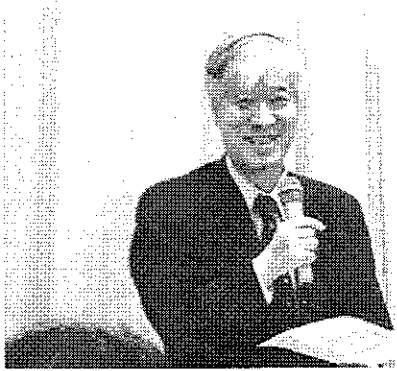


Closing Remark



(Araki)

I would like to express my hearty thanks first to the three panelists for their very nice and clear presentations. Most of the audience here are not English natives, but I hope all of them could understand important points of your presentation because you made your presentation easy for us to understand. Second, I would like to express my thanks to two commentators, their comments and questions helped us to deepen our understanding about this problem.

I myself am just now in the position of head of this Research Institute for Higher Education, but I myself am in the field of automatic control in the Electrical Engineering Department. That means I am on the side of vendor, I am not vending machines, but I am vending technologies. And from my point of view, selling technology is important, so I would like to comment a bit about this problem.

As Prof. Rothblatt said, the mainstream of education was not affected at all by technologies. I think that is true. By the way he said 800 years of history of university, but in my city, 1,200 years history of university education. There was, we started it in the 9th century, our oldest Buddhism university study. But anyway, that is really true and that is because I think education is concerned with human understanding and knowledge and if the way of understanding of human beings does not change, education would not change.

But in the pedagogical field of education, I think there is a lot of effective technology. It was also mentioned in Rothblatt's comments for people for what I am in engineering field. So I know that there are a lot of needs in industries to reeducate their people. Actually, I have the experience of selling video education system whereas some of the engineers who graduated university 10 years ago, think that they should have learned this topics or this class. But they failed to do that and they faced some problems to solve. Or some engineers want to know to get the newest knowledge and for that purpose Video learning was very useful. Now we have this new technology and this enables us to make, to supply bidirectional education to person to person or to class. At least we can answer to some of their questions.

Now I am very sure that we can enhance the quality of education in technology or engineering field. Probably the same thing would be said for medical education and

other circles. Probably the needs from housewives would be a bit different. But it is pedagogical field of education and I think let us say, field would expand because of this technology very rapidly.

I have several things, which I should say, I wanted to say but anyway I forgot. So lastly I would like to thank all of the audience and participants for coming to this meeting and for talking about e-Learning or virtual universities. Thank you.