

## The Opening and Presentation Ceremony of Japanese Medical Education History Museum and Juntendo's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony

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On April 10<sup>th</sup> (Thu), 2014, we held ceremonies for the opening / presentation of the Japanese Medical Education History Museum and Juntendo's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Ariyama Noboru Memorial Hall in Juntendo University with the honored presence of His Imperial Majesty Emperor Akihito and Her Imperial Majesty Empress Michiko.

After the ceremonies, Their Majesties visited the newly-opened Japanese Medical Education History Museum. April 10 falls on their 55<sup>th</sup> marriage anniversary, and it was our honor to have them with us on such an important day for them.

At the ceremonies, we had distinguished guests such as former prime minister and current president of the Tokyo Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympics Games MORI Yoshiro, president of The Japan Association of Medical Sciences and former president of Japan Medical Education Foundation TAKAKU Fumimaro, former chairman of the House of Representatives and honorary president of the Japan Association of Athletics Federations KONO Yohei, RIKEN president and Nobel laureate in chemistry NOYORI Ryoji, president of the Japan Medical Association YOKOKURA Yoshitake, as well as Juntendo faculty and staff, for a total of 190 attendees.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Their Majesties took the rostrum with the guidance of Juntendo University CEO OGAWA Hideoki. Then, everyone joined in singing the National Anthem, accompanied by the Juntendo University Orchestra. After that, Juntendo University CEO OGAWA Hideoki gave an opening speech followed by the com-

plimentary speeches of Mr. MORI Yoshiro and Mr. TAKAKU Fumimaro on behalf of the invited guests. During the event, I grew tense upon noticing how attentively Their Majesties were listening to the speeches. After the ceremonies, many commented that the ceremony was a great success in that the atmosphere was warm yet dignified.

The Japanese Medical Education History Museum was established as part of Juntendo University's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary events, and is Japan's first full-time museum where visitors can enjoy the preserved and enhanced contents of the exhibit entitled "Japanese Medical Education History - the way we educated doctors-: through Japanese history" The exhibit was organized at the 28<sup>th</sup> Conference of The Japanese Association of Medical Sciences and was on display at the National Museum of Nature and Science from February to April in 2011.

During their visit to the Japanese Medical Education History Museum, Their Majesties carefully viewed approximately 120 exhibits about the history of Western medicine education in Japan, such as the *Kaitai-Shinsyo* (the translated book on Dutch medicine published in 1774), and eagerly asked questions of their guide, Distinguished Professor of Medical History SAKAI Shizu. After the visit, Their Majesties invited Professor SAKAI and CEO OGAWA to the rest space and had a friendly conversation.

In the afternoon after the ceremonies, RIKEN president and Nobel laureate in chemistry NOYORI

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Ryoji delivered a lecture at the Ariyama Noboru Memorial Hall on the theme of “Science Technology in the contemporary era” which was full of useful insights and hints at the future. After the lecture, everyone proceeded to the 19<sup>th</sup> floor of Juntendo University’s Century Tower and enjoyed a banquet. The banquet began with an opening speech from Juntendo University CEO OGAWA Hideoki, followed by a complimentary speech from chairman of The Open University of Japan and former president of Waseda University SHIRAI Katsuhiko, and a toast from chairman of the International House of Japan and former Under-Secretary-General for the Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator AKASHI Yasushi. About 190 people who celebrated the Juntendo University’s 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the opening of the museum joined the banquet and

enjoyed conversations in a friendly atmosphere. Afterwards, Juntendo University trustee and Distinguished Professor SATO Kiyoshi gave closing remarks.

It was our great honor that this historic event attended by Their Majesties in celebration of the end of the first 175 years of our University proceeded without any troubles from the beginning to end. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the faculty and staff who participated in and supported the preparation and holding of this anniversary event.

I hope that all Juntendo University faculty and staff will dedicate themselves to their work and continue striving for the further development of our University under the notions of “不斷前進-continuous advancement-” and “Today, anew, the spirit of ‘JIN’”.