

AN URSI GA YOUNG SCIENTIST REPORTS...

It is really a pleasure and at the same time a hard task to express a Young Scientist's view on a General Assembly of the URSI in a few words. For me the experience is restricted to that in the last General Assembly held in Lille, France. In a simple way, the assembly as a whole had a serious impact on the academic motivation of all the individual young researchers. The outcome can only be effectively felt within a few years to come and thus now I feel an urge to express my views as a URSI Young Scientist within my limitations.

The first overwhelming experience of that event in Lille, France was to meet a galaxy of radio scientists and engineers in the "Grand Palais", the conference venue of that year, which added an extra flavour to the August assembly. The seven day long meeting offered a grand scope of interactions with a vast number of researchers dealing with similar or allied problems. And more important was the scope of being introduced with the newly growing fields of research along with the leading scientists involved. This latter one especially urged me to innovate new and more fascinating avenues of research of today.

The assembly of a large number of young scientists also played an important role to the awardees in another form. The young researchers from every part of the world, due to their age alike and like fields of activities were found to utilise that opportunity to exchange their ideas, to collect information of academic interests and in general, to make a good friendship among themselves. The welcome party for the Young Scientists actually initiated that scope of close interactions. That event on a rainy evening will remain evergreen in my reminiscence. I personally experience its direct effect in maintaining academic exchanges and relations with different Universities and Laboratories of different countries in the world.

Apart from the parallel scientific sessions, the poster session itself was worth mentioning. The well arranged lobby of the "Grand Palais" (name of the convention centre) accommodating more than five hundred posters cherished the flavour of an academic fair. Very close and direct interactions were there. One such interesting as well as serious interaction was experienced by me. A paper of mine

was also in that session and a photograph of a new device was displayed. I was standing in front of my own. A young person came, read, showed his curiosity and asked me the price of the device as he wanted to purchase that for one

immediate application. Such a serious and instantaneous thinking about the application of the newly proposed device which was not in my mind at all, inspired and sparked me a lot. Another informative thing, at least to the younger ones was the Industrial Exhibition, but they missed a workshop that time. However, the guest Lecture by Professor Joseph

H. Taylor, a Noble Laureate, the general lectures and the tutorials were highly illuminating and enjoyable too.

The registration kit included free copies of two books published by URSI along with the 'heavy' book of abstracts of the conference. We had enjoyed those articles in two ways, once during carrying in course of the return journey and later, really on the desk as a guide to the state-of-the-art technologies in radio science. The young worker like me was thus benefited in different ways. The Radio Science Bulletin, an URSI periodical, which I have been receiving as a URSI Correspondent for this triennium is very much interesting and attractive to me. I personally enjoy this as a real bulletin on the current ongoing activities throughout the world and in that way it helped me in participating in some activities of our region.

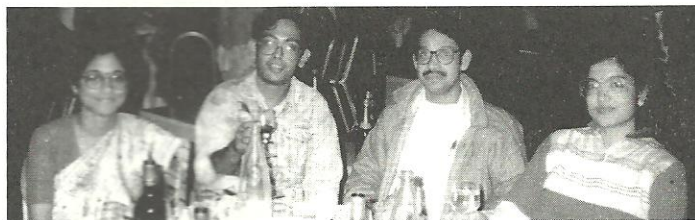
The young scientist's view would remain incomplete if it didn't mention the pleasure to get recognition from a prestigious scientific organisation like URSI. The award in its form of providing the huge financial support is really appreciable to all, particularly to those working at the remote parts of the world. Otherwise a young researcher like me from an Indian University could not find this opportunity to note his satisfaction this way. The untold fact that still remains behind is the ungrudging co-operation and help of the URSI secretariat in guiding all the way without which our participation would not be so easy and smooth in all respects.

Debatosh Guha

Institute of Radio Physics and Electronics
University of Calcutta, Calcutta, India
fax +91 33-351 5828, E-mail dguha@cucc.ernet.in



from left to right: Prof. Shizhang Feng, Dr. Pierre Bauer, Dr. Debatosh Guha, Prof. Edward V. Jull



The author (third from the left) at the Young Scientist Party, URSI General Assembly, Lille, France, August 1996