

The Vacuum Society of Japan

Introduction

The Vacuum Society of Japan (VSJ) was established in 1954 with the aim of progress in the vacuum science and technology and their applications to various fields. The VSJ members consist of the individual members and corporate members (companies related to the vacuum technology) and the society has been managed by the selected members from both keeping a close relation to each other. This management system is specific to VSJ and hard to find out in the most societies.

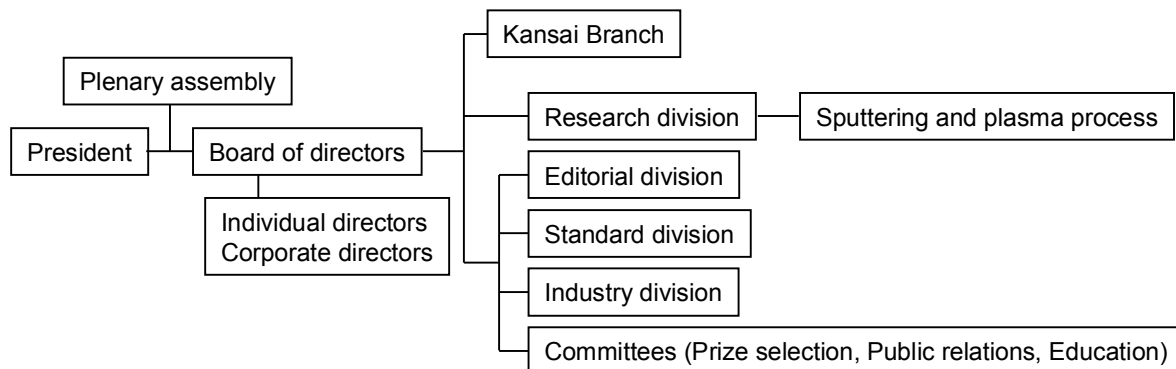
The active fields of the members cover many fields, not to mention vacuum science and technology, surface science and thin films, but also electronics, plasma science, nanotechnology, catalyst chemistry, accelerator technology, nuclear energy, space technology, metal engineering, materials science, optics, machinery, biotechnology etc. The society is eager to attract many more members of those as well as other fields to grow into a more multidisciplinary society.

VSJ is the representative member of IUUVSTA (International Union for Vacuum Science, Technique, and Applications) and is responsible for distributing the latest information about the vacuum science and technology to the society members through international cooperation activities.



Organization

VSJ has the organization as shown by the chart below. The plenary assembly is held annually in late February while the board of directors is held five times a year.



Activities

- A. National Symposium on Vacuum Science and Technology: Held annually in fall alternately in Tokyo and Kansai area by the executive committee.
- B. Workshops: Held several times a year either in Tokyo or in local cities by the Research division. The Kansai division also holds lectures, workshops and seminars. The sputtering and plasma process division holds meetings several times a year and the Industrial division holds lectures, workshops and study tours.
- C. Lecture courses: The summer school is held annually in summer vacation period to provide the members and non-members an opportunity to study the vacuum science and technology as well as the latest information on the field. The Kansai division also holds the basic lecture class. The lectures related to the application are also held as the “Learning with an author” course.
- D. Periodicals. The monthly journal of VSJ (formerly known as Shinku) is published and distributed to the members for free. The journal includes research papers, letters, reviews, technical notes *etc.* on the vacuum science and technology and their applications. The Symposium proceedings is published annually as the third issue of the volumes. The computerization of the back numbers has been in progress to enable the readers to access the journal electronically via Internet.
- E. Awards: Given annually to excellent papers published in the journal. They are Kumagai Award for the best research paper on the vacuum science and technology, Vacuum Technical Award for excellent work on the vacuum instruments and Vacuum Progress Award for excellent papers by young researchers.
- F. Program for certificate of vacuum engineer: VSJ and JVIA qualifies his/her ability and knowledge on the vacuum science and technology by setting the certification examination of several levels.
- G. International Relations: VSJ is the representative member of IUVSTA and hosted the International conferences of IUVSTA, IVC/ICSS in 1974 in Kyoto and in 1995 in Yokohama. VSJ has established the international conference, VASSCCAA, as a regional meeting in Asia and Australia to encourage the research activities and information exchange among the young researchers and engineers of the vacuum science and technology in the region. The first conference was held in 1999 in Tokyo and since then it has been held triennially (2002 in Hong Kong and 2005 in Singapore)
- H. VSJ hosts the biennial International Symposium on Sputtering & Plasma Processes (ISSP) in Japan. The society also occasionally hosts many other international conferences.
- I. Homepage: VSJ has the homepage at <http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/vsj/> to introduce the society through the latest information on the activities of the society. The information is also delivered to the members by email.
- J. The Standardization division of VSJ carries out the tasks related to standardization of the vacuum technology including proposal, draft making, deliberation and maintenance of JIS, ISO and JVIS.