



## Editorial

## The international role of the Japanese Society for Investigative Dermatology (JSID): Secretary General's Perspective

After serving as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Dermatological Science (JDS) for the past 5 years, I assumed the five-year Secretary Generalship of the JSID in 2008. With Prof. Yoshiki Tokura as the new president and Prof. Akimichi Morita as the new JDS Editor-in-Chief, I believe it is an appropriate time to consider the JSID's future. Together with increases in the quality and impact factor of the JDS, the JSID's international role on skin science has become clearer

### (1) English alone is the official language at the JSID Annual Meeting

Although the JSID is a Japanese society, it is in many ways an international society for skin science. The Japanese Dermatological Association (JDA), the main national organization of dermatology, has 10,232 members, including all dermatologists and dermatology residents in Japan. Approximately 10–13% of JDA members, those who are particularly interested in dermatological research, are also members of the JSID. The main purposes of the JSID are to foster young colleagues in skin science and to contribute to the global advancement of skin research. The JSID is expecting to welcome more foreign researchers at its annual meeting.

To fulfill these goals and the requests of foreign participants, the JSID has decided to allow English alone as the official language for JSID Annual Meetings. All oral presentations, lectures and posters should be presented in English, so that anyone from any country can enjoy participating in the annual meeting.

### (2) JSID-Asia-Oceania Forum

From 2009, we will start holding the JSID-Asia-Oceania Forum in conjunction with the JSID Annual Meeting. I hope this will encourage many people from Asia and Australasia, as well as ESDR and SID members, to participate in the JSID Annual Meeting. I believe scientific exchanges and initiation of new friendships are the two most important aspects of the JSID, and we are pleased to offer both scientific and interpersonal discovery in a Japanese city known for its attractiveness and cuisine.

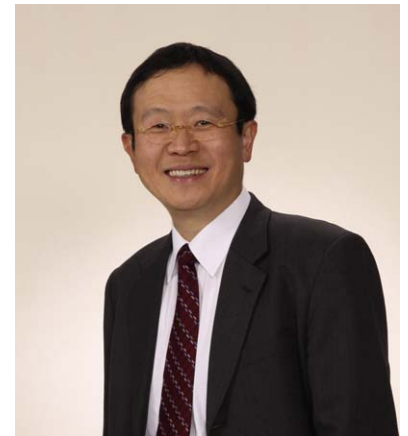
### (3) ESDR/JSID Young Fellow Collegiality Awards

New awards called the ESDR/JSID Young Fellow Collegiality Awards will be given at the 34th JSID Annual Meeting (Fukuoka, 2009). This awards program is being initiated to provide young researchers of the European Society for Dermatological Research

(ESDR) and the JSID with opportunities for international academic exchanges. Awardees selected by the JSID will be given the opportunity to participate in presentations at the ESDR meeting and to visit various dermatological institutions in Europe. Accordingly, awardees selected by the ESDR will be given the opportunity to participate in presentations at the JSID meeting and to visit dermatological institutions in Japan. The JSID would like to extend this kind of international collegial friendship to other societies, including the SID.

### (4) JSID News

The JSID has started to distribute periodical newsletters to its members to provide up-to-date information on the academic meetings and activities of the society. You can also read JSID News for information on the JSID, its Journal of Dermatological Science and its latest activities on our website (<http://www.jsid.org/english/index.html>).



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