

Foreword

RIKEN was honored to host the 17th International Conference on Cyclotrons and Their Applications. The conference, which was chaired by Y. Yano, was held in Yoyogi, Tokyo, Japan on October 18-22, 2004 at the National Olympics Memorial Youth Center (NYC). This was the second time that a conference in this series has been held in Asia; the first one was held in 1986 in Tokyo co-hosted by RIKEN and INS, University of Tokyo.

We are pleased to acknowledge the official sponsorship of the conference by Particle Accelerator Society of Japan, the Physical Society of Japan, the Japan Society of Applied Physics and Atomic Energy Society of Japan. We are also very grateful for financial sponsorship by the JSPS International meeting series and RIKEN. The vital support of a group of industrial companies is acknowledged in a separate page.

The conference started with an opening address by Dr. H. Kamitsubo (RIKEN) with a brief introduction to the status of the accelerator activities in Japan. The memorial ceremony of late Dr. H. Jungwirth, who had supported our community for a long time as a member of the International Organizing Committee and passed away in September 2003, was then given by Dr. J. Conradie (iThemba Labs).

We had a total of about 210 attendees from 19 countries. The conference itself consisted of 13 oral sessions, with 35 invited and 29 contributed presentations, and three poster sessions, with 88 presentations. The scientific program was organized by the Program Committee, which was chaired by Y. Yano and integrated by E. Baron (GANIL), M. Craddock (UBC and TRIUMF), A. Goto (RIKEN), C. Lyneis (LBNL), F. Marti (MSU), R. Oganessian (JINR), G. Ryckewaert (UCL), K. Sato (RCNP) and P. Schmelzbach (PSI).

We are indebted to the dedicated efforts of the Local Organizing Committee members and their helpers for the smooth operation of the conference. Special thanks must go to O. Kamigaito, T. Tanabe, N. Sakamoto and J. Ohnishi for their continuous involvement in the preparation of the conference. We also would like to thank Rie Kuwana and Toshiko Nakamura for their help in secretarial jobs. M. Wakasugi has handled all the papers for the proceedings and N. Fukunishi has looked after the Data Sheets.

The excursion to Asakusa and Edo Tokyo Museum took place on Thursday afternoon, followed by a banquet dinner on a boat cruising on Tokyo Bay. Dr. Y. Hirao (NIRS) gave a banquet speech entitled "Cyclotrons and Tokyo Bay," impressing the audience with the fact that two cyclotrons were lying in the deep below.

In addition, accompanying persons' programs were given at "Oka Tei," a small Japanese-style tea house located in the NYC campus on Monday and Tuesday mornings, where people enjoyed tea ceremonies and flower arrangements.

On Friday afternoon after the whole sessions were closed, the RIKEN tour was conducted, headed by M. Kase as the organizer, with the help of numerous staff members. About 100 people were taken on a two-hour tour of the entire facility including the K2500 Superconducting Ring Cyclotron under construction, after which a farewell party was given at the cafeteria. The KEK tour also took place on Saturday, in which the PoP FFAG and 150 MeV FFAG accelerators etc. were shown.

The International Organizing Committee met in the Yoyogi Club, close to the NYC, during the conference. Special welcome was extended to new members Dr. P. Heikkinen from University of Jyvaskyla and Dr. P. Bertrand from GANIL. It was agreed that there were sufficient new developments to warrant continuation of this series of conference; continuity of the meeting at least until 2010 was unanimously agreed. Y. Yano reported that after voting via E-mail, LNS, Catania, with Dr. L. Calabretta as chairman, has been elected to host the 18th Conference in October 2007. The electronic archival of past Cyclotron Conference proceedings was proposed and discussed. After discussion of problems such as cost of the project as well as obtaining agreement from the copyright-holders, it was agreed that the proposal was timely and appropriate, and that further discussion concerning setting up of a committee to investigate the feasibility and cost should be pursued. The way of publication of proceedings in the forthcoming issues was also discussed. Dr. H. Homeyer announced his retirement, and was thanked for his many years of service to the committee.

Finally, with our affiliation with JACoW starting from this conference, the submission and edition of all abstracts and papers have been carried out according to the JACoW format.

Akira Goto

Editor and Chairman Local Organizing Committee