



Happy Thirtieth Anniversary

Gary D. Christian

Gary Christian with
Professor Nobuhiko Ishibashi
Flow Analysis V, Kumamoto, 1991

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It is my great pleasure and honor to congratulate and recognize the Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis on the occasion of its thirtieth anniversary! It has been a decade since I wrote a foreword commemorating the twentieth anniversary [JFIA, 20(1), 1 (2003)], and another five years recognizing the important contributions of JFIA with the publication of the fifteenth volume [JFIA, 15(1), 2-3 (1998)].

Professor Nobuhiko Ishibashi of the Faculty of Engineering of Kyushu University was a pioneer in introducing and developing flow injection analysis in Japan. He was instrumental in forming JAFIA and its Journal of Flow Injection Analysis in 1984, serving as the first Chair of JAFIA and the first editor of JFIA. Both have flourished over the years, now in the capable hands of Professor Toshihiko Imato of Kyushu University as Chair of JAFIA and Professor Tsutomu Nagaoka of Osaka Prefecture University as Editor of JFIA.

I had the pleasure of meeting Professor Ishibashi at Flow Analysis V, which he chaired at Kumamoto in 1991. It is unfortunate he passed away during the conference, but he was doing what he loved. I was honored to participate in a symposium honoring him the following year.

JAFIA and JFIA have had great influence on Japanese researchers, as well as those worldwide. The journal, of course, is a key outlet for FIA research, being the only journal devoted exclusively to this important field. I always enjoy the reports and news of meetings and events, and the pictures of participants and their activities.

JAFIA introduced several awards in 1998 that have recognized and influenced the careers of numerous FIA

researchers and practitioners around the globe. Initial awards were the JAFIA Honor Award for Science, the JAFIA Award for Science, the JAFIA Award for Technical Development, and the JAFIA Award for Young Researchers. In 2001, the JAFIA Award for Original Papers was initiated. In all, up to 2012, 111 leaders have been recognized as shown in Table 1.

I was privileged to receive the JAFIA Honor Award in 2003 on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of JAFIA. A special JAFIA 20th Anniversary Award was created to honor Sue Christian for her many contributions to the International Conference on Flow Injection Analysis (ICFIA), which is held jointly with JAFIA since 1995. JAFIA hosted the 15th ICFIA in Nagoya jointly with the 25th Anniversary Meeting of JAFIA, a special event in which nineteen leading FIA scientists were honored with the Honor Award for Science and the Award for Science.

A very special event for Sue and me was the "Mini-Symposium on Flow Injection Analysis with Professor Gary D. Christian" for the 49th Annual Meeting of JAFIA at the Aichi Institute of Technology in December, 2011, in which we got to interact with many students and enjoy the wonderful hospitality of our friends.

It has been our privilege to be associated with JAFIA members through ICFIA over the years. The interactions of FIA scientists have resulted in many international research collaborations of Japanese researchers and others. We look forward to the joint ICFIA/JAFIA meeting in Fukuoka in 2014. Best wishes for the next thirty years!

Table 1 JAFIA Awards

Year	Honor Award for Science	Award for Science	Award for Technical Development	Award for Young Researchers	Award for Original Papers	All
1998	7	3	2	3		
1999	2	2	1	1		
2000		3	1	2		
2001	1	3		1	1	
2002		2	2		1	
2003	9	6		2	3	
2004		1		1	1	
2005		1	1			
2006		2	1		2	
2007		3	1	1		
2008	11	8		2		
2009	2	3		1		
2010		3	1	1	1	
2011		2		1		
2012				2		
Total	32	42	10	18	9	111