

## NEWS

### 20th Anniversary Ceremony Held for Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster

This year, the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster (KBIC) marked the 20th anniversary of the discussions about its master project that started in 1998.

On Friday, October 19, 2018, the city of Kobe and the Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation at Kobe (FBRI) jointly held the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster's 20th Anniversary Ceremony, attended by about 450 people.

At the ceremony, FBRI President Tasuku Honjo stated in his remarks on behalf of the ceremony organizers, "We have now reached the stage where the results of our basic research should be successfully applied in order to demonstrate KBIC's strong presence to the international community and to enter a more advanced stage." In addition, the ceremony program included RIKEN President Hiroshi Matsumoto's lecture and a panel discussion about the future prospects for Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster.

#### 【Ceremony program】

Organizers' remarks: Kizo Hisamoto, Mayor of Kobe

Tasuku Honjo, President, Foundation for Biomedical Research and  
Innovation at Kobe (FBRI)

Guests' remarks: Yoshiyuki Chihara, Deputy Director-General, Research Promotion Bureau,  
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)  
Toshizo Ido, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture  
Junichi Kitayama, President, Kobe City Assembly  
Hiroshi Takeda, President, Kobe University

Introducing congratulatory telegrams

Report: Noriyoshi Okaguchi, Vice Mayor of Kobe

Lecture: Hiroshi Matsumoto, President, RIKEN

Panel discussion: "Future prospects for Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster"

Facilitator: Hiroo Imura, Honorary President, FBRI

Panelists: Hisashi Ietsugu, Chairman, Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI)  
Nobuo Hashimoto, President, Kobe City Hospital Organization  
Kazuro Sugimura, Executive Vice President, in Charge of Hospital and  
Risk Management, Kobe University  
Shinjiro Nozaki, External Relations Officer, Director's office,  
WHO Center for Health Development  
Joseph Panetta, President and CEO, Biocom

【Scenes from the ceremony】



Kobe Mayor  
Kizo Hisamoto



FBRI President  
Tasuku Honjo



MEXT Deputy Director-General  
Yoshiyuki Chihara



Hyogo Prefecture Governor  
Toshizo Ido



Kobe City Assembly President  
Junichi Kitayama



Kobe University President  
Hiroshi Takeda



Kobe Vice Mayor Noriyoshi Okaguchi  
making a report



RIKEN President Hiroshi Matsumoto  
giving a lecture



Panel discussion



FBRI Honorary President Hiroo Imura  
serving as facilitator

In the afternoon of the same day, the Kobe International Symposium on Drug Discovery was held to commemorate Dr. Tasuku Honjo's winning the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, with researchers from inside and outside Japan invited to participate as speakers, and with an attendance of about 700 people.

At the symposium, FBRI President Honjo delivered a lecture titled "Cancer immunotherapy by PD-1 blockade," followed by lectures on drug discovery by renowned speakers from Japan and abroad.

【Symposium program】

Moderator: Yoichi Nabeshima, Director, Institute of Biomedical Research and Innovation (IBRI), FBRI

Lectures: Cancer immunotherapy by PD-1 blockade

**Tasuku Honjo**

President, FBRI; and Deputy Director-General and Distinguished Professor, Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study

Development of the next generation HIV-1 integrase inhibitor, dolutegravir from Japan

**Tomokazu Yoshinaga**

Head of HIV Infection Group, Infection & Immunity Division, Drug Development & Disease Research Institute, Shionogi & Co., Ltd.

Therapeutic applications of VEGF inhibitors : progress and challenges

**Napoleone Ferrara**

Distinguished Professor of Pathology  
University of California San Diego Moores Cancer Center

Are genetic and genomics the future of drug discovery in neuroscience?

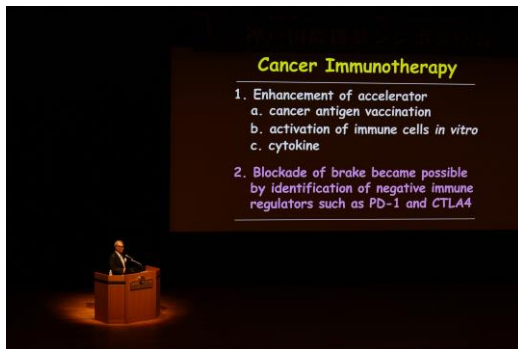
**David Andrew Collier**

Head of Neuroscience Genetics, Lilly Research Laboratories,  
Eli Lilly and Company Ltd.

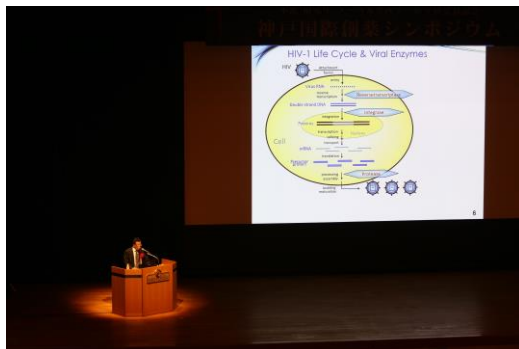
【Scenes from the symposium】



Moderator, IBRI Director Yoichi Nabeshima



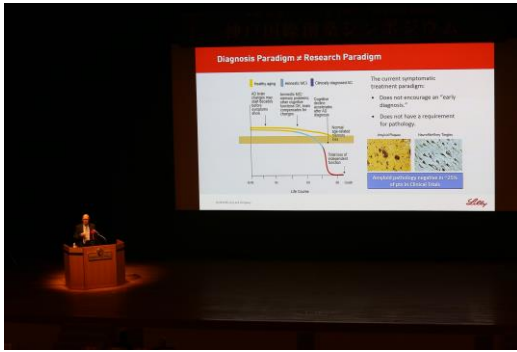
FBRI President Tasuku Honjo



Tomokazu Yoshinaga, Head of HIV Infection Group, Infection & Immunity Division, Drug Development & Disease Research Institute, Shionogi & Co., Ltd.



Napoleone Ferrara Distinguished Professor of Pathology, University of California San Diego Moores Cancer Center



David Andrew Collier Head of Neuroscience Genetics, Lilly Research Laboratories, Eli Lilly and Company Ltd.

The symposium was capped with announcement of the signing of an MOU between the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and FBRI.



The MOU that FBRI signed with UCSD is mainly about subsequent mutual cooperation, with the aim of deepening its partnership with UCSD, which is located in San Diego, the largest biocluster on the U.S. West Coast.

The Kobe International Symposium on Drug Discovery was followed by a reception.



FBRI President Tasuku Honjo giving



Director Eisuke Nishida, RIKEN Center for Biosystems Dynamics Research, giving remarks on behalf of the guests





Hisashi Ietsugu, Chairman, KCCI, giving remarks preceding his toast



Kizo Hisamoto, Mayor of Kobe, giving remarks during the reception



View of the reception venue

This Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster 20th Anniversary Program was implemented with support from many companies and organizations.

