



From Zinc Fingers
to Zinc Signals

Dear Fellow Zincologists,

I am deeply honored to begin my appointment as the 7th President of the International Society for Zinc Biology.

Since becoming a member of the ISZB in 2009, I have been engaged in the administration of the society in various roles, including Board Member, Chair of the Membership Committee, Chair of the Publication/Advertising Committee, and Chair of the organizing committee of the 6th meeting of ISZB in Japan. Of note, I have also been serving as President of the Japanese Society for Zinc Nutritional Therapy during the last six years. I have thus organized scientific sessions for the Japanese society annual meetings, having had the pleasure to invite many notable ISZB members to broaden the exposure of my Japanese colleagues to state-of-the-art zinc research, as well as to allow fellow ISZB members to experience Japanese science and culture. Based on these experiences, I would like to serve the society in many ways, but primarily by enhancing its visibility, especially during these trying times due to the pandemic. To achieve this, I plan to work closely with the Board, the new President-Elect Samantha Pitt, Past-President Lothar Rink, as well as the various ISZB committees, to initiate several new initiatives:

1. Increase activity in local groups by establishing chapters of the ISZB. This will allow members to interact with each other to increase collaborative efforts, as well as to recruit new members to the society by promoting interactions with other fields relevant to metal function.
2. Make the society more visible and recognizable. This will be achieved by continuous updates on important advances in zinc biology and ISZB activities, via our website and newsletter, as well as increased presence in social media through our Facebook and Tweeter feeds.
3. Encourage a young generation of zinc scientists, by providing them many opportunities to present at our meetings through travel fellowships and other awards. This will expand the number of young zinc biologists and ensure the viability of the ISZB for future generations of researchers.

I am excited to serve you in my new role as President and look forward to receiving your support to help me achieve these objectives. I thank you for all that you do to make the ISZB a vital part of our scientific endeavors!

Cordially yours,

Toshiyuki Fukada
President, International Society for Zinc Biology

