

## 2014 C&C Prize Ceremony

On the late autumn afternoon of November 26, 2014, the 2014 C&C Prize Ceremony was held at the ANA InterContinental Hotel Tokyo with over 160 attendees (**Photo 1**).

The ceremony started with the welcoming speech by Mr. Hajime Sasaki, the president of NEC C&C Foundation. In his opening remarks, he stated that the C&C Prize this year was the thirtieth and that it has produced 95 prize recipients so far, including the 2014 Nobel Prize laureates in Physics, Dr. Isamu Akasaki and Dr. Shuji Nakamura. When considering the sluggish economy of Japan, maintaining the foundation has not always been easy. However, Mr. Sasaki stated his determination to continue to pursue the promotion of public benefits through the foundation activities such as the C&C Prize.

The speech was followed by the recognition of the 2014 prize recipients by Dr. Tomonori Aoyama, the chairman of the awards committee. The recipients of Group A were Prof. Shigeo Tsujii, Professor of Chuo University and Professor Emeritus of the Institute of Information Security, and Dr. Hideki Imai, Professor Emeritus of The University of Tokyo, for “Pioneering Research on Information Security and for Major Contributions to both Industry and Human-resources Development by Building Communities of Academics, Industrialists, and/or Government Officials”. The recipients of Group B were Dr. Jan Uddenfeldt, Former CTO, Ericsson and Sony Mobile Communications, Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs, Founding Chairman and CEO emeritus, Qualcomm and Prof. Fumi-yuki Adachi, Professor of Tohoku University, for “Outstanding Leadership and Contributions Promoting the Development and Commercialization of Digital Mobile Communications Systems”. Their research achievement details



Photo 1 2014 C&C Prize Ceremony.



Photo 2 From the left: Dr. Hideki Imai and Prof. Shigeo Tsujii (recipients of Group A), Mr. Hajime Sasaki (President of NEC C&C Foundation), Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs, Dr. Jan Uddenfeldt and Prof. Fumi-yuki Adachi (recipients of Group B).

and citations were announced and certificates, plaques, and cash awards were then presented to the prize recipients by Mr. Hajime Sasaki (**Photo 2**).

Mr. Kensuke Tomita, Director-General, Commerce and Information Policy Bureau of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Dr. Yoshinori Sakai, President, The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, then delivered congratulatory speeches. Mr. Kensuke Tomita spoke of the significance for today’s society and future prospects of their achievements. Dr. Yoshinori Sakai indicated his gratitude to the recipients who had made valuable contributions over a wide area of information security and mobile communications developments. He also celebrated their achievements as one of the information and telecommunications technologies pioneering studies that will enable us to solve some of the major current issues of society. The award presentation ceremony was thus concluded.

Acceptance speeches followed and Prof. Shigeo Tsujii and Dr. Hideki Imai presented the background to the information security research and discussed the essential issues of today’s digital society. They also suggested the future direction of the activities for solving these issues introducing various community activities in collaboration with industry, academia and government. It was then the turn of Dr. Jan Uddenfeldt, Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs and Prof. Fumi-yuki Adachi to take the podium to introduce an account of their technological developments and to discuss quantitatively the explosive pace of technological advances. They went on to outline for us the future perspec-

tive of telecommunications technology and also defined the social issues that these technologies may be able to solve. Both of these speeches presented us not only with achievements in solving social issues but also with the possibilities and significance of these technologies. The audience applauded its appreciation of the prospect for further technological developments.

After the acceptance speeches, a cocktail party was held in order to provide a sociable atmosphere so that attendees could enjoy meeting each other and participating in friendly conversation. The dinner party began with greetings and a toast by Dr. Masaru Kitsuregawa, President, Information Processing Society of Japan. As the dinner ended, a congratulatory speech was presented by representatives of the recipient's guests, and the prize recipients expressed their thanks for the contributions of all the participants. The ceremony was closed amidst enthusiastic applause.

By maturation of the information and communication technology being developed in recent years, those technologies are considered in some cases to be only one of the means of solving social issues. However, the two themes awarded the C&C Prize this year are truly intrinsic technologies that are able to solve the social issues which will become more complicated and important than they are today, and they are also essential key technologies for advancing the information and communication application fields. It was by the commendation of the 2014 C&C prize that such main stream technologies for future social progress were acclaimed.

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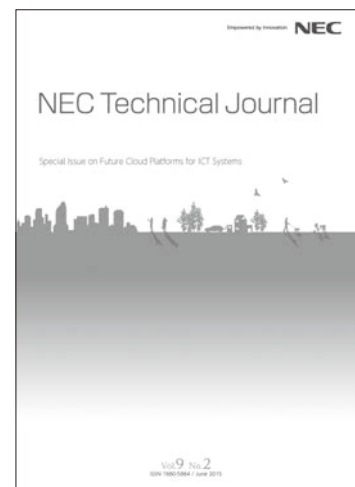
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**Special Issue TOP**

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### NEWS

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