

NABTESCO ENDOWED CHAIR CEREMONY, APRIL 18, 2012

In March, 2011, Nabtesco Corporation of Japan made a major gift to the University of Washington to establish the Nabtesco Endowed Chair in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Nabtesco is a world leader in motion control technology in a wide range of business areas. The endowed chair is intended to recognize faculty who have achieved national recognition in the field of actuators and related technology, and are expected to make major contributions in teaching and research in that field. A ceremony installing Professor Minoru Taya as the inaugural holder of the Nabtesco Endowed Chair was held at the University of Washington Tower in Seattle the afternoon of April 18, 2012. The installation was attended by Dr. Kazuyuki Matsumoto, Chairman of Nabtesco Corporation, and other guests who were present to attend the Workshop on New Concepts for Active Materials, Actuators, and Bioinspired Sensing-Actuation Control, co-sponsored by Nabtesco and the University of Washington.

Professor Per Reinhall, Chair of the UW Department of Mechanical Engineering, made opening remarks. Dr. Matsumoto and UW College of Engineering Associate Dean Mari Ostendorf addressed the assemblage, then installed Professor Taya as the first holder of the Nabtesco Endowed Chair in Mechanical Engineering. They presented Dr. Taya a certificate recognizing his installation.

The installation ceremony was attended by participants in the Nabtesco workshop, UW faculty and staff, and guests. The ceremony was planned by David Iyall, April Johnson, Clara Peterson, and Lisa Schachter, all on the Advancement staff of the College of Engineering.

Following the ceremony, the guests attended the opening reception for the Nabtesco Workshop in the Hotel Deca.



(left) Dr. Matsumoto (L) and Associate Dean Ostendorf prepare to present the installation certificate to Professor Taya.

(right) Dr. Matsumoto, Professor Reinhall, and Dr. Saito (L to R) at the reception.



(left) Dr. Taya (C) displays his installation certificate, flanked by Dr. Matsumoto (L) and Associate Dean Ostendorf (R).

(right) Professor Taya (L) displays the fishing hat presented to him by Dr. Matsumoto (R).



(left) Mrs. Lilholt, Dr. Lilholt (Riso National Lab, Denmark) with Professor and Mrs. Taya (L to R).

(right) Professors Reinhall, Kumar, Seibel, and Mescher (L to R).



(left) Professors Kobayashi, Taya, and Mamidala (L to R).

(right) Members of Professor Taya's research group: Hiroshi Yamamoto, Onur Namli, Cheng Xu, and Bryan Ferguson (L to R).



(left) Dr. Kim, Mrs. Taya, Associate Dean Ostendorf, and Dr. Lim (L to R).

(right) Professors Dunn (University of Colorado), Li, and Taya (L to R).