Scope

The Congress of the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr) has been held every three years since the inaugural congress in Cambridge (USA) in 1948. The most recent congress in Florence (IUCr 2005) attracted 3,000 participants from 62 countries. As shown below, the scientific program will encompass almost every area of crystallography.

Instrumentation and Experimental Techniques
Methods for Structure Determination
Computers in Analysis, Molecular Modeling and Molecular Design
Crystallography of Biological Macromolecules and Biological Small Molecules
Crystallography of Organic, Organometallic, Co-ordination and Main Group Compounds
Structure/Property Relationships
Crystal Engineering
Inorganic Crystallography and Geosciences
Crystallography in Material Science
Surfaces, Interfaces, Liquids and Thin Films
Fiber Diffraction
Charge, Spin and Momentum Density
Diffraction Physics and Optics
Crystal Growth
Characterization of Defects, Microstructures and Textures
Electron Microscopy
Electron Diffraction
Non-Ambient Conditions
Symmetry and its Generalizations
Aperiodic and Incommensurate Structures
Crystallographic Topology
Databases
Industrial Crystallography
Crystallographic Teaching
History of Crystallography
Other Topics

Venue

Grand Cube Osaka (Osaka International Congress Center) will be the venue for IUCr 2008.

Access & Approximate Travel Times

From Kansai International Airport
- 55 minutes to JR Osaka Station on the JR Line

From Osaka International Airport (Itami Airport)
- 30 minutes to JR Osaka Station by Airport Limousine

From Osaka Station
- 10 minutes by taxi to Grand Cube Osaka
- Guests may use the shuttle bus service between RIHGA ROYAL HOTEL and JR Osaka Station Central Exit (10 min.).

Organizing Secretariat

c/o Congress Corporation
Congress Bldg., 3-6-13
Awajimachi, Chuo-ku, Osaka
541-0047, Japan
E-mail: iucr2008@congre.co.jp

Grand Cube Osaka
Dear Colleagues:

We cordially invite you to join the 21st Congress of the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr), which will be held in Osaka, Japan, from August 23 to 31, 2008. The IUCr is the only truly international organization promoting crystallography, and the General Assembly and Congress is held every three years. The Congress is organized jointly by the Crystallographic Society of Japan (CrSJ) and the Science Council of Japan.

The Congress intends to provide an excellent opportunity to review the rapid advances in the fields of crystallography, which includes a variety of research fields not only in the basic sciences such as physics, chemistry, biology, and mineralogy, but also in the applied sciences such as materials and pharmaceutical sciences. Many distinguished speakers from all regions of the world will be invited to bring us all up-to-date on recent developments through more than 30 plenary lectures and more than 90 microsymposia. There will also be opportunities for participants to make their own works known to a wider audience and to have discussions with other participants through poster presentations. Furthermore, many pre- and post-conferences will be held in cities throughout Japan.

Osaka has long been known as the gateway to Asia, and to the world, as a business hub with abundant opportunities which attract innovative minds. Aside from its economic strength, Osaka is known throughout Japan as the city of humanity, with lively, outgoing and humorous people. A warm welcome awaits you.

We heartily look forward to meeting you at IUCr 2008 in Osaka. A number of Japanese crystallographers are working hard with us to provide you with a very attractive congress and a memorable stay in Osaka.

T. Tsukihara
Chairperson
Local Organizing Committee

General Information

Official language: English.

Abstract submission:
An on-line submission service is being prepared. Details will be announced in Autumn 2007.

Time zone:
Japan is 9 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Climate and clothing:
August temperatures in Osaka range from 24°C at night to 32°C during the day. Average relative humidity is 66%. Hotels and the Convention Center are fully air conditioned.

Passport and visa:
You must present a valid passport to enter Japan. Some foreign nationals also require a visa. For details, please contact the Japanese Consulate or diplomatic mission in your country.

Welcome to Osaka

Osaka, having flourished for centuries as Japan’s foremost trading center, has developed into one of the country’s most dynamic cities. As an economic and cultural center vital to the country’s marine traffic since ancient times, the city has inherited a rich cultural heritage of traditional performing arts such as Bunraku (Japanese puppetry) along with a wealth of shrines, temples and local festivals. It is also renowned for its enterprising spirit and vitality.

Osaka is overflowing with attractions of all kinds. Taking in a Bunraku performance and visiting an impressive heritage site such as Osaka Castle are great ways to discover Japanese history, while a stroll around Dotombori is the perfect introduction to the spirit of modern Japan.

Other cities within easy commuting distance include the world-renowned historic cities of Kyoto and Nara. From JR Osaka Station, you can reach Kyoto Station by train in a mere 25 minutes, while Nara Station is only 50 minutes away. SPring-8, the world’s largest third-generation synchrotron radiation facility, is also close enough for an excellent day excursion.

Committees

IUCr Executive Committee
President: Ohashi, Y. (Japan)
Vice-President: Torriani, I. (Brazil)
General Secretary & Treasurer: Lidin S. (Sweden)

IUCr International Program Committee
Chairperson: Fujii, Y. (Japan)

Local Organizing Committee
Chairperson: Tsukihara, T. (Osaka University)
Secretary General:
Kai, Y. (Osaka University)

Members:
Inoue, T. (Osaka University)
Kamiya, N. (Osaka City University)
Kamiyama, T. (IMSS/KEK)
Miki, K. (Kyoto University)
Miyahara, I. (Osaka City University)
Nakagawa, A. (Osaka University)
Noda, Y. (Tohoku University)
Ogawa, K. (The University of Tokyo)
Ohsumi, K. (IMSS/KEK)
Sakata, M. (Nagoya University)
Sasaki, S. (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
Sato, M. (Yokohama City University)
Sugawara, Y. (Kitasato University)
Takata, M. (SPRing-8/RIKEN)
Wakatsuki, S. (IMSS/KEK)