

New Chair of Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis

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Dear FIA Colleagues:

I was appointed as the new president of the Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis (JAFIA) at the committee meeting of JAFIA, held in last December, to succeed the former president of Prof. Tadao Sakai (Aichi Institute of Technology).

I have started my work from last March and this is my first greeting to our members of JAFIA and guests from overseas. I have learned a part of work on managements of JAFIA from the former president, Prof. Sakai as the editor-in-chief of Journal of Flow Injection Analysis (JFIA) for about 7 years. I am impressed so much for his tough and active works on JAFIA, working under Prof. Sakai. Especially, Prof. Sakai has strong leadership and has elevated the status of JAFIA as one of the leaders on research of flow analysis in the world, by creating the international relationship among the scientists in the world. I do not think that I have such a sufficient power as he, but I will do my best by kind support from all the member of JAFIA as well as the FIA colleagues from the overseas in order to activate JAFIA and development of flow analysis.

I remember that the former JAFIA was established as a non profitable organization without any support and independent of The Japanese Society of Analytical Chemistry (JSAC) in 1984, and Prof. Nobuhiko Ishibashi, who was my supervisor, was appointed as the first President of JAFIA. At that time, Prof. Norimasa Yoza (Faculty of Science, Kyushu University) and Prof. Totaro Imasaka (Ishibashi lab) supported Prof. Ishibashi for management of JAFIA for everything including publishing JFIA. I just did what Prof. Ishibashi asked as just an assistant. Owing to assistant work for JAFIA, I fortunately got acquainted with many researchers of FIA and many engineers of FIA instruments in Japan.

At the banquet of Flow Analysis IV, Prof. Ishibashi announced that the next Flow Analysis V was held at Kumamoto in 1991. When the organization for Flow

Analysis IV was established in JAFIA and Prof. Keihei Ueno was selected as the President of the organization and Prof. Ishibashi as the chairman of executive committee, the committee of JAFIA has decided to move to be one of division of JSAC, in order to obtain strong support from JSAC. This is the story that JAFIA is now one of the division of JSAC. In August 1991, the Flow Analysis IV was successfully held, however, it was great shock that Prof. Ishibashi passed away during the conference.

Prof. Yosuke Okura (Kyushu University) has succeeded the President of JAFIA after Prof. Ishibashi and has baton passed to Prof. Shoji Motomizu (Okayama University) as the third President of JAFIA. That is, the second generation of JAFIA has begun to start from 1994. Under the leadership by President Motomizu, he has carried out internationalization of JAFIA and has been pushed out and proposed to Prof. Gary Chistian to held ICFIA with collaboration of JAFIA and this collaboration still continues. He has edited "FIA technical papers", in which many FIA methods can be easily found for users of FIA just like a dictionary. In 2005, Prof. Sakai was appointed as the fourth President of JAFIA and promoted the activity of JAFIA as described above. He has carried out student-exchange program with the Thai FIA group and organization of Flow symposium at Pacificchem and so on. Especially, he organized the 15th ICFIA held in Nagoya 2008, which established world record of number of participants. Many contributions such as authorization of FIA as a Japanese Industry Standard and edition of a practical FIA book etc have been done by colleagues. I have to express sincere thanks to Prof. Norio Teshima (Aichi Institute of Technology) for his great support as the General Secretariat of JAFIA. I would like to do my best for further development of JAFIA by communicating with the members of JIFA as well as colleagues from overseas via meetings and JFIA. I would appreciate it if I could have good advices and suggestions from all of you.