IEICE Global Plaza

—Monthly community plaza in English for students, faculties and engineers—

Essay

ELEX Helps You to Promptly Publish Your Papers with International Level Authorization

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The IEICE Electronics Express (ELEX) has evolved to realize the prompt world-level paper publication due to the shortest term of review process over the past seven years since it was commenced in April, 2004, with full support by IEICE Electronics Society. It is based on an innovative project of the Society to launch an e-journal of the area edited in and released from Japan, independently of conventional monthly IEICE Journal and transactions for paper publication in print. It is our delight to declare that ELEX has achieved the admirable growth every year with immeasurable endeavors by the two former Editor-in-chiefs, Professors Takeshi Kamiya and Kohroh Kobayashi, and members of editorial boards, together with better understandings and substantial backups provided by all IEICE Committees and Societies/ Group and also with invaluable devotion of the secretariat to the activities. It has come to the stage where the number of accepted articles to be uploaded exceeds 1,000 titles along with around 3,000 submissions in total to the editorial boards for their review. The scale of ELEX is enlarging and the growth rate accelerates every year. Actually, we received nearly 1,000 submissions, the 80% of them from overseas researchers last year, and finally more than 200 submissions were accepted for the e-publication on ELEX. We had more than 350,000 accesses to the ELEX homepage and downloads of about 150,000 articles, again, the 70 to 80% of them from overseas.

On the other hand, most of e-journals including ELEX now face the exciting change of their environment and possible opportunities to extend their roles. As we deeply go into the information and communication society, easier, prompt and cost effective information retrieval out of rapidly expanding enormous amount of technological information drifting in cyberspace becomes expected. In finding out wanted, valuable and trustable information in the chaotic flows of information, the importance of e-journals where the quality of articles is certified by peer review processes, is now widely recognized with the value which they bring to engineers and the contribution which they make to the productivity, quality and outcomes of research and development.

We have several urgent and difficult issues to be solved for further development of ELEX. Examples are the gradual expansion of technical fields for paper submission and slight elongation of the period required for the publication process, as compared with ELEX published a few years ago, attributable to the rapid increase of the number of submissions. We have to establish a better editorial system through close tie-ups with other IEICE Societies/Group to manage these issues. It is also practically important to provide a citation index more convenient for both ELEX contributors and subscribers. Another important issue is to sustain the open access to ELEX, or, the free accessibility by the public, even in the present tight financial situation. It is a great benefit for authors as well, to ensure the free accessibility and hence, research impacts, to their articles under the scheme of open access. Most articles especially from academia refer to the results of research projects supported by funding agencies in public sectors. Then, they tend to introduce the commitment of public research founders' open access to their technical reports based on each project to secure the sufficient accountability of their funding. As compared with self-archiving of published paper reprints on authors' personal Web sites or their institutional repositories, the publication in an open access journal enables easier maintenance effort for the authors and higher browsing with their linked references for general readers who are trying to retrieve articles.

Thus, overcoming the rapid change of the academic environment, ELEX is looking forward to your paper submission and participation in fostering ELEX together with us, to be more convenient and valuable e-journal for you.

Hot Topics

IEICE Successfully Organized a Session BK-6 "Hot Report from German-Japanese Symposium in Osaka : Networks as Social Infrastructures" at IEICE ComSoc Conference

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The IEICE ComSoc-GJS (German-Japanese Symposium 2010) Joint Session entitled "Hot Report from German-Japanese Symposium in Osaka : Networks as Social Infrastructures" was successfully held at Osaka Prefecture University during the IEICE ComSoc Conference period on September 15th-18th in 2010. This joint session was organized by the New Generation Network Technical Committee and presided by Prof. Masayuki Murata of Osaka University.

For some 30 years, the GJS has been a major driver in successfully facilitating the exchange of viewpoints and information on telecommunications, IT and media among German and Japanese specialists and leaders from related industries, government and academia. More recently, the 10th Symposium in 2003 (Tokyo) focused on mobile communications, the 11th Symposium in 2005 (Tokyo) discussed Security and Privacy, and the 12th Symposium in 2007 (Berlin) focused on Converged Media and Networks. This time, the 13th Symposium was co-sponsored by IEICE ComSoc and the Münchner Kreis, and held on September 13th to 14th, one day preceding the IEICE ComSoc Conference. It focused on next generation networks including ITU-T's NGN and the following networks as mission-critical social infrastructures. More than 170 participants from industries, government and academia enjoyed the valuable presentations and enthusiastic argument on networks as social infrastructures.

The IEICE ComSoc-GJS Joint Session is the initial attempt to share findings of GJS with Japanese researchers/engineers who attend the IEICE ComSoc Conference as well as to introduce activities of Münchner Kreis and VDE/ITG (Informationstechnische Gesellschaft within the Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik), which is a

Sister Society of IEICE ComSoc, in order to boost German-Japanese relations in ICT industry. After the brief introduction of GJS by Prof. Tomonori Aoyama of Keio University, Prof. Arnold Picot of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Chairman of the Münchner Kreis, introduced the outline of the Münchner Kreis and presented key results of the Delphi study 2030 conducted by the Münchner Kreis last year. Prof. Jörg Eberspächer of Technische Universität München introduced the wide spectrum of activities of VDE/ITG, including knowledge transfers in a network of experts, international norms and standards, and product testing and certification. Findings of GJS 2010 were presented by the Program Committee Co-chairs, Prof. Haruhisa Ichikawa of University of Electro-Communications and Prof. Radu Popescu-Zeletin of Fraunhofer-Institute FOKUS. Finally, precious ideas to boost German-Japanese relations in ICT industry were provided by Prof. Heinz Thielmann of Emphasys GmbH.

