

**<Report>**  
**The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SIOP 2018 Congress in Kyoto**

**Akira Nakagawara, MD, PhD**  
**Chair, Local Organizing Committee, SIOP 2018 Kyoto**

**The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SIOP 2018 Congress** was very successfully held in Kyoto from November 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It was the best season in Kyoto and actually the weather was very fine with beautiful color changes in leaves of trees at the Japanese gardens, old temples and surrounding mountains.

**The number of participants** to SIOP2018 was 2,475 from 90 countries over the world, which was a new record in the 50 years history of SIOP. We also had more than 40 Japanese volunteers. Thinking that the number of participants was 1,000 at the 30<sup>th</sup> SIOP 1998 Congress held in Yokohama, Japan, with very few number of volunteers, the scale and contents of SIOP have amazingly expanded and filled up during the last 20 years. The big increase in number of attendants from Asian countries including Japan, China, India, Korea and others was very impressive. In addition, the number of SIOP official members has increased to 1,622, which was also a new record. Thus, SIOP 2018 Kyoto Congress was very successful and fruitful.

**At the Opening Ceremony**, the Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Dr. Giuseppe Masera, Italy. The events at the Ceremony done by Japanese children, survivors, parents and volunteers gave the participants a deep emotion with a little tear.

**Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SIOP** was done by the Keynote Lecture entitled “The History of SIOP” presented by Dr. Giorgio Perilongo and by the cake cut ceremony at the Opening Reception.

As usual, **SIOP** Jointly collaborated with **CCI, IPSO, PPO, PROS, Nurses** as well as **PODC**. There were 8 **Keynote Lectures** which included two talks by the **Nobel Prize Winners**, Prof. Yoshinori Ohsumi (Autophagy) and Prof. Tasuku Honjo (PD-1, PD-L1). Prof. Honjo had just been announced his winning of the Prize only one month before, and there occurred a standing ovation after his talk.

Both 10 **Symposiums** and 7 **Meet The Experts (MTEs)** were also very exciting and inspiring. In addition, many young researchers enjoyed the **MTE Lunch Time Sessions** set up for 9 pediatric cancers.

Last year, **SIOP and WHO** made an agreement to collaborate together to increase the cure rate of children's cancer more than 60% all over the world by 2030. It was so wonderful that Mr. Andre Ilbawi, a representative of WHO, joined us and discussed with many people who attended the Kyoto SIOP.

There were active discussions at the **Poster Sessions** as well as at the **Exhibition booths** in the Exhibition Hall. Many people enjoyed the **Japanese OMOTENASHI** to serve Japanese tea ceremony and to take Ukiyoe photos with their friends..

Lastly, about 60 people enjoyed "**Fun-Run**" early in the morning by running the course around the beautiful pond just close to the convention center.

I, as a Chair of Local Organizing Committee (LOC), would like to express my sincere thanks to all the people who attended the memorial SIOP 2018 Congress in Kyoto and to all the supporters, all the children with cancer and their parents who fight against cancer together in the whole world.