direction of Research Studies: (Summary of the direction decided in the 11th General Meeting)

With the 21st Century drawing closer, we are now rapidly heading toward a new era of globalization. This globalization is very quick in progress in a diversity of areas, where various systems, including regions, enterprises, organizations and states are intricately influencing one another, transfiguring themselves, and bringing about a paradigm shift in the global system as a whole.

As globalization advances, the global environment, in which we humans live, is compelled to face the signs of crises such as environmental pollution and global warming, etc., which begin to cast a dark shadow over the future of humanity. The crises of humanity are none but the products of human social activities and the negative effects of the progress in globalization. These crises present us a new question of what public responsibility should be in an era of globalization. Public

responsibility today has so many questions that cannot be solved within the conventional paradigm of nation-state. To search for public responsibility on a global basis much beyond the conventional public responsibility based on a nation-state paradigm has now become a critical question for us.

The era of globalization is at the same time an era of information orientation. The innovations in information technology and the growth of information communications services which have advanced rapidly since the 80's have made it possible for various actors such as states, public organizations (inclusive of nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations), enterprises, individuals, etc. to take worldwide action more easily and to shift the nature of their respective international relationships. As we entered into the 90's, the improvement of regional, national and global information communications infrastructures became one of the prime agenda items for socio-economic development. By the middle of the 90's, the Internet system came on the stage as a worldwide communications medium for local enterprises and organizations, and is further changing the nature of international relationships on a global basis. The high degree of information orientation is now compelling us to redefine public responsibility.

Redefining and establishing a new concept of public responsibility for a globally information-oriented society is indeed the core to solve the innumerable problems built in the present world system. A socio-economic system not only respecting and sustaining the diversity of cultures kept by every nation and region but also making continuous economic growth feasible must be formulated and built. To make the rules for and construct the system of an information society from the global viewpoint has now become a prime global task. The possibility to create a globally information-oriented society and to solve the problems to be involved therein has become a pressing issue.

Looking forward to the 21st Century, the Society has decided to set the question of Public Responsibility and Information Orientation in a Global Era as the theme of its next general meeting, so that it will present to its members a place for joint intellectual work to approach the questions of global governance, public responsibility, public policy, and the ideal global society in a globally information-oriented era from interdisciplinary and diversified viewpoints.

(Satoru MATSUBARA, Toyo University)

## THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL POLICY

### The Changing of Japanese Management Systems and Issues in Labor Studies

#### I Japanese Management Systems

Toyota, the symbolic word for the Japanese production system in the 1980s, developed what was termed a "medium- and long-range management system" at the beginning of this decade to review its basic company strategy for production and man-management systems. These were also heralded as basic concepts of company development, coming as they did around the period when the lean production thesis was coming to fruition. Yet a review of the management systems of the 1980s is required not only for Toyota and the auto industry, but for Japanese industry as a whole. This is clear from the fact that the Japanese Confederation of Management Organizations in May 1995 published what was in practice an agenda for the fundamental reform of the so-called "Japanese Management System" (Nikkeiren 1995).

The production system together with its related work organization has been at the center of the changes in the 1990s in Japan. The most crucial aspect of Japanese production practice is in the structure of managerial control on the shop floor. The importance of supervisors, for example, within the context of the formation of skills, work organization, regulation and trouble-free industrial relations, as well as production control has been marked by many research publications. This reflects what could be termed "workplacism" in terms of research into Japanese labor/industrial relations.

The basic idea of Japanese production systems, on the other hand, has been interpreted by both sides of industry in terms of what we might term "respect for people". This implies the use of human potential, including their abilities wherever possible in the production process in order to secure job enrichment. The post-war industrial relations context has been profoundly concerned with the development of the idea. In the 1950s, many leading Japanese companies experienced major disputes around the question of rationalization of staff. In the second half of the 1950s and 1960s, against a background of relatively unstable product markets, there gradually emerged a framework for Japanese management practice which had as a fundamental condition a combination of reduced manpower and limited mechanization, together with the highest possible degree of production efficiency. The internal labor market is vitally important to the functioning of the overall system. It is characterised by the discriminatory employment practice of relatively long-term employment, with flexible allocation of core employees and massively unstable peripheral employment acting as a buffer; sub-contracting and outsourcing as a system of vertical division of risks of low profitability; internal collaborative union-management relationships based on an understanding of the need for high

productivity; and an individualized wage system linked to systematic appraisal. In short, these have become the institutional elements of the system.

