

Professor Kohei Uosaki

Citation for the Award of Honorary Degree

Since his graduation from Flinders with a PhD in 1977, Professor Kohei Uosaki has had a distinguished professional career in research and research management, where he is currently a Fellow of the internationally renowned National Institute for Material Science (NIMS), Japan and also serves as Director of Global Research Centre for Environment and Energy based on Nanomaterials Science (GREEN) at NIMS. He serves on a number of key committees. He is a Member of the Committee on Energy Strategy, a committee of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, and is an Associate Member of the Science Council of Japan, a representative organisation of the Japanese scientific community.

Kohei has developed his research interests in the area of Nano-Power and has been studying the structure and functions of novel material phases and electron transfer reactions at solid/liquid interfaces for more than 35 years. His main contribution is in the area of atomically/molecularly ordered interphases. Kohei has led this field internationally, publishing over 130 papers in the last 10 years, including many highly cited and influential publications. His research reputation is exemplary; he has not only presented numerous invited lectures all over the world but he has also played a key role in organising many international meetings and symposia and acting as committee members of international societies and editor and editorial member of international journals.

In addition to his scientific achievements, his service to Flinders includes the establishment of the Flinders Alumni Association in Japan and the memorandum of understanding with NIMS.

The Japan Flinders Alumni Association was founded by Professor Kohei Uosaki in 2010. He is the president of this network which enables previous Flinders students to keep in contact with their old university, sending out newsletters and organising meetings such as the alumni network reception held at the Australian Embassy in Japan in 2012.

In 2011 Flinders signed an MOU with NIMS to establish a joint graduate school and facilitate student and staff visits between the two institutions. Professor Uosaki played a vital role in orchestrating this agreement and is dedicated to maintaining a successful program. Since 2011, five PhD students from the Centre for NanoScale Science and Technology have spent between 6-12 months studying at NIMS and several research leaders have made visits to Japan to work with NIMS researchers. A number of NIMS researchers, including Kohei, have continued to develop this relationship through reciprocal visits and applying for grants to carry out joint research ventures between Flinders and NIMS. This initiative has been a remarkable success and has provided a unique opportunity for Flinders students and researchers. In 2013, due to not only his research success but his dedication to maintain a strong relationship with Flinders University, Kohei was invited to be a member of Advisory Board for the Flinders Centre for NanoScale Science and Technology and has been a valued member providing exceptional advice and guidance.

Professor Kohei Uosaki is a truly distinguished Flinders Alumni who would be a worthy recipient of an honorary degree for his service to scientific community and Flinders both professionally and personally.