

## ■ Sapporo Cancer Seminar Foundation

While we may rejoice at the advances in modern technology and the resources available to us, cancer continues to be humanity's major threat. It is therefore imperative that medical researchers find a solution to the problem of cancer.

Although research is being carried out in every part of the world, no ultimate solution has been found, or is even in sight. This makes it of the greatest urgency that medical specialists, wherever they are working, should have the opportunity to meet each other and discuss methods to combat, or prevent, the disease.

In 1979, Dr. Hiroshi Kobayashi, now Professor Emeritus of Hokkaido University, inspired by the academically liberal atmosphere of The Gordon Research Conferences, Santa Barbara, California, the USA, conceived the idea of the Sapporo Cancer Seminar (SCS) to provide greater opportunities for cancer researchers to share their knowledge in a relaxed but academic atmosphere. His proposal was encouraged by Dr. Takashi Sugimura, now President Emeritus of the National Cancer Center, Tokyo, and supported by Dr. Takeo Yamazaki, then President of the Hokkaido Medical Association, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan.

The first SCS was held in Sapporo in 1981, and in 1983 the SCS established itself as a foundation, with the warm support of businesses, pharmaceutical organizations, and the general public. Since 1987, it has been a twice-yearly event, in February and July. The International Symposium deals with basic aspects of cancer research, while the winter seminar, which is scheduled to coincide with Sapporo's Snow Festival, an internationally famous event, concentrates upon cancer-related clinical investigations.

The International Symposium consists of symposia, a poster session with general discussions and meetings. Reports are published in Cancer Research and other world journals.

The road to the conquering of cancer is likely to entail a long trek. The SCS aims to contribute its own small part to the advancement of medicine in its fight against this threat to human life.

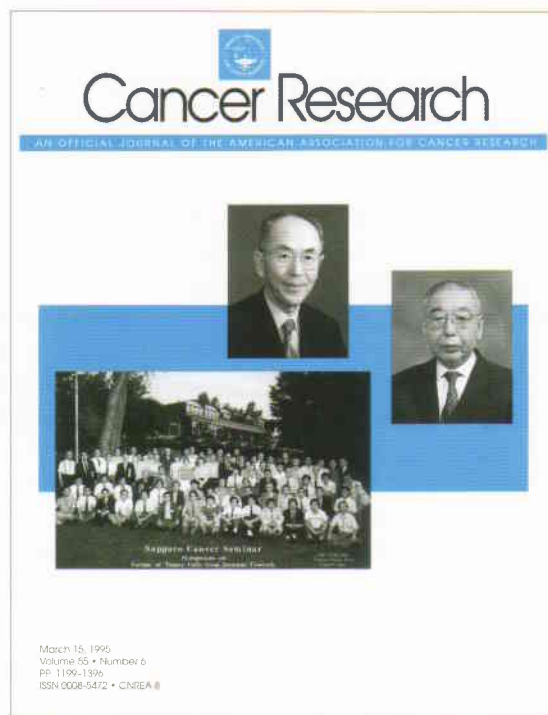
## ■ Main Projects

That the Sapporo Cancer Seminar should—

- 1) Host international conferences on cancer:  
international symposia in summer, national cancer seminars in winter
- 2) Establish connections with cancer-related institutions throughout the world, and act to collect and store academic information about cancer
- 3) Manage its affairs in an appropriate manner
- 4) Compile reports on the deliberations held at its symposia, and publish these in the appropriate journals



The First International Symposium on cancer held in the summer of 1981, its theme was Escape of Tumor Cells from Immune Controls



We are grateful to Cancer Research for permission to reprint this article, written by Sidney Weinhouse for Cancer Research as the cover story for Vol. 55, Number 6, March 1996.

The Sapporo Cancer Seminars are held annually in the city of Sapporo, Japan, Hokkaido's capital, near the beautiful campus of Hokkaido University. Hiroshi Kobayashi (*left*) inspired by the cooperative scholarly atmosphere that he observed during his attendance at a Gordon Cancer Conference in the late 1970s, initiated the Sapporo Cancer Seminars in 1981. They were modeled not only on the generous, sharing spirit of the Gordon Cancer Conferences, but also on the natural beauty of the conference site. The Gordon Cancer Conferences, which have been in existence for over a half-century, were originally held during the summer in New London, New Hampshire, on the campus of Colby College. Not only have they served cancer, but they have also been a prototype of conferences held in a variety of scientific disciplines, now spread throughout the world and throughout the year.

