

Obituary: Professor Masayuki Nakagaki (1923–2008)

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Professor Masayuki Nakagaki passed away at the age of 85 in Kyoto on April 23, 2008. The passing away of Professor Nakagaki is very much regretted by all who know him. In 1982, He was appointed Regional Editor for Asia of *Colloid and Polymer Science* after retirement of Professor Bun-ichi Tamamushi. Since then until the end of 2001, he had been Regional Editor for 20 years and handled more than 800 manuscripts submitted from Asian countries.



Professor Nakagaki was born in Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan in 1923, graduated from the Imperial University of Tokyo in 1945, and was appointed instructor at the same university. After receiving the degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Tokyo in 1950 for his studies on the stability of foams, he was appointed lecturer at the same university in 1951. He moved to Osaka City University as a professor in 1954. He was appointed Professor of Physical

Chemistry at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Kyoto University in 1960 and became Professor Emeritus in 1987. He stayed in the USA for 3 years in total (1955–1957 and 1968–1969). He joined Professor Wilfried Heller at Wayne State University as a visiting professor to work on the light scattering of colloidal dispersions. He also stayed at Marburg Phillips University in Germany as a visiting professor (1981). After 5 years as a professor at Hoshi University (1987–1992), he held the position of Director of the Tokyo Institute of Colloid Science in 1992.

He served as vice chairman (1981–1983) and chairman (1983–1985) of the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry of the Chemical Society of Japan and was chairman of the Sixth International Conference on Surface and Colloid Science held at Hakone, Japan, in 1988. He was also the president of the Membrane Society of Japan from 1978 to 1988 and served as chairman of the International Congress on Membranes and Membrane Processes held at Tokyo in 1987.

For his physico-chemical studies on the permeability of lens capsules, the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan gave him a research award in 1970 and recommended him for a merit member in 1990. He was also decorated with the Order of the Rising Sun second class from the Japanese Government in 1999.

Professor Nakagaki was not only a scientist but also a poet. Several collections of his poetry (Tanka, which is a Japanese poem consisting of 31 syllables) have been published. Some of them were dedicated to his beloved wife Hisako, who was also a poet and passed away in 2000.

Hiroyuki Ohshima
Regional Editor for Asia