

FOREWORD

The first issue of the Cancer Research Institute(CRI) Report, Kanazawa University(KU), 1970-1975, was published in March 1976 and thereafter it has been published every three years to exhibit our constant research activities. This present issue, the 1985-1987 Report, is the 5th issue and will undoubtedly contribute greatly to mutual academic exchanges for about 700 research institutes, including both intra- and inter-national organizations, in the same way that previous ones have done.

On looking back at the history of our Institute, we can recall the founding of our Institute in 1967 through the merger of Research Institute for Tuberculosis and Research Facilities for Cancer, Faculty of Medicine, KU. Therefore, the 20th commemoration of the founding of CRI was held on June 1, 1987, recalling the foresighted wisdom for cancer research of Dr. H. Okamoto, Emeritus Professor, KU, who guided the founding as the first Director of our Institute.

During the past 10 years, progress in cancer research has continued to create remarkable evidences in both basic and clinical fields. Through cycles of rapid, sometimes explosive growth, life sciences by which much research in oncology has been fundamentally supported are now in the midst of a creative boom whose future perspectives have yet to be realized. Originating from fundamental research in seemingly obscure areas such as plasmid and bacteriophage biology and hematopoietic cell genetics, recombinant DNA and hybridoma technologies have fueled the explosive progress in life sciences. Their new information, together with advances in computerized data analysis, has brought immeasurable promise to understanding and probing the functioning of living cells, including cancer cells. In addition, the practical application of previously scarce biologically active proteins, including oncogene's products and other reagents, those entities are now being identified by modern biotechnology, appears to promise undoubted success in their clinical availability for human cancer.

Concerning the biogenetical research field in this KU, it should be noted here that our Institute made valuable contributions to the founding of the Institute for Gene Research directly attached to KU in 1986 as a main promotor for planning and maintaining of its research activities. At the present time in March 1988 our CRI consists of 8 fundamental Departments (Molecular Biology, Virology, Molecular Immunology, Biophysics, Immunobiology, Pathophysiology, Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics) and 2 clinical Departments (Internal Medicine and Surgery) plus the attached Hospital with 2 medical clinics mainly for the treatment of digestive organ cancer. To reach more successful results, we must balance the necessity to be creative as individuals with the recognition that our goals will inevitably lead us in the direction of increasing interaction and collaboration. Such research philosophy for cancer would be required for progress toward significant new academic achievements with direct application to cancer control and for an inevitable association with future prosperity of our CRI, just as was formerly proven to be true by Dr. H. Okamoto's discovery of the well known immunopotentiator for cancer, OK-432.

Under these considerations, we should also be conscious of recent im-

portant strategy for cancer control proposed by the Japanese Government in 1983 which would extend over 10 year period, keeping our resolutions to ourselves. Our research and clinical achievements for these 3 years are shown in this Report later. CRI, KU is now the only medico-biological Institute that covers several life scientific fields, and has a close correlation to various natural scientific Faculties such as Medicine, Pharmaceutical Science, Science, Technology etc. in KU. We are now taking part in the responsibility of University management and also offering services for education or research programs of under- or post-graduate students in the above described Faculties, particularly Medicine. In addition to these, foreign scientists from China, Formosa, Korea, Thailand et al. are working diligently on cancer or immunobiological thema as valuable symbolization of international academic exchanges in our Institute.

The chronicles of CRI for the 3 years since our last issue, CRI Report 1982-1984, include the following. Academic seminars and meetings promoted by our CRI during this period are presented near the end of the Report. Changes in main research or clinical staff in our Institute must be mentioned first. In 1987, Professor M. Mai, M. D., chief of the Department of Surgery was reelected to the position of Director of the attached Hospital. Professor H. Yoshikawa, PhD., former chief of the Department of Biophysics resigned his position and was transferred to Osaka University in 1986. That position was filled by Dr. F. Harada from the National Cancer Center Research Institute, Tokyo. Also in 1986, Professor S. Koshimura, PhD., retired as chief of the Department of Experimental Therapeutics and Dr. T. Sasaki from the National Cancer Center Research Institute, Tokyo succeeded him in this position. In 1987, Professor Y. Kurata, M. D., also retired as chief of the Department of Pathophysiology and Dr. K. Yamamoto from the Department of Molecular Immunology, CRI, KU became his successor in that position. We are now cordially enjoying their participations as well qualified and reliable colleagues in their respective fields, and we anticipate their significant contribution to future developments of our Institute.

Finally, we must offer our heartiest thanks and appreciation to all those concerned in the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Japan and in other related organization for their deep understanding and help.

March, 1988

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Hatano". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Motoichi Hatano, M.D.
Director