However, owing to the differences in the process for the termination of disputes and the overall industrial relations context, the implementation of "human respectability" has worked differently from company to company. Only a look at the auto industry shows us that Toyota has stressed the productive abilities of workers, while Nissan has emphasized what they term "humanized work standards". In essence, this has reflected on the formation of different types of production system at each company.

## II Recent Research Products

### (a) Four Major Research Areas

Labor studies, which has long been the core area of the society in the post-war era, has also shifted its research concern. Research performed in the 1980s within the Society's framework trended towards explaining the source of Japanese competitiveness and flexibility, or analyzing critically the mechanisms of workplace industrial relations.

The thesis at the center was KOIKE's "intellectual skill" estimation of direct production workforces. KOIKE's thesis has demonstrated its successful description of Japanese way of human resource formation based on the OJT related skill development system, which is closely related to the Japanese specific career formation system of long term employment. KOIKE's thesis is of importance in that it addressed Japanese employment practice of internal life-time employment as a progressive model for human resource management. However, its deep concentration on individual skill seems to marginalize the meaning of the managerial institutional/industrial relations conditions necessary for individual skill formation, though he did not ignore the labor market/personnel management elements.

Four research areas intended to deepen understanding of the source of the high productivity and competitiveness of Japanese companies were practiced in the 1980s, to be published in the 90s.

The first block is research on the differences within the formation and structure of industrial relations, mainly from the institutionalist approach. The emergence of a gap in productivity and flexible working practices between Nissan and Toyota is explained from the difference in the formation process of union-management institutionalized relations (TOTSUKA and HYODO 1991).

Secondly, the contents and quality of the Japanese direct production worker's skill are analyzed with special reference to the division of work in several auto/electronics production plants and also through a Japanese-German comparison, to clarify that the "intellectual skill" in KOIKE's term is substantially multi-task ability of relatively low-level intellectual discretion (NOMURA 1993 (a); 1993 (b)).

The third group of works try to extend the context in which productivity and flexibility are resourced. The basic methodological viewpoint is Toyotism in workers' life outside the line, in their family and social life, or to use another word, "Toyotization" of life (Shokugyo-Seikatsu Kenkyuukai 1994; SARUTA 1995).

The forth and final work sets detailed structural analysis of workplace organizational structure as the source of high productivity, picking two Japanese auto-makers as objectives. Organizational-behavior theory is reflected, if not mentioned explicitly, though the level of fact-finding is far deeper than any former research on the Japanese auto industry (ISHIDA 1997).

#### (b) Research Issues Now Approaching

The results of the above four research areas have enriched labor studies both methodologically and empirically. However, the research concerns underlying them more or less suffered from a lack of historical perspective on the formation of so-called Japanese management: there was especially little concern for the history of personnel and human resource management at each company level. How and when in the post-war era has the peculiar Japanese human resource management system been stabilized? What was the key managerial target in that process? How have the trade unions/informal groups reacted and what were the strategical elements for the deep spirit of the labor movement of post-war Japan?

Having growing concern for the history issue, the society has recently published Hodo's monograph of two volumes, which is the post-war history of Japanese industrial relations based on an institutionalist approach on the inter-actional relations between the managerial approach to the orderlization of the internal labor market and the trade unions' strategies (HODO 1997).

Several research projects by members of the Society focused on managerial history in the context of the formation of Japanese industrial relations are now in process. They provide expectations for the new development of labor studies in the area of the history of management-labor interactional relations.

ISHIDA Mitsuo, FUJIMOTO Hiroyuki, HISAMOTO Norio and MATSUMURA Fumito 1997; *Nihon No Lean Seisan Houshiki* (The Lean Production System in Japan), Chuo-Keizaisha.

KOIKE Kazuo 1991; *Shigoto no Keizaigaku* (The Economics of Work), Toyo-Keizai-Shinpousha.

HODO Tsutomu (1997), *Rodo no Sengoshi* (A History of Industrial Relations in Japan, 1945-1989, Vol. I and II), Univ. of Tokyo Press .

Nikkeiren 1995; *Japanese Management In The New Era-New Japanese Management Study Project Report*, Nikkeiren.

NOMURA Masami 1993 (a); Toyotism, Minerva Shobo.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1993 (b); *Jukuren to Bungyo* (Skill and the Division of Work),



Ochanomizu-Shobou.

SARUTA Masaki 1995; *Toyotism to Roumukanri* (Toyotism and Personnel Management), Zeimu-Keiri-Kyokai.

