

## ***In Memoriam:***

***Honorary Member Yoichi Konishi, M.D., Ph.D., 1935–2012***



*It is really regret that Dr. Yoichi Konishi, Honorary Member of the Japanese Society of Toxicologic Pathology (JSTP) and Professor Emeritus of the Nara Medical University, passed away at the age of 77 years old, on December 21, 2012. He died so suddenly without any omens that everyone had nothing to do but was just surprised. Such a dramatic end well fits Dr. Konishi's life, and I wish him to enjoy an eternal peace that finally he received.*

*Dr. Konishi graduated Nara Medical University in 1963, obtained the M.D. license in 1964, and was enrolled in the Pathology Course of the Postgraduate School of Medicine, the Nara Medical University, where he met his mentor, Dr. Nobuyuki Ito (Honorary Member of JSTP) and*

*devoted himself to his studies in toxicologic and carcinogenic pathology. Dr. Konishi then obtained the Ph.D. degree in 1968 and worked in the Fels Institute, the Temple University (U.S.A.), where he met another mentor, Dr. Emanuel Farber. Dr. Konishi always told us that the knowledge and experience obtained in this period became the basis of his lifework, the research on carcinogenesis in the pancreas, lung and liver. After coming back to Japan, Dr. Konishi assumed the post of the assistant professor of the Department of Oncological Pathology, the Nara Medical University in 1974, and professor of the department in 1981. Dr. Konishi built a wide network of personal relationship with numerous domestic and foreign researchers during his vigorous research career, which he lavishly used to educate and promote his staffs and students.*

*Dr. Konishi pushed ahead with his researches in toxicologic and carcinogenic pathology and obtained a high evaluation by their epoch-making results. Especially, the research on the experimental pancreatic carcinogenesis and its control was the one that gave Dr. Konishi a worldwide recognition, and for which the Princess Takamatsu Cancer Research Fund Prize was awarded*

*Dr. Konishi was very active in scientific societies, played roles of their officers and organized the 44th Annual Fall Meeting of the Japanese Society of Pathology and the Nara Satellite Meeting of the 8th International Conference of Environmental Mutagens. Among these, Dr. Konishi recognized JSTP as the most important organization for him. Dr. Konishi participated in the founding of JSTP, played its director and councilor for a long time, finally becoming its honorary member, and organized the 8th Annual Meeting in 1992. In addition, Dr. Konishi was deeply involved in the founding of the International Federation of Toxicologic Pathologists (IFSTP), played a role of its president and organized the 5th Triennial Meeting in conjunction with the 20th Annual Meeting of JSTP organized by Dr. Shoji Fukushima in 2004. Furthermore, Dr. Konishi was also deeply involved in the founding of the International Academy of Toxicologic Pathology and played a role of a regional director for Asia. This enthusiasm for JSTP and its related organizations came from Dr. Konishi's love to the toxicologic pathology, and he not only conducted researches on toxicologic pathology with his staffs, but also largely contributed to the promotion of the toxicologic pathology and its researchers, as well as the education of young toxicologic pathologists. People in this field must remember that Dr. Konishi organized the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) International Toxicologic Pathology Seminar for 17 years, which I firmly believe one of the most excellent accomplishments of Dr. Konishi.*

*The contribution of Dr. Konishi to the life sciences was really great. I believe that Dr. Konishi's achievement and thought are inherited by researchers in toxicologic and carcinogenic pathology and live eternally. I thank what Dr. Konishi gave me and grieve over his decease.*

*Dai Nakae, M.D., Ph.D.*

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