



LMAG Kansai

newsletter

Contents

Message from the Vice Chair	1
Activity Reports	2
Event Calendar	9
Editor's Note	9

Message from the Vice Chair

- IT literacy of life mature people in the AI divide age -

Yoshiaki Kushiki, Vice Chair, LMAG Kansai

We conduct LMAG activities to satisfy our intellectual curiosity about technology, management, leaning, and the arts. Members are professionals of the same specialized field in the IEEE community, so a common set of values and information is shared between the sender and the receiver, and the reliability of information is confirmed.

On the other hand, while information can be obtained quickly from television, newspapers, and Internet media, it is necessary to confirm whether the information is truly reliable. It is also necessary to judge as to whether or not it has discrepancy of opinion or is fake news depending on the information source.

Information obtained in real time from Information technology (IT) such as social media and SNS is often difficult to confirm on site. Therefore, the following are being questioned: (1) The reliability of the information source; (2) The consistency with other information sources; (3) The reputation as the good fact check site; (4) The user's own evaluative ability to judge whether the information is true or false, exaggerated or trivialized.

Many young people who are skillful with smartphones commonly use these as a tool to find answers to questions about anything. If a person searches for an answer to a question that occurred to them with touch input, voice, or images,

they will receive a reply. Adolescents are accustomed to using to these devices, but there are many elderly people who are unfamiliar with them, and the digital divide is becoming more widespread among generations and between emerging and developed countries.

The current smartphone, cloud, and AI system structures are complicated and multi-layered, and it is almost impossible for a layman to understand them. In addition, cloud computing has spread over the past 10 years, and IT resources are readily available at low prices. There is widespread use of information with unsure reliability on the Internet, 5G mobile, automatic translation, AI chat bots, driverless cars, smartphones, surveillance cameras, and social network services. If we cannot evaluate information properly, there will be serious problems in individual and family life.

In particular, companies and governments have IT management as an operating foundation, and it is an era of real-time management that visualizes

management figures. In order to realize a managerial and administrative ability with a sense of speed, it is essential to have the ability to evaluate and use IT and AI properly.

Exciting gains are the advancement of the capability of AI and Cloud closer to human being and the situation where the capability began to fill up the digital divide. It is expected that not only working age generations, but also the 100-year life generations will get the benefits of having IT literacy with “information evaluation capability.”

As LMAG members, we have gained deep understanding of the truths of technology, management, and learning from our experiences so far. In activities that satisfy intellectual curiosity, through acquiring IT literacy, we would like to enjoy a mature life by continuing our affinity with IT, ascertaining the truth, and delving into a wider range of interests without being fooled by false or superficial information.

Activity Reports

Technical Lecture Meetings

The 15th On-site Lecture at HIMEDIC Bldg. of Kyoto University Hospital

On September 8, 2018, the 15th On-site Lecture was held at Preemptive

Medicine and Lifestyle Disease Research Center (HIMEDIC Bldg), Kyoto University Hospital in Kyoto.

Following the opening address, Dr. Masayuki Nambu, a Program Specific Professor at the research center gave a

lecture on "Advanced Technology Supports a Good Health and Long Life"

The lecture was followed by HIMEDIC Bldg tour guided by Professor Nambu.



Professor Nambu giving his talk.



Professor Nambu and participants at the lecture hall.



Commemorative photo at the entrance of HIMEDIC Bldg.

The 16th On-site Lecture at National Museum of Ethnology

On April 13, 2019, the 16th On-site Lecture entitled "Between Informatics and

Ethnology" by Professor Emeritus Masashi Kubo was held at Minpaku, the National Museum of Ethnology (NME) in Expo Park, Osaka. The event was co-sponsored by the 106th IEEE Kansai Section Lecture Meeting.

Following the lecture, Professor Kubo himself led a Minpaku museum tour.



Professor Kubo giving his talk.

His talk is outlined as follows.

Professor Kubo was originally a researcher in the field of computer science at Kyoto University. Ten years after the establishment of the NME in 1974, he joined a research group for computer ethnology, which was newly organized in the NME, and has been engaging in multidisciplinary research that aims to build bridges between computer science and ethnology. His research interests in computer ethnology are not limited to building cross-sectional database systems of nationwide museums in Japan, but to promoting a user participation type database system called as "Forum-Type Database," which was proposed to make Ethnographical documents common asset of mankind. He also proposed a new academic field named as Ethno-Informatics, and in this lecture, he introduced an

example of his research on information transfer in the Aboriginal Australians' society through fieldwork he did in Australia. The culture of Aboriginal Australians' society based on hunting and gathering used to be materially modest and spiritually rich in its non-literate society. Information transfer in a non-literate society, in other words an oral



Minpaku museum tour, Oceania Block.

language communication, had features such as less-didactic, context dependence, polymorphism, and high literacy for graphic expression. These are not necessarily suited to information transfer in the modern society, but there are many things we could learn from them, because they are very close to the prototypical situation represented by Latin word "communis", which is the origin of the word "communication." Informatization (less context dependence) in the modern society promoted by the invention of writing has merits and demerits. Prof. Kubo concluded his talk with the words that, even in the modern society we are living now, efforts to imagine contexts with each other and to transfer our own context to the other as much as possible are

needed for truly rich communication.



