

June 21, 2012

I have the honor of contributing one of the final notes in this book of reminiscences and thanks - writing with an official ERI pen, an hour before the summer solstice.

This is my first time in Japan, and it has been a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and colleagues, learn something of your varried culture, and gain a deeper appreciation for the many qualities and strengths of Today. I am thankful for the generosity with which you provide us visitors with the tools we need to do science. As a colleague related to me before I came "They treat you so well, it's embarassing...". Particularly, after the wonderful field trip to Kyushu and subsequent workshop organized by Kurita-san, ^{Ichihara-san,} and Hatanos-san, I couldn't agree more.

I'll echo the sentiments of an earlier writer and particularly thank Itakura-san and the other "English-lunch" regulars for fostering a welcoming environment. My biggest unexpected scientific exchanges have been with Kurita-san and his group, particularly Senryu-san and his freezing experiments. I'm looking forward to continuing this association in the future, as well as the discussions with Hatanos-san that led to this visit taking place. Other names and faces come to mind and I hesitate to write more only to avoid mistaken omissions and save the tired eyes who might suffer my penmanship.

Best regards to all,

Alan Rempel
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