Shokugyo Koyo Kenkyukai 1994; *Kigyo Shakai to Ningen* (Company-Society and the Human), Houritsu-bunka-sha.

TOTSUKA Hideo and HYODO Tsutomu 1991; *Roshi-kankei no Tenkan to Sentaku* (Change and Choice in Labor-Management Relations), Nippon-Hyouronsha.

(Koichi OGASAWARA, Saitama University)



THE JAPAN ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATION  
日本会計研究学会

- Established: 1937
  - Number of Members: 1,654
  - President: Masa-atsu TAKADA (Kyoto Gakuen University)
  - Publication: Monthly bulletin, *Kaikei (Accounting)*
  - Liaison Office of the Japan Accounting Association  
c/o Moriyama Co., Hayashi Building,  
1-10, Nishiki-cho, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0054, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Meiji Gakuin University in September, 1998.

THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SOCIETY OF JAPAN  
(Formerly: THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN)  
日本農業経済学会

- Established: 1924
  - Number of Members: honorary 29, regular 1,170, associate (students) 188, cooperative 24
  - Chairman: Osamu SODA (University of Kyoto)
  - Publication: Bulletin of the Society, *Nogyokeizai Kenkyu (Journal of Rural Economics)*  
— quarterly
  - The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan  
c/o Business Center for Academic Societies of Japan,  
5-16-9, Honkomagome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0021, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Chiba University on April 2-3, 1998 with the symposium "Agricultural Policy Reform: Philosophy and Framework."

JAPAN SOCIETY FOR APPLIED MANAGEMENT (JSAM)  
実践経営学会

- Established: 1967
  - Number of Members: 731
  - President: Takatsugu NATO (Emeritus, Nihon University)
  - Publication: *The Practice of Management* (No. 1-34)  
*News Letter* — twice a year
  - Japan Society for Applied Management (JMAS)  
c/o Assistant Professor Takashi HIROI  
College of Economics, Nihon University,  
1-3-2, Misaki-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0061, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Waseda University on June 6, 1998 with the symposium "What Practical Management is!"

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THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES  
アジア政経学会

- Established: 1953
  - Number of Members: 1,000
  - President: Tomoyuki KOJIMA (Keio University)
  - Publication: *Asian Studies* — quarterly
  - Japan Association for Asian Political and Economic Studies  
c/o Professor Ryosei KOKUBU  
Faculty of Law, Keio University,  
2-15-45, Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0073, Japan.  
The next annual meeting will be held in October, 1998.
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JAPAN AUDITING ASSOCIATION  
日本監査研究学会

- Established: 1978
  - Number of Members: 429
  - President: Nobuo HIDA (Chuo University)
  - Publication: *Monograph, Research Series* — once a year  
*Modern Auditing* — semi-annual journal
  - Japan Auditing Association  
c/o Faculty of Business Administration, Kobe University,  
2-1, Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-0013, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held in November, 1998.
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JAPAN SOCIETY OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
日本経営学会

- Established: 1926
  - Number of Members: 2,075
  - President: Akio MORI (Kanazawa Gakuin University)
  - Publication: *Keieigaku Ronshu* — once a year, *Journal of Business Management*
  - Japan Society of Business Administration  
c/o The Office for Management Research,  
Faculty of Commerce, Hitotsubashi University, Dai 2 Kenkyukan,  
2-1, Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-0004, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Sapporo University in the fall of 1998 with the symposium  
"Business Management in the 21st Century."
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THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATIVE BEHAVIOR  
経営行動研究学会

- Established: 1991
- Number of Members: individual 330, corporate 4
- Representative: Toshio KIKUCHI (Nihon University)
- Publication: *The Annals of The Japan Association for Research on Business Administrative Behavior*  
*News Letter*
- The Japan Association for Research on Business Administrative Behavior  
c/o The Institute of Business Administrative Behavior,  
Tokyo Chuo Building, 401, 4-4-8, Iidabashi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0072, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Aichi Gakusen University on July 25-26, 1998.

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JAPAN BUSINESS ENGLISH ASSOCIATION (JBEA)  
日本商業英語学会

- Established: 1934
- Number of Members: honorary 3, regular 232, supporting 4: total 239
- President: Katsumi ITO (Waseda University)
- Publication: *Nihon Shogyo Eigo Gakkai Kenkyu Nempo (JBEA Annual Studies)* — annually
- Japan Business English Association  
c/o Professor Masataka OTA  
School of Commerce, Waseda University,  
1-6-1, Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0051, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Kansai University of Foreign Studies on October 10-11, 1998.

