I arrived in Portland, Oregon through a direct flight from Tokyo for attending the 7th International conference on land and property rights on 12th February 2013 at 7:00am. Arriving to Portland International Airport, I found the airport very convenient, efficient and affordable, although it was very small comparing to other international airports. The most convenient point was its connection to Public Transportation light-rail (MAX) that is literally inside the airport, which is connected to all over Portland metropolitan area. Also it was very cheap and affordable to go from the airport to downtown. I bought a one day ticket of MAX
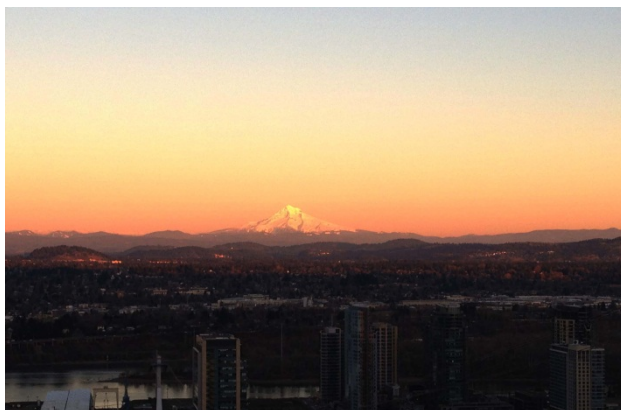

for 5 $ and took the light-rail from the airport to downtown area. Since the conference was going to start the next day on 13th February and the schedule was very busy during my stay there, so I took the opportunity to visit the city during the arrival day, after unpacking my luggage at the hotel, I left the hotel to see some parts of the city with the one day pass. Both the public transportations and the structure of the city made it very easy to get around the city.

While visiting the city I noticed that the pace of life is very slow and comfortable, which really matches the urban environment of the city. For example the movement of transportations on the streets was relatively slow as well as the people. As I walked in some of the city areas I think that the cityscape of Portland is very human scale which reflects a very pleasant connection with the pace of life there. Besides the city being green and having many parks and open green spaces, it is also close to the natural beauty and recreational spots such as Mount Hood, Oregon Coast, Running and biking areas..

A street view

A view of Mount Hood

Within some areas of the city there were some Food Carts, which was very cheap and convenient, that also made those areas lively. In general the food in Portland was very good everywhere and the attitude of people there is very friendly and welcoming.