In organizing the Sapporo Cancer Seminar, Dr. Kobayashi was aided by the enthusiastic support of Takashi Sugimura, now President Emeritus of the National Cancer Center, Tokyo, and by Takeo Yamazaki (*right*), then President of the Hokkaido Medical Association. Their

## Brief history of the International Symposium on cancer

Date	Theme	Organizing Committee (*Chairperson)		Meeting Report / Publications	
<b>1st Symposium</b> July 15-18, 1981	Escape of Tumor Cells from Immune Controls	Baldwin Robert W. Klein George Tachibana Takehiko Kobayashi Hiroshi*	Hamaoka Toshiyuki Mihich Enrico Urushizaki Ichiro	Cancer Research 42: 1608-1609, 1982	
<b>2nd Symposium</b> July 14-17, 1982	Membrane-Associated Alterations in Cancer: Biochemical Strategies against Cancer	Warren Leonard Tsuki Shigeru	Fujii Setsuro Makita Akira*	Cancer Research 43: 2322-2323, 1983	Gann Monograph vol. 29, 1983(JCA)
<b>3rd Symposium</b> July 13-16, 1983	Biological Responses in Cancer Chemotherapy	Fefer Alexander Mihich Enrico Sakurai Yoshio*	Kobayashi Hiroshi Wada Takeo	Cancer Research 43: 6109-6112, 1983	Immuno-modulation by Anticancer Agents (Plenum Co., 1985)
<b>4th Symposium</b> Aug. 28-31, 1984	Viral Transforming Genes and Oncogenes: Origin, Structure, and Function	Rapp Fred Toyoshima Kumao Fujinaga Kei*	Vogt Peter K. Osato Toyoro	Cancer Research 45: 2392-2394, 1985	
<b>5th Symposium</b> July 10-13, 1985	Monoclonal Antibodies: Progress in Cancer Immunobiology and Clinical Application	Reisfeld Ralph A. Hashimoto Yoshiyuki Takanashi Toshitada	Greene Mark I. Kikuchi Kokichi Yachi Akira*	Cancer Research 46: 2193-2196, 1986	
<b>6th Symposium</b> July 1-4, 1986	Viruses, Immunodeficiency, and Human Cancer	Purtilo David T. Toyoshima Kumao Osato Toyoro*	Kobayashi Hiroshi Miwa Masanao	Cancer Research 47: 918-921, 1987	AIDS Research vol. 2 Suppl. 1, 1986
<b>7th Symposium</b> July 8-11, 1987	Primary & Secondary Prevention of Cancer	Morrison Alan S. Kobayashi Hiroshi Saito Kazuo Aoki Kunio*	Hakama Matti Miyake Hirotsugu Tamura Ko-ichi	Cancer Research 48: 4434-4436, 1988	
<b>8th Symposium</b> July 6-9, 1988	Cancer Progression & Metastasis	Fidler I. Josh Suemasu Keiichi Tarin David Urushizaki Ichiro Kobayashi Hiroshi*	Kerbel Robert S. Tachibana Takehiko Tsubura Eiro Yokoro Kenjiro	Cancer Research 48: 4434-4436, 1988	Invasion & Metastasis vol. 9 No. 2 1989
<b>9th Symposium</b> July 5-7, 1989	Cell Differentiation and Cancer Control	Bloch Alexander Koefler H. Philip Saito Masaki Takaku Fumimaro Hozumi Motoo*	Kobayashi Hiroshi Pierce G. Barry Tarin David Takeichi Noritoshi	Cancer Research 50: 1346-1350, 1990	
<b>10th Symposium</b> July 6, 1990	Recent topics in Cancer Research	Ohsato Toyoro Makita Akira	Kuzumaki Noboru Kobayashi Hiroshi*	Cancer Research 51: 745-747, 1991	
<b>11th Symposium</b> July 10-12, 1991	Molecules in Carcinogenic Processes	Harlow Edward Nishimura Susumu Osato Toyoro	Ikawa Yoji* Noda Makoto	Cancer Research 52: 2362-2366, 1992	
<b>12th Symposium</b> July 14-16, 1992	Oxyradicals and Antioxidative Responses in Cancer	Taniguchi Naoyuki* Pickett Cecil B.	Nishimura Susumu Griffith Owen W.	Cancer Research 53: 1-4, 1993	
<b>13th Symposium</b> July 6-9, 1993	Current Strategies of Cancer Chemoprevention	Wattenberg Lee W. Kelloff Gary Fujiki Hirota*	Boone Charles W. Kobayashi Hiroshi	Cancer Research 54: 3315-3318, 1994	
<b>14th Symposium</b> July 6-9, 1994	Genetic Polymorphism and Cancer Susceptibility	Gonzalez Frank J. Kadlubar Fred F. Fujii-Kuriyama Yoshiaki Watanabe Minro*	Guengerich F. Peter Kato Ryuichi Kamatani Tetsuya	Cancer Research 55: 710-715, 1995	
<b>15th Symposium</b> July 5-8, 1995	Psycho-Neuro-immunology and Cancer	Besedovsky Hugo O. Uchida Atsushi Herberman Ronald B. Zaker Kurt S.	Ozawa Nakaaki Azuma Ichiro Spielberger Charles D. Sendo Fujiro*	Cancer Research 56: 4278-4281, 1996	Discussions on Future Directions in Psycho-neuroimmunology and cancer (Nishimura / Smith-Gordon)

