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Editorial

The Japan Society for Comparative Endocrinology (JSCE) Awards



We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the works of excellent researchers in the JSCE again. As explained in detail in the previous Editorial (GCE 260: 162–163, 2018), the JSCE was founded in 1975 by the leadership of the first president, Dr. Hideshi Kobayashi. Since then, the Society has been successful as shown by the continuous holding of domestic meetings and symposia annually in various places in Japan. Moreover, the members of the JSCE present their works in the international congresses such as the International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, and publish their papers in the leading international journals such as the *General and Comparative Endocrinology*.

The Society has endeavored to find a way to promote comparative endocrinology and to recognize excellent researches pursued by the members of the JSCE. After the discussion over several years, the society has decided to start two awards at the 40th anniversary of the Society in 2015. One is the Kobayashi Award named after the founder of the JSCE, which is given to established comparative endocrinologists known worldwide. The other is the Encouragement Award for promising young endocrinologists. The awardees have honor of giving their lectures in the annual meeting of the JSCE.

The Society has been exploring the way to advertise excellent researches of the awardees to the world and proposed to publish their works as reviews in the GCE. Thanks to the kind decision of Editors-in-Chief at that time, Dr. Robert Dores and Dr. Deborah Power, two review

papers by the Encouragement Award winners, Takashi Yoshimura and Kazuyoshi Ukena were successfully published for the first time last year (GCE 260: 164–170 and 171–174, 2018).

In this year, we are pleased to introduce four outstanding research activities of Kobayashi Award and Encouragement Award winners. The name and the title of their reviews follow. We hope that these reviews serve as a good opportunity for the GCE readers to recognize research activities of the JSCE members.

‘Endocrinological studies on the life cycle phenomena in amphibians’ by Dr. Sakae Kikuyama, a recipient of the Kobayashi Award 2015

‘Discovery of cerebellar and pineal neurosteroids and their biological actions on the growth and survival of Purkinje cells during development’ by Dr. Kazuyoshi Tsutsui, a recipient of the Kobayashi Award 2016

‘Evolution of the regulatory mechanisms for the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis in vertebrates—hypothesis from a comparative view’ by Dr. Shinji Kanda, a recipient of the Encouragement Award 2017

‘A conceptual framework for understanding sexual differentiation of the teleost brain’ by Dr. Kataaki Okubo, a recipient of the Encouragement Award 2017

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