Group photo in front of the Main Exhibition Bldg.

The 17th On-site Lecture at Marine Technical College

On September 10, 2019, the 17th On-site Lecture entitled "Nautical information fusion toward resilient navigation" by Professor Emeritus Shigeyuki Okuda was held at Marine Technical College in Ashiya, Hyogo.

Following the lecture, training facilities tours guided by teaching staffs were held and participants visited the Ship Maneuvering Simulator, Radar/Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA) Simulator and the Engine Room Simulator.



Professor Okuda giving his talk.

In his lecture, he explained how to

accurately combine the relative position information of some other ship by the own ship's radar (ARPA) and the other ship's position information from the Automatic Identification System (AIS) so as to attain the mutual positional relationship leading to safe navigation. As position information sometimes fluctuates erroneously depending on radio propagation conditions, it is required, when combining, to sophisticatedly associate sets of position information.

In the tours of the facilities, we were impressed that the view from the bridge of a tanker passing through the Akashi Strait was displayed in a realistic manner depending on the time of day, wind speed, and rain fall on the screen of the Ship Maneuvering Simulator.



Training facilities tour, Ship Maneuvering Simulator.

In the Radar/ARPA Simulator, we could know as much about the complexity of the movement of other ships around own ship from the demonstration simulation using electronic charts near Izu-oshima as an example.

In the Engine Room Simulator, we were able to experience the operation of

the power engine control system, the reaction of an engine, and the reality of the simulated sound of an engine room.

All the simulators are very well made and are utilized for training for not only domestic candidate navigation officers for the certification but also for overseas teaching staffs.



Training facilities tour, Engine Room Simulator.



Professor Okuda and participants at the lecture hall.



A get-together with the speaker in izakaya near Ashiya Station.

After the lecture, a get-together was held with the speaker as usual in a Japanese style pub near Ashiya Station.

LMAG Salon

LMAG Salon, which started in 2016, is an opportunity for Life Members to share common interests with each other.

The LMAG Salon held so far is as follows.

- ◆ The 1st Salon: *China Salon* on December 21, 2018. Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University Yukihiro Nakamura gave a talk titled, “My personal and fragmentary discussion about China: An example of China jumping at me” at Ritsumeikan University’s Osaka Umeda Campus.
- ◆ The 2nd Salon: *HRD Salon* on May 19, 2017. Dr. Hiroshi Matsumoto, the President of RIKEN gave a talk titled, “Thoughts on human resource development for science and engineering researchers and engineers” at Kyoto Computer Gakuin in Kyoto.
- ◆ The 3rd Salon: *Harmonica Salon and a welcome party for new LMs* on April 21, 2018. Professor Emeritus of Kyoto University Kohshi Okumura gave a talk titled, “From science and technology to music: New challenges after retirement from university” while playing drums and blues harp at Art Club in Osaka.

The 4th LMAG Salon – Golf Salon –

On November 21, 2018, the 4th LMAG Salon was held at the Sumitomo Club in Osaka. Professional Engineer, Japan, Hidemi Kaji, Chief of Kaji Professional

Engineer Office gave a talk titled, “Start with club fitting to improve your golf.”

The speaker this time, Mr. Kaji runs his non-profitable golf craft center and has had the experience of winning a golf craft center contest.

He explained mechanics, dynamic property, and methods for measurement and evaluation of golf clubs.



A scene from the Golf Salon.



Mr. Kaji (center) was the guest speaker this time.



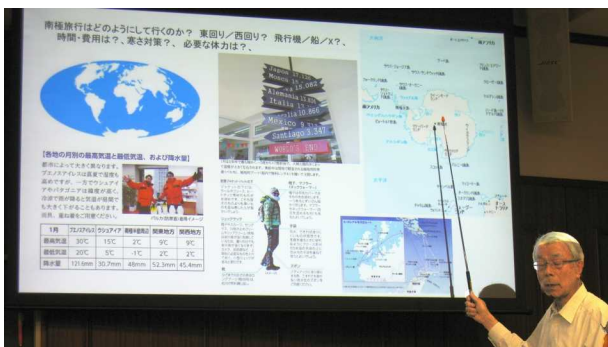
The salon was followed by a social gathering in the tea and bar room of the Sumitomo Club.

