

Report of the International Fuel Cell Workshop 2015 (IFCW2015)

Sponsored by the University of Yamanashi

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The International Fuel Cell Workshop 2015 (IFCW2015) has been held on the 27th and 28th of August. This is the 7th workshop since the first IFCW was held in 1989, the 2nd in 1998, the 3rd in 2001, the 4th in 2005, the 5th in 2009, and 6th in 2012. The aim of all of these workshops has been unchanged. We have intended to contribute to the progress in the research and development (R & D) of fuel cells by both the exchange of the hottest information and the forthright discussion among researchers and engineers from widely diverse fields.

In IFCW2015, we have focused on issues from basic science to applications of PEFCs with proton-exchange-membranes, together with anion-exchange-membranes, which will be important for next-generation systems without noble metal electrocatalysts. Twelve world-leading speakers were invited from academia, research institutes, and industry:

V. Stamenkovic (Argonne National Lab., USA), J. Zhang (General Motors, USA), J. Stumper (AFCC, Canada), D. Jones (Univ. Montpellier, France), S. Kinoshita (Asahi Glass Co., Japan), A. Z. Weber (Lawrence Berkeley National Lab., USA), M. Watanabe (Univ. Yamanashi, Japan), Y. Fujii (Honda R & D Co., Japan), Y. Nagata (Toshiba Fuel Cell Power Systems, Japan), C. Coutanceau (Univ. Poitiers, France), J. Varcoe (Univ. Surrey, UK), P. Atanassov (Univ. New Mexico, USA)

The number of the attendees was about 150 from 12 countries in the world. The workshop was carefully organized so as to maintain sufficient time for the presentation and the discussion. We had also 47 contributed poster presentations, which promoted further discussion among the attendees. With a peer review by the invited speakers and organizers, the “ISE Poster Award (with the use of ISE logo)” was presented to 5 students with the gifts. One of the division officers (H. U.) clearly announced that the ISE is the sponsor of the prize and the students are encouraged to join the member of the ISE.

All attendees thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and associated events, including a test-riding of fuel cell vehicle (Toyota MIRAI), and FC-related exhibitions. The workshop has certainly contributed to the wider and earlier introduction of fuel cells as part of the coming hydrogen society.



Hiroyuki Uchida, Workshop Chairman

Co-organizers : Deborah Jones, Hubert Gasteiger, Thomas Schmidt, Hasuck Kim, Steven Holdcroft

