



Minutes of the General Assembly

Date: 1st December 2005

Place: Résidence du Consul Général du Japon, Geneva

The meeting started at 19:15 with a welcome word of the General Consul, H.E. Shigeru Endo. 30 members and invited persons participated to the General Assembly, and 15 members were excused.

1. Welcome words

Mr. Sanne Stijve (SS), the SJA President, welcomed the members, thanked the General Consul for receiving us in his Residence and presented the actual committee. The general assembly programme was accepted by the members. The minutes of the last General Assembly were approved.

2. 2005's Activity report

1. SJA database & Members' Directory

47 members already built their online CV into the SJA database. The output is the Members' Directory which is used for sponsoring purposes and is available to the members in paper form on request.

2. Sponsoring

In 2005, 2 new sponsors have been acquired. First, the company Nosaki, whose founder: Daniel Perruchoud, is a member of the SJA. Nosaki sponsored the grant (500.-) of Mr. Jan. A mailing has been send to 15 large Swiss companies with activities in Japan. Among them Roche reply positively and decided to become a gold sponsor: 1000 CHF in exchange of a logo on our website and the CV book.

3. Scholarship 2005

2 scholarships of an amount of CHF 500.- each were attributed to 2 EPFL students, Ms. Gisela Tödtli and Mr. Marc-Etienne Jan. Mr. Julien Gilabert, recipient of the 2004 scholarship, presented briefly his experience in Japan.

4. EPFL course 2004-2005

The 5th and last STS course on "Technological policy - the Japanese case" took place at the EPFL during the academic year 2004-2005. Around 15 students participated to the course regularly (35 at the exam). This year Ms. Roya Bafandi was responsible for the course. Two supplementary sessions were added with the following topics: *Japan's International Relations* held by H.E. Endo and *Japan in the Asian context* done by Pr. Régnier. Thanks to Roya to have taken over the lead of this course. As 2004-2005 was the last year of the Science-Technology-Society (STS) program of courses at EPFL, Roya will try place this course in a new context, or will try to start a new course.

5. SJA website

Mr. Sanne Stijve (SS) is in charge of the SJA Website (www.swiss-japan.org). The pages were also used by the EPFL students who followed the Science-Technology-Society course. The information has been re-organised (bibliography, documents done by SJA, etc.)

6. Hanami & Anecdote party

Hanami took place unfortunately under rain at the Arboretum in Aubonne followed by an anecdote party at Nadia's place where the anecdote contest was won by Cédric Morel.

7. New members

1 new member was present. During the year 2005, 1 new member and 2 passive members joined the association.

8. Mailing list

The mailing list has been active since one year. The aim of the list is to improve the contact between the SJA members by creating a forum to exchange information or post questions of interest for all members.



9. External relationship

We had during the last year contacts with:

- Consulate of Japan in Geneva
- JETRO
- Association Suisse-Japon
- Cercle Suisse-Japon in Lausanne
- Embassy of Japan

3. Accounts

Nathalie Piguet (NP) presented the accounts which were approved by the auditors and accepted by the assembly. Some members have not been paying their membership contribution for more than two years.

Dépenses		Recettes	
Impôts anticipés	2.05	Etat compte postal exercice précédent	4432.75
Frais gestion compte postal	66.90	Etat caisse exercice précédent	176.15
Frais assemblée générale 2004	109.80	Intérêt compte postal	5.85
Frais assemblée générale 2003	240.00		
Envois postaux	279.60	Cotisations 2002 (0)	0.00
Soirée anecdote	277.55	Cotisations 2003 (1)	30.00
Internet: domaine+hébergement	252.00	Cotisations 2004 (10)	300.00
Bourses	1000.00	Cotisations 2005 (46)	1380.00
Sous-total dépenses	2227.90	Bourses	90
		Sponsoring	1500
Reste sur compte postal	5490.65		
Reste en caisse	196.20		
Total	7914.75	Total	7914.75

The account auditors for 2006 are Daniel Zahnd and Gérard Egger. Olivier Rumley will act as suppliant account auditor.

4. Presentation of the 2006 budget

Cédric Morel presented the budget for 2006. The budget was accepted by the assembly.

