

Technical Committee on History of Electrical Engineering

1. Objective

In an era where questions are expected of modern technology as contemporary civilization progresses, electrical engineers must fulfill their social responsibilities promptly by addressing these questions based on the essentials of electrical engineering. As research on the history of electrical engineering leads to an assessment of the social validity of its application while unveiling technological essentials, this investigation may be an appropriate response to the aforementioned questions. Therefore, this committee will work toward the following objectives:

1. Invigorate research on the history of electrical engineering by electrical engineers
2. Provide information and knowledge on the history of electrical engineering to the IEEJ members, non-electrical engineers, and the general public.
3. Ascertain the location of documents and materials related to the history of electrical engineering in Japan
4. Elucidate the history of electrical engineering in Japan
5. Have electrical engineers assert their own presence, and inspire youths who will become the next generation of electrical engineers
6. Identify notable personalities in the history of electrical engineering in Japan
7. Cooperate and interact with other academic societies related to the history of electrical engineering, and exchange information with engineering historians
8. International exchange related to the history of electrical engineering

2. Fields of activity

The main fields of activity of this committee are as follows:

1. How to proceed with research on the history of electrical technology
2. Investigation of the history of electrical engineering in Japan
3. Self-assessment of the current status and future of electrical engineering from a historical viewpoint, as well as electrical engineers as professionals (identity validation), inspiring next-generation electrical engineers
4. Exchanges related to the history of electrical engineering with other organizations and countries

3. Activity content

1. Technical committee meetings (4 times a year)
2. Secretariat meetings (4 times a year)
3. Establish investigation committees

The following investigation committees have been established as subcommittees for carrying out specific research and investigation related to the history of electrical engineering in Japan:

- Investigation Committee on the Present State of Research Activity into the History of Electrical Engineering (1990-10~1993-9)

- Investigation Committee on the History of Electrical Engineering Education (1993-01～1995-12)
- Investigation Committee on the History of Domestic Electrical Technology Production (1993-10～1996-9)
- Investigation Committee on Innovation and Creativity in Domestically Produced Electrical and Electronic Technology (1997-4～2002-3)
- Investigation Committee on Preservation and Exhibition Guides for Historical Records (1996-7～1999-6)
- Investigation Committee on the Role of National Laboratories in Electrical Engineering (1999-4～2002-3)
- Investigation Committee on Database Systemization of Electrical Engineering (2001-6～2004-5)
- Investigation Committee on Interviewing Customers of Electrical Engineering (2001-10～2004-9)
- Investigation Committee on Technological Innovation Factors in Post-War Electrical Engineering (2005-1～2007-12)
- Investigation Committee on International Joint Research on the History of Technical Exchanges (2005-7～2018-6)
- Investigation Committee on the History of nuclear Power Generation in Japan (2011-4～2014-3)
- Investigation Committee on Oral History of Electrical Engineering (2012-4～2014-3)
- Investigation Committee on the History of Electrical System Analysis Technology (2014-10～2017-10)
- Investigation Committee on the History of High-voltage Electrical Insulation Technology (2016-4～2018-3)
- Investigation Committee on the Oral History of Electrical Engineering (Phase II) (2016-4～2019-3)
- Investigation Committee on Electric Power System Technology in the 21st Century (2017-8～2020-7)

4. Technical Meetings

Technical Meetings will be convened on the following themes:

- Significance of research on the history of electrical engineering according to electrical engineers
- Present status and objectives of research activities focusing on the history of electrical engineering
- History of university electrical engineering courses
 - Domestic and foreign electrical museums and electrical document archives
- Comparison of the history of electrical engineering between Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France

5. Lectures and tours

In addition to lecture themes related to the research targets listed above, individuals related to other academic societies, engineering historians, economic historians, museum officials, corporate technology management officers, and relevant persons abroad will be asked to suggest specific themes. Tours will include museums, archives, and libraries.

6. Information gathering, exchange, and dissemination

Information on domestic and foreign research and investigation activities in this field will be actively collected and distributed according to the wishes of the committee members. This is the first time that the IEEJ has had a permanent body related to the history of electrical engineering, and the Committee on the History of Electrical Engineering will serve as an information liaison center. Moreover, it will respond to inquiries related to the history of engineering from other technical and investigation committees. One of these activities is the publication of a newsletter. Inaugurated in 1994, the newsletter reached its 86th issue this year. The 4 or 6 page publication features technological history-related articles, records of visits to museums and book reviews. Another important public information activity is the web site. This web site was opened in 2001 and it announces workshops, publishes the summaries of research papers presented at the meetings, and publicize the committee's activities as we have mentioned in connection with the activities. The newsletters and the web site are in Japanese only but the web site in English will be soon.

7. Interaction and international exchange with other academic societies

Emphasis shall be upon interaction and cooperation with other academic societies and exchange with engineering historians. Moreover, efforts will be made toward exchange with relevant organizations in developed countries, e.g., the US, and developing nations in Europe.

8. Records and honors

Translations, publications, reprints, and scholarships related to the history of electrical engineering

9. Committee members

Position	Name	Affiliation
Chairperson	Toshiko Nakagawa	Tokyo City University
Primary member	Takahisa Amemiya	Nihon University
"	Hiroshi Ichihara	Dokkyo University
"	Tatsuki Okamoto	Kanto Gakuin University
"	Toshiyuki Kano	NEC Corporation
"	Shinichi Sakaida	Japan Broadcasting Corporation
"	Reiko Takahashi	Toshiba Energy Systems & Solutions Corporation
"	Hideomi Nakamura	The Institute for the History of Science and Technology in Tokyo
"	Masahiro Maejima	National Museum of Nature and Science
"	Eiju Matsumoto	-
"	Tadao Minagawa	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation
"	Toru Murakami	East Japan Railway Company
"	Jun'ichi Yamaguchi	Kagawa University
"	Toshiaki Rokunohe	Hitachi, Ltd.
Secretary	Toshiyuki Sawa	Hitachi, Ltd.
"	Satoshi Marushima	Toshiba Energy Systems & Solutions Corporation
Assistant secretary	Osumi Satoshi	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation
Observer	Hiroshi Suzuki	Meta Engineering Research Institute

(April 6th, 2022)