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BUSINESS HISTORY SOCIETY OF JAPAN  
経営史学会

- Established: 1964
  - Number of Members: personal 830, institutional 38
  - President: Hiroaki YAMAZAKI (Tokai Gakuen University)
  - Publication: *Japan Business History Review* — quarterly  
*Japan Yearbook for Business History* — annually
  - Business History Society of Japan  
c/o Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo,  
7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Rikkyo University on October 10-11, 1998.
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## JAPAN SOCIETY OF BUSINESS MATHEMATICS

日本経営数学会

- Established: 1959
  - Number of Members: 135
  - President: Shigeo OHTSUKI (Musashi Institute of Technology)
  - Publication: *Annual Report of Japan Society of Business Mathematics*
  - Japan Society of Business Mathematics  
c/o Professor Akira UCHINO,  
School of Commerce, Senshu University,  
2-1-1, Higashimita, Tama-ku, Kawasaki, 214-8580, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Nanzan University on June 5-6, 1998.
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## CIRIEC Japanese Section

(Japan Society of Research and Information on Public and Co-operative Economy)

国際公共経済学会

(公共・協同経済国際研究情報センター日本支部)

- Established: 1985
  - Number of Members: individual 318, cooperative 16
  - Representative: Shunzo NITTA (Toyo University)
  - Publication: *International Public Economy Study*
  - CIRIEC Japanese Section  
c/o Professor Shunzo NITTA  
Faculty of Economics, Toyo University,  
5-28-20, Hakusan, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0001, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at University of Tokyo in December, 1998 with the symposium "Public Economy."
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## JAPAN SOCIETY FOR COMMODITY SCIENCE

日本商品学会

- Established: 1935
  - Number of Members: Regular 276 including 12 foreigners, supporting 2
  - President: Masao UNO (Josai Kokusai University)
  - Publication: Quarterly bulletin, *Shohin Kenkyu* (Studies on Commodities)
  - Japan Society for Commodity Science  
c/o Hitotsubashi University,  
2-1, Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-0004, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Kanto Gakuin University on May 23-24, 1998.
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THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC STUDIES  
(Formerly: THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY IN SOCIALIST ECONOMIES)  
比較経済体制学会

- Established: 1967
  - Number of Members: 240
  - Chief Representative: Fumio ASHIDA (Ritsumeikan University)
  - Publication: *Bulletin of the Association for Comparative Economic Studies* — annually
  - The Association for Comparative Economic Studies  
c/o Associate Professor Masahiko YOSHII  
Faculty of Economics, Kobe University,  
2-1, Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-0013, Japan.
- The next annual meeting will be held at Hokuriku University on June 5-7, 1998.

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JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF MANAGEMENT  
(Formerly: ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIALIST ENTERPRISE)  
比較経営学会

- Established: 1976
  - Number of Members: 256
  - President: Shigeo AYUSAWA (Chuo University)
  - Publication: *Annual Report of Japan Association for the Comparative Studies of Management*
  - Japan Association for the Comparative Studies of Management  
c/o Professor Shigeo AYUSAWA  
Faculty of Commerce, Chuo University,  
742-1, Higashinakano, Hachioji-shi, Tokyo 192-0351, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Meiji University on March 30-April 1, 1998 with the unified theme "Globalization and Management Culture."

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JAPAN ACADEMY FOR CONSUMPTION ECONOMY  
日本消費経済学会

- Established: 1974
  - Number of Members: 503
  - Chief Representative: Shigeru NISHIMURA (Takushoku University)
  - Publication: *Annals of the Japan Academy for Consumption Economy*
  - Japan Academy for Consumption Economy  
c/o Faculty of Commerce, Takushoku University,  
3-4-14, Kohinata-cho, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0006, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be at Osaka University of Commerce on June 5-6, 1998 with the symposium "Sustainable Society."
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JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION  
(Formerly: THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMICS AND ECONOMETRICS)  
日本経済学会

- Established: 1934
- Number of Members: 2,428
- President: Michio HATANAKA
- Publication: *The Japanese Economic Review*
- Japanese Economic Association  
c/o The Institute of Statistical Research,

1-18-16, Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0004, Japan

The next Spring meeting will be held at Aoyama Gakuin University on June 13, 1998 and the Autumn meeting will be held at Ritsumeikan University on September 13-14, 1998.

