

[部門賞報告]

技術と社会部門 2012 年度部門賞 部門功績賞受賞者挨拶



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On 7 December 2012, at the sixth International Conference on Business and Technology Transfer, held at Newcastle University Business School, the Technology and Society Division of the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers bestowed the great honour on me of making me the “Technology and Society Award”. As this is the first time that a non-Japanese person has been given this honour, I am extremely proud to be the recipient. I was also very pleased to see that Professor Tsutsumi was honoured in the same way, not least because he is both a great scholar of the history of technology and a very good friend.

Working closely with Professor Shiroshita, Professor Tsutsumi and latterly Professor Watanuki, I have been heavily involved in creating the ICBTT. We held our first conference in Kyoto in 2002, while since then a further five conferences have been arranged in the UK, Japan and the USA. Our

aim has been primarily to develop a better understanding of the flow of engineering and business technology around the world, initially from West to East, but latterly the other way (especially from Japan). This has involved a large number of scholars from many different countries, producing some fascinating insights into these intricate processes. As this is a cross-disciplinary mix of engineers, scientists, social scientists and historians, it offers a genuinely radical mix of approaches to this complicated subject.

We have also been very grateful to JSME (founded in 1897) for sponsoring these world-wide events in order to disseminate the knowledge from these conferences to its 37,000 members in Japan. It is wonderful to be associated with such a prestigious institution as JSME, given the impact it has had on engineering technology for so long.

I am very proud to have been given this award. It now hangs in my Director's office at Newcastle University Business School for all to see. I also look forward to further interaction with my international collaborators in delving deeper into the subjects of business and technology transfer.

Professor John Wilson.

Director, Newcastle University Business School.

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