

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Science. At Its Source.

December 31, 2017

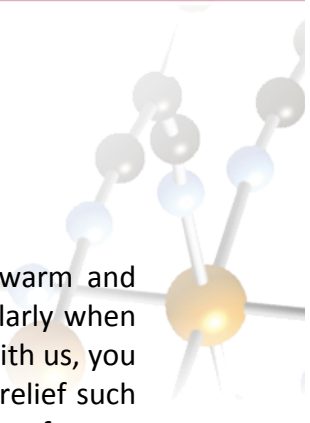
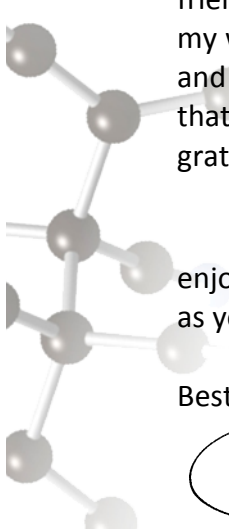
Professor Yasuhiro Nakazawa
Director of Research Center for Structural Thermodynamics
Graduate School of Science
Osaka University
Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan

Dear Professor Nakazawa,

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to spend quality time in your Research Center for Structural Thermodynamics as well as within the Department of Chemistry at Osaka University as a Specially Appointed Guest Professor between November 15 and December 28, 2017. Besides enhancing and enriching our cultural experience within Japan and visiting several new places as well as revisiting several places to refresh fading memories, the paramount scientific interactions were exceptional.

While we have been collaborating with you, and previously with Prof. Michio Sorai, for many years, discussing current research with your group in person on a one-on-one basis was especially fruitful. As an aside, it was special pleasure to meet again Emeritus Prof. Sorai, who after fifteen years of retirement is quite vigorous and intellectually sharp. In addition to meaningful interactions with your group, my discussions with the groups of Professors Ishikawa, Kubo, Konno, and Yamaguchi were not only a delight, but provided new insights that will be beneficial for my future research, as well as nucleated new collaborations. We have already accumulated several samples to send to your group for calorimetric studies. This is, of course, in addition, to the dysprosium sample that we are currently collaborating on that was initiated during my stay.

In addition to providing the opportunity to develop deeper interactions and relations with your research group and of your colleagues at Osaka University, you kindly provided me with the opportunity to visit Profs. Sato's laboratory at Kyushu University, Naito Toshio's laboratory at Ehime University, Minoru Mitsumi's laboratory at Okayama Science University, Yuko Hosokoshi's laboratory at Osaka Prefecture University, as well as Masahiro Mikuriya's laboratory at Kwansei Gakuin University, where I could present our research results and learn interesting new science proceeding in these laboratories. I was impressed by the broad array of research on the forefront of worldwide contemporary research and the facilities available to these scientists. Furthermore, I must admit seeing the Spring8 facility was over the top in terms world-class big-physics facilities. Even my non-scientist wife was in in awe of the research capabilities available via Spring8's linear accelerator and synchrotron (especially the ability to resolve the structures of very small single crystals via single crystal X-ray diffraction, and via powder X-ray diffraction).



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On a more personal note, my wife and son and I deeply appreciate the warm and friendly hospitality extended by you, Satoshi Yamashita, and Hiroki Akutsu. Particularly when my wife took ill from an allergy attack and required medicine that we did not bring with us, you and Hiroki immediately responded by providing the needed medication that led to relief such that this did not become a more serious infection as it sometimes does. For this we are forever grateful as you really cared for us. You are wonderful hosts.

Finally, as 2018 is just on the verge of beginning, I and my wife Elaine, who thoroughly enjoyed our stay in Osaka and is looking forward to our next visit, wish you, your family, as well as your colleagues a wonderful and foremost a very healthy New Year.

Best personal regards,



Joel S. Miller
Distinguished Professor
Department of Chemistry
Adjunct Professor of Material Science & Engineering
Adjunct Professor of Physics & Astronomy