

Inaugural Celebration of New JSPS London Office: University Futures Seminar

Monday 10th March, 2008



JAPAN-UK 150



Dr Tsutomu Kimura, CBE President National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE)

Dr Tsutomu Kimura was born in Tokyo in 1938. He graduated from the Civil Engineering Department at Tokyo University in 1961. After graduation he worked for a major contractor for a year and returned to Tokyo University to enter the Master of Engineering Course for Geotechnical engineering in 1962. He was awarded M. Engng in 1964 and returned to his previous employment of contractor. Upon tendering his resignation in 1965, he joined Tokyo Institute of Technology as a research associate. He was awarded a doctoral degree by Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1968 and was promoted to Associate Professor in the same year. From 1971 to 1973 he was engaged in research at University of Strathclyde, supported by a British Council Scholarship. He was also engaged in research at the University of Cambridge under a Fellowship awarded by the Japanese Government from 1978 to 1979. He was promoted to full Professor in 1981.

Dr Kimura was nominated as Dean of the Students Office in 1990 and elected as Dean of Faculty of Engineering in 1992. He was then elected as President of Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1993. In 1997 he was elected as a fellow at Churchill College at the University of Cambridge and spent half a year at the college until March 1998.

On his retirement from Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1998, he was appointed the President of the National Institution for Academic Degrees and he serves in this position still today. He was elected as Professor Emeritus at Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1998.

In 1996, Dr Kimura was elected as a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers. He served as President of the Japanese Geotechnical Society from 1996 to 1998 and has also served as Vice President for the Japanese Society for Civil Engineers. He is currently Vice Chairman for Central Council for Education and a member of Science Council of Japan.

In 2004, Dr Kimura received the honour of Commander of the British Empire (C.B.E).