prestige was influential in raising funds and attracting scholars to participate.

The Sapporo Cancer Seminars fill a special niche in cancer research. The intimate size of the meetings and their cooperative format foster a spirit of communication on a personal level that is often precluded by large scientific conferences. The first conference had, among other participants, Margaret Kripke, Isaiah Fidler, and Enrico Mihich, each of whom later became President of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR). A group photograph of the participants at the first symposium is featured on this cover. From the beginning, the conferences have involved investigators from different countries, a continuing practice that gives the seminar an international flavor and demonstrates how international cooperation can stimulate research and increase the likelihood of discovering effective therapies.

The subject of the first meeting in 1981 reflected Dr. Kobayashi's interest in the escape of tumor cells from immune control. The second seminar was devoted to accounts of the range and degrees of biochemical change that occurs during the growth and differentiation of

malignancy. The success of the first two meetings brought about the establishment of the seminar as a permanent annual event, which is organized by an official body and supported in large part by businesses and the pharmaceutical industry. The third meeting concentrated upon the body's biological responses to cancer chemotherapy. Subsequent conferences have covered a wide range of contemporary issues, such as viral transforming genes; the mechanisms by which monoclonal antibodies affect progress in cell biology; the action of cytokines; and the site-specific mechanisms of drug delivery. A special emphasis on metastasis, a major cause of cancer mortality, reflects a focus on that area of cancer research at the Hokkaido University School of Medicine.

The sixth meeting, in 1987, marked the beginning of two conferences each year. In the summer, fundamental cancer research is featured, and in the winter, clinical topics. The topics of the summer conference held in July, 1994, the Fourteenth Sapporo Cancer Seminar, focused on genetic polymorphism and cancer susceptibility. The Ninth Winter Seminar held in February, 1995, centered on adenocarcinoma of the lung.

The AACR and the Sapporo Foundation have long had cooperative ties. Meeting reports on the Sapporo Cancer Seminars, carrying timely information, are published annually in the AACR's journal *Cancer Research*, while the Sapporo Foundation has supported AACR programs through regular annual contributions.

Although Dr. Kobayashi has retired from his Chair in Pathology at Hokkaido University, he continues to direct the Sapporo Cancer Seminars and the supporting foundations. After the long winters of Hokkaido, the rejuvenation of spring there symbolizes to Dr. Kobayashi the open-handed and open-hearted spirit which he found in New Hampshire. He believes that this generous sharing of knowledge, emulated and fostered in Sapporo, will help to eventually reach the elusive goal of cancer control.

We are indebted to Dr. Kobayashi for his unstinting interest in and dedication to the AACR's international programs, and for supplying the information and photographs for this cover feature.

