

Foreword

It was a great pleasure to welcome nearly 200 participants originating from more than 30 countries in Trois-Rivières at the International Satellite Meeting in honor of Professor Norio Murata: ‘Photosynthesis and the Post-Genomic Era: from Biophysics to Molecular Biology, a Path in the Research of Photosystem II’. This meeting was held on August 25–28, 2004, in conjunction with the XIIIth International Congress on Photosynthesis, August 29–September 3, 2004, Montréal, Canada. At this occasion, an *honoris causa* doctor degree was awarded by Université du Québec to Professor Murata.

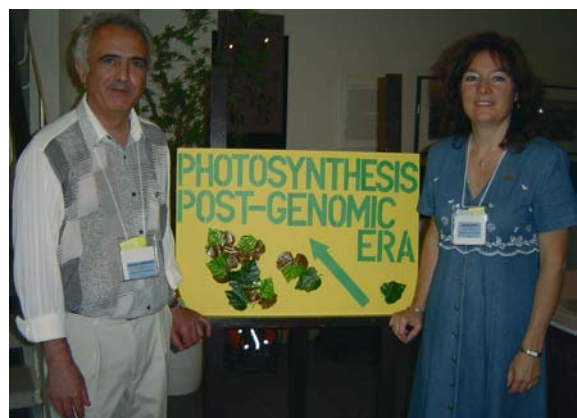
The meeting covered broad areas of the photosynthesis of Photosystem II that were addressed by Professor Norio Murata during his prolific career. The Meeting was aimed at reviewing the present and future scopes of these areas of research on Photosystem II. It was a great opportunity to celebrate Prof. N. Murata’s retirement in March 2005. Professor Murata is a renowned scientist who has made outstanding and significant contributions in the field of photosynthesis, lipid research, and molecular biology of stress perception and response. Prof. Murata’s uniqueness resides in his capability to recognize physiological problems at the organism level and to dissect these



Robert Carpentier, chairman, thanking everyone for their participation.



Norio Murata receiving his *honoris causa* doctor’s degree from Université du Québec authorities.



Suleyman Allakhverdiev, scientific coordinator of the meeting, and Johanne Harnois, site organizer.



In the action of the meeting.

problems step wise up to the molecular level. His scientific contributions have always kept pace with the most recent research trends in photosynthesis, lipid research, and stress biology thus leading to pioneering contributions such as state transition, extrinsic proteins of Photosystem II, identification of sensory and response regulators of stress, and many other crucial findings which have served as 'pathfinders' in research.

Professor Murata's major honor has been its recognition as a highly cited Japanese scientist in Plant & Animal Sciences. He has played a key role in global dissemination of research through collaborations with scientists all over the world. Therefore, the International Satellite Meeting in honor of Prof. Norio Murata was not only an honor to him but also recognition to the entire international community.



In the action of the meeting.

We sincerely hope this meeting was enjoyable, fruitful, and memorable for all participants. We wish to express our cordial salutations to all of you.

Robert Carpentier (Chairman)
Groupe de Recherche en Biologie Végétale
Université du Québec a Trois-Rivières
Québec, Canada

Suleyman I. Allakhverdiev (Coordinator)
Institute of Basic Biological Problems
Russian Academy of Sciences
Pushchino, Moscow Region, Russia