The conference was a big success due to the attendance, approximately 150 from all over the world including 18 from Nigeria and some from other parts of Africa. Twenty-five countries were represented. Most of the attendance was from overseas due in part to the large draw of the setting which is a favorite tourist attraction but also the strength of most currency against the Japanese Yen which made it economically attractive. After discussions with most in attendance, the main attraction was the past reputation of over twenty years of conferences that have gained the favor due to the only offering in the world on the topic machinery and equipment valuation as it is called in the United States and P&M or Plant and Machinery in most of the rest of the world. The venue was terrific and set in auditorium style with pull out desks behind each chair with a stage for presentations with back projection screen located to the side of the speaker. The Hall would hold approximately 400 persons. The photograph shows entering the hall and taking the seats before the lights came down to better view the screen. Above the screen is the sign well placed announcing the conference and was very large for all to see.

The Host arranged speaker for the event was Professor Kiyoshi Kobayashi from the Graduate School of Management and the Director of the Research Center Business Administration of Kyoto University. Having the first speaker from Africa (Paul Osaji from Nigeria) was also a big stimulus for the many that attended form that region. Paul did a very good job of getting the word of the conference out to many that would also have come but there was a restriction on Visas to Nigerians due to a mix up on a previous
There were three full days and Lee Hackett two of the FASA’s in attendance with Lee one of the founders of the conference.

One of the better presentations was Paul Osaji’s (pictured) talk on valuation in Nigeria and was very insightful to problems they have and his appreciation of the efforts of this committee to have an international forum for our discipline of valuation. Interesting enough is that Nigeria has had an association for P&M valuation for many years even before he became aware of the American Society of Appraisers (ASA). The first two MTS courses are scheduled for the first two weeks of December 2015 and should be the beginning of a start to gaining enough members in that country for a Chapter in the near future. Most ASA prospects already have the education and experience requirements to go straight for the senior ASA designation after the course work and other general submission requirements for getting that accreditation.

All of those that attended seemed to have a strong desire for two areas and the first was the topics and speakers for international understanding; the second was for the networking when international work should come along for assistance if not joint venture participation for a valuation project. There was also other points but I have to assume a third would be the fun that always seems to be a part of this conference as the association of peers in this profession seem to have an understanding of what we talk about and therefore the interest is automatically there.

ASA was well represented with speakers such as Edward Detwiler ASA on Medical valuation and Mona Miller FASA on machinery and equipment used in the Gems and Jewelry business from mining to completion of products and the measurement (in only a general way) for final values on completed products and some very interesting associated topics. The emphasis was on Jade in this case due to mining in Japan for that as one of its minerals. She actually went into mining equipment below and above ground and had many photos and information for that which assisted the interest for those participants that do much of that type of equipment. The photograph in this paragraph show Mona Miller and Lee Hackett two of the FASA’s in attendance with Lee one of the founders of the conference.

There were three full days of education sessions and this one had many major sponsors (10 total) in addition to the three expected standard underwriters of which RICS and ASA are the associations that are equal sponsors taking on the majority of that requirement. API the Australian Property Institute also is an underwriter for the balance of the underwriting requirement. JaSIA as the host obtained many sponsors of various events. JaSIA did a fantastic job of coordinating all of the timing for sessions and also recorded in the hall, sound video for each of the topics on a digital camera system.

attendance from that country in which many did not go back and may still be in Japan. Two Nigerians that we know applied were turned down and one was a government employee and another well respected applicant was in the teaching profession. Kazuo Wakayama is to be commended for his efforts and we all worked hard on getting most approved.
A break was taken each day with sponsors for the lunches and there were speakers for each one of those in which each gave very interesting talks on their companies and how they could contribute in knowledge or use of those that were in the audience. Networking as usual was very active and those that attend were interested in the topics but also for cooperation of future information gathering and assistance similar to that where the various disciplines in the ASA, RICS and API through networking and experience by their membership. Although not a membership organization, ICVPME is becoming an event with regulars that attend and are always willing to cooperate and assistance the others. I know that this has occurred in many instances also experienced by this report writer. Karen Milan was referred to one of the Japanese students who also attended and stated that her information allowed them to complete the electronic communication job prior to the date of this event. He also worked for one of the sponsors that participated in this conference. As you can see the ASA red coat was worn on the first day and the photo shows Jim Hirt ASA CEO and two from the larger contention from Nigeria at the lunch break.

After the first day sessions, there was a reception held in the KKR hotel where most of the attendees stayed. There was a presentation and introduction by Kazuo Wakayama and who introduced the chair of the Japan Real Estate Institute who was the host for that reception. The picture to the left shows the speaker for that reception and JaSIA had signs made for the various events where we held lunches and this welcoming. Many of those that attended, who had been to others over the years, indicated that they believed that this one was one of the best we had ever presented. JaSIA with Kazuo and Yuki Kameo along with the entire ICVPME Committee headed up by Peter Singleton deserve the credit for this years’ event but not to forget that the prestige and continuation of better programs comes from the past starting in India with the primary founder Kirit Budhbbhatti and those that began this conference. Two of the founders were in attendance at this one with both now being FASA’s. Kirit also sent his best wishes for all of those at the event to have one that is more successful than those in the past. His wish was realized. The two founders that were present gave the opening toast at the gala dinner.

The Session and Dinner Sponsor was IHRA (International High-Speed Rail Association) and Duff & Phelps. Another Dinner Sponsor was Global Asset Solutions, Welcome Sponsor the Japan Real Estate Institute and the first day lunch sponsor was Gordon Brothers Japan. There were several branding sponsors: Simmon, Japanese Frontier of Moveables Evaluation LLP and another (not translated) having the insignia or logo “H” and also The Tanizawa Sogo Appraisal Co., Ltd.

The Gala Dinner was held on Tuesday Night with Japanese entertainment that was very special as was the dinner which was totally the local cuisine. It would be improper to not at least say that this conference was enhanced by the tenacious effort of Richard Berkemeier who is pictured in the attached photograph. The dinner was followed on Wednesday with another full day of speakers with all topics.
throughout the three days being very special on an international level for learning about theory, topics of various depreciable factors, specialization, some local specializations and users of appraisal services and their needs and requirements. The topics were well documented in the promotion of this conference but the various topics that were covered were better than expected that could not have been described in the topic coverage as promoted. Almost all of the attendees had comments or praise for this particular topic coverage and the speakers that were there. The provided entertainment was totally Japanese dancers and entertainers as can be seen in the attached picture. All of the Power Point presentations were available for download and will be made available through the MTS committee archive in some manner to be determined. JaSIA also has them on their server in Japan but are all in English.

On the last day at the final and closing event was entertainment provided by those that went on the river cruise. This was described as the Tour of Yakatabune River Cruise. The boat had karaoke and many participated including this writer which was not pleasant for those that heard it. However the laughter probably made up for the bad noise. It was on this cruise we had the usual photographic presentation on slides which was very well received. It was in PowerPoint and had captions that seemed to please all that watched it since most were the attendees. As usual those that were made fun with captions seemed to be pleased with the satirical use of those photos.

Those that might read this report, I assure you that in two years when it comes again, you would combine education and networking with a vacation that would be better than anything you might typically try in whatever region of the world it is held. Always if affordable and with continued good health, I would like to be in attendance and do my usual work as an advisor to the committee as Lee Hackett and I are retired from the decision making committee and no longer serving as officers.

Report by Leslie H. Miles, Jr. FASA FAPI