

Preface

The Second International Symposium on Bioorganic Chemistry (2nd ISBOC) was organized as the continuation of the symposium started in 1985 in New York City by Ronald Breslow, Koji Nakanishi, and the late E. T. Kaiser. The object of the first symposium was to unify various research areas related to bioorganic chemistry so that most bioorganic chemists can understand the entire range of subjects. The first symposium was organized under the sponsorship of the New York Academy of Sciences and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), and covered three major subjects, mimetics of biological systems, chemistry of natural products of biological importance, and chemistry of biological macromolecules, with 22 invited lectures and several poster presentations (ref. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, Volume 471, 1986).

The 2nd ISBOC was organized under the sponsorship of the Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) and IUPAC in collaboration with the Division of Biofunctional Chemistry of CSJ, and held in conjunction with the 8th Annual Symposium on Biofunctional Chemistry of Japan. During a relatively long intermission, the research interest in the field of bioorganic chemistry has been extremely activated and expanded quite rapidly to cover wide areas including interdisciplinary fields. Under such circumstances, we have selected six major topics for presentations: (1) enzyme functions and modelings; (2) biological and artificial receptors; (3) biosynthetic pathways and biologically active materials; (4) organic chemistry aspects of genetic engineering; (5) biopolymers and artificial supramolecular assemblies; (6) simulation of biochemical processes. These topics were covered by 5 plenary lectures, 31 invited lectures, 127 short talks, and 200 posters. More than 500 participants attended this meeting from 23 countries.

The 2nd ISBOC was commenced on June 6 with three addresses by distinguished scholars: Professor H. A. Staab, Vice-President of IUPAC; Professor Y. Nishijima, President of CSJ; Professor K. Wada, President of Kyushu University. To conclude the opening ceremony, Professor N. J. Leonard, President of the Organic Chemistry Division of IUPAC, delivered a lecture entitled "Bioorganic Chemistry – A Scientific Endeavour in Continuous Transition".

The present ISBOC was supported financially by many Japanese pharmaceutical and chemical industries as well as science and technological foundations throughout the country. Without their financial aids, the Organizing Committee could not carry out successful performance. On behalf of the Committee, I deeply appreciate their help.

Yukito Murakami Chairman of 2nd ISBOC