



Tribute

Tribute to Professor Florence on his 65th Birthday

It is my great pleasure to express my heartfelt congratulations to my friend and colleague Professor Florence on his 65th birthday.

On 6th April 2003, Hoshi University, Tokyo had the great privilege to confer on him an Honorary Degree of Doctorate in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of pharmaceutical sciences and to the promotion of the welfare of mankind.

Sandy was also recognized by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society for his contribution to the field of pharmaceutical sciences by being elected a fellow in 1987 and receiving the Charter medal. He was made a Commander of the British Empire by the Queen in 1994.

As widely known, his research interests are in physical chemistry of pharmaceutical systems. He accomplished outstanding achievements and played a leading role in the areas related to drug delivery and targeting systems, making an enormous contribution to pharmaceutical sciences, not only in Great Britain but also internationally. This contribution has been recognized in the form of numerous national and international awards and distinctions. His lectures, such as the one given in Tokyo at the 16th Annual Meeting of The Academy of Pharmaceutical Science and Tech-

nology of Japan in 2001, always impress those who aspire to follow the path of pharmaceutical sciences.

Sandy has contributed to the work of many national and international bodies with his knowledge and expertise. As President of the Controlled Release Society he greatly increased the society's activities, including organization of its excellent annual meeting in Glasgow. He is a great educator himself, as many of his former students, now working worldwide, can testify. I personally most admire his humour and his elegance. Sandy's speeches are always superb and entertaining, as well as providing the audience with deep scientific insight. Now, more than ever, the international pharmaceuticals community needs his unique leadership skills for its increasingly sophisticated advances in a variety of areas—and particularly in research and education.

Editor-in-Chief

Tsuneji Nagai

The Nagai Foundation Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

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