

THE NIBB INTERNATIONAL PRACTICAL COURSE

The first NIBB International Practical Course was held in 2007 with the aim of providing young scientists around the world with opportunities to learn cutting-edge experimental skills and to communicate with experts in the field. The course replaced our Bioscience Training Course, which had been held for twenty years and which had, for the most part, only accepted participants from universities and institutes in

Japan. The Second and Third International Practical Courses were held in 2008 as summarized below. The courses were given in a laboratory provided by NIBB and equipped with all the necessary instruments and tools and a good supply of experimental materials. We hope that the techniques and knowledge provided in these courses will prove useful in the future work of all of the participants.

The Second International Practical Course: "Developmental Genetics of Zebrafish and Medaka II"

- Period: March 3 (Sat)- 12 (Wed), 2008
- Participants: 12 (three from Hong Kong, two each from China and Taiwan, one each from Australia, Germany, Korea, Norway, and Japan)
- Lecturers:
 - Dr. Shinichi Higashijima (National Institute for Physiological Sciences)
 - Dr. Kiyoshi Naruse (NIBB)
 - Dr. Kohei Hatta (University of Hyogo)
 - Dr. Shoji Fukamachi (University of Konstanz)
- Research Results Presentations:
 - Dr. Jochen Wittbrodt (University of Heidelberg)
 - Dr. Kataaki Okubo (NIBB)
 - Dr. Masahiko Hibi (RIKEN CDB)
 - Dr. Mikiko Tanaka (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
 - Dr. Koichi Kawakami (National Institute for Genetics)

Contents of the course: basic technologies, including gene knockdown by injecting antisense morpholino oligo, as well as a number of advanced techniques such as BAC homologous recombination mediated transgenesis, genomic/bioinformatic techniques, and cell tracking using photoconvertible fluorescent proteins



The Third International Practical Course: "2008 NIBB Laboratory Course and Workshops on *Physcomitrella patens*"

- Period: June 30 (Mon)- July 4 (Fri), 2008
- Participants: 11 (six from Japan, two from America., and one each from Korea, Spain, and Sweden)
- Lecturers:
 - Dr. Andrew C. Cuming (University of Leeds)
 - Dr. Yasuko Kamisugi (University of Leeds)
 - Dr. Tetsuya Kurata (JST)
 - Dr. Yoshikatsu Sato (JST)
 - Dr. Yuji Hiwatashi (NIBB)
 - Dr. Minoru Kubo (JST)
 - Dr. Takashi Murata (NIBB)
 - Dr. Mitsuyasu Hasebe (NIBB)

Contents of the course: basic techniques including cultivation, observation of developmental processes at the cellular level, gene targeting, bioimaging, and bioinformatics used in the biology of the moss *Physcomitrella patens*

