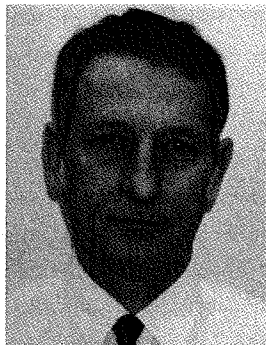


The 25-Year Involvement of the Chemical Society of Japan with the Federation of Asian Chemical Societies

The Federation of Asian Chemical Societies (FACS) has been notified that the Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) celebrates the 125th Anniversary in March 2003. The FACS wishes to congratulate the CSJ on achieving this milestone.

The FACS has a membership of national chemical societies covering 24 countries in the Asia Pacific region. The CSJ is one of the major Chemical Societies in the Asia-Pacific region and has been a member of the FACS since April 1981, when it joined at the Biennial General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



The CSJ was represented at that time by Professor M. Kobayashi who had also attended the initial meeting of the FACS held in Thailand in 1978. Therefore the CSJ has been involved with the FACS from the start.

Professor Kobayashi, representing the CSJ, regularly attended the Executive Committee Meetings of the FACS until his retirement from this position in the early 1990s. He was always supportive of the Federation and gave Japan a high profile in its development during these years. The FACS acknowledges his key role during these early years of its development.

Professor Kobayashi was succeeded by Professor H. Ohtaki as representative of the CSJ who took on the difficult task of bidding to hold the Asian Chemical Congress. The bid was won to hold the 8th Asian Chemical Congress and 10th Biennial General Assembly of the FACS, held at Hiroshima, Japan in May 1997. The bid needed a lead time of 6 years in order to allow for necessary approvals and conference development. The strategic planning was steered by Professor Ohtaki who is to be commended for the support he secured from the Chemical Society of Japan at this time. Professor Ohtaki subsequently lifted Japanese profile in the FACS. During his term as President of the FACS, Professor Ohtaki was well supported by Professor Y. Takeuchi as Secretary-General and the Office of the CSJ, led by Mr. A. Nakanishi, who ran the Secretariat.

The 8ACC and 10GA were high points in the CSJ's profile in the FACS. In November 1999 at 8ACC, held in Taipei, Professor Akira Fujishima was awarded the FACS Foundation Lectureship, having been nominated by the CSJ.

The CSJ, through Professor Ohtaki's efforts, also brought the FACS closer to Pacifichem and the IUPAC. Since stepping down as representative of the CSJ in July 2001 at

9ACC in Brisbane, Professor Ohtaki has been succeeded by Professor Kazuko Matsumoto.

The time frame of the involvement of the CSJ in the FACS therefore extends over 25 years, a significant proportion of time compared with the current 125th anniversary of the Society.

The Federation of Asian Chemical Societies hopes that the Chemical Society of Japan will continue to be an active participant and play a major role in promoting the Chemical Sciences in the Asia-Pacific region.

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