Dawn of ICONE

June 29, 2016

Yasuo Koizumi (Japan Atomic Energy Agency)
1st ICONE

The First JSME/ASME Joint International Conference on Nuclear Engineering

November 4 – 7, 1991
Keio Plaza Hotel
Tokyo, Japan

General Chair      S. Toda
General Co-Chair   R. E. Miller
Vice Chair         M. Aritomi
                   Y. Koizumi
                   A. S. Rao
                   J. H. Kim
                   E. A. Harvego
International Advisory Committee Chair  M. Akiyma
Technical Program Committee Chair       H. Nariai
ICONE OBJECTIVES AND PROSPECT FOR FUTURE AT 1ST ICONE

(1) 1979 TMI-II
1986 Chernobyl
The nuclear engineering field was in the depressed condition.
To revitalize nuclear engineering research and industry through the international exchange of ASME and JSME engineers and researchers.

(2) Since the nuclear engineering filed is very wide, the activity to pursue the objective (1) would be mainly limited to the mechanical engineering field at the beginning.

(3) When the objective (1) is attained, spreading evolutionally the scope and the scale of the conference would be considered in order to contribute the deployment of nuclear engineering world-wide.

(4) US and Japan have many things to learn each other; for example the operation rate for US and the safety culture for Japan (in those days!). The conference would be the right place to execute it.
ICONE started from this memo paper.

This memo is from Mr. Higuchi to Dr. Ishikawa.

Mr. Higuchi attended the Nuclear Power Conference of ASME and ANS held at South Carolina in 1988.

He was a member of NED of ASME.

He was asked to survey the possibility to have a joint nuclear engineering conference of ASME and JSME in Japan.

So, after he came back to Japan, he sent this memo that stated the ASME plan to Dr. Ishikawa who was the chair of the Power Committee, the predecessor of the present Power & Energy Systems Division (PESD) of JSME.

Mr. Ishikawa was the head of the nuclear safety division of the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute (JAERI) and also my boss in JAERI.
I left JAERI 1989.

ICONE was left to me by Dr, Ishikawa.

Prof. Toda took over the chairman of the Power Committee of JSME and myself acted the secretary of the committee.

We, Prof. Toda and myself, started the preparation to have the conference hastily.


This letter from Mr. Miller of ASME NED Chair to Prof. Toda of JSME PESD chair is the first official correspondence between ASME and JSME.

NED and PESD exchanged so many letters, Faxes and phone calls. Mr. Higuchi helped us greatly.
October 25, 1989

Professor Saburo Toda
Tohoku University
Aramaki aza Aoba
Aoba-ku
Sendai-shi
MIYagi-ken
JAPAN 980

Re: Joint JSME-ASME International Conference

Dear Professor Toda:

Speaking for myself and the other members of the NED Executive Committee, it was a pleasure to meet you during your recent visit to the USA. We also appreciate the good work and quality of the JSME proposal for a future joint conference between our two societies in 1991.

Based on preferences of the JSME and the numerous constraints ASME/NED faces, the USA participation will be as follows:

1. ASME/NED is supportive of the joint conference concept as a mechanism to increase the exchange of technology on an international basis. However, ASME/NED would be happy to support the JSME Conference on a co-sponsor, participative basis only. JSME would be fully responsible for all conference arrangements, technical program, and totally responsible for conference financial success (profits or losses). ASME agrees to provide Mr. Atam Rao as the technical program contact and liaison in the USA. Mr. Rao would publicize the conference throughout the United States with companies whom we think have both the interest and justification for providing speakers and technical papers, and who would cover expenses for their personnel to travel to Japan in support of this conference.

2. Please recognize ASME/NED’s involvement with this conference must be approved by the ASME Board on Conferences. We feel this approval will not be controversial and should be approved as described in this correspondence. Our ASME approval would allow the JSME to use the ASME logo on conference materials and if you desire, you could document and advertise the conference as a JSME Conference co-sponsored by the ASME.

3. From ASME/NED’s planning point of view, it would be desirable for the conference to be held in the Spring of 1991 versus the Fall of 1991. Reasons for our preference is to spread our efforts and resources between the JSME Conference and the USA Joint Power Generation Conference which occurs in the October/November time period. Note this is an ASME preference only, and we would support the JSME conference regardless of your final schedule.

