Asia-Pacific System Dynamics Conference at Senshu University, Tokyo, Japan on 22-24 February 2014

In July 2013, the Japan Chapter wrote that they would be honoured and happy to host the 2014 Asia-Pacific Conference. Six months later this event was a reality, held in Tokyo just last month.

Through the Development Fund, this event was co-sponsored by the Society. It built on celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the first publication of system dynamics work in Japan. A number of senior system dynamicists travelled to Japan to give a series of lectures, workshops, and to participate in such a major event.

The plenary papers were outstanding, the workshops excellent, and the parallel session papers very interesting and stimulating, with opportunities to help SD students, academics and practitioners where appropriate.

Conference participants and presenters came from a wide variety of countries including , Australia, Canada, Chile, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, U.S.A, UAE, UK, and Vietnam. Participants of all nationalities are more than 25. There were about 95 conference participants, 7 plenary presentations, 31 parallel session papers, and 8 workshops.

The overall organization of the conference at Senshu University was extremely good and there was generally sufficient time between the breaks to interact with colleagues and make new contacts with people from the Asia-Pacific region.

Highlights of the conference included the Welcome Reception and Conference Banquet, where superb Japanese cuisine was mixed with some formal comments celebrating 50 years of System Dynamics in Japan, and some interesting reflections on the changes in Japan since the International System Dynamics Conference there in 1995.

At the Conference Business Meeting, it was agreed that we would try and hold a formal Asia-Pacific Conference every two years, with the next conference possibly being in Singapore in 2016! We would also like to hold some activity in the region every alternative year also. Participants' also were enthusiastic about creating a new SD Chapter covering the ASEAN countries, and they will be proceeding with a proposal in the near future.

We would also like to remind conference presenters to finalise their conference papers for the SDS online web site by 24 March 2014.

Finally we would like to thank all the people who helped to make this Conference an outstanding success.

Best wishes from
Akira Uchino, Bob Cavana, Ignacio Martinez-Myano, Atsushi Fukuda & Yutaka Takahashi
Conference Organizing & Program Committees