

International Symposium of "From Genome to Snowball Earth, Metazoan Evolution and Habitable Planets: Multidisciplinary Relations"

Odaiba, Tokyo, Japan, 29 September-3 October 2008

4th Circular and Call for Papers (revised on 18 July)

Dear Colleague,

Excuse me for the delay in sending you the 4th circular of Snowball Earth symposium. Now, the science and organizing committees of the symposium are inviting you to participate in the International Symposium of "From Genome to Snowball Earth, Metazoan Evolution and Habitable Planets: Multidisciplinary Relations". The symposium will be held at National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Kagaku Miraikan in Japanese) (http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/index_e.html) on 29 Sep-3 Oct., 2008 in Odaiba area, the Tokyo water front. The registration and an icebreaker party are scheduled on 28th Sep. The sessions are in the daytime from 29th Sep to 3th Oct. covering isotope studies of important molecules, and the symposium banquet is scheduled in Oedo-onsen (<http://www.oedoonsen.jp/english/>, a Japanese traditional style public hot spring and restaurant) in the evening of 2 Oct. The updated information is available at the URL: <http://coe21.geo.titech.ac.jp/snowball2008/index.html>.

Scope and topics

The purpose of the Symposium is to look into the latest scientific achievements in investigations of the mechanism and cause of Snowball Earth, decoding of surface environmental change during/after the Snowball Earth and the role on the biological evolution. Especially, multidisciplinary research including genome science, astronomy and meteorology as well as geology and geochemistry gives new sight of the Snowball Earth and the role on the emergence of metazoan. The Symposium will call for papers from a wide range of research on history of the earth, including solid earth and surface environment, and galactic system, biological evolution and meteorology, as follows:

Day 1 (Sept. 28, Sun), Registration and Icebreaker.

In daytime will be held A symposium: Research Perspective of COE21 "How to Build Habitable Planets?" (Multidisciplinary Researches on Habitable Planet).

Day 2 (Sept. 29, Mon): Phylogenic Evolution; Genome vs paleontology

Genome and macro-level biology, Paleontology, Role of mass extinction

Day 3 (Sept. 30, Tue): Surface environmental Change

Chemostratigraphy, Geochemical environmental change in late Neoproterozoic, Geochemical environmental change through the time

Day 4 (Oct. 01, Wed): Role of solid Earth and modeling

Role of solid Earth: Mantle convection and thermal history through time, Role of solid Earth: geomagnetism and continental growth

Day 5 (Oct. 02, Thu) Modeling of snowball Earth

Model of Snowball Earth, Role of galactic cosmic ray on terrestrial climate and Snowball Earth

Banquet (19:00-21:00)

Day 6 (Oct.03, Fri): Habitable planets in the Universe

Habitable planets in the Universe, What shall we do the next?

Discussion and concluding remarks (16:30-17:30)

The papers to be presented at the Symposium will comprise invited papers, accepted oral and poster papers.

There will be a joint symposium related to the COE-program on Habitable Planets (COEHP) before the Snowball Earth symposium. The details of the COE-program on Habitable Planets are on the web pages <http://coe21.geo.titech.ac.jp/ENG/index.html>. In addition, the 4th International Symposium on Isotopomers (ISI2008) will be held just after the symposium (<http://nylab.chemenv.titech.ac.jp/ISI2008/isi2008.html>) where you may find out some related sessions to surface environmental and biological evolution. You may also attend this symposium without extra charge except for the banquets. The following activities are scheduled from 27 Sept. to 8 Oct. 2008.

27 Sept. Outreach program (1)

28 Sept. Symposium: Research Perspective of COE21 "How to Build Habitable Planets?" (Multidisciplinary Researches on Habitable Planet), Registration and Icebreaker

29 Sept. - 3 Oct. International Symposium of "From Genome to Snowball Earth"

29 Sept. Phylogenic Evolution; Genome vs Paleontology

30 Sept. Surface Environmental Change

1 Oct. Role of Solid Earth and Modeling

2 Oct. Modeling of Snowball Earth, banquet

3 Oct. Habitable Planets in the Universe

4 Oct. Outreach program (2), Registration and Icebreaker for ISI2008

5 Sept. - 8 Oct. the 4th International Symposium on Isotopomers (ISI2008)

5 Oct. ISI

6 Oct. ISI, banquet

7 Oct. ISI

8 Oct. ISI

Conference Language

English

Important dates of the Symposium

The schedule of the Symposium is as follows:

- 15 Aug. 2008:** Deadline for early online registration and submission of an abstracts.
- 31 Aug. 2008:** Deadline for online hotel reservation.
- 14 Sept. 2008:** Deadline for online registration. Final announcement.
- 28 Sept. – 3 Oct. , 2008:** International Symposium on Snowball earth and emergence of metazoan.

