

## Topics From Within



Lookout from Washington Monument: White House (center of right) and Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center (center of left) (Photo taken on May 11, 2010).

### Attending AIAA Fellow Dinner, Spotlight Awards Gala, and Meetings of IAC and BOD

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AIAA Fellow Dinner, Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala, International Activities Committee (IAC) Meeting and Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting were held in Washington, DC during May 11 to 13, 2010. I attended these events and thanks to support from many people, I am honored to receive AIAA Fellow award. This is a brief report of these events.

The IAC Meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City at 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on May 11, 2010. The chair-person is Dr. Mark Maurice (Director, Air Force Research Laboratory, Air Force Office of Scientific Research International Office, AIAA Vice President International Activities), and the number of attendees were about 30 including AIAA staff. In this meeting, the German DLR was introduced as a special presentation. Activities of international conferences were reported including status on planning for AIAA to bid on hosting the 2013 International Astronautical Congress, update of international exchange programs, and AIAA member survey. I reported briefly the activities of JFSC in 2009 using the document "Activities of AIAA Japan Forum on Satellite Communications (JFSC) in 2009" (see Fig. 1).

The BOD Meeting was held at the same hotel as the IAC Meeting at 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on May 13, 2010. The number of attendees was about 40. I am a member of Board of Directors as Director-International elected in 2005 and now in the second term expiring in 2011. The BOD Meeting consists of the following 3 meetings. The Outgoing Board Meeting was held in the morning and after the result of election and the annual report by AIAA President Thompson were presented, AIAA President presents a souvenir of gratitude to retiring board members (see photo right). The Annual



AIAA President (right) presents a souvenir of gratitude to a retiring board member (center).

Business Meeting was held during buffet style lunch and exchange of President Thompson to new president Lewis and introduction of new members of BOD were performed. The Incoming Board Meeting was held in the afternoon under the chair by the new president Lewis. Executive Director's Report was presented. Dr. Maurice, Vice President International Activities proposes for AIAA to bid on hosting the 2013 International Astronautical Congress. This proposal remains pending due to further consideration. Finally other personnel matters were discussed.

The events for AIAA-Fellow awards were held for two days. First, the AIAA Fellow Dinner was held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City after reception started at 6:30 p.m. At the reception I met Dr. Curtin, COO of XTAR and 1993 AIAA-Fellow, whom I asked as one of references for AIAA-Fellow nomination, and Mr. Hoeber, Senior Vice President of Space System Loral, who is awarded AIAA Fellow this time. The Fellow-Dinner started at 7:30 p.m. The number of attendees seemed to be about 400. 30 new Fellows and 3 new Honorary Fellows received certificates from the AIAA President (see photo right). The 2010 Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala was held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in the evening on May 12, 2010. Since all of attendees were required to wear black-tie, I attended with feeling a little strain. About 700 seemed to attend there. After ceremony of singing the national anthem, each of fellows was introduced with information on a large display, dinner was served, and when the dinner was almost finished, each of honorary fellows was introduced (see snapshots below) and gave a few words, the awardees of AIAA Foundation Awards including Goddard Aerospace Award gave a few words.



A new Fellow receives a certificate from AIAA President at Fellow-Dinner.



Snapshots at the 2010 Aerospace Spotlight Awards Gala (from left, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Hall for the Gala, The 2010 AIAA Fellows and AIAA Honorary Fellows, I and Mr. Hoeber, 2010 AIAA Fellow, and Introduction for me).

That is all of the report. I am honored to be awarded the AIAA Fellow this time. I found only 9 Japanese have been awarded AIAA-Fellow so far. I hope to contribute to increase the number of Japanese fellows hereafter. Since all the seats in flight were occupied during the travel this time, the town of Washington, DC is clean with no graffiti and both of hotel and restaurant were crowded, I am impressive to feel no hard times of economy.

**[Epilogue]** Previous to this trip, I read a recently topical novel: Dan Brown's "Lost Symbol" whose story is set in Washington, DC. I am interested in watching many Roman style buildings there as described in the novel, seeing God style statue of George Washington at the National Historical Museum, and visiting the Washington Monument that is the place of the novel's climax.



Fig. 1 Document for JFSC activities used at the IAC meeting.