4. ASME/NED is supportive of JSME being a co-sponsor for a similar conference in the USA two years later, during 1993. Based on the success of the 1991 conference in Japan, ASME will have to determine whether to sponsor a separate new ASME/JSME Conference in the USA or ask JSME to co-sponsor one of our existing conferences. Possibilities for JSME co-sponsoring a conference in the USA will have to be finalized by ASME over the next couple of years.

All of the above in effect confirms the 1991 conference is a stand-alone commitment on the part of ASME; however, we are optimistic that every other year our two societies can co-sponsor a conference which would alternate between our two countries.

If you have any questions, please contact me so we can discuss and finalize your understanding of NED’s counter-proposal.

I will immediately seek approval of NED’s proposal by ASME’s Board on Conferences and will advise you as soon as possible of their acceptance. Meantime, it is recommended you discuss ASME’s counter-proposal with your society so that we might reach concurrence on our plans.

Based on all the above, we feel ASME can develop and provide numerous technical papers to the various sessions outlined in your conference proposal; however, it is not possible to predict the number of papers the USA would provide. There should be a sufficient number of American presentations to support the concept of ASME co-sponsoring the conference, however.

You may discuss all of the above with your ASME/NED counterparts.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Title]

[Company]
Please conduct your discussions with me until we have reached an agreement on the conference plans. Once this agreement is final, I will provide you with sufficient information to begin your communications directly with Mr. Atam Rao for balance of planning and session development.

We appreciate your interest in developing this international relationship and technology interchange between our societies and nations.

Sincerely yours,

R E Miller, Chairman
ASME NED Executive Committee

REM/cpn

cc: NED Executive Committee
Remco Waszink
**ICONE**: This abbreviation was decided. Dr. Ishikawa said “Ikone 行こうね！（Let’s proceed in Japanese）”, Good!

The **ICONE logo** was also decided. This was designed by a colleague of Dr. Nagasaka of Toshiba Co.
ICONE-1 Circular

The 1st JSME/ASME Joint International Conference on Nuclear Engineering

November 4—7, 1991
Keio Plaza Hotel
Tokyo, Japan

The Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is indeed a great honor and pleasure for me to have been invited to the banquet and deliver the dinner address at the 1st JSME/ASME International Conference on Nuclear Engineering.

I studied mechanical engineering at college and have therefore been a member of the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers for many years.

As many of the organizing committee members for this conference are friends I have known well for many years, I was very glad to be invited to tonight's banquet. Now taking this opportunity, I would like to explain current nuclear safety issues, briefing nuclear power development in Japan.

During the early years of the development of nuclear power, I recognized that the unsteady heat transfer phenomena played an important part in the cooling of the nuclear reactor. In fact, it would be no exaggeration to say that it was at the very heart of the technological problems relating to the safety of nuclear reactors. It was my work in this field that led to my three-decade involvement as one of advisors in nuclear safety regulation. I currently serve as chairman of the Nuclear Safety Commission (NSC).

The Nuclear Safety Commission was established in 1978. Although this commission can be compared to the US NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) which is an administrative agency, the NSC is an advisory organ to the Prime Minister. The NSC has a character independent of both the administrative organization and the industry and it consists of five commissioners. The NSC is responsible for determining principal policies related to nuclear safety regulation. On the contrary, the Atomic Energy Commission established in 1956 is responsible for determining principal policies for research, development and uses.

The safety regulations for nuclear facilities of Japan, including the issuance of an establishment permit and an oper-
Evening Boat Crouse in Tokyo Bay during ICONE1.
At ICONE1
Attendees 408
from Japan 344
from Outside of Japan 64 (US 25, France 9, Korea 8, etc.)

Paper 187
from Japan 128
from Outside of Japan 57
(3) When the objective (1) is attained, spreading evolutionally the scope and the scale of the conference would be considered in order to contribute the deployment of nuclear engineering world-wide.
Prof. Toda.

Big Founder of ICONE. We owe the great success of ICONE to him.

He passed away May 3rd, 2016.

Join hands in prayer. 合掌 Let’s express our great regret to him.
END