The web site (<http://coe21.geo.titech.ac.jp/snowball2008/index.html>) is being updated.

Registration

All participants should complete the Symposium Registration Form which is available at <https://entry.jtb.ne.jp/me/registrye/registrye.asp?id=1093> (English) <https://entry.jtb.ne.jp/me/registryj/registryj.asp?id=1093> (Japanese) together with the payments for registration (including icebreaker, lunch, extended abstract and proceedings), banquet, and hotel accommodation separately.

Registration Fee	regular person	student, accompanying person
registration by 15 Aug. 2008	¥35,000	¥25,000
registration after 15 Aug. 2008	¥45,000	¥30,000
one day registration	¥15,000	¥10,000
one banquet	¥10,000	¥10,000

*Registration as a student is only possible with a certificate from your university/institute attached to the registration form. If the registration form is not accompanied by proof of student status, the normal fee will be applied.

Cancellation Policy

For registration and banquet cancellation, a written request should be sent by e-mail or fax to JTB Office:

- By 19 Sept. 2008:** 80% of the remitted amount will be refunded after the symposium.
- By 25 Sept. 2008:** 50% of the remitted amount will be refunded after the symposium.
- After 25 Sept. 2008:** There will be no refund. However, a copy of the Symposium Abstracts will be sent to the applicant after the symposium.

Abstract

Abstracts are distributed at the registration desk.

Instruction for authors

Title of your presentation is to be sent by e-mail to LOC (snowball@geo.titech.ac.jp). Please use Form A (see web site). An abstract (about 6000 characters) should be sent either by e-mail to LOC in MS-Word format. Details of the format of the abstract will be posted on the web site and you can download a template or a sample file at <http://coe21.geo.titech.ac.jp/snowball2008/index.html>. Please use Form B (see web site).

Letter of Invitation

If requested by a participant, the Organizing Committee will send a letter of invitation. This invitation letter is intended specifically to assist the participant in obtaining travel funds or appropriate visas and does not imply any financial support. Written requests in any form should be sent to Symposium Secretariat (snowball@geo.titech.ac.jp).

Accommodation

The Local Organizing Committee of the Symposium has reserved sufficient rooms at discount convention rates to accommodate all participants and accompanying persons. The Hotel Reservation is available at the web site (web site prepared by JTB which will be shown in <http://coe21.geo.titech.ac.jp/snowball2008/index.html>).

Travel Related Information

Passports and Visas

All foreign visitors entering Japan must have a valid passport. Participants should obtain a visa, if required, from a Japanese Consulate or diplomatic mission in their home country prior to their departure. It is the responsibility of participants to obtain all documents necessary for entry into Japan. For details, you are advised to contact their local travel agent or air carrier.

Japan

We recommend Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO) as a source of information on Japan in general, concerning travel geography, language, communication, and other matters. JNTO is an arm of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and has offices in major cities throughout the world. Contact the office nearest to you to ask any questions or to obtain maps, brochures, and other documents, all free of charge. Information on JNTO, including a list of its overseas offices, is found on the homepage at <http://www.jnto.go.jp>. Optional tours will be available in the URL, and please contact it individually: <http://www.jtbgmt.com/sunrisetour/index.aspx>

Odaiba Area

Odaiba is a large artificial island in Tokyo Bay, Japan, across the Rainbow Bridge from central Tokyo. It was initially built for defensive purposes in the 1800s, dramatically expanded during the late 20th century as a seaport district, and has developed since the 1990s as a major commercial, residential and leisure area. (URL: http://www.tourism.metro.tokyo.jp/english/tourists/spot/area_intro/odaiba/index.html)

Climate and Clothing

The climate in Tokyo during the period of the conference will be moderate between 15 and 25 degree C. All the Symposium rooms are air-conditioned. Attendants are advised to bring some light clothing.