Active		Passive	
Fortune (November 2004)	4610	General expenses	1000
Membership fees (40 members)	1200	Pic-nic / Event (?)	250
Voluntary contributions to the grants	400	Grants	2000
Sponsor	1000	Web site	260
		Fortune (November 2005)	3700
Total	7210	Total	7210



5. Election

The applauses of the assembly showed that the present Committee has been unanimously re-elected for a period of 2 years (2006-2007).

6. Retrospective- 10 years SJA

The SJA Association is now ten years old. This opportunity was taken to present a retrospective of the activities of the association:

- **1995**
 - Foundation of the association
- **1996**
 - First information meeting to get new members in presence of Prof. Badoux, President of EPFL and M. Branco Weiss
 - First General Assembly in Bern
 - Creation of the Internet web site and the first database
 - 1st Newsletter
- **1997**
 - Second General Assembly at EPFL with 2 conferences (Roya Bafandi about Marketing in Japan and Mr. Imai about the JETRO activities) and in presence of the General Consul of Japan, the Vice Consul and the representatives of the JETRO
 - Boot at EPFL Forum for the promotion of researchers exchange with Japan
 - Annual picnic
- **1998**
 - 3rd General Assembly at EPFL with 3 conferences (Marcel Sonderegger, Rafael Holzer and Mr Miyahara) and in presence of the First Secretary of the Embassy, the Vice Consul, the representatives of the JETRO
 - Concepts for the bulletin, members directory and leaflet
 - Publication of the first bulletin
 - Annual picnic
- **1999**
 - 4th General Assembly at the JICC in Bern with a tea ceremony demonstration and in presence of the First Secretary of the Embassy and the representatives of the JETRO
 - Creation of the leaflet
 - Annual picnic
- **2000**
 - 5th General Assembly at the Official Residence of the General Consul in Geneva in presence of the General Consul, the Vice Consul and the representatives of the JETRO
 - Creation of the first CV book
 - Publication of the second bulletin
 - Annual picnic
- **2001**
 - 6th General Assembly at the Official Residence of the General Consul in Geneva in presence of the General Consul, the Vice Consul and the representatives of the JETRO
 - 1st EPFL course on “*Technology Policy: the Japanese Case*”
 - Annual picnic
- **2002**
 - 7th General Assembly at the Official Residence of the General Consul in Geneva in presence of the General Consul, the Vice Consul and the representatives of the JETRO
 - 2nd EPFL course on “*Technology Policy: the Japanese Case*”



- **2003**
 - 8th General Assembly in Bern
 - New internet website with new address (www.swiss-japan.org)
 - Creation of the new SJA database with online CV
 - Attribution of 2 scholarships (500.- each) to Ms Plancherel and Mr Truffer
 - Creation of the mailing list site
 - Creation of a new logo
 - New committee and presidency
 - 3rd EPFL course on “*Technology Policy: the Japanese Case*”
- **2004**
 - 9th General Assembly at the Official Residence of the General Consul in Geneva in presence of the General Consul, the Vice Consul and the representatives of the JETRO
 - Attribution of one scholarship (500.-) to Mr Gilabert
 - Definition of the scholarship rules
 - 4th EPFL course on “*Technology Policy: the Japanese Case*”
 - Annual gathering at the *Festival de la Cité*
- **2005**
 - 10th General Assembly at the Official Residence of the General Consul in Geneva in presence of the General Consul, the vice consul, the representatives of the JETRO and the Association Suisse-Japon
 - Attribution of 2 scholarships (500.- each) to Ms Tödli and Mr Jan
 - 5th EPFL course on “*Technology Policy: the Japanese Case*”
 - Hanami and anecdotes party

7. Activities 2006

The activities foreseen for 2006 are the following:

1. Sponsoring
2. Grants
3. Maintain our course on Japanese Technology Policy
4. Information via mailing list
5. Come together activities:
 - Evening in a bar
 - Anecdotes evening
6. Contacts with other associations

8. Miscellaneous

Partially financing the next “Japanese Technological Policy” course?

A small debate arose in order to know whether it is the role of the SJA to finance a course. This could be a way to influence the EPFL or a university favourably. The SJA committee will decide.

Mr. Julien Gilabert explained his experience in Japan. He did his diploma thesis at the Tchujo University in Tokyo in the robotic department. He thanked the SJA association for his grant.

The General Consul closed the assembly with some words.

The Assembly ended up at 20.35.