Sidney Weinhouse

Date	Theme	Organizing Committee (*Chairperson)	Meeting Report / Publications
<b>16th Symposium</b> July 3-5, 1996	Molecular Mechanisms for Inflammation-promoted Pathogenesis of Cancer	Hosokawa Masuo* Kobayashi Hiroshi Ohshima Hiroshi Sendo Fujiro	Kerbel Robert S. Maeda Hiroshi Parsonnet Julie  <i>Cancer Research</i> 57: 3620-3624, 1997
<b>17th Symposium</b> July 8-10, 1997	Cytoskeleton and G proteins in the Regulation of Cancer	Kuzumaki Noboru* Ben-Ze'ev Avri Takai Yoshimi Mori Michio	Stossel Thomas P. Maruta Hiroshi Tsukita Shoichiro  <i>Hokkaido University Medical Library Series vol.37, 1998</i>
<b>18th Symposium</b> July 7-9, 1998	Regulation of Machinery for Cancer Cell Growth, Immortality, Apoptosis and Invasion	Niitsu Yoshiro* Derynck Rik Yuan Junying	Taniguchi Naoyuki Seiki Motoharu Nagata Shigekazu  <i>Jpn.J.Cancer Res.</i> 90:1273-1276, 1999
<b>19th Symposium</b> July 7-9, 1999	Cancer Genomics and Molecular Diagnosis	Nakamura Yusuke* Kallioniemi Olli-P Perucho Manuel Ponder Bruce	Noda Tetsuo Ohki Misao Tokino Takashi
<b>20th Symposium</b> July 5-7, 2000	Gene-Environment Interaction and Cancer Prevention	Fraumeni Joseph F. Kitagawa Tomoyuki Hiroshi Kobayashi*	Mihich Enrico Tominaga Suketami  <i>Cancer Research</i> 61: 2788-2792, 2001
<b>21st Symposium</b> July 4-6, 2001	Epstein-Barr Virus and Human Cancer	Kieff Elliott Sugden Bill	Takada Kenzo*  <i>Jpn.J.Cancer Res.</i> 92:1352-1354, 2001
<b>22nd Symposium</b> August 3, 2002	Cancer Epigenetics	J. Issa Jean-Pierre Nakatani Yoshihiro	Kobayashi Hiroshi Imai Kohzoh*
<b>23rd Symposium</b> July 31-August 1, 2003	Immunology-based Targeting Therapy	Carbone David P. Reisfeld Ralph A.	Imai Kohzoh* Takahashi Toshitada
<b>24th Symposium</b> June 20-22, 2004	Pharmacogenomics in Cancer Chemotherapy: Recent Advances in ABC Transporters and Genome Analyses	Ishikawa Toshihisa* Sugimoto Yoshikazu Kamataki Tetsuya	Borst Piet Gottesman Michael M. Ling Victor  <i>Journal of Experimental Therapeutics and Oncology, vol. 4, 253-257</i>  <i>がん分子標的治療 vol.2, No.4, p.79-81</i>
<b>25th Symposium</b> August 2-4, 2005	Toward Personalized Medicine in Cancer and other Life-style Related Diseases	Sendo Fujiro* Kawata Sumio Nakamura Yusuke Muramatsu Masaaki Matsushima Kouji	Cotton Richard Tsuruo Takashi Ratain Mark J. Kato Takeo Kubota Isao
<b>26th Symposium</b> July 22-23, 2006	Innate Immunity in Cancer and Infectious Diseases	Seya Tsukasa* Sawa Hirofumi Ayabe Tokiyoshi	Cattaneo Roberto Matsumoto Misako  <i>Cancer Science, Dec.2006,97(12), 1424-1427</i>
<b>27th Symposium</b> July 12-13, 2007	Glycomics; New Perspectives in Cancer Cell Behavior	Taniguchi Naoyuki* Hakomori Sen-ichiroh Hollingsworth Michael A.	Narimatsu Hisashi Irimura Tatsuhiro Kannagi Reiji  <i>Proteomics 2008, 8, 3205-3208</i>
<b>28th Symposium</b> June 26-27, 2008	TGF- $\beta$ signaling and cancer	Miyazono Kohei* Derynck Rik Kato Mitsuyasu Itoh Susumu Imamura Takeshi Ishisaki Akira	Miyazawa Keiji Saitoh Masao Watabe Tetsuro Kano Mitsunobu Ehata Shogo  <i>Cancer Science, Feb 2009, vol. 100 no. 2, 363-365</i>
<b>29th Symposium</b> July 13-14, 2009	Helicobacter pylori and Gastric Cancer	Hatakeyama Masanori* Asaka Masahiro Tatematsu Masae Higashi Hideaki	Azuma Takeshi Chiba Tsutomu Kamiya Naoko