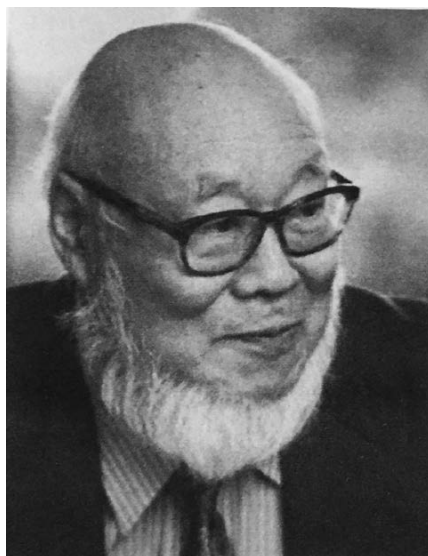


Obituary of Great Teacher, Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

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Honorary President, International Society, for Laser Surgery & Medicine



Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi

Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi, The 4th President, International Society for Laser Surgery & Medicine (1979-1981) passed away peacefully on December 31, 2020, in Tokyo, Japan He was 91 years of Age.

This is a big lost to the Society, and we all feel very sad to the family of Prof. Atsumi, and to members of the Japan Society of Laser in Medicine.

The International Society for Laser Surgery organized by Prof. Isaac Kaplan, at Tel Aviv, Israel, in 1975 with an attendance of 65, the second Congress attended by 150 members at Dallas, Texas, in 1977, under the Presidency of Prof. Billie Aronoff, and the 3rd Congress, in 1979 at Graz, Austria by Prof. Heppner, with about 300 members. Prof. Atsumi who was the first Professor in Bio-medical Engineering Department of the University of Tokyo, became the First President of the Japan Society of Laser in Medicine, and with strong support of Prof. Narong Nimsakul, who was the first Asian student of Laser Surgery of Prof. Isaac Kaplan. (CO₂ Laser) in 1977, Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi, became the 4th President of the International Society for Laser Surgery at the meeting in Graz, Austria, in 1979. Prof. Atsumi hosted the 4th Congress of the International Society for Laser Surgery in Tokyo, in 1981, with 1,200 members from 60 countries. He was very successful in expanding the scope of Laser Surgical applications to the medical applications like tissue reaction, laser acupuncture, laser stimulation and laser medical application, including the manufacturing of many types of the lasers for medical usage. At the 4th Congress in 1981 in Tokyo, The meeting was expanded into many medical applications, and the name of the International Society for Laser Surgery was changed into **the Inter-**



9th Congress of Asian-Pacific Association for Laser Medicine and Surgery in Pattaya (APALMS 2002) with Prof. Atsumi, Prof. Narong and Prof. Kaplan



1st Congress of World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine and Surgery in Tokyo (WFSLMS 2005)

ments. With his attitude like this, it made the young surgeons very difficult to escape from the scientific attendance. In 1985, with more participation from the Asian members, and with special problems among the Asian members, Prof. Atsumi was instrumental in the founding of the Asian-Pacific Association of Laser in Medicine & Surgery, with great support from Prof. Isaac Kaplan, and this organization has been organized parallelly with the International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine actively.

There was an inside story about Prof. Atsumi, Prof. Ohshiro and Prof. Narong, in which I believe it should be the time to be opened to public. In 1979, after Prof. Atsumi became the President of the International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine, he had the secret meeting with Prof. Ohshiro and Prof. Narong in Tokyo. As Prof. Ohshiro and Prof. Narong



1st Congress of International Phototherapy Association in Suwa city, Japan (Kimono Party of IPTA 2006, Congress President : Prof. Yoshimi Asagai)

ing nicely in that directions, and I believe that 3 of us have done a good jobs for promotion of the Laser in Medicine & Surgery, globally, for the benefit of the people, and all these success are because of **One great Teacher, Prof. Kazuhiko Atsumi**

Please rest in Peace our Great Teacher, and thank you for all your kind instruction, and your devoted contribution to the progress of Laser in Surgery and Medicine.

national Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine. This Congress with the great effort of Prof. Atsumi, the Laser Surgery and Medicine was growing from European countries to Asian Countries including China and India, and covering wide area of the global application as evidenced by the present – time application.

Prof. Atsumi had been well respected and recognized by surgeons and medical practitioners around the world. He attended every big Congress of the International level with his lovely wife – Dr. Eiko Atsumi. We used to see Prof. Atsumi sitting at the first – row of the Congress-room, and listening to the presentation carefully, with very sharp questions and Comments.



Officers of 1st WFSLMS in Tokyo (2005)

were two young surgeons working very hard in promotion of the Laser applications worldwide, and Prof. Atsumi foresees the future vision, and think of guiding these two young surgeons in a good direction. He made secret agreement that Prof. Ohshiro will do his best in the promoting of Low Level Laser applications, and Prof. Narong will do his best in the promotion of high level power laser application, under the supervision of Prof. Atsumi, and three of them work-



Laser Congress in Jerusalem with Prof. Narong, Prof. Atsumi and Prof. Kaplan (2005)