



In Memoriam

On November 12, 2016, at the age of 84, **Dr. Shigenobu Nagataki**, MD, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Nagasaki University, passed away. He was a highly appreciated thyroidologist and member of our Association. Professor Nagataki graduated in Tokyo in 1956 and spent a research fellowship in medicine at Harvard Medical School's Thorndike Memorial Laboratory at Boston City Hospital where a close and long-lasting friendship developed with his mentor, Professor Sidney H. Ingbar. Back in Japan he developed a large internationally-known research team in endocrinology and thyroidology as well as in other areas of internal medicine. Prof. Nagataki was the President of the host association (AOTA) of the 12th ITC in Kyoto (2010) and honorary member of the ETA, ATA, and AOTA. The AOTA established the Nagataki prize. In these societies he also established many long-lasting friendships.

Situated in Nagasaki, he was Chief of Medicine and later Dean of the Faculty. He became a prominent expert in the evaluation of nuclear disaster consequences and acted as President of the Radiation Effects Association of Japan and member of the Nuclear Safety Commission of the Japanese Cabinet. His group was the most involved research group on the consequences of the Chernobyl accident, and he became a member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine. His group is now the main medical research team investigating the consequences of Fukushima disaster. In recognition of his immense contribution to this field, Professor Nagataki was honored in 2012 by the Emperor with the "Order of Sacred Treasure." He published a book

entitled *Radiation Health Effects and Countermeasures: Lessons from Past Nuclear Disasters* (Tokyo, Japan: Maruzen Publishing, January 2012 in Japanese; June 2014 in English).

Professor Nagataki remained throughout his career committed to thyroid research and attended the meetings of the ETA until late in his life. He had many friends all over the world and contributed to mutual understanding and peace. During his entire career he could count on his devoted wife Yuki to whom we express our deepest condolences. We also share the sorrow with his children and grandchildren and will remember for a long time to come his wonderful personality.

J. Orgiazzi and A. Burger