

# Opening Remarks

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This is my great pleasure and honor to give the opening remarks for this memorable joint meeting as a member of the organizing committee. At first we asked Prof. Masako Bando who is the current president of JPS to attend this meeting and give opening remarks, however, she is too busy to come to Hawaii, hence I accepted to take her role and am giving the opening remarks. Fortunately Prof. Bando kindly sent us a greeting message for the participants of this meeting as the president of JPS.

I would like to show and read her message:

**(Here insert the message from Prof. M. Bando)**

By the way, as Prof. Bando thought, most of the people regard this meeting as the first joint meeting between APS and JPS in high energy physics, however, it is not true.

The real first joint meeting was held in 1965 Sep-2 to 4 at university of Hawaii.

The number of participants was 560 and 60 from Japan. This first joint meeting included all physics subjects: I mean not only particle physics but also material science.

Now we have more than 650 participants and more than 240 from Japan only for elementary particle physics.

Recently I found an article concerning about the 1965 joint meeting. Just a few months before the meeting there raised an argument to cancel the joint meeting.

The reason was that US government was fully involved in the Vietnam War at that time, hence some Japanese physicists proposed to cancel or at least postpone the joint meeting until the war ends. However, the chairman of the Japanese organizing committee, Prof. Ryogo Kubo who was a famous theorist of statistical mechanics, immediately rejected the proposal.

Briefly speaking what he said was "Activity of JPS is not relevant to politics. Independence of JPS from politics has been established after long historical efforts, hence what we obtain by quitting from the meeting is much less than what we obtain with holding the meeting". Thus the meeting was held as scheduled.

Current political situation in the world is still vague, but cooperation in physics is growing and expanding year by year. Thanks to the present internet technology communication among physicists in the world becomes more and more convenient, however, getting together at one place and discussing each other face to face is still very important for mutual understanding of different countries.

I hope this joint meeting among APS, JPS and Pacific countries will help for further growth of cooperation in physics and also believe to be fruitful especially for young physicists who will lead future elementary particle physics society in the world.

Finally I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the local organizing committee of university of Hawaii for their excellent preparation for this meeting.