

## ETC Presidential Address

Shuzo Takemoto

Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Mr. Chairman, Professor Groten the IAG Representative and ladies and gentlemen, to all of you present here, I take pleasure in expressing sincere thanks for your attendance at this Symposium.

The first International Symposium on Earth Tides was held at Brussels in 1957. Since then thirteen meetings were held during 4 decades. We are now about to begin our 14<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Earth Tides here in Mizusawa. It should be noticed specially that this is the first time the Symposium is held in Japan.

In Japan, studies on Earth tides began in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The late professor Toshi Shida of Kyoto Imperial University first observed tidal tilts in Japan using an E. von Rebeur-Paschwitz tiltmeter of horizontal pendulum type at the Kamigamo Geophysical Observatory in Kyoto. The name of Shida is famous as the Shida Number in tidal studies. As well known, the tidal response on the Earth's surface can be represented by three dimensionless parameters. They are Love number  $h$  and  $k$ , and Shida number  $l$ . After the pioneering work by Shida, many researchers continued Earth Tides observations in Japan. I have believed that Japan has enough potential to organize the highest standard Symposium on Earth tides.

At the 13<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Earth Tides held in Brussels three years ago, we discussed on seven topics of (1) Tidal instrumentation, (2) Space geodetic observations (3) Ground based observation, (4) Tidal models, (5) Tidal data processing, (6) Ocean tide models and (7) Superconducting Gravimeters. Now in this Symposium, we added two sessions: one is "Relation between the tidal and tectonic phenomena" and the other is "Observation and theory for tides on the Earth and planets". The former is by the reason that this Symposium is held in the tectonically active region Japan and the later is based on recent development of space geodetic techniques and the planetary tides will be one of the main targets of our Commission in the 21st century.

In this opportunity I would like to express my sincere thanks on behalf of the Earth Tide Commission to members of the Local Organizing Committee, especially to Prof. Ooe, Prof. Sato and colleagues in the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan for their excellent work in organizing this Symposium. I also express my deep appreciation to Prof. Sanso IAG President and Prof. Tscherning IAG Secretary General who kindly allocated a part of IAG fund to this Symposium and five persons could be awarded IAG travel fund.

Finally, we sincerely hope that all who participate in this Symposium will report fully on the results of their continuing research and thus contribute to the progress of Earth tide studies in the 21st century.

Thank you very much.