

The 61st NIBB Conference "Cellular Community in Mammalian Embryogenesis"

Organizers: Toshihiko Fujimori (NIBB), Hiroshi Sasaki (Kumamoto Univ.)

July 10(Wed)-12(Fri), 2013

July 8 heralded the end of the Japanese rainy season just in time for this year's 61st annual NIBB conference on Cellular Community in Mammalian Embryogenesis, held from July 10th through the 13th. The end of the rainy season brought the summer heat, but the heated discussions inside the halls were no less intense. Thanks to support from a Grant in Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (MEXT) "Cell Community in Early Mammalian Development," the conference hosted not just Japanese researchers, but speakers from England, Spain, Canada, China, Singapore, and Switzerland as well, with the final total of attendees and participants coming to just under 100 people, all gathered together to participate in, further, and listen to discussions of the latest research in early development in mammals.

Understanding of initial embryogenesis in mammals, particularly in mice, has advanced quite far from when the Scientific Research in Innovative Areas team first began their operations, with Japanese research groups often leading the field. Most of the first day was spent on presentations and discussions relating to research on pre-implantation embryos, with many attendees reporting astonishment at some of the findings. It was not a one-note session however, with presentations on embryology in mammals other than mice, quantitative analyses of post-implantation embryos and embryogenesis, and other related research as well. Both at home and abroad, chances for leading edge researchers to gather and discuss their findings are rare, with the tightly

focused theme of this conference making this gathering even rarer, and one that will be remembered in years to come. Indeed, though throughout the world researchers sharing an interest in this topic are limited in number, it is our hope that this conference, through providing a central venue to gather, hold poster sessions, go on excursions, eat, drink, talk and discuss both findings and the future potential of that research, proved to be a fruitful event for all involved. Many attendees voiced their hope that around the world, research conferences in a similar vein to this one will continue to be held. As the hosts of the 61st NIBB conference, we are humbled and delighted, and hope to be hosts and participants to more such conferences in the future, wherever they may be.



Speakers

Constam, Daniel (EPFL), Plusa, Berenika (Univ. Manchester), Robson, Paul (Genome Inst. Singapore), Rodriguez, Tristan (Imp. Coll. London), Rossant, Janet (Univ. Toronto), Simon, Carlos (Univ. Valencia), Srinivas, Shankar (Univ. Oxford), Tzouanacou, Elena (Univ. Cambridge), Wilson, Val (MRC)
Aizawa, Shinichi (RIKEN CDB), Ebisuya, Miki (RIKEN CDB), Fujimori, Toshihiko (NIBB), Hamada, Hiroshi (Osaka Univ.), Kobayashi, Tetsuya (Univ. Tokyo), Kondoh, Hisato (Osaka Univ.), Meno, Chikara (Kyushu Univ.), Miura, Takashi (Kyushu Univ.), Mochizuki, Atsushi (RIKEN ASI), Niwa, Hitoshi (RIKEN CDB), Ogura, Atsuo (RIKEN BRC), Okano, Hideyuki (Keio Univ.), Onami, Shuichi (RIKEN QBiC), Osugi, Miho (Univ. Tokyo), Saito, Mitinori (Kyoto Univ.), Sasaki, Hiroshi (Kumamoto Univ.), Sawai, Satoshi (Univ. Tokyo), Suzuki, Atsushi (Yokohama City Univ.)