

Local Information

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Welcome to ASE2006, Tokyo, Japan!

About the Conference Venue

ASE2006 is being held at the National Center of Sciences, which provides facilities for various activities of national organizations. The center is primarily devoted to the National Institute of Informatics (NII), Japan's national academic research institute seeking to spawn innovation in the new discipline of informatics.

ASE2006 technical sessions can be found on the 1st and 2nd floors in the building. Maps of the floors are given in the final program handed out at the registration desk. Attendees have access to the public area of the building, including smoking area, vending machines, and a cafeteria on the 3rd floor (*only reachable by elevators*). *ASE attendees are not allowed on the 4th floor or above.*

Please note that:

- To enter the building, you must show an identification card. *Please show your conference badge or confirmation letter to the security guards when you enter the building.*
- *Smoking in the conference rooms is prohibited.* There is a smoking area on each floor.
- There is a cafeteria on the 3rd floor. However, ASE lunch tickets are not accepted at this cafeteria. If you want to eat there, you will have to buy a food ticket from the machines on the third floor. There is very simple menu in English, for example, "Lunch Set B: Pork." The cafeteria is open twice a day from 11:30-14:00 and 17:00-20:00.

For Presenters

Oral Presentation:

Digital projectors are provided in all rooms. *If you want to use an overhead projector, notify the registration desk well in advance of your presentation.*

Poster Presentation:

Poster presenters should put their posters on their designated panel in the poster room (CR 3&4) between 14:00 and 15:30 on Sep 21st. Each panel can be attached an A0 portrait poster, and it has a corresponding paper title and author names. Pins for attaching posters on the panels can be acquired from staff in the room. *The poster session ends at 17:30 and the last bus for the banquet leaves at 17:45, please keep this in mind and move quickly to the buses to the banquet site (you may leave your poster)*

If you decide to leave your poster attached to the panel and go to the banquet site, you will be able to get it back the following morning (Sep 22nd). It will be on its panel in the hallway in front of the room it was displayed in. Posters left attached at noon on Sept. 22nd will be taken away by conference staff.

Available Services

The following services are available at the conference venue. For other services, please ask at the inquiry desk on the 1st floor.

- Wireless internet access is available in most parts of the 1st and 2nd floors. The wireless network is WEP encrypted, the key can be found in the information booklet received at registration. Please note that only standard ports (HTTP, POP, SSH) can be accessed.
- On the 1st floor, there is a message board on which attendees can attach messages.
- Booklets about sightseeing in Tokyo are available near the registration desk. There is also information about restaurants and interesting spots near the conference venue in the conference bag.
- “Vegetarian cards” are available at the registration desk. These cards have sentences such as “I don’t eat pork,” written on them in both English and Japanese. Please feel free to use these cards to help you adhere to your eating preferences while in Japan.
- We are sorry to announce that we do not provide a cloakroom at the conference venue. Please keep your valuable in your possession at all times.

Lunch

For workshop/conference attendees, lunch tickets are provided (in a small folder given at registration). ***Lunch tickets can be used only at the Gakushi-Kaikan (学士会館) building***, which is located kitty-corner from the venue (see the map in the final program). ***There is a special room for ASE attendees (Room 201) at Gakushi-Kaikan*** and a lunch set (general or vegetarian) is served. Please note that ***the special room for ASE attendees is only available from 12:30-14:00, Sep 19th to the 22nd.***

Reception

The reception will be held at Josui-Kaikan (如水会館) from 18:00 to 20:00, Sep 20th. The building is located next to the conference venue, it is marked on the map in the final program. There is no ticket for the reception; ***you must show your conference badge.*** Drinks and appetizers (including vegetarian dishes) will be served.

Banquet

The banquet will be held at Happo-en (八芳園) from 19:00-21:00, Sep 21st.

Getting To Happo-en:

Buses will be available at the conference venue. *The last bus to Happo-en leaves at about 17:45. Please be aware of this during the poster session, which is scheduled to end at 17:30.*

At Happo-en:

Happo-en is a gorgeous facility used for banquets, weddings and other ceremonies. The facility is set in the middle of lush green surroundings and boasts a peaceful Japanese garden, truly a utopia in the concrete jungle of Tokyo. We have set aside some time before the banquet starts for attendees to enjoy the serenity of the traditional Japanese gardens and listen to the soothing sounds of the *Koto*, or Japanese harp.

Banquet tickets are required to enter the site and receive special gifts from the general and local chairs. Please put your name on the banquet ticket. If you are vegetarian, please put the ticket stub on the table so that the waitpersons can serve you appropriately. There will be various forms of entertainment during the banquet, such as a *Shamisen* (Japanese guitar) and *Taiko* (Japanese drums) performance, *Tate* (Samurai sword-fighting) exhibition, and the awards ceremony. Make sure to try the authentic Japanese foods such as Sushi and *Shabu-Shabu* (thin slices of meat submerged for only a few seconds in a pot of boiling water or broth).

From Happo-en:

Please verify how to return to your hotel from Happo-en in advance.

- Buses to the official hotels will be available. If you stay at other hotels near the conference venue, please check in advance which official hotel is nearest to your hotel, using information on <http://www.ase-conference.jp/Location.html>
- Happo-en is very near to Shiroganedai Station. You can take Toei-Mita Line (the station ID is I-02) or Tokyo Metro Nanboku Line (N-02).

For Vegetarians

Vegetarian menus are provided in official meals (lunch, reception, and banquet). ***At the banquet, please make sure to place your ticket stub on the table*** so that waitpersons can serve you appropriately.

“Vegetarian cards” are available at the registration desk with key sentences, such as “I don’t eat pork,” in English and Japanese. Please feel free to use the cards when you visit restaurants not affiliated with the conference. Information regarding the availability of vegetarian restaurants near the conference venue is available in the conference bag.

For Smokers

Smoking in the conference rooms is prohibited. There is a smoking area on each floor (*reachable only by elevators*). In addition, *smoking on streets is prohibited, subject to a minimum fine of 2,000 yen.* You will find the following signs on streets and power poles.



Eating and Sightseeing around the venue

There is a map in the conference bag with brief descriptions about restaurants and interesting spots near the conference venue. There are many restaurants around the conference venue to eat sushi, curry rice, fast food, and so on. For sightseeing, the Imperial Palace is less than a 5 minute walk from the conference venue. Akihabara, a world-famous area for electronics, is also reachable on foot (about 20-25 minutes).

If you take the trains, you can visit many interesting places in Tokyo, such as Asakusa (Sensoji temple), Tokyo Tower, and Roppongi (known for its nightlife and the presence of Western tourists and expatriates). Booklets about sightseeing in Tokyo are available near the registration desk. Also see the information of the ASE Web site:

<http://www.ase-conference.jp/Location.html>