On 27 February 2018, the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society (SSCS) Japan Chapter held a technical seminar at the University of Tokyo, Japan, about topics presented at the International Solid-State Circuits Conference 2018 (ISSCC). The seminar, held two weeks after the conference, showcased 14 excellent papers presented at ISSCC 2018 from Japan, including a keynote presentation from Denso and an invited system paper from Fujitsu. This technical seminar benefited those who did not attend the conference. Prior to the seminar, Prof. Makoto Ikeda, SSCS Japan Chapter chair, discussed the benefits of Society members and talked about the activities that the SSCS Japan Chapter organized in 2017. Afterward, Prof. Makoto Takamiya, ISSCC Far East regional secretary, presented a review of the ISSCC. Takamiya encouraged attendees to submit papers to ISSCC 2019. This event was well received by the audience and resulted in a very active discussion. A total of 93 people attended the seminar, including 61 IEEE Members.

—Milin Zhang

SSCS Japan Chapter Secretary

On 25 January 2018, Dr. Tadahiro Kuroda from Keio University gave the lecture “A Short History and One Future of Brains, Computers, and Integrated Circuits.” He started with a brief history on how humans understand the brain. According to Kuroda, the challenge of recent semiconductor devices is how to improve power efficiency. Then, he introduced two technologies, thru chip interface and transmission line coupler, to resolve challenges caused by the large number of interconnection between chips.

On the final day of IEEE ACTS Winter 2018, Dr. Jan M. Rabaey from the University of California, Berkeley, gave a lecture on the human intranet. He focused on the concepts and applications of the human intranet, and analyzed the requirement risen from embedded computation in the human intranet—ultra-low latency and ultra-low power. He also introduced energy storage and harvesting around the human body.

The winter school attendees were very engaged and asked many questions during the lectures. The students enjoyed learning from world-renowned experts in the field. The SSCS Tsinghua Student Chapter plans on hosting similar activities in the future.

—Tetsuya Iizuka

SSCS Japan Chapter Secretary

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MSSC.2018.2821426
Date of publication: 22 June 2018