

Preface

This volume is the sixth in a series of Proceedings of the Symposia conducted under the theme “Interdisciplinary Studies on Environmental Chemistry” by the Global Center of Excellence (G-COE) Program of Ehime University sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan. Among the previous five symposia, the 1st and 3rd were on the “Biological Responses to Chemical Contaminants”, while the 2nd symposium focused on “Environmental Research in Asia for Establishing a Scientists Network”. The 4th symposium conducted during the year 2009 was on an ambitious program “Environmental Specimen Bank: Exploring Possibility of Setting-up ESBs in Developing Countries”. The 5th of the symposium series was conducted last year (2010) on “Modeling and Analysis of Marine Environmental Problems”. All these symposia series were published as individual volumes and all the five were praised by the scientific community as equivalent to text books in the respective topics.

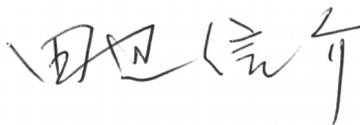
As this is the final year of the G-COE program (FY 2007–2011), the topic for the present symposium was a more general one. Importance was given to the young scientists who are the back-bones of the program and are carrying-out most of the research works of the G-COE. The International Symposium titled “Advanced Studies by Young Scientists on Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology” was held during 4–6 August, 2011 at Ehime University, Japan. This symposium was held on a topic based on fostering the talents of the young scientists, which is one of the major aims of the G-COE program. Apart from few senior scientists, who were invited to deliver keynote addresses, all other speakers in the symposium were the young scientists from Ehime University, other Universities and research institutes in Japan and abroad. This was a symposium totally planned, organized and conducted by the young scientists of our Center and also this symposium was aimed at the young environmental scientists and ecotoxicologists from all over the world. The young researchers who came from all over the world proved their talents by presenting and exhibiting wonderful papers in this symposium, many of which are included in this volume.

I feel that, as also done in the previous five volumes, we could produce this Volume 6 with high quality publications, the credit for which goes first and foremost to the authors. They have put forth a great deal of effort and creativity to produce their papers, and I am very much thankful for their nice presentation on stage and also in the form of papers presented for this volume. I thank all of the authors who had submitted papers in this and also in the previous five volumes. They are also responsible for keeping the G-COE program vital and

very successful. The main reason for the success of all the symposia is the time and dedication of the contributors who have funded their time and effort and so the most important acknowledgments are to the contributors.

Credit also goes to the organizers of the symposium and also the reviewers, who spent enormous blocks of time apart from their busy schedules to carefully read and evaluate the submissions. The reviewers wrote lengthy, thoughtful reviews, which made this volume a wonderful piece of contribution in environmental science and ecotoxicology.

I acknowledge with thanks the sponsoring from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan and Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) for the conduct of this symposium and also for the production of this volume. I thank Dr. Yasunobu Yanagisawa, President, Ehime University and Prof. Hidetaka Takeoka, Director, Center for Marine Environmental Studies (CMES), Ehime University for all their support. Staff from CMES, Ehime University has done a great job assisting me in organizing the conference and also in preparing this volume. Helps from all our research scholars and students are very much acknowledged.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Japanese characters, likely 'Tanabe Shinsuke'.

Shinsuke Tanabe
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