

### Foreword

We present here the Volume 57, No. 3 of the Memoirs of the Faculty of Engineering, Kyoto University, which is the last issue of its publication. The decision to discontinue the Memoirs was made by its Editorial Committee in April, 1995. In turning over the Memoirs, we would like to look back briefly on the history of the Memoirs.

In 1903, several years after the founding of Kyoto Imperial University, the Memoirs of the College of Science and Engineering, Kyoto Imperial University, was brought forth as a mean to present to the international community the achievements of studies carried out by the faculty members. When the College was divided into the College of Science and the College of Engineering in 1914, each College started to publish its own Memoirs. Although there were many research activities conducted in our College, it was not easy for the faculty members to write and publish their results in foreign languages. Therefore, the first issue contained only one report. As the result, it was decided and stated in the cover page "Publications are issued at irregular interval, and when about 300 pages are reached, they form one volume." It took 3 years before the Volume 1 came out with 11 reports. The situation had remained about the same until the Volume 11 was completed in October 1947. After World War II, the reform of the Japanese university system was undertaken and Kyoto Imperial University became Kyoto University. The Faculty of Engineering resumed issuing its Memoirs in October, 1949, as a quarterly publication. Since then, the Memoirs has been published at the rate of one volume per year, containing about 20 reports each year.

After the war, GARIOA aid, Fulbright Act and other funds made it possible for a number of faculty members to go aboard for study and research. With the growth of Japanese economy, many faculty members began to travel abroad and presented their achievements in person at international meetings. Such international activities on their part brought the need for writing papers in foreign languages, resulting an increase in submission of manuscripts for the Memoirs. Thus, the volume 31 was issued in 1969, containing 40 papers and totaling 645 pages.

In addition to the Memoirs, the College of Engineering has had another publication, called "Kogaku-kenkyu: Technical Papers of the Kyoto Imperial University". In the first volume of Kogaku-kenkyu made in 1933, 30 reports were in Japanese, while 12 reports were in foreign languages, but in the subsequent volumes all of them became Japanese. After the war, it became increasingly important for the faculty of national universities to show their achievements to the world wide. So, the "Kogaku-kenkyu" was reorganized so as to include the abstracts of all oral presentations and publications made by the faculty members. Its first volume after the reorganization, Volume 12, con-

tained 721 abstracts including those in the preceding years. Among them, only 3 abstracts were in foreign languages. Since then, however, the total number of abstracts increased. Especially an increase in publications in foreign languages has been notable; for example, the foreign language ones were 50 out of 445 abstracts in 1955, 240 out of 610 in 1965, and 665 out of 1057 in 1975. Now "Kogaku-kenkyu" contains only the papers published in Journals, not the abstracts of oral presentation. The last year's volume came out with 1916 papers, in which 1391 papers were in foreign languages, mostly in English.

Reflecting such international activities by the faculty members, the number of manuscripts submitted to the Memoirs has declined rapidly in 1970, and only 12 papers were published in 1993. It is clear now that the Memoirs is no longer a suitable mean to present the achievements of faculty members. When the Memoirs was created, the Faculty of Engineering, formerly the College of Engineering, consisted of 6 departments, but now our Faculty consists of 26 departments covering various scientific and technological fields related to engineering. It is believed to be the time to discontinue the Memoirs in the traditional form. As the Memoirs of the Faculty of Engineering has its long history, it is rather sad to announce its discontinuation. About 100 years ago when Japanese society was just exposed to Western world for the first time after the long isolation, the showing of the achievements of the faculty members to international academic circles by writing in their languages and distributing them was a great idea and gave large influence to the internationalization of Japanese academic society. Certainly, its initial aim has been well fulfilled. Although the Memoirs will be discontinued, the Faculty of Engineering, or the Graduate School of Engineering, continues to publish the "Kogaku-kenkyu" yearly, which contains all the abstracts of the published papers, reviews, book titles and current research activities of the faculty members. Your support to the Memoirs of the Faculty of Engineering in the past has been greatly appreciated.

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Dean