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THE SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC SOCIOLOGY  
経済社会学会

- Established: 1966
- Number of Members: 331
- President: Taketoshi NOJIRI (Osaka Gakuin University)
- Publication: *The Annual of the Society of Economic Sociology*
- The Society of Economic Sociology  
c/o Professor Masaki ADACHI

Department of Economics, Kobe University,

2-1, Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-0013, Japan

The next annual meeting will be held at Yachiyo Kokusai University in September 1998.

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT  
経済学史学会

- Established: 1950
- Number of Members: 846
- President: Takashi NEGISHI (Aoyama Gakuin University)
- Publication: *The Annual Bulletin of the Society for the History of Economic Thought*  
*The Society for the History of Economic Thought Newsletter*  
*The Proceedings of Annual Meeting*

- The Society for the History of Economic Thought  
c/o Professor Nobuyuki ISHII

School of Economics, Aoyama Gakuin University,

4-4-25, Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0002, Japan

The next annual meeting will be held at Rikkyo University in the early November, 1998.

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THE JAPAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHERS  
経済地理学会

- Established: 1954
  - Number of Members: 757, patronage members: 7
  - President: Keiichi TAKEUCHI (Komazawa University)
  - Publication: *Keizai Chirigaku Nempo* (*Annals of the Japan Association of Economic Geographers*)  
— quarterly
  - The Japan Association of Economic Geographers  
c/o Faculty of Economics, Hitotsubashi University, East Bldg.,  
2-1, Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-0004, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Nihon University on May 30-June 1, 1998 with the  
symposium "Deregulation Policies and Regional Economy."
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JAPAN ECONOMIC POLICY ASSOCIATION  
日本経済政策学会

- Established: 1940
  - Number of Members: individuals 1,279, institutional 6
  - President: Masu UEKUSA (University of Tokyo)
  - Publication: *Nippon Keizai Seisaku Gakkai Nempo* (*The Annals of the Japan Economic Policy Association*) — annually
  - Japan Economic Policy Association  
c/o Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo,  
7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Osaka Gakuin University on May 23-24, 1998 with the  
symposium "Effectiveness of Economic Policy — Fundamental Issues of Japanese Economy —."
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JAPAN FINANCE ASSOCIATION  
日本経営財務研究学会

- Established: 1977
  - Number of Members: 465
  - President: Michihiro IKOMA (Kinki University)
  - Publication: *The Annual Report of the Japan Finance Association* — annually
  - Japan Finance Association  
c/o Faculty of Business Administration, Kobe University,  
2-1, Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-0013, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Toyo University in October, 1998.
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JAPAN ACADEMY FOR FOREIGN TRADE (JAFT) 日本貿易学会

- Established: 1960
  - Number of Members: 423
  - President: Hiroichi IINUMA (Wako University)
  - Publication: *The Annual Bulletin of the Japan Academy for Foreign Trade*  
*JAFT News* — twice yearly
  - Japan Academy for Foreign Trade  
c/o Professor Teruyuki MIYAKE  
Faculty of Economic, Wako University,  
2160, Kanai-cho, Machida-shi, Tokyo 195-0071, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Josai University on June 13-14, 1998 with the symposium "Development of International Division of Labour in the Age of Globalization."
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THE SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL STUDIES  
産業学会

- Established: 1975
  - Number of Members: 329
  - Representative: Minoru NISHIDA (Kwansei Gakuin University)
  - Publication: *Annals of The Society for Industrial Studies Japan*
  - The Society for Industrial Studies  
c/o Institute for Economic Research, Osaka City University,  
3-3-138, Sugimoto, Sumiyoshi-ku, Osaka-shi 558-0022, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Ritsumeikan University at Biwako Kusatsu Campus, Shiga on June 13-14, 1998 with the symposium "Innovation and Industrial System."
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THE JAPANESE SOCIETY OF INSURANCE SCIENCE  
日本保険学会

- Established: 1940
  - Number of Members: honorary 8 including two foreigners, ordinary 1,366 including 38 foreigners, supporting organizations 88
  - Chairman: Yutaka MAEKAWA (Keio University)
  - Publication: *Journal of Insurance Science (Hoken-gaku Zasshi)* — quarterly
  - The Japanese Society of Insurance Science  
c/o The Non-Life Insurance Institute of Japan,  
Toa-Sankyo Bldg., 3-6, Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0062, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Hitotsubashi University on October 24-25, 1998.
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JAPANESE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING STUDIES  
国際会計研究学会

- Established: 1984
- Number of Members: 493
- President: Satoru KAMIMORI (Toa University)
- Publication: *Kokusai Kaikei Kenkyu Gakkai Nempo (Annual Report of Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies)*
- Japanese Association for international Accounting Studies  
c/o Professor Satoru KAMIMORI  
School of Business Administration, Toa University,  
2-1, Ichinomiya Gakuen-cho, Shimonoseki-shi 751-0807, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Aoyama Gakuin University on November 29, 1998 with the symposium "Globalization and Consolidated Accounting."

