

Preface

It is my great honor and pleasure to have the opportunity of serving as Chairman of the Eighth International Congress of Biorheology. I wish to dedicate this International Congress respectfully to the late Dr. Syoten Oka, Dr. Leopold Dintenfuss and Dr. Alfred L. Copley. These famous scientists were literally the initiators of biorheology and made great contributions to its development. Now, as biorheology is about to blossom as the nucleus of life science in the twenty-first century, we feel deep sorrow that we have lost such greatly respected scientists in the last three years. This is a great loss for biorheology. We would like to do our best for the development of biorheology in memory of these three illustrious scientists.

While they were still with us, they made great efforts in helping us to open the Eighth International Congress of Biorheology in Yokohama, Japan. I feel very sad that it is not possible to meet them in Yokohama this time. We hope they look favorably upon us as we hold this congress.

We have taken up the subject "The Contribution of Biorheology to Medical Science and Art, with Special Reference to Clinical Medicine in the Future" as the main theme, which we hopefully will set the stage for the specific character of this Congress. I am very glad that this aim has been firmly upheld by the efforts of the program committee. Five subjects for the plenary lectures and 16 subjects for the symposia have been selected at the same time the committee has been very successful in its timely organization of the program. It has also become possible for over 300 general papers to be presented including oral and poster sessions at this Congress. To encourage young researchers in their studies, we have promoted their applications this time by setting up the Travel Award and the "Oka Memorial Award". I hope that their participation will contribute to the development of biorheology.

I hope that this Congress will be successful through the presentation of your latest results and the active exchange of ideas.

The area surrounding this International Congress at Pacifico Yokohama is about to transform and develop into a new coastal city next to Metropolitan Tokyo. However, while becoming a modern urban area, Yokohama has maintained the streets reminiscent of bygone days when civilization and enlightenment were brought to Japan more than one hundred years ago. I hope that you will observe and enjoy the culture of Japan, a mixture of these new and old elements.

I ask the Authors, those giving Plenary Lectures as well as those at each symposium, to submit their articles without delay for inclusion in the Congress Proceedings, to be published in Biorheology or Clinical Hemorheology.

My greetings to the participants of the Eighth International Congress of Biorheology and best wishes for the success of this Congress!

Yukihide Isogai
Chairman of the Eighth International
Congress of Biorheology