



Invited Letter

## Takeshi Matsuura: A Truly Inspirational Friend and Membrane Scientist

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It is my honor to be invited to write this letter to celebrate the release of the Special Issue: honoring Professor Takeshi Matsuura. Need not to be mentioned, the contributions of extraordinary membrane scientist such as Prof Matsuura to the advancement of membrane science and technology have been well documented everywhere. His contributions to the scientific community in a wide range of areas including membrane development, desalination and

wastewater treatment, hemodialysis, gas separation, just to name a few, are tremendous. I would like to specifically mention that Professor Matsuura's contributions to Universiti Teknologi Malaysia is also equally enormous. He is the recipient of Honorary Degree of Doctor of Engineering in conjunction with the university's 58<sup>th</sup> convocation ceremony on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017.





I have been knowing Professor Matsuura in person since 2007 when we first meet during his very first visit to UTM. Sharing the same professional interests and visions, we soon become close as friends and academic collaborators. It is my great honor to work closely with him and jointly publish a number of research articles and books. I have always been fascinated by his energetic and humble characters. Obviously, age has never inhibited his thirst for knowledge especially in membrane-based separation processes. His enthusiasm never ceased. There were many times we worked together and discussed about the future direction of membrane research and development in Malaysia, where I have personally witnessed his very relevant ideas and innovations with the current trends both scientific and industrial adoptions. Professor Matsuura's vision and passion for work as well as his innovation in membrane science and technology have significantly influenced my professional views in many aspects.

Professor Matsuura is undoubtedly an expert in this field, and it is always great to be able to learn from him. His knowledge of membrane science and technology is absolutely apparent. Since his first visit to AMTEC as a Distinguished Visiting Professor since 2008, he is and remains a great mentor to many of us in AMTEC. His visit to AMTEC is one of the most anticipated events for all the staff and students. We really appreciate his sacrifices on his family time to travel more than 20 hours from a continent far away to reach us. Everyone in the research centre really valued the precious opinions and guidance offered by Prof Matsuura. Besides sharing his experience and providing possible solutions to the issues encountered by the staff and students, Professor Matsuura always promotes critical thinking by engaging the students to present more ideas. His quote 'Be courageous! You are not entirely helpless. You are equipped with science and technology that you have learned.' is especially encouraging and motivating.

It is my privilege to extend a heartfelt message of gratitude for Prof Matsuura's great efforts and dedications. On behalf of all the academic staff and students of AMTEC, I would like to thank Prof Matsuura for bringing his research interest and spirit in helping us to improve our work. He has inspired us, particularly to me, for years, hopefully he will do the same for us in more

years to come. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish Professor Matsuura all the best and good health for the years to come!

Regards

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