

## To the Future from the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IBB

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**THE INSTITUTE OF** Biomaterials and Bioengineering (IBB) of TMDU celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on April 1, 2011.

Regarding this event, I should first express my gratitude and respect to the retired IBB faculty and staff because of their great contribution to the development of our present institution. I keenly feel the significance of the 60-year history of IBB because the present state of our institution was made possible only due to the efforts and achievements of our predecessors. Therefore, I have a deep understanding of our responsibility in ensuring the future health of IBB through our current and future work.

The IBB currently contributes to diverse academic fields such as biofunctional molecules, biomaterials and biosystems via its position as a center of excellence of biomaterials and bioengineering. In fact, many IBB discoveries have been commercialized since the Institute of Dental Materials Research was established in 1951 and, after two reorganizations, became the IBB as currently constituted. From another perspective, the fields of research promoted at IBB are expanding rapidly as the significance of science, engineering, and pharmacology relating to medicine and life science in the decade has grown by leaps and bounds.

To be sure, artificial materials still have serious problems of biocompatibility and biofunction that must be solved with consideration of the various influences such materials have on the entire body. In medicine and life science, advanced abilities in diagnosis and sensing are areas that need immediate attention; the creation of new academic fields of medicine on the basis of micro devices is urgently required. The state of the art in these areas will move forward with the formation of a platform of micro devices for individuals, cells, and compo-

nents and the development of a more sophisticated understanding of causes and effects and the general biosystem. In addition, it is necessary to put much effort into frontier research fields that encompass regenerative medicine and nanotechnology, and which include the research and development of materials and devices in liaison with life science researchers.

As described above, the recent progress made in biomaterials and bioengineering is remarkable. Therefore, the present structure of the institute is unfortunately not always appropriate to meet the rapidly changing and diverse demands from society, the academic world, and medical clinics.

In response to the new research environment and the needs of IBB stakeholders described above, the IBB will, effective April 2012, undergo its third reconstruction. The purpose of this reorganization is the optimal utilization and commercialization of materials and devices that contribute to medicine and dentistry and the promotion of medical and dental sciences through collaborations with medical and dental schools.

Our final goal is to maintain the IBB's continuous contributions to society so that, in 40 years, a further evolved IBB can look back with pride on its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and look toward its next century of service.



The front cover of the book published to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IBB.

## Celebrating the Anniversary of TMDU's Foundation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming Day

**AS A PART** of our effort to improve our brand strength and nurture our love for our university, we celebrated the anniversary of the foundation of our school on October 12 and held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming Day on October 16, 2011. In conjunction with our anniversary, we called for the students and school staff to clean up the campus for "My Campus Project". In addition, for the "Healing Green Project", President Takashi Ohyama planted plum and mountain cherry trees. In the afternoon, 18 staff members were awarded for their continuous service.

At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming Day celebration, a campus tour was held, featuring the new library in M&D Tower and the 26<sup>th</sup> floor Faculty Lounge. After the tour, Ikuo Kameyama, the President of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, lectured on "The Power of Literature — Dostoyevsky" at the Memorial

Lecture Hall of Akio Suzuki. The lecture was followed by a ceremony at which four professors were given the "Best Teacher Award" as a part of the "Doubling the Can-Do Spirit Project". After the award presentation, a convivial party was held at the Faculty Lounge with President Ohyama, professors emeritus, and alumni who were celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 17<sup>th</sup> graduating class of the Faculty of Dentistry.



Awardees at the award ceremony.



Participants at the Faculty Lounge.