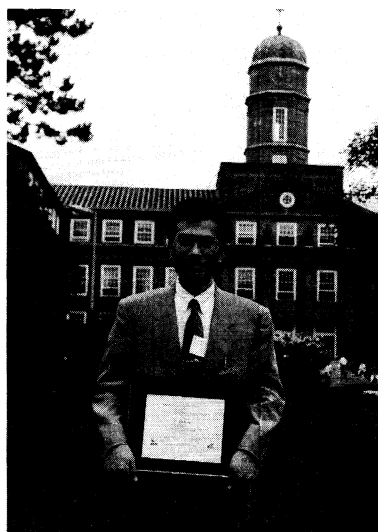


稲葉 章 助教授, 全米カロリメトリー会議よりクリステンセン記念賞を受賞

本年8月カナダのハリファックスで第16回 IUPAC 化学熱力学国際会議と第55回全米カロリメトリー会議が共同開催された。当分子熱力学研究センターの兼任教官である稲葉 章 助教授が全米カロリメトリー会議のクリステンセン記念賞 (The James J. Christensen Memorial Award) を受賞した。この賞は化学熱力学、とりわけ金属錯体の配位熱測定の実展に大きな寄与をされたブリガム・ヤング大学のクリステンセン教授を記念して1988年に設立された賞であり、熱測定装置の革新的な開発とそれを用いた顕著な研究業績を対象としている。稲葉氏は独自に開発した断熱型熱量計を駆使し、吸着単分子膜の熱容量を正確に測定し、興味深い様々な現象を発見し、その解釈を行っている。余人の追随を許さぬ研究領域を開拓したことが受賞の理由である。

全米カロリメトリー会議会長の Mary Anne White 教授が稲葉氏の受賞を報告し、徂徠が日本熱測定学会会長として稲葉氏を紹介した。稲葉氏は大勢の聴衆を前に、確かな英語で "Two-Dimensional Molecular Solids Formed at Gas-Solid and Solid-Liquid Interfaces" の演題で受賞講演を行い、好評を博した。講演後、ブリガム・ヤング大学の Juliana Boerio-Goates 教授から記念証の授与があった。心からのお慶びを申し上げたい。受賞は稲葉氏ご本人の大きな名誉であると同時に、日本に於ける化学熱力学の研究が正当に評価されたという点で、本センターならびに日本熱測定学会にとっても大きなよこびである。

(徂徠道夫)



国際会議が行われた Dalhousie 大学キャンパスにて記念証を手にする稲葉氏

Dr. Akira Inaba received the James J. Christensen Memorial Award from the Calorimetry Conference

Dr. Akira Inaba, a member of the Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics received the James J. Christensen Memorial Award at the 55th Calorimetry Conference concurrent with the 16th IUPAC Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, August 6-11, 2000. As the Chair of the Japan Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis, Sorai introduced him at his award lecture as follows:

It is my great pleasure to introduce to you Dr. Akira Inaba of Osaka University. He was graduated from Osaka university in 1971. After getting the Degree of Doctor of Science, he worked at the National Research Laboratory of Metrology for five years. Akira Inaba is now Associate Professor of the Department of Chemistry at Osaka University and is also an important associate member of our Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics.

Among a variety of chemical thermodynamic studies achieved by Akira Inaba, the most outstanding contribution is the innovative development and use of adiabatic calorimeters for thermodynamic studies on the monolayers formed at interfaces. In 1984, Akira Inaba started the study on surface adsorbed monolayers with Professor James Morrison at McMaster University when he was a visiting scientist there. After he finished working at McMaster University he tried to determine absolute value of heat capacity of adsorbed monolayers. As one can easily imagine, the heat capacity of such monolayers is very tiny, being typically much less than 1 % of the total heat capacity. The difficulty is not only because of the small amount, but also because of other technical problems. Based on his own ideas, Akira Inaba overcame those difficulties and constructed sophisticated adiabatic calorimeters. By using them he succeeded in determining very accurate and precise heat capacities of a variety of molecular monolayers adsorbed onto solid surfaces such as graphite over the temperature range from 0.3 K to 300 K. His contribution to chemical thermodynamics is not restricted to the conquest of those technical problems. Akira Inaba has found many novel phenomena occurring in the monolayers and given reasonable interpretations to them.

The James Christensen Memorial Award is not only a great honor for Akira Inaba himself, but also a great honor for Japan. As the Chair of the Japan Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis, I would like to deeply appreciate the Calorimetry Conference for granting the James Christensen Memorial Award to Akira Inaba this year, consecutively Professor Tooru Atake last year.

Akira Inaba will present the award lecture under the title of "Two-Dimensional Molecular Solids Formed at Gas-Solid and Solid-Liquid Interfaces".

(Michio Sorai)