

# Award Winners for 2006

## Japan Academy Prize

Awarded on July 3, 2006

### Research of Anti-neutrino Science

Emeritus Professor Atsuto Suzuki, Graduate School of Science



The "neutrino" is one of the elementary particles composing matter in the universe. Emeritus Professor Atsuto Suzuki has been conducting his studies at the experimental facility "KamLAND," established in January 2000, a Research Center for Neutrino Science at the Graduate School of Science. His research accomplishments are greatly valued both in Japan and abroad with the establishment of neutrino geophysics, a new academic field in science.

He leads the KamLAND international collaboration, and was the first to succeed in detecting neutrinos generated from the radiogenic decay of U/Th inside the earth. The Japan Academy recognized his studies of geologically produced neutrinos, the so-called geoneutrinos, and decided to award him this prize in March of 2006 during his professorship at Tohoku University.

## Person of Cultural Merits

Elected on November 3, 2006

### Establishment of the Law of Resistance for Flow in Curved Pipes and in Rotating Pipes

Emeritus Professor Hidesato Itô, Institute of Fluid Science



Prof. Hidesato Itô at the Institute of Fluid Science, formerly the Institute of High Speed Mechanics, was elected Person of Cultural Merits for establishing the "law of resistance" for flow in curved pipes and in rotating pipes. This discovery was based upon his experiments and development of hydrodynamic theory. The results of his research are widely used for the design of cooling channels in rocket engines, heat exchangers for nuclear power plants and cooling passages in gas turbine blades.

## Award by the American Heart Association

Awarded on April 29, 2006

### Research on Atherosclerosis and Ischemic Heart Disease

Professor Hiroaki Shimokawa, Graduate School of Medicine



Prof. Hiroaki Shimokawa, who has a long career in research into atherosclerosis and ischemic heart disease, received the 2006 Je rey M. Hoeg Award from the Council of Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology of the American Heart Association (AHA). AHA is the world's leading society in the field of cardiovascular medicine. The Award is presented to one outstanding researcher every year and Prof. Shimokawa is the first recipient from outside North America.

## Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon

Awarded on April 29, 2006

### Micro Electro Mechanical Systems

Professor Masayoshi Esashi, Graduate School of Engineering



Prof. Masayoshi Esashi conducts the applied research into semiconductor microfabrication technology, and is a world authority on Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS). His research accomplishments have been put to wide and varied uses such as in the sensor devices for triggering air bags, video camera stabilization and cell phones. The Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon was presented to him for his long and faithful contributions to the industry.

## Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon

Awarded on April 29, 2006

### Organic Chemistry Research

Professor Yoshinori Yamamoto, Graduate School of Science



Prof. Yoshinori Yamamoto developed a method to easily produce organic compounds using catalysis. There are two catalytic methods: the metallic molecular catalyst and the Lewis acid catalyst. Prof. Yamamoto has long been engaged in research with the Lewis acid catalyst. The Medal of Honor with Purple Ribbon was presented to him for his great contribution to the development of organic chemistry research.

## Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany

Awarded on May 31, 2006

### Outstanding Contribution to the Federal Republic of Germany

Emeritus Professor Tokiyasu Fujita, Graduate School of Law

Emeritus Prof. Tokiyasu Fujita (Justice of the Supreme Court since September 30th 2002) was presented with the "Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany" for his outstanding contributions in the academic field. The Ambassador of Germany honored him for "promoting the exchange of lawyers between Japan and Germany."

(Source: Kahoku Shimpo, June 1, 2006)



Photo: provided by Kahoku Shimpo Publishing Co.

2006	April 1	Nobuhiro Satou	Professor, Graduate School of Arts and Letters	Japan Poets' Club Prize
	April 20	Akira Endo	Specially Appointed Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural Science	Japan Prize awarded by the Science and Technology Foundation of Japan
	June 2	Akihisa Inoue	Professor, Institute for Materials Research	The Prime Minister Prize for development of Industry-Academia-Government collaboration
	July 4	Mitsumasa Koyanagi	Professor, Graduate School of Engineering	2006 IEEE Jun-ichi Nishizawa Medal
	Sept 5	Masataka Nakazawa	Professor, Research Institute of Electrical Communication	Thomson Scientific Laureate
2007	March 2	Hideki Katagiri	Professor, Graduate School of Medicine	JSPS Prize (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Prize)
	March 2	Masashi Kawasaki	Professor, Institute for Materials Research	JSPS Prize (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Prize)

April 2006 - March 2007

## Topics

Selected as the "No. 1 University," from Overall Ranking, by Japanese High School Teachers.

In the "University Ranking 2007," published by the Asahi Shimbun Company, Tohoku University was ranked top from an overall rating of responses to questionnaires. The newspaper conducted a questionnaire survey of high school teachers in charge of educational guidance from across Japan and compiled the results. Specifically, Tohoku University was third favorite both for "Which university do you recommend to your students?" and "In which university did the students show improvements in performance after entering?"

No.1 | Tohoku University

No.2 | Kyoto University

No.3 | Ritsumeikan University

No.4 | Keio University

No.5 | The University of Tokyo

## Topics

"Materials Science" Ranked Third in the ESI's List of Most Cited Papers in the World.

As of January 2007, the Institution Rankings based upon ESI (Essential Science Indicators) which provides data of citation frequencies, published by Thomson Scientific, USA, Tohoku University's publications "Materials Science" ranked 3rd (1st as a university), while its "Physics" publications were ranked 9th.

3rd in the world (1st in Japan) | Materials Science

9th in the world (2nd in Japan) | Physics

21st in the world (5th in Japan) | Chemistry

41st in the world (2nd in Japan) | Engineering