

## FOREWORD

### Recent activities of the Acoustical Society of Japan

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The Acoustical Society of Japan was founded in April 1936 with 15 members and now we have more than 5,000 members including Sustaining Members. The Society is expected to contribute to the progress in acoustics in this new century as the second largest acoustical society in the world. The foundation for this is being settled steadily as indicated by the following recent activities.

The Seventh Western Pacific Regional Acoustics Conference was held in Kumamoto in October 2000 sponsored by our Society and INCE/Japan. It was a really successful conference with more than 300 papers and 500 participants. It was a good opportunity to exchange ideas and information in the research into acoustics. The Joint Symposium between the German Acoustical Society and our Society was held for the first time in March 2000 in Oldenburg, Germany as one of the authorized events of the Year of Japan in Germany. The topics of the papers were focused on a special theme, "Measurement and evaluation of environmental sound" and the participants could become intimate with each other and we could have very fruitful discussion. This was really a good start of the mutual cooperation between the Societies. The Joint Symposium will be held between EAA and ASJ in September 2002 in Sevilla, Spain. The 18th International Congress on Acoustics is to be held in Kyoto in April 2004. The first announcement will be distributed in September 2001 in Rome. The fourth Joint Meeting between ASA and ASJ will be held in Hawaii in 2006. Many researchers are welcomed to participate in these international meetings.

As Prof. Tachibana introduced in the previous page, it is a great pleasure for us to publish this renewed journal in commemoration of the new century. The electronic version is being prepared and will appear soon. I hope that many excellent papers will be submitted to this journal.

The office of our Society was moved to Ochanomizu in June 2000. It is a very quiet and comfortable place and

has a convenient access from various places. The most important thing is that the rent has been reduced by 3 dB. The meetings with honorary members were held in order to ask their advice. The photo below shows the party in the new ASJ office after the meeting.

The annual meeting is held twice a year and about 600 papers from various fields of acoustics are presented at each meeting. The venues of future meetings are as follows: Tsukuba in spring 2001, Oita in autumn 2001 and Kanagawa in spring 2002. The autumn meeting in 2003 will be held in Tokai district in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Tokai Chapter. In connection with the annual meeting, a special event is planned for the promotion of acoustics. This event is open to the public as well as to the members. It is an important role for a nonprofit foundation to contribute to the public. Summer Seminar is held for young researchers. All the participants stay in a hotel in a mountain area with beautiful surroundings. This is a good opportunity to strengthen mutual understanding through listening to the lectures, talking with each other and playing sports together.

Many other activities are being smoothly conducted in cooperation with all the members of our Society as well as the directors and the inspectors. I would like to express my gratitude to all the members and ask further advice and support for the Society.