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THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS  
国際経済学会

- Established: 1950
- Number of Members: individuals 1,252, corporate 14
- President: Yoshihiko MOTOYAMA (Kyoto University)
- Publication: *Kokusai-Keizai (International Economy)* — two issues a year
- The Japan Society of International Economics  
c/o Professor Takekazu IWAMOTO  
Department of Economics, Kyoto University,  
Yoshidahonmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8317, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Kanto Gakuin University in October, 1998 with the symposium "Economic Growth of East Asia: Will It Last in the 21st Century too?"

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JAPAN LOGISTICS SOCIETY  
日本物流学会

- Established: 1983
  - Number of Members: individual 313, corporate 18
  - President: Masao UNO (Josai Kokusai University)
  - Publication: *Journal of Japan Logistics Society*
  - Japan Logistics Society  
c/o Professor Osamu NISHIZAWA  
School of Commerce, Waseda University  
1-6-1, Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0051, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Waseda University undecided in September, 1998.
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NIPPON ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT EDUCATION  
日本経営教育学会

- Established: 1979
  - Number of Members: individual 839, corporate 15
  - Representative Manager: Mitsuo MORIMOTO (Aoyama Gakuin University)
  - Publication: *Annals of the Nippon Academy of Management Education*, published by the administrative office of the academy
  - Nippon Academy of Management Education  
c/o Yamashiro Keiei Kenkyujo,  
4-8-4, Iidabashi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0072, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Yokohama City University in June, 1998.
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THE ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY  
経営哲学学会

- Established: 1984
  - Number of Members: 345
  - Representative Manager: Kou MITO (Chukyo University)
  - Publication: *Keiei Tetsugaku Ronshu (The Annual Report of the Academy of Management Philosophy)*
  - The Academy of Management Philosophy  
c/o Professor Koji OHIRA, Meiji Gakuin University,  
1-2-37, Shirokanedai, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0071, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Meiou University (Okinawa) on October 31-November 1, 1998..
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JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS  
日本経営システム学会

- Established: 1981
  - Number of Members: regular 400, advisory 3, corporate 7
  - President: Tomonori NISHIKAWA (Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Technology)
  - Publication: *Journal of Japan Association for Management Systems*, biannually and *JAMS NEWS*, quarterly
  - Japan Association for Management Systems  
c/o Ohkura Bldg, 6F, 3-1-2, Nishhinku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023, Japan  
The 20th national conference is supposed to be held at Tokai University on May 9-10, 1998 with some topic of the Progress of Information Technology and Management Systems.
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## THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF MONETARY ECONOMICS

金融学会

- Established: 1943
  - Number of Members: 1,052
  - President: Ryoichi MIKITANI (Kobe Gakuin University)
  - Publication: *Review of Monetary and Financial Studies* — biannually
  - The Japan Society of Monetary Economics  
c/o Toyo Keizai Shinpo-sha,  
1-2-1, Hongoku-cho, Nihonbashi, Chuo-ku Tokyo 103-0021, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Tokyo Keizai University in Spring, 1998.
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## JAPAN SOCIETY OF MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION (FORMERLY: JAPAN SOCIETY OF COMMERCIAL SCIENCES)

日本商業学会

- Established: 1951
  - Number of Members: honorary 7, ordinary 850, supporting companies 16
  - President: Masanori TAMURA (Kobe University)
  - Publication: *Journal of Marketing and Distribution* — twice a year
  - Japan Society of Marketing and Distribution  
c/o The Distribution Economics Institute of Japan,  
The 3rd T.O.C. Bldg., 7-23-1, Nishigotanda, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141-0031, Japan  
The 1998 Annual Conference will be held at Meiji Gakuin University on May29-31, under the theme "The Globalization of Distribution."
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## THE ACADEMIC ASSOCIATION FOR ORGANIZATIONAL SCIENCE

組織学会

- Established: 1959
  - Number of Members: individual 1,505, company 22
  - President: Ikujiro NONAKA (Hitotsubashi University)
  - Publication: *Organizational Science* — quarterly
  - The Academic Association for Organizational Science  
c/o Keiei Kenkyujo,  
1-36, Kandajinbo-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Osaka University on October 17-18, 1998.
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JAPAN SOCIETY FOR PERSONNEL AND LABOR RESEARCH  
日本労務学会

