

Preface

The Annual Symposium on Organometallic Chemistry in Japan marked its 40th year in 1993. For the occasion, Japanese members of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Organometallic Chemistry* planned a special issue commemorating the Symposium and to express their sincere gratitude to four Emeritus Professors, R. Okawara (1915 –), N. Hagihara (1916 –), S. Otsuka (1918 –), and M. Kumada (1920 –), who initiated and developed organometallic chemistry in Japan. More than forty Japanese organometallic chemists were invited to contribute a paper. Many chemists accepted our invitation and their papers are presented in this Special Issue. I personally do not mention the history of organometallic chemistry in Japan nor the contributions of the four emeritus professors in the field. However, I hope the leaders of the field will enjoy reading the following essay written by Akio Yamamoto. Finally, on behalf of the Japanese Editorial Board, I sincerely thank those authors who accepted the invitation to contribute to this special commemorative issue.

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