



## Contents

### ■ Latest activities of STS forum

- *Chairman Koji Omi's trips to India and South Africa*
- *Ms. Asako Omi's speech at the Japan-India Innovation Seminar in India*
- *Council and Board Meetings in Washington D.C.*

### ■ Message from a Regular Participant

- *Prof. Eric Mazur*

### ■ Who's Who? - Profiles of Council Members -

- *Dr. Megan Clark*
- *Prof. Dr. -Ing. Matthias Kleiner*
- *Mr. Ellis Rubinstein*

Cover Photo : <http://dacha88.exblog.jp/>

**Join us at : STS forum 2016, 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
October 2, 3 and 4, 2016

Kyoto International Conference Center

***With this winter issue, we would like to keep you updated on events and activities related to STS forum over the last three months.***

**November 30 – December 3, 2015:** Chairman Koji Omi visited Delhi, India. During a brief stay of 49 hours, he met 29 political and business leaders, as well as academics, to promote STS *forum* and enlisted their support. He also laid the groundwork for implementation of a workshop there.

**December 8, 2015:** Chairman Omi was invited to deliver a speech at the Science Forum South Africa-2015 in Pretoria, South Africa. As many of you know, he played a leading role in enacting Japan's Science and Technology Basic Law in 1995, which has boosted Japanese S&T activities to become competitive and innovative. "The history of Japan can be a template of development for African countries to create future rich societies through science and technology," he said in his speech.

In association with Africa, Chairman Omi also stressed the significance of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), a meeting in which the Japanese government has been playing a leading role since 1993, and the next meeting will be held in Nairobi, Kenya in August 2016. "I am sure that the next meeting (of TICAD) in Kenya will play a concrete role in shaping a road map for future development," he said.

H.E. Naledi Grace Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Science and Technology, in her opening speech, mentioned STS *forum* as a catalyst to hold the first meeting to discuss the role of S&T in African society. "We have taken the liberty of borrowing from ESOF (EuroScience Open Forum) and the STS *forum* of Japan," she said. Mrs. Pandor is a regular participant of STS *forum*.

Also in his speech, Mr. Omi referred to the EXPO 2020 Dubai in the United Arab Emirates whose theme is 'Sustainability and Mobility'. He mentioned the possibility of holding a STS *forum* workshop before or during the event. "African countries are encouraged to participate in our workshop and learn about the activities of the STS *forum*," he said.





## **December 11, 2015---Japan-India Innovation Seminar:**

Ms. Asako Omi, Secretary General of STS *forum* and a Member of the House of Representatives, was invited to give a speech at the Japan-India Innovation Seminar 2015 at Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi, India. The seminar, co-organized by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and New Energy and Industrial Development Organization (NEDO), was held on the occasion of Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's state visit to India. "India is now the center of world interest," said Ms. Omi, "On the other hand, she faces many challenges such as developing social and industrial infrastructure, promoting industrial innovation, improving sanitary conditions, enhancing public health, mitigating the impact of climate change, and making further progress in agriculture." Science and technology, she said, "is the key that contribute to solutions."

Despite its scarce natural resources Japan experienced astounding economic growth by intensively promoting science and technology. "I hope Japan can share our experiences to promote India's further industrial and social development through science and technology and find the best way to work together," she said. Following an introduction of STS *forum*, she said that the platform provided by the STS *forum* would contribute for India "to find cooperation partners, explore innovative ideas, create human networks, and build a financial backbone for your endeavors." In conclusion, Ms. Omi expressed strong anticipation of co-hosting a workshop in India by STS *forum* and Indian partners in the near future. "We look forward to a more extensive partnership with India in the future and to strengthen the ties between Japan and this beautiful country, India," she said.



Ms. Asako Omi with H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India





### **January 11 and 12, 2016---Council Meeting and Board Meeting in Washington D.C. :**

At the National Academy of Sciences Building, the first Council Meeting and Board Meeting this year were held. At the Council Meeting on Jan.11, the framework of the program for the 13th Annual Meeting was discussed and approved. Based on these recommendations, Program Committee will proceed with sending out invitation letters to prospective speakers.

At the Board Meeting on Jan. 12, STS forum's action plans for 2016 were presented and gained approval from the members. The plan includes four possible workshops in Brussels, Belgium (May 4), Delhi, India (June 6), Bangkok, Thailand (June 9), and Nairobi, Kenya (in August).

There was a reshuffle of Board Members in the General Meeting last October and it was the first Board Meeting with the newly-assigned members. We would like to take this occasion to thank all those who have completed their terms as Board Members: Prof. Ralph J. Cicerone, Dr. Kiyoshi Kurokawa, and H.E Dr. Philip Yeo.

And, we are happy to introduce our new Board Members:

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Matthias Kleiner, Prof. Yuan Tseh Lee, Mr. Chuan Poh Lim, Dr. Marcia McNutt, Mr. Masashi Muromachi, Dr. Ismail Serageldin, and Mr. Takayuki Shirao.



Mr. Shirao has assumed the position of **Executive Director** as well and here is a brief summary of his career:

Mr. **Takayuki Shirao** entered the Science and Technology Agency of Japan in 1974, followed by a study period abroad in the United States Nuclear Safety Administration in 1979. In 1986, he became the first Secretary of Science and Technology at the Embassy of Japan in Paris, France, and experienced a variety of director roles at the STA.

In 2001, he began serving as the Deputy Secretary-General of the International Human Frontier Science Program Organization in Strasbourg, France. In 2006 he became the Executive Director of the National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS) in Japan, then Director of the Office of the Director General, ITER International Organization in 2010. Mr. Shirao joined STS forum in April 2015.

