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Foreword

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Foreword

Good morning, members of the National Association for Science, Technology and Society, members of the Federation of Materials Societies, honored guests and friends. In today's rapidly changing environment, the globalization of science and technology is important, and the discovery of new innovations has become a necessity. At this time, we must endeavor to create new ways of thinking in science and engineering and in education to foster creativity.

One strategy to achieve this is to develop and promote various international opportunities. My Teikyo Group of Universities and the Okinaga Foundation were founded with the spirit of encouraging one's best efforts for cultivating talent, establishing an international view, and providing expansive knowledge that is free from prejudice while giving the ability to make decisions. By providing global education, we strive to develop unique individuals who are creative thinkers with global perspectives. Through practical education, students are given a unique education that is beneficial to society. And finally, in supplying boundless education, we reach across the boundaries of language, culture and physical borders while striving to cultivate individuals with vision and sound character. Another important strategy in the quest to achieve new thinking in the area of science and engineering is through collaboration and cooperation with others. Through various cooperative agreements with affiliated universities in the United States and Europe, Teikyo University and the Okinaga Foundation strive to pave the way for new innovations that will benefit society.

We continue to nurture strong materials research groups and take pleasure in having the opportunity to support events that recognize and reward research groups whose ingenuity is advantageous to society. Hence, I congratulate the National Association of Science, Technology and Society and the Federation of Materials Societies for providing recognition to such persons in the area of materials and research. This kind of work takes years to mature and is often the work of a team or different groups from different institutions. However, recognition in this area has been neglected, and the hard work and dedication that has been invested into these projects are often overlooked. These individuals have done a valuable service to the international community and deserve full recognition. I congratulate each one of you whose work has been selected for recognition by your peers.

Shoichi Okinaga
President of Teikyo Group