Participants who love golf actively asked questions and gave feedback to the answers, and the salon was very exciting.

After the salon a social gathering was held in the tea and bar room of Sumitomo Club.

The 5th LMAG Salon – Antarctica Salon –

On June 12, 2019, the 5th LMAG Salon was held at the Ritsumeikan University Osaka Umeda Campus. Professor Emeritus of NAIST Masatsugu Kidode, past LMAG Kansai Chair gave an interesting talk with photos, videos and maps about his recent trip to Antarctic on a cruise ship.



Past LMAG Chair, Professor Kidode giving his talk on Antarctica.



Commemorative photo at the lecture theater.

The reason for this cruise trip was that he wanted to go before the Antarctic

tourism rush came, and his wife wanted to draw a picture.

As an engineering researcher, he was excited about watching the Southern Antarctic Ocean waves while enjoying himself on the cruise. The waves appeared to him as the high-tech waves and made him consider various technologies: navigation technology, communications technology, AI, and ecological observation of whales.

All the participants enjoyed a simulated experience of an exciting trip to Antarctica.

At the izakaya near the venue, fourteen people around Professor Kidode talked lively and lively, widening their connections and insights and had a good time.



A social gathering was held after the salon as usual in nearby Japanese style pub.

Cooperation with Other Groups

Support for Student Branch activities

On October 11, 2019, we attended to the 16th SB English Presentation Competition hosted by SB Kansai, held at Ritsumeikan University in Kusatsu, Shiga as questioners as well as audience.

Last year, we established the LMAG Kansai Award in order to recognize the

research attitude of SB members to tackle attractive future themes that could realize the enjoyment of IEEE activities throughout their lives.

The awards were presented to the two excellent speakers this year.



The 16th SB English Presentation Competition.

On November 24, 2019, **SB's Brainstorming Workshop and Contest** was held at Ritsumeikan University in Ibaraki, Osaka.

The event were hosted by SB Kansai and cosponsored by LMAG Kansai. The workshop was held prior to the contest.

We supported the event by sending a facilitator (as well as a lecturer) to the workshop and sending advisory participants to the contest.



SB's Brainstorming Workshop and Contest.

Awards for excellence were presented to one group and four individuals. After the event a social gathering was held and we were able to deepen our interaction with the SB members.

Other activities

We sent our representative to participate in Metro Area Workshop (MAW) 2019 in Sendai held on October 24 and its related events held on October 25 to deepen our interactions and collaboration with the Sendai branch. The events are as follows:

- ◆ MAW 2019 in Sendai held at Sendai City Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Activation Center in Sendai, Miyagi
- ◆ SYWL Workshop 2019 in Sendai held at Aobayama Campus of Tohoku University in Sendai, Miyagi
- ◆ LMAG Sendai Establishment ceremony and Inaugural Symposium held at Aobayama Campus of Tohoku University in Sendai, Miyagi



Sendai Section Chair, Professor Kameyama giving the opening speech at MAW 2019 in Sendai.



SYWL Workshop 2019 in Sendai.



Commemorative photo of the establishment of LMAG Sendai.

Event Calendar

◆ The 109th IEEE Kansai Section Technical Lecture Meeting

Kansai Section and LMAG will have the 109th IEEE Kansai Section Lecture Meeting as follows.

- Time & Date: December 20, 2019
14 : 00~16 : 30
- Place: R&D Center for the Plant
Factory of Osaka Prefecture
University

- Lecturer: Noboru Masuda, Professor Emeritus & Director of the Plant Factory Center (PFC), Osaka Prefecture University
- Title: Possibility of various developments of artificial light type plant factories in cities from the viewpoint of landscape

Editor's Note

An editor who is not a native English speaker should have appropriate IT literacy in addition to “English literacy” to efficiently write and edit English articles and newsletters like this one. That is my impression after editing this issue using AI translation systems on the web.

Without any of IT literacy and English literacy at all, it would be difficult to use the AI translation systems.

However, if we have both kinds of literacy a little, by gaining AI translation experience, the literacy will be improved and we can make full use of the

translation system. This is because we originally have the ability to learn and gaining experience will make learning more effective.

In this sense, I hope this newsletter will progress in English language as well

as in contents themselves. Look forward to the next issue.

Masaaki Kobayashi
Vice Chair, LMAG Kansai

Submitting Articles

We welcome articles for this newsletter ; tales of your IEEE activity, essay on novel or interesting technical issues, and so on. Manuscripts should be written in English or in Japanese. Please include your Life grade, member number, and/or email address with your piece.

Contact Us

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2019-2020 LMAG Kansai Officers

Chair:	Yukihiro Nakamura
Vice Chair:	Masaaki Kobayashi Shuzo Morita Yoshiaki Kushiki
Secretary:	Kazuo Hirano Shigeru Sugimoto

