

Address by the Organizer at the Opening Ceremony  
of the 18th International Conference on Crystal Growth and Epitaxy

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Century Hall, Nagoya Congress Center

Your Imperial Highness, The Crown Prince,  
Mr. Hideaki Ohmura, Governor of Aichi Prefecture,  
Mr. Takashi Kawamura, Mayor of Nagoya,  
Distinguished Guests, Fellow Researchers,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor to deliver an address as a co-organizer at the opening ceremony of the 18th International Conference on Crystal Growth and Epitaxy in the presence of His Imperial Highness, The Crown Prince. I understand that this conference is held successfully thanks to the endeavor and dedication of the organizations concerned, led by Prof. Koichi Kakimoto, President of the Japanese Association for Crystal Growth and Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee of this conference, Prof. Yasuhiko Arakawa another Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee, Prof. Kazuo Hotate, President of the Japan Society of Applied Physics, and Prof. Roberto Fornari, President of International Organization for Crystal Growth.

Since its inception in 1949, Science Council of Japan has served as the representative institution of Japan's scientific communities. We have deepened its ties with science and research institutions globally by hosting international conferences in Japan and dispatching Japanese researchers to conferences held overseas.

Co-organizing important international congresses, such as the International Conference on Crystal Growth and Epitaxy, is one of our main international activities. We are very pleased to welcome participants from all over the world.

Crystal growth study is an academic field, which combines basic and applied researches of natural science and technology. It contributes to the society by creating newly functional materials, advancing communications and transportation technology, developing new drugs, and improving safety and health in biotechnology.

I hope that, at this conference, there will be intense discussions among crystal growth researchers beyond existing disciplines to construct better society which would bring about happier life to all the people, and its outcome will be shared widely in the society.

I understand that many young scientists will take part in the Conference, and present their research findings.

I hope that this Conference will be an important opportunity to nurture scientists of the next generation, and contribute to future crystal growth researches as well as the progress of the society.

Finally, before closing my welcome address, I would like to express my wish for the great success of this conference. In addition, I hope that you have an enjoyable and memorable stay in Nagoya, with many opportunities to understand better the culture, society and people of Japan.

Thank you for your attention.