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JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

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JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

1. General Description

The Japanese Economic Association is the largest, with more than 3,000 members, among academic economic associations in Japan. The Association is also one of the oldest, founded in 1934, and so celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. The Association started with 40 members. Despite that small size, its founding members included the leading economists at the time, notably Yasuma TAKADA, Ichiro NAKAYAMA, Shinzo KOIZUMI, and Seiichiro TAKAHASHI. Also, the quality of research by the members at the time was remarkably high. For instance, Kei SHIBATA's ambitious research on integrating Marxian economics and the general equilibrium market theory attracted a great deal of attention from the leading economists in the world.

During the Second World War, the activity of the Association was disturbed, but its recovery after the war was very swift. Unfortunately, probably because the name "Japanese Economic Association" was reminiscent of wartime control, the Association was reorganized and divided into the Theoretical Economic Association and the Japanese Econometric Association soon after the Second World War. However, these two Associations cooperated closely and they were eventually reunited as the Japan Association of Economics and Econometrics in 1967. The original name of the Association was restored in 1997. Throughout this long history, the members of the Association have continued to engage in high international quality research and maintained high academic standards and discipline, following the excellent accomplishments of the aforementioned original members.

The Association's scope of activities is very large, and it covers a wide range of economic studies including economic theory, economic policy in general, public economics and finance, monetary economics and policy, international trade and finance, industrial organization, urban and regional economics, economic development, agricultural economics, econometrics and economic statistics. So the Association plays the central role of promoting the academic research in economics in Japan not only in its size but also in its coverage of research fields. The membership consists of academic economists as well as researchers affiliated with government/private institutions. There are 3,326 individual as well as 22 institutional members (as of January 2008). The list of individual members contains numerous researchers with international academic reputations and achievements.

The Association is managed by the General Meeting, a Board of Directors consisting of about 40 elected members, and a Standing Executive Committee. The President is elected by a two-step vote every year as follows: the Board of Directors

