



Newsletter

No.33 June 2016



At MIF office garden September 6, 2015

Correspondences from MIF Fellows in the World

(Editorial responsibility: MIF)

Dr. Iya Igorevna
TASHLYKOVA-BUSHKEVICH
(Belarus/2008-14)
May 29, 2015

Thank you very much for the Proceedings of your 35th Anniversary Symposium which I got this week. The piece of Proceedings is excellent and provides a deep understanding of Foundation's background, scopes and activities. Again, congratulations to you on 35th Anniversary of the Matsumae International Foundation!

As for me, I would like to express my gratitude to the Foundation for the Fellowship (G. No. 08G11) for beneficial opportunities to start an innovative research together with Japanese colleagues in a field of

hydrogen Material Science for highly efficient use of energy and resources. The research overseas in Japan afforded me abundant career prospects in my native country. Moreover, you gave me a unique chance to learn a lot about Japan and its people - a big treasure of your country.

I am glad to write to you that I continue my investigations aimed to control hydrogen embrittlement in advanced aluminium alloys developed for automotive and aerospace sectors. In fact, both in Japan and Belarus, hydrogen is considered as one of the alternative renewable sources of energy to enable energy security of countries depending on fossil resources not available in their homelands. Now, the background

of my research includes a Matsumae International Foundation's Fellowship (Ibaraki University, Japan, 2008), 2 projects at the Elettra Synchrotron Light Source (Trieste, Italy, 2012 and 2014) and a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science' Fellowship (Osaka University, Japan, 2013).

Moreover, you know, as an Associate Professor, I teach IT-students general physics at the University (BSUIR). From my experience as a researcher and a teacher, I wrote two textbooks on general Physics based on my lectures.
My very best regards,

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Dr. Victoria Omolara Enobong
AKPAMBANG
(Nigeria/2014-05)
June 2, 2015

I wish to say a very big thank to you and the entire staff of MIF, for remembering me and sending two big postages to me. It was nice reading the lectures presented by eminent MIF fellows at the 35th anniversary symposium of the Matsumae International Foundation. Those lectures really encouraged me.

The MIF fellowship directory is also a good tool for enhancing inter-relational activities within the MIF family.

I remain ever grateful to the MIF for opening her arms to usher me into a new culture, a bigger research opportunity and a whole lot of new relationships.

I wish MIF greater strides in the future. Thank you.

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Dr. Zhijun SONG
(P.R. of China/1989-21)
June 19, 2015

What a surprise that you wrote me! How are you doing my old friend! I can never forget my time in Japan under support of MIF.

I am doing fine in Denmark. I got my Ph.D. at University of Copenhagen and did my postdoctoral at Florida International University in Miami and then came back to Denmark. I got my doctor license in Denmark and became specialist in Clinical Microbiology two years ago. My wife is also doctor and Ph.D. and my son is now working at Novo Nordics, a company producing insulin. He graduated from University of Copenhagen.

If you travel to Denmark, please let me know. I hope to see you again and get a chance to function as a host. Have a nice weekend!

Best regards,

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Dr. Jose Joaquin RODES ROCA
(Spain/2014-14)
July 30, 2015

Kon nich i wa / Kon ban wa.

I wish all of you are well. The MIF fellowship has been the best experience I can remember. Thank you very much / Arigato gozaimasu.

Reading your Newsletter No.32 June 2015 and seeing the photographs I felt extremely happy. It was a big honour to share three months in Japan and I knew exceptional MIF fellowship people.

This fellowship opened up doors and I also thanks the entire MAXI team (Monitor All-sky X-ray Image) for the collaboration and hospitality, specially to Dr. Mihara-san and Professor Makishima-sensei. MIF meetings changed the way I look at the Earth and people around the world.

I am writing this letter just to tell you our successful collaboration RIKEN-UA sending our paper with our results of the MIF fellowship to be published in Astronomy and Astrophysics (A&A). Please find enclosed a preprint and a poster we presented at the EWASS conference in June in Tenerife, Spain. On the other hand, it is also a pleasure to tell you that the University of Alicante has invited Dr. Mihara-san to spend 10 days for working together in new projects. I will probably come back to Japan on January 2016, but I am not sure yet.

Arigato gozaimasu to share with us the beautiful sakura MIF garden.

I hope to meet you again.

Sincerely yours,

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**Souvenir from Bhutan by
Dr. Om Nath KATEL**



Souvenir from United Kingdom by
Dr. Simon Robert HALL

Mr. Dinesh B. MALLA
(Nepal/1991-17)
August 7, 2015

Greetings from Nepal,

It has been some 23 years since I had the privilege and honor to undertake and share the research works in ground water engineering in Kyushu Tokai University in Kumamoto under the guidance of Prof. Hoshida. Without the support of Matsumae International Foundation this could not have been possible. The research entitled "Analysis of Aquifer Systems" has enhanced the understanding and knowledge of ground water in my work in development works in Nepal and other countries. I appreciate the support the foundation provided me in this regard.

Presently I am working in Lesotho, a tiny mountain kingdom surrounded by South Africa, as a Project Manager in the construction of rural water supply and sanitation using ground water. Till today the research has been instrumental for me in carrying out my work.

I am very grateful to MIF for sending the newsletter with updates on the activities and I am overjoyed to receive it regularly.

I would like to invite all of you to visit Kathmandu and stay with me.

With regards,

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Dr. Djillali BENOUAR
(Algeria/1989-09)
August 26, 2015



Souvenir from Peru by
Mr. Luis ESPINOZA BONILLA

It is a great pleasure for me reading you. First of all I apologize for not writing you earlier about my career and how my fellowship to MIF (1989) has impacted it.

By this letter, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and great gratitude to MIF for the opportunity they gave me to visit Japan and to learn how to conduct research work. In 1989, when

I visited Japan I had a Master Degree and with Prof. Eiji Yanagisawa from Tohoku University for 5 months I have learned how to get initiated for a research work and I like it very much. As Algeria is a prone earthquake disaster country I have worked on Liquefaction assessment in North East Japan (Miyagi Prefecture) and since then, which I consider my starting point in scientific research, I have continued until present working in research in earthquake engineering and engineering seismology fields.

I would like to inform you that in June 2015, I have been selected (by scientific work) by an international jury as a Founding Member of the Academy of Sciences and Technologies of Algeria (ASTA). You may see the list of founding members at the following website: www.asta.dz

The ASTA was only established in March 2015.

In the next opportunity in visiting Japan, I will for sure pay a visit to MIF.

Would you please my curriculum vitae for your information and records. Thank you very much again.

Respectfully,

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Dr. Getachew HAILU
(Ethiopia/1994-17)
September 3, 2015

How are you and your family doing? How are MIF and MIF colleagues coping with? Even though I haven't written to MIF for a long time, I keep myself updated about MIF with the newsletter, which I am still receiving annually.

It's strange that some life experience stood separate from all the other. The reason I say this is; I was the 1994-17 MIF fellow and it has been over 20 years since then. But my experience is still vivid and fresh –so much so that it seems it had happened only a year ago. By experience I mean the: (1) warm welcome

I received by a young lady on arrival at Narita; (2) official welcome and get-together party at MIF office; (3) numerous study-tours organized to acquaint us with historical, cultural, and spiritual places; (4) unfailing courtesy of the MIF guest house superintendents and Hadano city officials; (5) friendly reception and professional support of the host professor; (6) special arrangement made by the host professors so that I can visit other research institutes, and (7) cordial welcome and generous hospitality I received at MIF official (Shuichi Nakajima), host professor (Ryosuke Masuda) and Japanese friend (Takayuki Sato) private residences.

While I was in Kiel, Germany, Prof. Masuda and Takayuki Sato san had visited me - each at different time. I had had a very enjoyable time with them. We have: toured both the coastal line and the hinterland of Kiel with bicycles; took a ferry to Langeland; and visited the historical city Luebeck. I was in Santa Clara, California from (2002-2012). Here too, I had the opportunity to meet twice with Takayuki San. This was not, however, an arranged personal visit. He came to California for a conference and we met for a few hours before his conference. In 2013, Prof. Masuda had come to California for a Robotics conference. Unfortunately, I was out of the city and had missed to meet him.

I also thank you for sending me regularly the newsletter, which will keep me abreast of MIF's current affairs and activities. Finally, I extend my best wish for MIF family, good and enjoyable health and all success in fulfilling the mission of MIF. As in the past, MIF will continue to be the heartland, where peace and friendship among nations is promoted!

Sincerely yours,

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Dr. Christian ZAFIU
(Austria/2014-18)
September 20, 2015

Last week Griselda Magana Valdez was visiting Europe. To be more precise she visited Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. As I'm still in contact with some of my MIF fellows, she wrote me an email and we decided to visit together Remy Teponno, who is currently in Dortmund. I attached you the pictures to this mail. We went for a german lunch and talked a lot about our time in Japan and how our life is continuing all around the world after MIF. During these discussions we came to the same point over and over again: Being in Japan has been an important experience in our life and we enjoyed it a lot. MIF was treating us exceptional well!

I think I can honestly say this in the name of all MIF fellows: We really like you guys and you do a great job. We all hope to come back to Japan and to visit you at MIF office again!

Sincerely,

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Souvenir from Russia by
Dr. Tatiana Alexandrovna BARSUKOVA

Dr. Md Abdus SALAM
(Bangladesh/2013-06)
September 21, 2015

Hope this mail will find you in good health and working mood. I'm doing fine. I always remember you all after my return and I received all your mails. Thanks for remembering me as MIF fellow. We are going to celebrate Edul Adha on Friday 26th of this month the 2nd largest festival of Muslim community. On eve of the occasion I like to send my gratitude to all the MIF staffs and Fellows. Please accept my EID Greetings.

Sincerely Yours,

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Dr. John CASSIDY
(Ireland/1988-13)
September 30, 2015

Many thanks for your wishes. I am busily teaching in the Dublin Institute of Technology, where I have worked since my visit to Japan. I have very fond memories and still correspond with Professor Tokuda, My life is busy but fulfilled. I hope all is well with yourself and members of MIF.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Palikone THALONGSENGCHANH
(Laos/2005-02)
October 5, 2015

The first I would like to thank you very much again for kind sending the Newsletter No.32 June 2015 to me, my name is Palikone THALONGSENGCHANH who was obtained the MIF Fellowship for visiting professor in Japan at Kyoto University 2005 and for the Postdoctoral fellowship in year 2008. So I never forget all thing during my stay in Japan two times, I and my family are fine and very happy with our life in Lao PDR, and also we got one more Kid (Son) after back home from Japan, now he is Seven old years, we call given his nickname by Japanese name as Nihongko ! (Mr. Anouluck), he study in the 3rd class prime school, we do hope our children's (Daughter and Son) will be come to visit and study in Japan in the future. The Government just has appointment and sent me come to work in the new Office and new position (The National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute, under Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) We always are keeping in the memory for the next grandchildren ... !!!

Best regards,

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Dr. Saliu Alao AMOLEGBE
(Nigeria/2013-05)
November 13, 2015

I am highly delighted to extend my heartfelt greetings to the foundation and being grateful to be one of recipients 2013 MIF Research Fellowship. What a nice country and people of good character and culture is Japan and the Japanese. My visit to Kyoto, Nara and Hiroshima gave during our Study Tour showed a clear core of Japanese way of life from time immemorial as ancient cities which are found fascinating and memorial! Japanese attitude to foreigners is very hospitable, kind and interesting while the clean environment born out of cleanliness culture of Japanese is second to none and highly appreciated.

Therefore accept my warm CONGRATULATIONS for your excellent mission towards lasting world peace and research advancement.

I was luck again to be awarded Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Postdoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Researchers, immediately after completion of the MIF fellowship for 2 years and I could see more beauties and scientific discoveries from Japan day by day.

Once again, it is my deep pleasure to express my unreserved gratitude to MIF for the fellowship and by extension MIF staff for their wonderful immeasurable support that make the stay so blissful. Indeed, I have benefited through the MIF fellowship.

I hope in future I can visit Japan to contribute as an alumnus of MIF.

Thank you very much.

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Dr. Malyn UNGSURUNGSIE
(CHULASIRI)
(Thailand/1990-02)
December 14, 2015

How are you? Miss you all so much.
This year, it seems to be a good

year for me as I organized two successful international conferences. One is "Bioresources towards World Class Products" and the second one that was just finished is "SFRR-Asia 2015".

Besides, I received two outstanding awards. The first one is "Outstanding Industrial Pharmacist" award from Thai Industrial Pharmacist Association and the second one is "Outstanding Pharmacist" award from Pharmaceutical Association of Thailand. It seems to repeat the year 2011 that I received a number of awards from overseas including "Leading Scientist of the World 2011" in the area of Pharmaceutical Sciences from International Biographical Centre, England, Hall of Fame for Distinguished Accomplishments in Pharmacy" from American Biographical Center, USA and "R & D Application Award" from Cosmetics & Toiletries of USA but the award was received in Italy.

How is it? Ha! Ha! Ha! Actually, all my accomplishments, I have to confess that partly is from my MIF fellowship experiences in Japan. Why? I know how to work hard and play hard too to balance the life in working and relaxing. The knowledge from my research in University of Tokyo has provided me to know how to perform the successful research, and the enjoyable moments arranged by MIF for two wonderful trips with your and your colleague's meaningful supports as well as by Professors and colleagues in U of Tokyo for the relaxing hours have provided me know how to drinks and sing karaoke (first experience in life) to release stress after working.

Actually, I want to have the chance to be back to remind the good oldies. If MIF still has the activity to let the former fellows to reunion or participate, I am willing to join and pay. Hope you will inform me if there is. Let me thank you in the advancement. Best regards,

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Souvenir from Croatia by Dr. Mirela KOPJAR



Souvenir from Poland by Dr. Przemyslaw Piotr GORECKI



Souvenir from Argentine by Dr. Maria Emilia CROCE

Dr. Mirela KOPJAR
(Croatia/2015-02)
December 23, 2015

I wish you and your families all the best for the holidays, lots of joy and happiness. Also, I wish you healthy, fruitful and successful New year full of love, prosperity, joy and peace.

In following year, my wish for MIF is many new researchers from all over the world.

Visiting Japan, even for a short time, they will learn more about Japanese culture, tradition and everyday life. Also, at their institutions they will connect with Japanese researchers gaining new friends as well as new knowledge and prospective followed by broadening of horizons in their field of science. All of that are making us better persons so I hope that new fellows will have great time in Japan like the one I had.

Best regards to all of you.

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Dr. Ivo BUKOVSKY
(Czech Republic/2009-06)
December 26, 2015

How are you doing?

Thank you again very much for sending me the beautiful seasonal and the new-year-wish MIF card, and also a very special thanks for the beautiful golden MIF fellowship card, it is a really very pleasant gift from the MIF.

I am very happy the MIF is doing great, and I am very proud to be the MIF fellow also because the MIF has been continually showing its superiority also in the way it takes such an excellent care about their new as well as more recent fellows.

I would like to also let you know, that our friendship and collaboration with my Japanese colleagues from Tohoku University is still vital.

For example, two months ago, we had visit of my three Japanese col-

leagues here in Prague during our biomedical workshop, and we also organized small event for students.

Please let also me to wish you and the MIF very successful year 2016, all best and good health to all MIF officers and fellows.

Sincerely and cheers,

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Dr. Dahlia del Castillo APODACA
(Philippines/2014-19)
December 27, 2015

How are you? I hope everyone at MIF is doing well!

I would just like to extend my warmest season's greetings to each and everyone making up MIF.

A year has passed since I came back from a fruitful and memorable postdoctoral stint in Tokyo, generously sponsored by MIF, but it seems like yesterday. I will always be forever grateful to you and the rest of MIF staff for that wonderful chance you had given me.

As we look forward to the coming new year, I wish you all the best on your endeavors especially those that touch the lives of young scientists from all over the world. I pray that you will be continuously given the blessings of being the platform/core for these scientists to meet and to converge leading to the common goal of mutual understanding and peace, in accordance with Dr. Matsumae's vision.

Cheers to another wonderful new year and beyond!

With best regards,

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Dr. Arun KUMAR
(India/1989-02)
December 27, 2015

I would like to send my greetings and warmest wishes for the New Year (2016) to all the staff of The Matsumae International Foundation and the MIF fellows all over the world.

I was a MIF fellow from India in 1989 and worked with Prof. K. Takahashi of Nagasaki University. It has been long time since then but my memories of Japan are very fresh. The vivid images and extraordinarily rich experience of the study tour along with MIF fellows and staff will last forever in my mind. Constant supply of annual Newsletters and publications listing all the MIF fellows along with their photographs helped me to remember my days in Japan.

After returning from Japan I worked as a geologist with Oil & Natural Gas Corporation of India. In 1996 I joined Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada as a research associate. Later I also worked as an exploration geologist for various oil companies in the Middle East and North Africa. I also continued teaching and research at various universities. I have published extensively on my researches on various topics in Earth and Environmental Sciences. Recently I along with a colleague edited a special issue on Paleotsunami which contains articles by experts with examples from different parts of the world. Since tsunamis are a major threat to the world especially to Japan I would like to present this work at MIF Anniversary Symposium in future.

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Dr. Amir Reza ZARRATI
(Iran/1999-10)
December 28, 2015

I am a MIF fellow coming to Japan in 1999. I did my studies in University of Tokyo. After these many years I do

not forget my good memories from Japanese people and this beautiful country. I always wish to find another opportunity to visit Japan and University of Tokyo. I would like here to thank again the founders of MIF for providing such a valuable opportunity for me. My sabbatical in Japan was full of scientific and life experience.

In the beginning of the new year I would like to wish happiness and peace for all people around the world. Though the condition in the world is not good and many people are suffering from war and famine, let us pray for more understanding and cooperation among all nations for a better world.

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Dr. Margarita MILANOVA
(Bulgaria/2014-07)
January 6, 2016

It is Margarita writing. I hope that this letter finds you in good health and nice spirit. I am sorry, that I have not written for a long time. Last months, it is a bit hard for me to organize myself. After my returning to Bulgaria, I needed some time to calm and to get back to my usual way of life, which took more time than I expected, because my stay in Japan, was really so great and exciting. Even now, more than one year later, while I am writing you this letter, the memories from Japan came back so alive and it is hard to me to express how happy and grateful I feel to all of you from MIF and also to Professor Tatsumisago, which was my host scientist in Osaka, for this great chance to visit your wonderful country.

First of all, I would like to wish you personally and to all MIF staff a happy new year, much health, good luck and prosperity.

Secondly, I would like to apologize for the delay of my report that I needed to send to MIF, about my stay in Osaka Prefecture University. I decided



Souvenir from Mali by
Dr. Adama Telly DIEPKILE



Souvenir from Egypt by Dr. Ahmed Abdelsattar Ahmed GALHOUM

to send the final report together with the paper, which has been recently accepted for publication and has just also appeared online. This paper presents some of the results that have been obtained in collaboration with Professor Tatsumisago and Dr. Hayashi from Osaka Prefecture University during my stay for six months as a MIF fellow in 2014.

Once more I wish you all the best for the New Year and I look forward to hearing from you soon,
With warm regards,

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Dr. Virgilio Julius P. MANZANO JR.
(Philippines/2009-03)
January 21, 2016

Warmest greetings and a fruitful and exciting New Year!

This is to again express my deepest gratitude to the MIF for continuously sending me MIF related documents (Newsletters, Greeting cards, etc.). Just recently, I received a New Year greeting card along with an MIF Research Fellow card.

I would like to share what I have been doing since the completion of my MIF Research Fellowship in 2009:

My six-months research fellowship at the University of Tokyo ushered me to more international engagements in research and extension. My research output on "IT field monitoring in a Japanese System of Rice Intensification (J-SRI)" was published in an international journal (Paddy and Rice Environment). To continually update myself on new knowledge and technologies as well as global trends in my field of specialization, I have attended a number of national and international trainings, conferences, and symposia.

Recently, I have been granted with another 6-months (September 2014 – March 2015) research fellowship at Columbia University, in the City of New York, by the Fulbright Program.

During my stint as a Fulbright scholar, I worked on "Using Climate and Weather Information for Risk Management in Agriculture in the Philippines". I was able to produce two research articles, one of which has been published and the other one is in the pipeline. Moreover, I served as Visiting Research Scientists at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA-GFSC), Maryland, USA on the whole month of November 2015. During my stay at NASA-GFSC, I trained on Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technology wherein I processed and analyzed EOS/MODIS surface radiance data. I also worked on the spatial and seasonal variability of the reflectivity and albedo of the Earth's surface.

At present, I am involved in a project titled "Climatic changes and evaluation of their effects on agriculture in Asian monsoon region (CAAM)" which is under the research framework of the Green Network of Excellence (GRENE) for Japanese fiscal years 2011-2016. This is supported by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, and Science and Technology (MEXT).

Moreover, I was given various administrative designations such as chairman of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, Dean of the College of Engineering, and Director of the Ilocos Norte Science Community. I am also been actively involved in scientific and professional organizations that helped hone my leadership skills. I was national president of the Philippine Society for the Study of Nature where I was given a Leadership Award, executive director of the SEARCA Fellows Association of the Philippines, and member of the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society for Agriculture and the Philippine Society of Agricultural Engineers. I was one time vice president for Luzon of the Association of Agricultural Engineering Department Chairmen in the Philippines and vice president of the Association of Engineering Deans in Region 1.



Souvenir from Ethiopia by Dr. Solomon Mehretie YENIESEW

Indeed, the Fellowship granted to me by MIF opened a new level of opportunities, purpose, adventure, much enjoyment and learning.

All the Best,

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Dr. Aristides QUINTERO RUEDA
(Panama/2004-24)
January 23, 2016

Dear MIF friends,

I am acknowledging the good initiatives of the Matsumae International Foundation. One time in Japan in 2005 gave me the valuable experience of scientifically interacting not only with the fine researchers I dealt with, but also the nice experiences acquired with the Japanese culture and people. I hope to visit Japan again in the future also.

I am extremely grateful for the amount of help and support I received from Professor Dr. Masugi MARUYAMA-sensei and all members of his Applied Physiology Laboratory in the Faculty of Medicine from University of Miyazaki.

I am fine, working on science in the Research and Information Center of Toxicology & Applied Chemistry (CEITOXQUIA) that was set up in the Autonomous University of Chiriqui, and I wish it were possible to establish strong relationships of collaboration in the field of toxicology and applied chemistry with MIF and Japanese researchers.

On November 9, 2015, the American College of Toxicology (ACT) from USA recently acknowledged our research and was selected to receive an award with which the ACT rewards foreign toxicologists (addressed to non-residents in the United States) with exceptional backgrounds, committed to toxicology and whose works are meritorious and significant not only for science but also for humanity.

The awarded research is entitled,



"In vitro antimicrobial and antifungal activity of isolated Phospholipases A2 of *Bothrops asper* snake venom from Panama". The study was one of only five toxicology studies from around the world to receive the institutions award for foreign scientists, and the only one from Latin America. I received the award at the 36th Annual Conference of the American College of Toxicology, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

I am grateful Matsumae International Foundation supporters for giving me the opportunity to follow my dreams and to make them a reality.

All the best to you and to the all MIF research fellows around the world,

Regards,

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Dr. Maria Elvira GUEVARA ALVAREZ
(Colombia/1998-08)
January 27, 2016

Thanks a lot for your beautiful card which is always a wonderful surprise!

I apologize for not sending any formal card neither letter. I am considering doing that again in the coming years. Print cards are 99% better than just emails, but these are better than nothing, anyway!!!

I may not have mentioned that I have official paperwork done to retire since last year but it is my idea to work four years more. I do not know the legislation in your country but I had the possibility to retire when I was 55 years old but not forced to



Souvenir from Panama by
Dr. Aristides QUINTERO RUEDA

do that until 75 years old since I am a professor.

This is a beautiful country with many beautiful natural resources but with many problems. The government is supposed to sign peace with one of the many guerilla groups, but the most important one, after more than 50 years of conflict; not everybody thinks this will be successful because not all the groups are involved and there are many social and economic problems.

Let's see, but I believe, this peace treaties and the Niño dry season are the main topics to take care this year.

Hope that all your family and friends at MIF keep on doing so well.

Best wishes,

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Dr. WAH WAH AUNG
(Myanmar/2015-01)
April 18, 2016

I would like to greet "Konichiwa" in Japanese and "Mingalabar" in Myanmar" and also I wish you all "Happy New Year" as this time being the New Year according to the Myanmar Calendar.

It has been almost over a year since I have been in Japan as a MIF research fellow 2015.



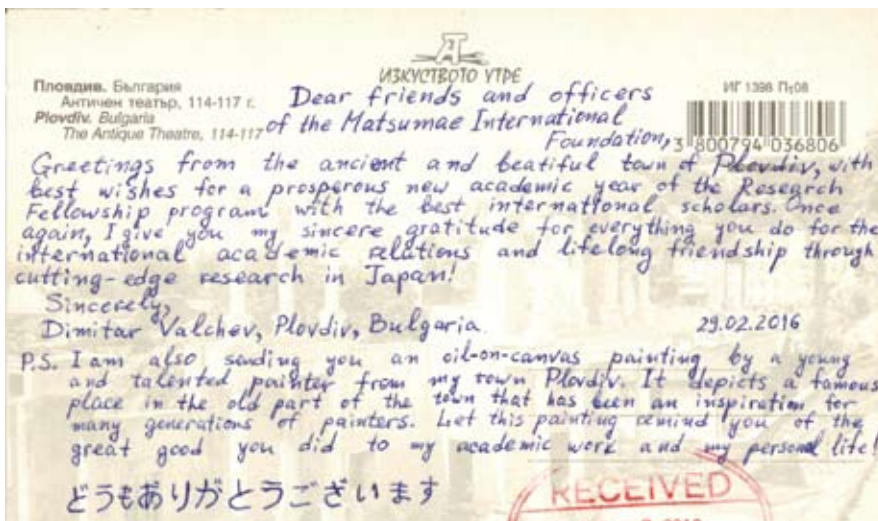
Time files but good memories of my research works In Hokkaido University, unforgettable tour with MIF friends and warm welcome and hospitality during my visit to MIF office are still in my mind as these events happened yesterday. Thank you for sending newsletters, greeting cards and updated MIF activities regularly.

I always thank to Matsumae International Foundation for opening the door to Japan and giving a chance to do gene sequencing works at the host institute during my research study. Now I can successfully establish this molecular technology in our laboratory in Myanmar. Professor Yasuhiko Suzuki, my host, visited Myanmar during August 2015 for e-Asia Research Collaboration Workshop and we can seek for opportunities to continue further research collaborations. We took a photo together at that workshop and I sent it with this mail.

Recently I heard about the tragic earthquake in Southern Japan and I'd like to convey my sympathy to the victims and wish all Japanese People safe and healthy. Myanmar also had an earthquake a few days earlier with no serious casualties. To my surprise, I got an email from Dr. Dimitar, our MIF fellow from Bulgaria, inquiring whether I am safe and I am deeply appreciated him for his kind concern.

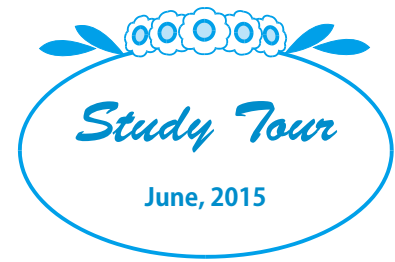
With warmest wishes,

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At Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima



At Mt. Misen, Miyajima

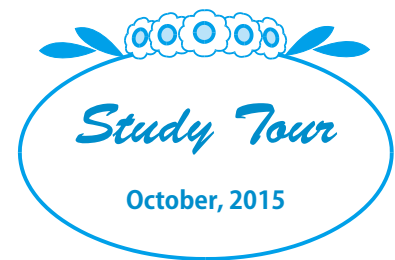


Participants:

Dr. WAH WAH AUNG (Myanmar), Dr. Mirela KOPJAR (Croatia), Dr. PHAM Duc Tri (Viet Nam), Dr. Sasa ZELJKOVIC (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Dr. Marina GAKHUTISHVILI (Georgia), Dr. Om Nath KATEL (Bhutan), Dr. Dimitar Georgiev VALCHEV (Bulgaria), Dr. Carlos Luis SALINAS LARECA (Venezuela), Dr. Nodirali NORMAKHAMATOV (Uzbekistan), Dr. Arunya JIRAVIRIYAKUL (Thailand), Dr. Maurice Ducret AWOUAFACK (Cameroon), Dr. Olufunmilayo Gbonjubola OYERO (Nigeria), Dr. Gibril Elamin MAGDI ELAMIN (Sudan)



At Nijo-jo, Kyoto



At Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima



Participants:

Dr. Venkata Subbaiah EDUPALLI (India), Dr. Davran OTAJANOV (Uzbekistan), Dr. Thanyarat JITPEERA (Thailand), Dr. Aleksandar CVETKOVIC (Serbia), Dr. Tatiana Alexandrovna BARSUKOVA (Russia), Dr. Ibrahim Saleh Ahmed ABDALLAH (Egypt), Dr. Anissa AOUNI (Tunisia), Dr. Sello Alfred LIKUKU (Botswana), Dr. Danka BUKVICKI (Serbia)

Greeting Cards from MIF Research Fellows

(Received in the period from December 2015 through February 2016.)



Argentina	Dr. Victoria Maria MUNIZ SAAVEDRA	P.R. of China	Mr. PANG Hongyan
Bangladesh	Mr. Khondkar Reza-e RABBANI		Mr. WANG Huafu
Belgium	Dr. Jacques TEGHEM Jr.		Mr. WANG Sheng
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dr. Sasa ZELJKOVIC		Dr. LIANG Dongfang
Bulgaria	Dr. Dimitar Georgiev VALCHEV	Panama	Dr. Aristides QUINTERO RUEDA
Chile	Dr. Gipsy TABILO-MUNIZAGA	Peru	Mr. Luis ESPINOZA BONILLA
Croatia	Dr. Marilena IDZOJIC	Poland	Dr. Zbigniew PALKA
	Dr. Bozica SORGIC		Dr. Piotr SALANSKI
	Dr. Pavle PANDZIC	Romania	Dr. Elena Maria (SANDULESCU) ROPER
	Dr. Mirela KOPJAR		Ms. Simona Ioana VICAS
Czech Republic	Dr. Vaclav PAIDAR	Russia	Dr. Tatiana Alexandrovna BARSUKOVA
	Dr. Jiri ERHART	Serbia	Dr. Ljiljana RADONJIC
	Dr. Pavel PAVLICEK		Dr. Danka BUKVICKI
	Dr. Martin DRAHANSKY	Slovakia	Dr. Jaroslav JAROS
Ecuador	Ms. Carmen PROANO		Dr. Viliam SNABEL
	Mr. Mario Gonzalo ARTEAGA MACIAS	Spain	Dr. Rodrigo MARTINEZ-VAL
Estonia	Dr. Vahur VALVERE		Dr. Aranzazu GONZALEZ CANGA
	Dr. Ivar TALVIK	Sri Lanka	Dr. Piyasiri Abeysinghe Jayawardane YAPA
Ethiopia	Dr. Getachew HAILU		Dr. Pannipitiye G. Ralalage DHARMARATNE
F.R. of Germany	Dr. Boris KASPER		Dr. Kamani Ayoma P. W. JAYATILAKA
Hungary	Dr. Laszlo CZAKO	Switzerland	Dr. Peter Johann WALDE
	Dr. Agota TOTH	Thailand	Ms. Sopana BOONYAPIWAT
	Dr. Eva FAZAKAS		Dr. Joompol SANGUANSIN
India	Dr. Arun KUMAR		Ms. Arunee VEENIN
Indonesia	Dr. Abdul Hamid BUDIMAN		Dr. Watcharaphong ANANCHUEN
Ireland	Dr. John CASSIDY		Dr. Dumrongkiet ARTHAN
Latvia	Dr. Karina (IVANOVA) SPUNDE		Dr. Songyot ANUCHAPREEDA
	Dr. Ilja GALKINS		Dr. Kulthida VAETEEWOOTTACHARN
Lithuania	Dr. Jurate SIUGZDAITE		Dr. Rakrudee SARNTHIMA
	Dr. Vilma KISNIERIENE		Dr. Chivalai TEMIYASATHIT
Madagascar	Dr. Jean Masy RAMILISON	Tunisia	Dr. Anissa AOUNI
Malawi	Dr. John Stephen KAUTA	Turkey	Dr. Gorun ARUN
Malaysia	Dr. Shing Chiang TAN		Dr. Melih GENIS
	Ms. Bee Kin THI		Dr. Veysel ZEDEF
Mongolia	Dr. Tumenbayar BAATARYN	Ukraine	Dr. Vyacheslav A. RAFALSKY
	Dr. Enkhbat RENTSEN		Dr. Larisa V. BOGUTSKAJA
Myanmar	Dr. Myint Swe KHINE	United Kingdom	Dr. Niel A. McDOUGALL
New Zealand	Dr. Charmian Jocelyn O'CONNOR	Uzbekistan	Dr. Gulnora (BEGBAEVA) TANATAR
Nigeria	Dr. Michael Ayodele ODENIYI		

MIF also received greeting messages through e-mail from many MIF Research Fellows.



▲ At the Tokai University Club, September 7, 2015



At MIF office, February 22, 2016 ▶



▲ Dr. Simon Robert HALL (United Kingdom) visited Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima on August 8, 2015.



▲ Dr. Otabek BURKHONOV (Uzbekistan) visited Peace park in Hiroshima on February 3, 2016.



Snap Shots



◀ Dr. Eduardo A. LOBO ALCAYAGA (Chile: 1987-22) visited MIF office on May 14, 2015.



▲ Dr. Ilja GALKINS (Latvia: 2002-11) visited MIF office on November 6, 2015.



▲ Dr. Oyewale TOMORI (Nigeria: 1983-13) visited MIF office on December 18, 2015.



▼ Dr. Denise Paranagua VEZOZZO (Brazil: 1997-07) visited MIF office on February 29, 2016.

Dr. Malyn UNGSURUNGSIE (CHULASIRI) ▶ (Thailand: 1990-02) visited MIF office on January 20, 2016.



▲ Dr. Ian DUTTON (Australia: 1990-13) visited MIF office on May 13, 2016.



Dr. Dilshod SHAKAROVA (Uzbekistan: 2011-06) ▶ met with Prof. Dr. Hirohisa UCHIDA, the Chair of MIF, at Tashkent, May 14, 2016.

INFORMATION on MIF RESEARCH FELLOWS

(since 1980 to 2015)

1. by Gender

Male	539
Female	207

2. by Countries

Asia (224)

P. R. of China	41
India	36
Thailand	22
Bangladesh	14
Indonesia	14
Myanmar	14
Philippines	14
Viet Nam	14
Malaysia	11
Pakistan	11
Sri Lanka	9
Mongolia	8
Nepal	8
Korea	2
Laos	2
Singapore	2
Bhutan	1
Taiwan	1

Pacific (7)

Australia	4
New Zealand	2
Fiji	1

Middle East (66)

Turkey	17
Iran	10
Iraq	9
Jordan	8
Israel	7
Syria	6
Oman	5
Saudi Arabia	3
Lebanon	1

Africa (134)

Egypt	24
Nigeria	21
Kenya	14
Sudan	9

Tanzania	8
Cameroon	7
Uganda	7
Ethiopia	6
Morocco	5
Cote d'Ivoire	4
Ghana	4
Rwanda	4
Tunisia	3
Zambia	3
Burundi	2
D. R. of Congo	2
Madagascar	2
Algeria	1
Benin	1
Botswana	1
Eritrea	1
Guinea	1
Liberia	1
Malawi	1
Senegal	1
South Africa	1

North America (12)

U.S.A.	8
Canada	4

Latin America (78)

Cuba	13
Argentina	10
Brazil	9
Mexico	9
Colombia	8
Chile	7
Ecuador	5
Peru	5
Jamaica	2
Panama	2
Paraguay	2
Uruguay	2
Venezuela	2
Bolivia	1
Costa Rica	1

Europe (225)

Poland	15
Uzbekistan	14
Bulgaria	13
Hungary	13
Russia	13
Romania	11
Ukraine	11
F. R. of Germany	10
Italy	10
Czech Republic	9
Spain	8
Serbia	7
Croatia	6
Slovakia	6
Albania	5
Armenia	5
Belarus	5
Georgia	5
Portugal	5
United Kingdom	5
Lithuania	4
Sweden	4
Finland	3
Greece	3
Iceland	3
Ireland	3
Kazakhstan	3
Latvia	3
Netherlands	3
Austria	2
Belgium	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2
Estonia	2
France	2
Moldova	2
Norway	2
Slovenia	2
Azerbaijan	1
Kyrgyz	1
Switzerland	1
Tajikistan	1

Total: 746 Research Fellows from 114 countries