- Established: 1970
  - Number of Members: 752
  - Representative Director: Koji OKUBAYASHI (Kobe University)
  - Publication: *Annual Report of Japan Society for Personnel and Labor Research*
  - Japan Society for Personnel and Labor Research  
c/o Professor Koji OKUBAYASHI  
School of Business Administration, Kobe University,  
2-1, Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-0013, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Yamanashi Gakuin University on June 5-7, 1998, with the symposium "Cooperative participation by Men and Women in Management: a New Approach."
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JAPAN ASSOCIATION FOR PLANNING ADMINISTRATION  
日本計画行政学会

- Established: 1977
  - Number of Members: 1,304
  - President: Takashi FUJII (Rissho University)
  - Publication: *Planning Administration* — quarterly
  - Japan Association for Planning Administration  
c/o The Institute of Statistical Research,  
1-8-16, Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0004, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Kitakyushu University on September 25-27, 1998 with the symposium "Planning Administration in Globally Networking Societies."
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JAPAN SOCIETY OF POLITICAL ECONOMY  
経済理論学会

- Established: 1959
  - Number of Members: 1,031
  - Chief Representative: Mitsuhiko TSURUTA (Chuo University)
  - Publication: *The Annual Bulletin of the Society of Political Economy* — annually
  - Japan Society of Political Economy  
c/o Professor Mitsuhiko TSURUTA  
Faculty of Commerce, Chuo University,  
742, Higashinakano, Hachioji-shi, Tokyo 192-0351, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Sapporo Gakuin University on October 3-4, 1998.
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THE POLITICAL ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY  
(Formerly: THE AGRARIAN HISTORY SOCIETY)  
土地制度史学会

- Established: 1948
- Number of Members: 914
- Representative Director: Akira HARA (University of Tokyo)
- Publication: *Tochi Seido Shigaku* (*The Journal of Political Economy and Economic History*)  
— quarterly
- The Political Economy and Economic History Society  
c/o Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo,  
7-3-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at University of Tokyo in October or in November, 1998  
as the 50th Anniversary.

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THE POPULATION ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN  
日本人口学会

- Established: 1948
- Number of Members: 376, honorary 9, students 24, special corporate 4, corporate 3
- President: Minoru OKUDA (Chuo University)
- Publication: *Jinkogaku Kenkyu* (*The Journal of Population Studies*)
- Population Association of Japan  
c/o Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Ministry of Health and Welfare,  
1-2-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0013, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Chuo University on June 4-6, 1998.

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JAPAN PORT ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION  
日本港湾経済学会

- Established: 1962
  - Number of Members: 350
  - Representative Manager: Toshiro KITANI (Shizuoka Sangyo University)
  - Publication: *Kowan Keizai Kenkyu* (*The Annual Report of the Japan Port Economics Association*)
  - Japan Port Economics Association  
c/o Yokohama Yamashita-Futo Kowan Keizai Center,  
279-1, Yamashita-cho, Naka-ku, Yokohama, 231-0023, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held in Okinawa in October, 1998.
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THE JAPAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE  
(Formerly: JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF FISCAL SCIENCE)  
日本財政学会

- Established: 1940
- Number of Members: 710
- Chairman: Hidehiro ICHIKAWA (Chuo University)
- Publication: *Annual Report of the Japan Institute of Public Finance*
- The Japan Institute of Public Finance  
c/o The Institute of Statistical Research,  
1-18-16, Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0004, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Kobe University of Commerce, 1998.

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THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF PUBLIC UTILITY ECONOMICS  
公益事業学会

- Established: 1949
- Number of Members: regular members 425, corporation members 75
- Chairman: Hiroshi SASAKI (Kobe University)
- Publication: *Journal of Public Utility Economics*
- Koeki Jigyo Gakkai (The Japan Society of Public Utility Economics)  
c/o 1-12-31, Minamiaoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062 Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Kobe University on July 10-11, 1998 under the theme "Frontier in Public Utility Industries."

