

Brief Report on the 75th IPSJ National Convention and the 5th Information Processing Technology Heritage Certification Ceremony at Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan

Akihiko Yamada, March 25, 2013

1. The 75th IPSJ National Convention at Tohoku University

The Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ) held the 75th national convention at Tohoku University in Sendai, Miyagi, Japan from March 6 to 8, 2013. Though the university was heavily affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011 and temporary houses still exist in the campus, the convention was a great success. The total number of attendees was 2,759. David Alan Grier, IEEE Computer Society President, was invited and delivered a keynote speech titled “Crowdsourcing, Social Computing and the New Methods of Computer Science” in the afternoon of March 6. The lecture hall was full. The speech was well accepted and appreciated as “crowdsourcing” is very new in Japan and the most people hadn’t heard it before.

(<http://www.ipsj.or.jp/event/taikai/75/75program/html/event/k-1.html>)



David Grier’s keynote at the IPSJ National Convention, Tohoku Univ. Sendai, Japan

In the morning there was a session of “Poetry and Truth from Computer Pioneers’ Life”. Yoshio Miyagi, who was responsible for the development of NEC computers, gave a talk how the computer development promoted the progress of semiconductor technology in early days. Masatoshi Shima who was with Busicom, Intel and Zilog, talked about his experience of designing microprocessors, Intel 4004, 8080 and Z80.

2. The 5th Information Processing Technology Heritage Certification Ceremony

IPSJ’s 5th Information Processing (IP) Technology Heritage Certification Ceremony was held during the national convention on March 6. This time the following 8 artifacts were certified as IP Technology Heritages:

- Tide Predicor (Légé (Brittish), 1957)
- FACOM 201 Parametron Computer (Fujitsu, 1960)

- MADIC IIA Transistor Computer System (Matsushita Communication Industrial (now, Panasonic Mobile Communications), 1963)
- Tokyo Olympic Information System related materials (IBM Japan, 1964)
- USAC-1010 Office Computer (Unoke Electronic Industries, (now, PFU) 1966)
- Wire Dot Printer (Oki Electric, 1968)
- MARS-105 JR Seat Reservation System Terminal (Hitachi, 1975)
- MZ-80K Personal Computer (Sharp, 1978-80)

Manufacturer's names and manufacturing years are listed in parentheses following the item.

MADIC-IIA is a transistorized small scientific computer developed in 1961 and is the first Matsushita's (now, Panasonic) commercial computer. A complete system has been preserved at Wakayama University in Wakayama where Konosuke Matsushita, the founder of Matsushita, was born.

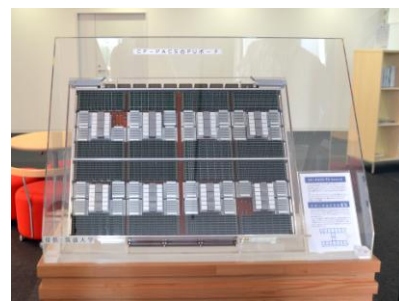


Panasonic's MADIC-IIA computer system preserved at Wakayama University

The IPSJ also certified the display room of Foundation for Computational Science (FOCUS) In Kobe as an IPSJ satellite museum of the historical computers. The museum displays modules and a cabinet of historical supercomputers such as NWT, CP-PACS, and Earth Simulator. They were once the top machine in Top500 list.



The Display Room of Foundation for Computational Science (FOCUS) in Kobe



CP-PACS Board

Earth Simulator Cabinet and Module