This IEICE-GJS joint session was open for the public and more than 40 researchers and engineers participated there. The organizers were quite confident that this session successfully provided valuable insights into the development of future networks as mission critical social infrastructures, as well as German best practices of industry-government-academia collaboration in societies and technologies.

PDF-versions of the presentations are available for the public via the GJS 2010 web page at *http://www.gjs2010.org/joint.html*. For more information about Münchner Kreis or VDE/ITG, please visit them at *http://www.muenchner-kreis.de/index.php?id=11* and further, *http://www.vde.de/en/Pages/Homepage.aspx*.
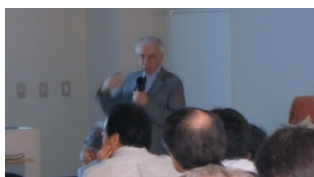

Fig. 1 Joint Session BK-6 with German-Japanese Symposium in IEICE Society Conference

Fig. 2 BK-6 speakers and organizers at the Conference venue

Reportage
Dream of Nursing Science toward a Global Public Welfare with Applications of Informatics

Kazuko Eto, Prof., Dept. of Nursing, Yokohama Soei Junior College, and Final Year, PhD Course, Graduate School of Information Systems, University of Electro-Communications
(*Interviewer : Kenzo Takahashi, Prof., Dr., IEICE-TFIPP*)

Prof. Eto has majored in Nursing Science and devoted to higher education and research activities on relevant issues in the College since 1977, while she has tried to explore a new scheme of nursing science with ICT applications and pursued her studies by re-enrolling the Graduate School for her PhD degree in Engineering. She also tried a short term overseas study to improve her communication ability. Her positive and superb experience introduced in this interview would exactly encourage younger researchers and scholars to develop their great possibilities :

Q. Hello, Prof. Eto, thank you very much for your kind acceptance of interview for IEICE Global Plaza. What are your major and current research topic for your PhD dissertation?
A. I have majored in Social Intelligence and Informatics in University of Electro-Communications and the research topic is the Creation of Educational Program for Drug Abuse Prevention of Younger Generation, especially from smoking or drinking.

Q. What is the primary reason why you have reworked graduate studies, especially in the fields of Informatics/ICT, whereas you already completed your studies of nursing science before?
A. Because I had confidence that it must be inevitable to review conventional procedures of learning the drug abuse prevention for younger generation with applications of Informatics/ICT from the viewpoints of effective re-education of both younger generation and their parents in simultaneous collaborative environment.

Q. Frankly speaking, what is your dream for the future society?
A. It is to develop the educational program of nursing HIV patients increasing in Africa and protect them from the disease, living with them there. The continent is too wide, so, I think, Informatics/ICT will be indispensable to cover the whole area involved in the disease. I will extend the idea and procedures of Informatics/ICT which I have learned, toward the realization of the dream.

Q. Quite many researchers/students join IEICE and get required knowledge or find better solutions by publishing papers or exchanging opinions in forums. What do you think of that?
A. I think IEICE will be one of meaningful academic institutions for me and I would like to continuously join it for my studies.

Q. I hear you have also joined another program of overseas study with home stay in Australia, this summer. What are the purpose and your impression on that?
A. It was to experience different cultures and improve my ability of communication. I could enjoy both and know their heart by talking with all my heart. I also had an opportunity to exchange opinions about my thesis topic with my classmates.

Q. Thank you very much for your nice talks and opinions, today.
(Interviewed at UEC on November 9, 2010)

Fig. 3 Overseas study at Queensland University

Upcoming International Conferences
ISADS 2011—IEICE Communications Soc./Information Systems Soc. The 10th International Symposium on Autonomous Decentralized Systems (ISADS 2011), in Tokyo and Hiroshima, on March 23-27, 2011. Due dates for papers and panel proposals is Aug 31. See it at *http://www.isads2011.info.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/*.
CrownCom 2011—ICST/IEICE Communications Soc./others, 6th International ICST Conference on Cognitive Radio Oriented Wireless Networks, in Yokohama, Japan, on May 31-June 3, 2011, See it at
ICC 2011—IEEE/IEEE-Communications Soc/IEICE Communications Soc/Science Council of Japan. IEEE International Conference on Communications, in Kyoto, Japan on June 5-9, 2011. See it at *http://www.ieee-icc.org/index.php*
TWHM 2011—IEICE Electronics Soc/Technical Committee on Electron Device, 2011 Topical Workshop on Heterostructure Microelectronics, in Gifu, Japan on August 28-31, 2011. See it at *http://www.twhm.net/*.

Message from TFIPP Secretariat
This issue is delivered also by a free mail magazine "IEICE Global Plaza on Line" with updated news of interest for you. Please contact Prof. Takahashi, TFIPP (Task Force for International Policy and Planning) at *global@ieice. org*, if you need. Back numbers are available in archives at *http://www.ieice.org/eng/global_plaza/index.html/*.