## Message from Regular Participant



### **Eric Mazur**

Balkanski Professor of Physics and  
Applied Physics  
Harvard University  
President Elect, the Optical Society

In 2008 I was invited for the first time to attend the STS *forum* and present my thoughts on the subject of education — without any doubt the most significant, but also most neglected, investment society can make in its citizens. I came away from that first meeting with countless new ideas and connections and I have not missed a single STS *forum* since that first one. Having attended eight out of the 11 forums held to date, I have participated in panels on science diplomacy, new materials, engineering education, industrial innovation, and a long list of other topics relating to the important role advances in science and technology play in society.

Even though I am a scientist and part time entrepreneur, and therefore intrinsically convinced that science and technology is at the heart of the progress of society, the interaction with the incredibly broad range of participants at the forum has given me a different perspective on how to make science and technology work for the benefit of society. On their own, advances in science and technology do little to change society. To have a positive impact, a synergy is required between academia, industry, and government. Academia to carry out fundamental research and lay the foundation for disruptive innovation; industry to bring innovation to fruition through commercialization; government to seed the innovation and enable commercialization through funding and supporting policies.

Because the STS *forum* brings together leading stakeholders and engaged individuals from all three of these areas, it is the perfect venue for tackling global problems like health, environment, energy, and education.

The excitement and energy that results from bringing together leaders, decision makers and innovators at the STS *forum* is irresistible. Every year I come away with a refreshed perspective on how we can work together in finding solutions to the world's pressing challenges. I am already looking forward to the next forum!

***STS forum is led by 83 Council Members from 28 countries and regions. For those who are not familiar with them, we take great pleasure in introducing some members.***

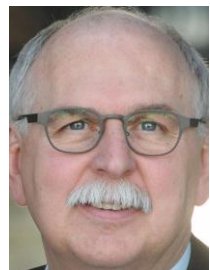
**Dr. Megan Clark**  
Advisory Board Member  
Bank of America Merrill Lynch



Dr. Clark is a Director of Rio Tinto and a member of the Australian advisory board of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch. She was Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industry Research Organisation (CSIRO) from 2009 to 2014. Prior to CSIRO, she was a Director at NM Rothschild and Sons (Australia) and was Vice President Technology and subsequently Vice President Health, Safety and Environment at BHP Billiton from 2003 to 2008.

Dr. Clark holds a BSc(Hons) in geology from the University of Western Australia and a PhD in Economic Geology from Queen's University, Canada, and is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In 2014 Dr. Clark was made a Companion of the Order of Australia, AC in the Queen's birthday honors for eminent service to scientific research and development.

**Prof. Dr. –Ing. Matthias Kleiner**  
President, Leibniz Association



1991: Habilitation in the field of forming technology. 1994: joined the Brandenburg Technical University of Cottbus as Professor of Forming Technology in the Chair in Design and Manufacturing. 1997: DFG's Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize. 1998: Chair of Forming Technology at the TU Dortmund University. 2004-2006: managing director of the newly established Institute of Forming Technology and Lightweight Construction (IUL). Has played an instrumental role in a number of international and interdisciplinary research projects and research networks. Member of numerous international committees and academies. 2011: Co-Chair of the German "Ethics Commission for a Safe Energy Supply". 2007-2012: President of the German Research Foundation (DFG). Since July 2014: President of the Leibniz Association.

## --- Profiles of Council Members

### **Mr. Ellis Rubinstein**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
The New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS)



Ellis Rubinstein is President and CEO of the 199-year-old New York Academy of Sciences, home of 20,000 scientists in 100 countries and 27 Nobel Laureates on its Council. He served as Editor of Science from 1993-2002. He was Editor of The Scientist, Senior Editor at Newsweek, and Managing Editor of Science 86 and IEEE spectrum. His journalism was honored by 3 National Magazine Awards, the Pulitzer Prizes of the US periodical industry. He was the first Western journalist to interview Jiang Zemin and the first science journalist to interview former US President Bill Clinton. He has established international initiatives like the Academy's global nutrition science alliance with the World Health Organization, the Global STEM Alliance for children, and the Global Compact for Early Childhood Development.





### 2016: The Year of The Monkey

In Japan, apart from the western calendar, the Chinese astrological calendar is widely used. There are twelve zodiac signs and each year has a symbolic animal. The order is: rat, bull, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and boar. The cycle is completed every twelve years. This year, 2016, is the year of the monkey.

Japanese macaques in Jigokudani Yaen-Koen, a monkey park in Nagano Prefecture, are world famous for their unique habit of bathing in a natural hot spring. These wild apes are the only ones in the world who chill out in hot springs. "The hot spring is one of the measures for them to preserve heat during the cold winter," says Ms. Kayo Miyata of the park, "so they are not willing to enter when it's warm."

[N.B. Last year, a photo taken by a Dutch photographer who was visiting the monkey park, won the special award of Wildlife Photographer of the Year, The National History Museum in London, U.K. A young Japanese macaque, in the natural hot bath, was holding an iPhone just as a human would, looking intently at the screen.]



STS forum (NPO)

Sanno Grand Building 419,  
2-14-2, Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku,  
Tokyo 100-0014, Japan

TEL : +81-3-3519-3351 / FAX : +81-3-3519-3352  
[information@stsforum.org](mailto:information@stsforum.org) [www.stsforum.org](http://www.stsforum.org)