



Invited Letter

A Letter for Honoring Prof. Takeshi Matsuura

William J. Koros

School of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, 311 Ferst Drive, Atlanta, GA, 30332, USA

Email: wjk@chbe.gatech.edu

Professor Takeshi Matsuura has provided guidance and an example to all of the members of our membrane community with regard to what it means to be a leader and a “good citizen”. I respect his many contributions and must say that his example inspires our entire community to work energetically to spread the word about membrane capabilities. He has helped show the way to reduce energy use and carbon footprints of processes using advanced membranes and novel materials. I first became aware of Dr. Matsuura’s work and ideas as a graduate student, and have had the pleasure of many discussions with him at conferences around the world.

Takeshi is more than a leader, he is a friend, and I have taken inspiration from his crosscutting interest and contributions to the fields of liquid and gas separations using membranes. Although I have not worked directly with him as a collaborator, I often encounter individuals who have had the opportunity to do so. Not only his technical acumen but also his kindness and gentlemanly nature are mentioned within the same sentence by his former students and collaborators in discussing him.

I was delighted to learn of the special issue in Takeshi’s honor, and think it is wonderful to have the opportunity to pay my respects to Professor Matsuura and his contributions to our community both as an innovator and educator. His work in Japan, Germany, the US, then at the National Research Council of Canada and finally as a professor and appointment to the British Gas/NSERC Industrial Research Chair have spanned almost six decades. The main theme that runs through this remarkable career is, of course, membranes—and he is still as energetic and committed to this theme as when I first met him many years ago. Even after his appointment as an emeritus professor, his contributions to the University of Technology Malaysia continued to with his combination of insights and encouragement to young and old membrane scientists.

It is very appropriate for his friends and colleagues to provide this special issue in his honor with thanks and best wishes for further contributions to our community. I appreciate the opportunity to add my letter to the special issue with hopes for many more years of interactions with him.

With warm best regards,

William J. Koros
Roberto C. Goizueta Chair
in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
(and Editor-in-Chief, Emeritus, Journal of Membrane Science)

