

**Ad Hoc Strategic Coordination Committee
on Information and data (SCCID)
Committee Member, 2009–2012**



Masatoshi Ohishi

Masatoshi Ohishi, an associate professor in the Astronomy Data Center, the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), the National Institutes of Natural Sciences, is an active radio astronomer with a broad scientific background. He has deep knowledge and experience on the molecules in space (interstellar molecules), and he and his colleague discovered many new interstellar molecules by using the 45m radio telescope of the Nobeyama Radio Observatory, NAOJ, especially toward cold, dark molecular clouds, that had been unknown in the terrestrial laboratory microwave spectroscopic measurements. Although most of the discovered species were found short-lived in the laboratory conditions, it was recognized that highly sensitive astronomical observations provides quite new insights to understand molecular reactions in an extreme physical condition, resulting in interdisciplinary research collaboration among astronomy, microwave spectroscopy and quantum chemistry. He showed high skill in developing software for data reduction, data analysis, telescope control, and database management. The telescope control system and the data reduction package that he developed almost 20 years ago have still been used at the Nobeyama Radio Observatory after some improvements. He moved from Nobeyama to the headquarter of NAOJ to develop new data archival system for the astronomy community in Japan. Since then he has lead a group to construct Japanese Virtual Observatory (<http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/portal/>), under international collaboration with sixteen virtual observatory projects in the world. Since 1993 he joined the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in order to protect the radio astronomy observations against man-made interference. Since 2000 July he is the chairman of Working Party 7D (radio astronomy), Study Group 7 (Science services), of the Radiocommunications Sector of the ITU, and he showed high skill in negotiating with business people. He is a member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) and the

Committee on Space Research (COSPAR). He is currently the vice president of Commission 5 (Astronomical Data) of IAU, and will be elected as the president of the Commission starting August, 2009. He also chairs a working group, "Astrophysically Important Lines" under Division X (Radio Astronomy) of the IAU. He has been appointed as a liaison between the IAU and the ITU. He was a chairman of the International Virtual Observatory Alliance (IVOA) between 2005 and 2006, and he has been a member of the executive committee of the IVOA. He is the chairman of Working Party 7D (radio astronomy), Study Group 7, of the Radiocommunications Sector of the ITU since 2000. He is a former chairman of a regional group to act against radio interference, Radio Astronomy Frequency Committee in the Asia-Pacific region between 2001 and 2008. He had and has several Japanese governmental positions, including a member of expert group in the Ministry of Information and Communications. He is a member of several academic societies in Japan, including the Astronomical Society of Japan, Database Society of Japan, the Society for the Study of the Origin and Evolution of Life Japan, and the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers.