Professor Keiji Morokuma's Scientific Achievement

Emeritus Professor Keiji Morokuma was awarded the Imperial and Japan Academy Prizes of 2008 for his outstanding scientific achievements in understanding the structure, function, and reactivity of molecules by theoretical and computational approaches. The award is in recognition of the fact that theoretical and computational chemistry can make major contributions in the progress of molecular science, Professor Morokuma being the outstanding pioneer. The award ceremony was held at Tokyo on June 9 in the presence of both the Emperor and Empress. The Imperial Prize is the most authoritative in the prizes of the Japan Academy, and the winner is selected from among recipients for that year's Japan Academy Prize. Professor Morokuma's research work has been very highly rated also in experimental chemistry. Professor Morokuma has made great contribution to the nurturing of talented researchers. It is not too much to say that Professor Morokuma has affected directly (or indirectly) almost all Japanese researchers who are at present active at the forefront of electronic state theory. He is a world leader in theoretical and computational chemistry and won other honors including International Academy of Quantum Molecular Science (IAQMS) Award in 1978, Chemical Society Award from the Chemical Society of Japan in 1992, Schrödinger Medal from

the World Association of Theoretical Organic Chemists (WATOC) in 1993, and Fukui Medal from Asia-Pacific Association of Theoretical & Computational Chemists (APATCC) in 2005. He also acted as president for IAQMS during six years since 2000 and contributed to the development in molecular theory and computation at an international level, which leads to the spread to various experimental research fields. We do hope that Professor Morokuma continues to do active research work as an international top leader in theoretical and computational molecular science.

Mr. Yoshida's Technical Achievements

Mr. Hisashi Yoshida, the chief of the electronics section of Equipment Development Center, has received The CSJ Award for Technical Achievement in 2007. The Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) awards every year a person who has contributed to the development or improvement of experimental techniques in chemistry or chemical engineering. Mr. Yoshida is recognized for his contribution to "Development of Advanced Measurement and Control Apparatuses for Molecular Science." His main achievements awarded are "Multi-dimensional coincidence measuring instrument for electron Compton scattering experiments," "Computer-controlled liquid helium transfer system," "Multichannel spectrophotometry data acquisition system by using image sensor," "Fast rising HV pulse generator for TOF mass spectrum analyzer," *etc*. He developed many equipments necessary for molecular science experiments

through the cooperation with scientists who need the instruments, and attained a great contribution to the molecular science.