

Personal Report  
**Professor Ichiro Tanasawa**



Professor Ichiro Tanasawa celebrated his 67th birthday on January 1, 2003. It is our pleasure to honor his long-term contribution to the heat and mass transfer field on this occasion. We are happy to express our gratitude to Professor Tanasawa by tracing his professional life and some important achievements during his carrier.

Professor Tanasawa was born in Sendai, an old feudal capital in Japan. He lived there throughout his youth, until the age of 18. In 1951, he moved from Sendai to Tokyo to enter The University of Tokyo. After a four-year stay as an undergraduate student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, he proceeded to the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, at The University of Tokyo. His supervisor was Professor Fujio Tachibana of the Institute of Industrial Science (IIS), at The University of Tokyo, who was one of the pioneers of heat and mass transfer research in Japan. 1963 was the starting point of Professor Tanasawa's professional career, when he completed his Doctor of Engineering thesis on the application of extended surfaces to boiling heat transfer. Subsequently, he remained at IIS as an Associate Professor and was promoted to Professor in 1976. After 33 years of intensive contribution to research, education, and several national scientific committees, Professor Tanasawa retired from The University of Tokyo in 1996. He was a Professor at

Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology for 3 years after his retirement, followed by a move to Nihon University, where he has been working up to the present.

During his whole professional carrier, Professor Tanasawa has supervised many Doctorate students and far more Master's students in various topics, and also he has offered advice to many researchers in industry. There is no doubt that these students and researchers in the younger generation have been always inspired with new ideas by his heartwarming and frank attitude full of wit and keen suggestions. In addition, his simple but clear style of lecturing encouraged several universities including Tohoku, Hokkaido, Nagoya, and Kyushu Universities, to invite him as a special lecturer.

As a researcher, Professor Tanasawa has been a pioneer of several topics in the field of heat and mass transfer. His works in dropwise condensation, MHD, EHD, and biotransport have been published in over 100 journal articles and 17 books. His journal articles on MHD effects on Czochralsky crystal growth in particular have been referenced more than 200 times up to the present day. In recognition of his enterprising works, Professor Tanasawa was awarded the Best Paper Award in 1989 and again in 2001 by the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME).

The events specially to be mentioned through Professor Tanasawa's carrier are his devoted contributions

to scientific committees of the Japanese government which welcomed his wide vision and profound insights into engineering and science. He was a special member of the Science Research Council, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science for 4 years from 1994 and has been a member of the Energy and Environment Committee of the Industry and Technology Council, Ministry of International Trade and Industry since 1993. He also worked for the Science and Technology Agency as a special member of the Space Development Committee for 2 years from 1994 and at the Science Council of Japan as a member of the Thermal Engineering Committee for 10 years since from 1980.

Professor Tanasawa has also been relied upon as an opinion leader of the research society in the field of thermal engineering and heat and mass transfer. He was elected to positions of presidents of several academic societies such as the JSME, Heat Transfer Society of Japan, and Japan Society of Thermophysical Properties. His contribution was recognized with a Distinguished Research Award, JSME Bioengineering Division in 1998. He was an editor of the International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer until 1999 and is still a member of the Honorary Advisory Board. Furthermore, he organized a number of International Symposium on Molecular and Micro Scale Heat Transfer in Materials Processing and Other Applications at Yokohama in

1996, the Oji International Seminar on Advanced Heat Transfer in Manufacturing and Processing of New Materials at Tomakomai in 1990, and the ASME/JSME Thermal Engineering Joint Conference at Honolulu in 1987. The International Contribution Award of the JSME Thermal Engineering Division was given to him in 1995 for such international research activities.

It is clear for those who know Professor Tanasawa that these exemplary contributions are not only the result of his talented ability in scientific research but also of his inborn virtue. On behalf of Professor Tanasawa's students and colleagues, we express our gratitude to Professor Tanasawa and wish him continued productive years, good health, and many more years of happiness.

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