Currency Exchange

Only Japanese yen is acceptable at regular stores and restaurants. Credit cards may be used at hotels, restaurants and souvenir shops. Yen can be purchased at foreign exchange banks and authorized money changers on presentation of your passport. The exchange rate fluctuates daily, but the U.S. Dollar and Euro is equivalent to 105 and 160 Yen, respectively in May, 2008.

Traveler's Checks and Credit Cards

Using traveler's checks is not so popular in Japan. Traveler's checks are accepted only by leading banks and major hotels in major cities. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and VISA are widely accepted at hotels, department stores, restaurants, and nightclubs.

Tipping and Service Charge

You will be free from tipping worries since it is not common practice in Japan. However, some restaurants add a 10-20% service charge as well as a 5% consumption tax to each bill.

Access to National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Kagaku Miraikan in Japanese)

Most international flights arrive at New Tokyo International Airport (Narita).

a) Airport limousine bus to the hotels listed on the registration web page

Airport limousine bus is available from Narita Airport to the hotels listed on the registration web page (URL: <http://www.limousinebus.co.jp/en/index.html>).

1) To the hotels in Odaiba area : 65 min.-75 min. ¥2700

Tokyo Bay Ariake Washington
Grand Pacific Tokyo Le Daiba
Hotel Nikko Tokyo

Free shuttle bus is available every 15-25 minutes, from 11:00am to 8:00pm from the hotels to Kagaku Miraikan (URL: http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/e/guide/route_shuttlebus.html).

2) To Mitsui Garden Hotel Ginza Premier: 89-90min. ¥3000

Ginza Washington Hotel: 2 min. walk from Mitsui Garden Hotel Ginza Premier.
Shinbashi Station: 5-7 min. walk from the hotel.

Shinbashi—Funeno-kagakukan: Yurikamome Line, 16 min. ¥370

Funeno-kagakukan—Kagaku Miraikan: 5 min. walk.

Time table of airport limousine busses at 2nd terminal (departure time at 1st terminal is 5-10 min later)

To hotels 1)	To hotels 2)
8:45	7:45
10:50	10:40
13:50	12:15
15:50	13:45
16:50	14:45
17:50	15:45
18:50	16:45

	17:45
	18:45
	19:45
	20:45
	21:45

b) Airport limousine bus to TCAT

Airport limousine buses are available from Narita Airport to Tokyo City Air Terminal (TCAT). They depart from the airport arrival lobbies and are operated between 6:55A.M. and 11:00P.M. at 10-30 minutes intervals. It takes about 60 minutes from the airport to TCAT(one way fare:¥2,900). TCAT(Suitengu-mae Station)—Mitsukoshi-mae: Tokyo Metro Hanzomon Line, 2 min. Mitsukoshi-mae—Shimbashi: Tokyo Metro

Ginza Line, 7 min. Shimbashi—Funeno-kagakukan: Yurikamome Line, 15 min. Funeno-kagakukan—Kagaku Miraikan: 5 min. walk

c) JR Narita Express Train to Tokyo

The JR Narita Express provides a direct connection from Narita to Tokyo station. The Narita Express leaves Narita Airport at hourly intervals between 7:43AM and 9:43 PM. Running time is about 60 minutes, ¥2940). Tokyo—Shimbashi: JR Yamanote Line or Keihin-tohoku Line, 3 min. Shimbashi—

Funeno-kagakukan: Yurikamome Line, 6 min. Funeno-kagakukan—Kagaku Miraikan: 5 min. walk

d) JR Narita Express Train to Shinagawa

Some Narita Express trains stop at Shinagawa Station (90 minutes, ¥3110). Shinagawa—Oimachi: JR Keihin-tohoku Line, 4 min. Oimachi—Tokyo

Teleport: Rinkai Line, 7 min. Tokyo Teleport—Kagaku Miraikan: free shuttle bus

e) Taxi Information

We do not recommend you to take a taxi from Narita airport to Tokyo. It will cost more than ¥30,000. From Shimbashi Station to Odaiba area: approximately 30 minutes, about ¥3000 from Tokyo Station to Odaiba area: approximately 35 minutes, about ¥4000

* We would appreciate it if you could send a copy of the announcement to the scientists who might be interested in the Symposium but have not received this announcement. Please let us know if you can nominate potential contributors to the Symposium.

References

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Registration and Accommodation

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When you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact either Dr. Tsuyoshi Komiya, Ms. Mariko Pickens, Mr. Mitsuhiro Kurosu, Ms. Tomomi Tsukayama, or Mr. Yosuke Tanaka.

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