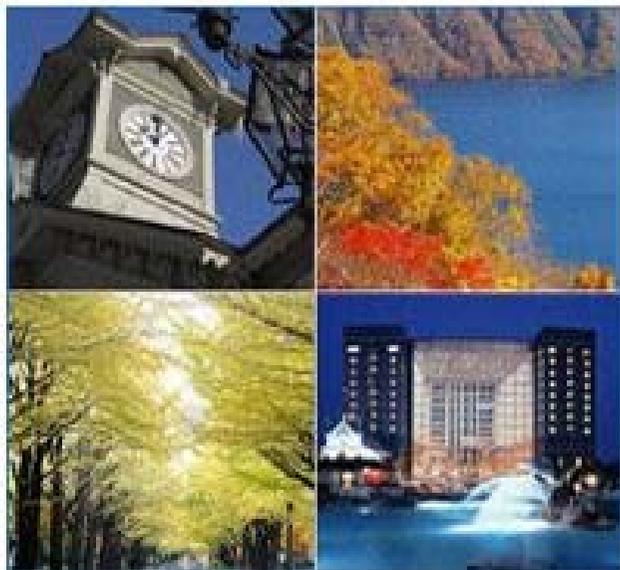


Sapporo 2009



Fourth CSSI International
Congress on Stress
Responses in Biology and
Medicine

The Fourth Annual Meeting
of the Biomedical Society
for Stress Response (BSSR)

Hallmarks and New Horizons in
Biomedical Stress Responses

Chairman: Professor Noriyuki Sato

BSSR

The Biomedical Society for Stress Response



Tenth Anniversary of the Cell Stress Society International

The following is a summary of the presentation by Larry Hightower, Founding President of the CSSI, at the 2009 CSSI Congress in Sapporo, Japan:

This year 2009 is the tenth anniversary of the Cell Stress Society International (CSSI). It is not by chance that we are celebrating this event in Asia and especially in Japan. The idea to organize an international cell stress society has its roots deep in Asia and in three events in particular. The first event was the launch by Churchill Livingstone publishers of the journal *Cell Stress & Chaperones* in the fall of 1995 at the urging of attendees at an international meeting in Japan earlier that year. By 1999, the CSSI had taken ownership of its journal, assuring its successful survival. Takashi Yura was appointed Asia-Australia Regional Editor, and all of his successors have been Japanese scientists, including our current regional editor, Kazuhiro Nagata. These appointments acknowledged the major contributions that Japanese scientists have made to the cellular stress response field and their scientific leadership, especially in greater Asia. The second event was the first World Congress of Stress, organized by Peter Csermely in Budapest in 1997. With an attendance twice the size of the largest previous meeting, the Budapest meeting demonstrated that there was great interest and enthusiasm from the global scientific community to support and attend international meetings in our field. The third event was a workshop entitled “Molecular Biology of Stress Responses”, held in Varanasi later in 1997, and organized by Subhash Lakotia (India) at the encouragement of Wolfgang Schumann (Germany). Workshop participants agreed on the value of continuing these workshops in developing countries with an emphasis on giving international students access to our field. By the second international workshop organized by Tangchun Wu and Robert M. Tanguay in Wuhan, P.R. China in 1999, the CSSI was a reality and the Wuhan workshop became the first event officially sponsored by the Society. With the sponsorship of the CSSI, the international workshops have continued with the third held in Mendoza, Argentina (Daniel Ciocca, organizer), the fourth in Wuhan, P.R. China (Tangchun Wu, organizer), the fifth in Concepción, Chile (Antonio De Maio, organizer), the sixth in Bangkok, Thailand (Wolfgang Schumann and , organizers). On a larger scale, the First CSSI International Congress (Quebec, 2003) was organized by Robert M. Tanguay. The Second CSSI International Congress (Tomar, Portugal, 2005) was organized by Claudina Rodriguez-Pousada, the third in Budapest (2007) by Peter Csermely as part of the Second World Congress of Stress, and the Fourth CSSI International Congress in Sapporo (2009), organized by Noriyuki Sato. It is clear by now that our colleagues in greater Asia have made essential contributions, but there are more. Three of our CSSI Presidents have been from Japan, Takashi Yura (2000), Kazuhiro Nagata (2004), and Noriyuki Sato (2008). The CSSI Medallion for career achievement has been awarded to Takashi Yura, Susan Lindquist, Aaron Ciechanover, John Ellis, and in Sapporo, to Costa Georgopoulos. The Alfred Tissières Young Investigator Award has gone to Anton Vila-Sanjojo, Ellen Nollen and in Sapporo, to Wanping Xu. I am not a visionary when I say that Asia is rising in Science and Technology. We see it in our field as well. Australia, represented on the CSAC Editorial Board by Robin Anderson and , along with India, represented on the Board by Subhash Lakhotia, have very active research programs. The Korean Cell Stress Society was formed recently by Donggeun Sul and colleagues with the plan to affiliate with the CSSI. Finally, the growth of papers published in CSAC from scientists of the P.R. China have increased dramatically. Currently China is represented on the Editorial Board by Tangchun Wu and we anticipate additional Chinese scientists will be added in the near future. No wonder we are celebrating our tenth anniversary in Japan!