

Greetings from the Chemical Society Located in Taipei (CCS, Taipei)

Hearty congratulations to the Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Society.

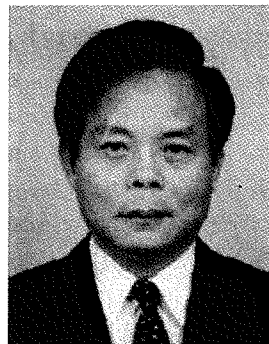
We offer the Society our congratulations for reaching this significant milestone in your history. Since your beginning, the CSJ has taken the leadership role toward the promotion of pure and applied chemistry. We have all benefited enormously from your creative scientific programs and professional services and we look forward to your continued contributions to the advancement of the chemical sciences and service to mankind.

In recent years, the chemists of Japan and Taiwan have been active in exchange programs.

Let me just mention a few of them. The first International Symposium on Organic Reactions (ISOR) was held at Academia Sinica, Taipei, to discuss the organic reactions and organic electrochemistry. The symposium was chaired by Dr. Ta-Shue Chou and coordinated by Drs. Hsien-Ju Tien and Tatsuya Shono, from Taiwan and Japan, respectively. At the end, the organizers came to an agreement to continue this international symposium series in the future. As a result of the efforts from both countries, the ISOR has been held alternatively in cities of two countries at Taipei (1988), Kyoto (1991), Tainan (1993), Sendai (1996), Hsinchu (1998), and Tokyo (2000). The symposium always has an attractive multidisciplinary scope and worldwide attendances from both academia and industries. The next ISOR, which will be held at Kaohsiung on May 23-25, 2003, will continue the same orientation of the series by offering a scientific program aiming to cover the hottest techniques and domains of modern organic reactions.

Also organized bilaterally by chemists of Japan and Taiwan, the Joint Symposium on Catalysis has been held successfully, for the two most recent ones, in Fukuoka (2000) and in Hualien (2002). This series of exciting and traditional event was first initiated by Drs. Kozo Tanabe and Bin M. H. Rei over two decades ago, in order to promote the science and technology of catalysis between the two countries. Indeed, these bilateral symposia have brought all active researchers together to interact with and benefit from one another and also provided an excellent platform to enhance mutual understanding and friendships.

Thanks to the efforts by Drs. Yu Wang, Y. Saito and Y. Ohashi, the Seminar on Science and Technology—'Crystallography' has been continuing for over decades, too. It has been held alternatively in Tokyo (1990), Taipei (1992), Tokyo (1994), Hsin-Chu (1996),



Osaka (1998), and Taipei (2000). The next one is expected to be held in Nagoya in the near future.

The list of programs goes on and on. Needless to say, it has given me great satisfaction to see many great scientists in both countries actively and enthusiastically participating in the activities of these bilateral programs, which have grown from a very modest beginning to a substantial vehicle for bi-national cooperation in the past several years. I believe the impact of these conferences on our scientists is significant.

One of our main concerns domestically is about the chemistry education in Taiwan, and we believe that it is the most vital way to have our students to get familiar with chemical area. We will continuously target on high school chemistry teachers. With joint efforts from both the CCS and high school teachers, it will help to attract more students to get interested in chemistry and assist students in making their decisions in pursuing their further education in chemistry. In addition, besides hosting conferences, we also expect to act as a major information provider to not just our colleagues and students but professionals in chemical industry as well. It is also the wishful goal of the CCS to establish an evaluating criterion on the chemistry departments in universities, and we believe that this will help the government to oversee the quality of education in chemistry and help to increase the research levels. As in the international participation, we will continuously take initiatives in hosting various international conferences in Taiwan. And the bilateral conferences between Japan and Taiwan will be among the most valuable ones.

We do look forward to continuing and strengthening the close cooperation between our two organizations as well as finding myself able to contribute to the work of our board.

I together with all members of the CCS send you our best wishes for continuous prosperity.

Cheng-Ching WU

President, TASCO Chemical Corporation

President, EXCEL Chemical Corporation

President of the Chinese Chemical Society (Taipei)