Ernie Bonelli from Hewlett Packard (Now Agilent Technologies) was the VP for arrangements (1979-1980) who developed the conference site, Judith Sjoberg Watson (ASMS office, Lansing, MI) was then in her second year as business manager for ASMS. The conference was planned with the objective of encouraging participation from Pacific Rim countries. It was sponsored in cooperation with The Australian/New Zealand Society for Mass Spectrometry, The Japanese Society for Medical Mass Spectrometry, and The Mass Spectroscopy Society of Japan. A special exhibition, Yoko Ohashi, worked in Baltimore with the VP for Programs Catherine Fenselau to bring the conference to the attention of all Japanese mass spectrometry societies and individual Japanese colleagues. She also provided informal translation during the conference. Attendance and scientific presentations from Japan, Australia and New Zealand were noticeably increased relative to their numbers at mainstream conferences. The registration list is available in the 1982 Conference Proceedings.*

The scientific program was planned with morning and evening sessions to let attendees have flexible time in the afternoons. Thanks to having the meeting at a resort hotel, there were lots of recreational activities available: glass bottom boat tours to view the aquatic life of the harbor, very meaningful trips to the U.S. Arizona, and Outrigger Canoe Surfing expeditions (it’s a lot more work than it looks). Judith also organized an affordable priced inter-island 5-day tour of Maui and Kauai after the conference.

The time spent in extracurricular activities was not limited to the enjoyment of paradise; it also provided great opportunities and venues to talk about the new technologies in mass spectrometry being introduced at this time. This meeting was very productive scientifically!

Questions frequently heard in debate included “What do you think will become of GC/MS now that mixtures can now be separated on the fly by tandem mass spectrometry?” and “Has the use of mass spectrometry in the field of biochemistry changed with the development of modern LC/MS?”

Conferences returned to their homes with many anecdotes. You’ll find two imbedded in this poster, but there are many more stories like this locked away in the memories of the 1982 conference attendees. Back out your colleagues here at this conference who might have attended the Aloha meeting and ask them to share their stories!

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