With the Year of the Rabbit upon us, the Affiliate is running to meet the needs of its membership while calling upon the continuing support of ISPE HQ and AP. Last year was a busy one for the Office professionals running the organization as well as the many volunteers who make up the COPs and other areas of the Affiliate's operations. This year promises to be similar.

Following the very successful PIC/S Seminar held in the Tokyo area in March 2010, a second such Seminar was organized for February 1 and 2, with Bob Tribe again invited to lead it. The event attracted approximately 50 registrants from various areas of the pharmaceutical industry.

On February 3, a Kansai Regional Meeting was arranged as an opportunity for ISPE members and non-members to meet for (belated!) New Year's greetings as well as exchange information on matters of professional interest, in the very pleasant surroundings of an Italian restaurant in Umeda, Osaka. This periodic Meeting has proved to be popular among the membership.

The Pest Control Handbook, Edition 2, created and completed in 2010 by the Affiliate's COP volunteers, was offered for free through ISPE's HQ website from early January. The 40-page document had been edited by the Factory Auxiliary Issues Subcommittee of the Affiliate's Manufacturing Management COP and deals with aspects of the control and management of pests in pharmaceutical manufacturing sites.

As further described on the HQ website, this was the first time an individual Affiliate has produced content on such a scale for distribution to the entire ISPE Membership. In fact, outgoing ISPE Chairman Alan MacNeice took the opportunity to promote the coming availability of this valuable document in an address he gave at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Orlando.

For more information on the Japan Affiliate and its activities, please visit www.ispe.org or contact Natsumi Sahara, Office Manager, at nsahara@ispe.gr.jp or tel: 81-3-3818-6737. Alternatively, contact Shigeru Nakamura, Head of Secretariat, at shigeru.nakamura@shimz.co.jp.