

WECC2015 Newsletter No.3

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Preparations for WECC2015 and a Warm Invitation



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Chair
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Committee

Just nine months remain until the World Engineering Conference and Convention (WECC2015) in Kyoto. Preparations are proceeding with eager anticipation, the conference program is almost complete, and the programs for technical visits and accompanying persons are nearly finalized. Tentative bookings have been made at several categories of hotel, ensuring that plenty of rooms will be available to

meet the needs of a wide range of participants. In this newsletter I would like to provide a broad outline of these preparations.

The conference program will comprise the opening ceremony, conference plenary lectures, technical program, summary and concluding remarks of the technical sessions, and the closing ceremony.

Seven conference plenary lectures are planned. UNESCO will discuss engineering and society, the International Energy Agency will address global energy issues, and the United Nations will speak about global water issues. A representative of the Japanese business community will provide insights on engineering and the automotive industry, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism will talk about building national resilience, and the

WECC2015 Registration is now open!!

We are now pleased to inform you that our online Registration is open.

Please register by accessing the following URL:

<http://www.congre.co.jp/wecc2015/registration/index.html>

Official Accommodation website is also available with variety of Hotels to match your preference.

Venue: Kyoto International Conference Center

Date:

WECC2015: November 29 - December 2

WFEO General Assembly, Executive Council and
Committee Meetings: November 28 - December 4

Technical Visits: December 3



November 29 – December 2, 2015 Kyoto International Conference Center, Kyoto, Japan

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Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry will discuss economic policy and innovation. In our final plenary lecture, Professor Hiroshi Amano of Nagoya University, joint recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics for 2014, will speak on LED lighting and environmental issues.

In the technical program, renowned experts from numerous fields will provide overviews of the current state and future direction of various areas of engineering that will play key roles in achieving sustainable development for our societies. Sessions will also be structured to allow for discussion with the audience. To make such debate even more effective, we will stage a poster session open to all contributors. We hope that integration of these program elements will spark in-depth discussion about the future of various fields.

The afternoon of December 2, the final day of the conference, will feature a summary and concluding remarks of the sessions in the technical program, accompanied by further discussion. This debate will clarify future direction for various fields of engineering, and a Kyoto Declaration summarizing the outcomes will be issued at the closing ceremony.

Culture plays a major part in cultivating the development of engineering. To supplement the technical program, the WECC2015 technical visits and accompanying persons' program will provide opportunities to learn more about engineering in the Kyoto region and the culture that has supported it.

Kyoto and its environs are home to many world-famous companies rich in creativity, and the local culture has had a large impact on their development. Visits to such companies will give

participants a greater understanding of the interplay among engineering, industry, and culture.

Another original feature of the conference will be the Kyoto sessions on the afternoon of November 29. These will introduce unique aspects of Kyoto culture, including Japanese cuisine, which has been recognized by UNESCO as part of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about the distinctive culture of the region.

The conference period from November 29 to December 2 falls in one of Kyoto's most beautiful seasons. Autumn hues tinge the region's many trees in red and yellow, creating a stunning backdrop for viewing its natural features, historic places and temples. This wonderful season is the perfect time to visit Kyoto. Since hotels are very busy at this time of year, we are fortunate to have secured plenty of rooms to meet your accommodation needs. We recommend that you make your reservations as early as possible.

The Organizing Committee is making every effort to ensure that WECC2015 is a success. We look forward to welcoming you to Kyoto in this splendid season for stimulating discussion at WECC2015.



WECC2015 Program Outline: Achieving Problem-Solving Innovation



Dr. Botaro Hirosaki
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Committee

Humankind currently faces a host of global problems, including climate change, resource and energy issues, and aging societies. In a wide range of fields, innovation is playing a more important role than ever before in resolving such issues and achieving sustainable growth. WECC2015 in Kyoto will bring together the latest results of interdisciplinary and cross-industry innovation under the overall theme of “Engineering: Innovation and Society” and discuss directions for problem-solving with a view to building societies of the future.

Specifically, WECC2015 will examine innovation from the three perspectives of technology, social infrastructure, and human resource development to provide a forum for discussion with experts from around the world and the sharing of knowledge in a wide range of fields.

Discussion of technological innovation will focus on the latest technologies in the fields of energy and resources; civil engineering, construction and urban planning; mobility and transportation; information and telecommunications; and partnership between medicine and engineering. Attendees will also share views on future directions for

interdisciplinary problem-solving.

In exploring social infrastructure innovation, participants will discuss issues for achieving sustainable growth and pool real-world innovation experiences relating to systems infrastructure for emergency response and resilient societies; utilization of big data to create new industries; utilization of intellectual property and finance; platforms for next-generation manufacturing; and platforms for development of next-generation materials.

Sessions on human resource development innovation will consider the social missions of engineering as they deal with a wide range of issues including risk communication, ethics for engineers, and diversity, including development opportunities for women in engineering. Lessons from the Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear accident, which attracted worldwide attention, will also be shared and discussed.

Unlike regular international conferences focusing on particular fields of specialization, WECC2015 will provide a forum for interdisciplinary discussion aimed at problem-solving innovation. It will offer unrivalled opportunities to acquire wide-ranging new knowledge, not only for specialists in various fields, but also for policy-makers from around the world, corporate managers from the business community, and young researchers striving to set new directions for problem-solving innovation. International experts will gather in Japan’s ancient capital, Kyoto, which has learned many lessons from the events of March 11, 2011, to discuss ways of achieving sustainable future growth. I hope you will join us.