

Brief report on events and activities in history of computing in Japan

Akihiko Yamada, August 28, 2013

1. Computer Society Presidents' Lunch in Kyoto

The 37th COMPSAC was held during July 22-26 in Kyoto. On 25th, five Computer Society presidents had lunch at Miyako Hotel. Steve Diamond and his wife, Carl Chang, Sorel Reisman, John Walz and his wife and David Alan Grier attended it. Current BoG members Hironori Kasahara and Atsuhiko Goto, and IEEE Japan Office Director Iwao Hyakutake also joined it.

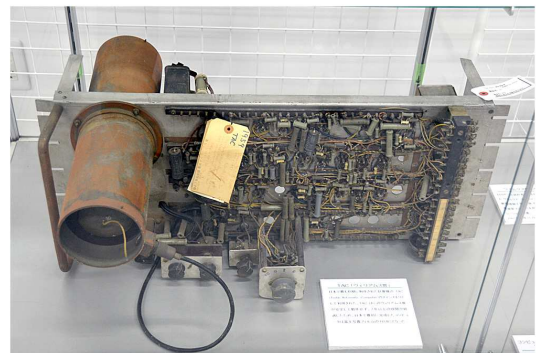
Steve and David were invited speakers at COMPSAC 2013 welcome reception on July 23. Sorel is COMPSAC 2013 General Chair and Walz is COMPSAC 2014 General Chair. Carl serves as COMPSAC Standing Committee Chair.



2. Mini-Computing Exhibit at Museum of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

A mini-computing exhibit is held at Nature and Science Museum of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology from July 13 to October 5. This is an exhibit of a part of “Nishimura Computer Collection” accumulated by Professor Emeritus Hirohiko Nishimura.

A Williams tube memory unit is on display, which was used for the vacuum tube computer TAC, Tokyo Automatic Computer, built by University of Tokyo in 1959. Plug-in logic cards used for the English-Japanese machine translation system “Yamato” developed by Electrotechnical Laboratory in 1959 are also exhibited. Nishimura Computer Collection is certified as an IPSJ satellite museum.



Williams tube memory unit used for TAC

3. CFP for *IEEE Annals*' Asian History of Computing special issue

CFP for *IEEE Annals*' Asian History of Computing special issue is distributed via several mailing lists. Co-guest editors are Chigusa Kita, Kansai University, Japan, and Hyungsub Choi, Seoul National University, South Korea.

4. Upcoming IEEJ Technical Meeting on History of Electrical Engineering

The meeting will be held on September 3 at Tokyo Denki University. The themes are “One Step on Electro-Technology” (IEEJ's commemoration) and history of electrical engineering in general. Eight papers will be presented.