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THE JAPAN SECTION OF THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION  
日本地域学会

- Established: 1962
- Number of Members: 599
- President: Shogo KAWAKAMI (Nagoya University)
- Publication: *Studies in Regional Science (Chiikigaku Kenkyu) — the Journal of the Japan Section of RSAI* Vol. 27. No. 1 (in Japanese) & No. 2 (in English) — annually
- The Japan Section of the Regional Science Association International  
c/o Professor Hirotada KOHNO  
The Research Institute for Regional Advancement,  
Yoshinuma 1459-2, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 300-2617, Japan  
The next annual meeting will be held at Nagoya University on October 10-11, 1998 with the symposium "Regional Science in the 21st Century."



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JAPAN RISK MANAGEMENT SOCIETY  
日本リスクマネジメント学会

- Established: 1978
  - Number of Members: individual 565, supporting 44
  - Representative Management: Toshiaki KAMEI (Kansai University)
  - Publication: *JARMS Report (Report and Insurance Management)*
  - Society for the Study of Risk Management  
c/o Professor Toshiaki KAMEI  
School of Commerce, Kansai University,  
35-3-3, Yamate-cho, Suita-shi, Osaka 564-0073, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Kansai University in January and Hakuho University in September, 1998.

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE ECONOMIC STUDIES OF SECURITIES  
証券経済学会

- Established: 1966
  - Number of Members: 524
  - Representative: Yoshinori SUZUKI (Kanagawa University)
  - Publication: *Annals of the Society for the Economic Studies of Securities* — annually
  - Society for the Economic Studies of Securities  
c/o Japan Securities Research Institute,  
Tokyo Shoken Kaikan,  
1-5-8, Nihonbashi-Kayaba-cho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0025, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Chuo University in Spring 1998.

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THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL POLICY  
社会政策学会

- Established: 1950
  - Number of Members: 894
  - Representative: Kazuo TAKADA (Hitotsubashi University)
  - Publication: *SHAKAISEISAKU GAKKAI NEMPO (Annual of the Society for the Study of Social Policy)*
  - Society for the Study of Social Policy  
c/o Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University,  
2-1, Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-0004, Japan
- The next annual meetings will be held in Spring 1998 with the symposium "Casual Labor and the Homeless in Japan," and in autumn 1998 with the symposium "Aging Society."
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SOCIO-ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY  
社会経済史学会

- Established: 1930
  - Number of Members: 1,239
  - Representative Director: Yasuo OKADA (Keio University)
  - Publication: *Shakai Keizai Shigaku* (Socio-Economic History) — bimonthly
  - Shakai Keizaishi Gakkai (Socio-Economic History Society)
- c/o Professor N. NAMBU

School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University,  
1-6-1, Nishiwaseda, Shinjyuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0051, Japan

The next annual meeting will be held at Gakushuin University on June 6-7, 1998 with the symposium of British Capitalism and Asia — on the role of "Gentlemanly Capitalism."

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JAPAN STATISTICAL SOCIETY  
日本統計学会

- Established: 1931
  - Number of Members: 1,367
  - President: Nariaki SUGIURA (Tsukuba University)
  - Publication: *Journal of the Japan Statistical Society* — biannually
  - Japan Statistical Society
- c/o The Institute of Statistical Mathematics,

4-6-7, Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047, Japan

The next annual meeting will be hosted by Chuo University, Tokyo, and held on July 27-30, 1998.

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JAPAN SOCIETY OF TRANSPORTATION ECONOMICS  
日本交通学会

- Established: 1941
  - Number of Members: 414 regular members including 6 advisory individuals and 45 special corporations
  - President: Yataro FUJII (Keio University)
  - Publication: *Kotsugaku Kenkyu* (Annual Report of Transportation Economics)
  - Japan Society of Transportation Economics (Nihon Kotsu Gakkai)
- c/o Unyu-Chosa-Kyoku,

7-1-1, Ueno, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-0005, Japan

The next annual Meeting will be held at Aichi University in October, 1998.

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NIPPON URBAN MANAGEMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION  
日本地方自治研究学会

- Established: 1984
  - Number of Members: individual 300, group 6
  - Representative Manager: NOBORU KITA (Meiji University)
  - Publication: *Journal of Urban Management and Local Government Research (Annals of Nippon Urban Management and Local Government Research Association)*
  - Nippon Urban Management Research Association  
c/o Seibunsha Pub. Co.,  
7-2, Minami-Ogimachi, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0052, Japan
- The next annual meeting will be held at Ishinomaki Senshu University on September 21-23, 1998 under the common theme "Local Autonomy and Public Utility."
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This Information Bulletin is designed to serve as an introduction of the academic activities of member associations of the Union to economic societies throughout the world. Copies will be distributed by the secretariat of the Union to libraries and institutions in other countries whose names have been given by member associations of the Union.