Room A, 15:50-18:10, August 14, 2014



Panel Discussion on The Role of Thermal Science in Meeting Societal Challenges

Panelists

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Rice University

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Rutgers University

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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich

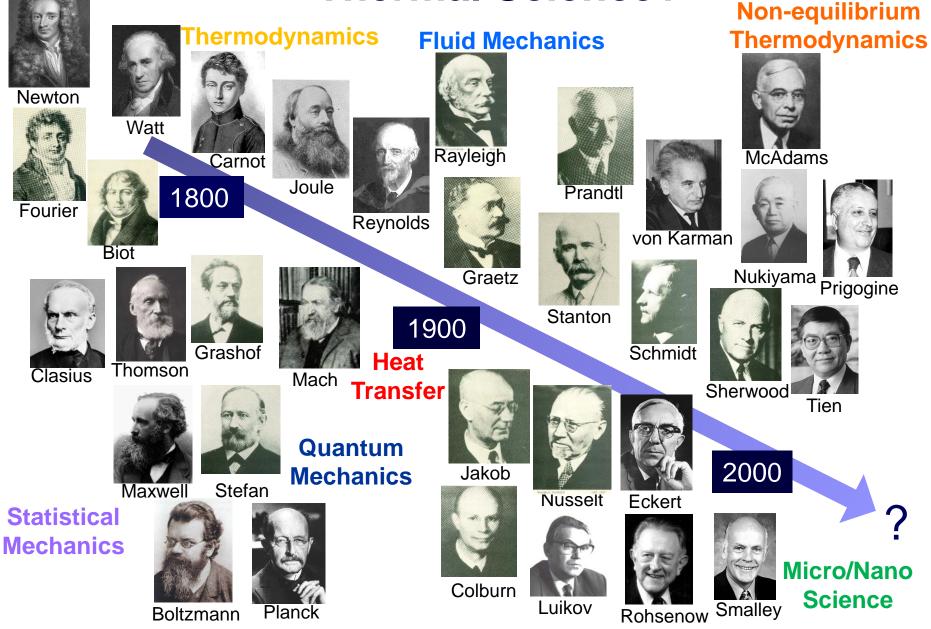
Peter Stephan

Technische Universitat Darmstadt

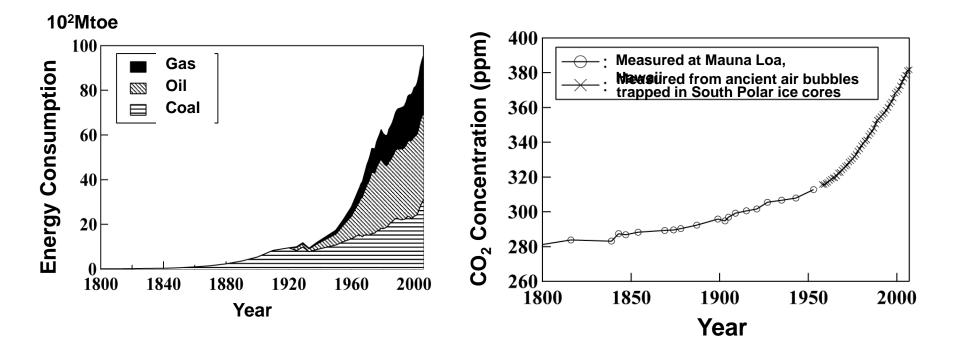
Moderator Nobuhide Kasagi

Japan Science & Technology Agency / The University of Tokyo

What Is Our Role Beyond the History of Thermal Science?



Growth and Expansion on Our Planet



During the 20th Century:

- World population from 1.65 to 6.1 x10⁹ (3.7 times)
- Energy consumption from 0.5 to 9 Btoe (19 times)
- CO₂ concentration from 300 to 380 ppm (400 ppm in 2013)

Global Trends and Social Wish in the 21st Century

- Technology breakthrough, innovation, and globalization leading to rapid changes in industrial structures and social systems
 - Nano, bio and information technologies
 - High-speed digital communication, massive transportation
 - Personalized health/medical care, smart energy, ubiquitous finance
 - Economy of scale to economy of satisfaction
- Social wish for "Sustainable Development" that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their need
 - □ *Our Common Future* (Brundtland Report) (UNEP, 1987)



- Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge adopted by the World Conference on Science (ICSU), Budapest, 1 July 1999
 - 1. Science for knowledge; knowledge for progress
 - 2. Science for peace
 - 3. Science for development
 - 4. Science in society and science for society

Social Contract for Science proposed by J. Lubchenco (Science, 1998):



STI Policy Movement in Japan

Major issues such as recovery and rebuilding, future energy plan, deindustrialization, aging with declining population, sovereign debt, economic crisis after 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake



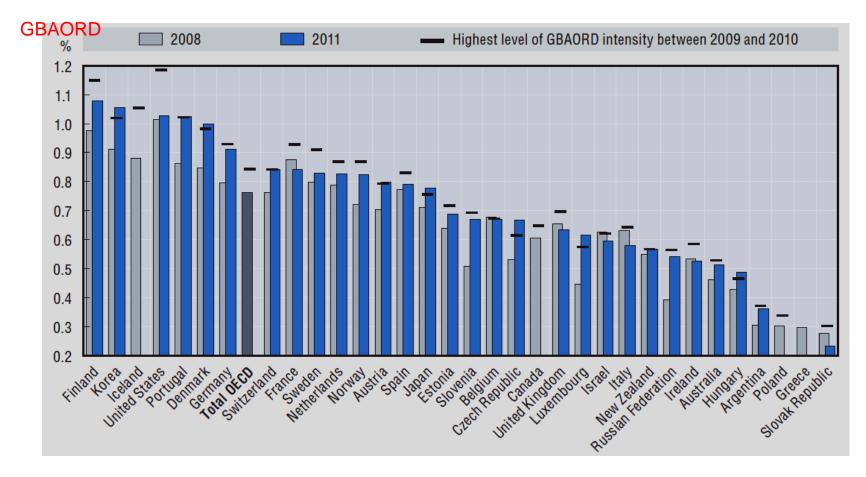
4th Science and Technology Basic Plan (rev. 2011)

- Restoration and reconstruction
- Green innovation, Life innovation
- Issue-driven R&D strategy

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S&T budget for FY2013 ~ ¥4.6T (US\$46B) (+25%)

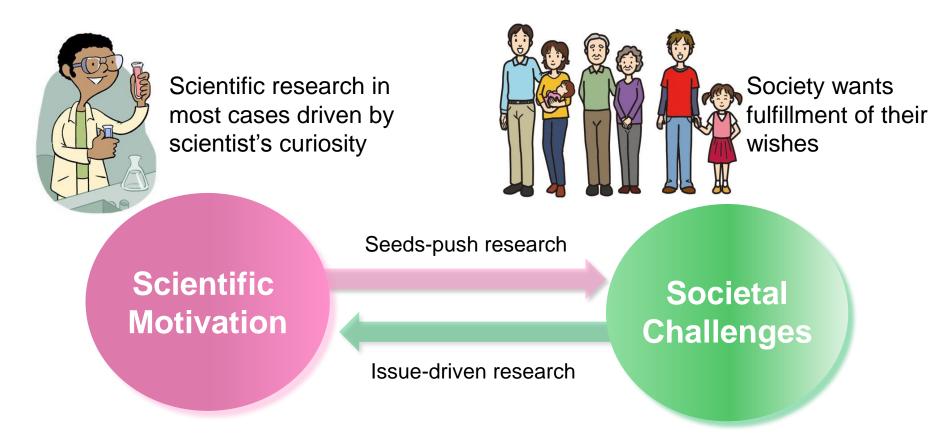
EXAMPLE 7 Research Funding as a % of GDP for 2008-11



GBAORD: Government budget appropriations or outlays for R&D as a % of GDP

(STI Outlook 2012, OECD)

Seeds-push vs Issue-driven Research (Bottom-up vs Top-down)



How to effectively link science to innovation, economic growth and social welfare



Important Questions

- Roles of scientists and engineers of thermal science in resolving various societal issues and enabling further societal development?
- How research themes and schemes to be designed in order to meet societal challenges, while keeping spontaneous motivation of researchers in issuedriven (top-down) research?