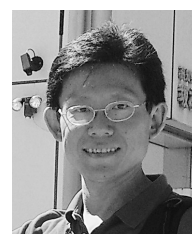


Foreword & Messages

Message to Kuroshio Science

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It is my great pleasure to participate in the 9th International Kuroshio Science Symposium. It is good to see old friends again here in Taiwan. I attended, for the first time, the 8th International Kuroshio Science Symposium held in Kochi University in 2015. In the very beginning, I thought the scopes of this symposium are all about marine science OF the Kuroshio Current. However, I was surprised to find that the scopes are far beyond than I originally thought; the scopes are actually about sciences IN the Kuroshio region. This Kuroshio Science Symposium, as well as the network of universities in this region, is to promote the idea of establishment of sustainable society in the Kuroshio region. To fulfill this goal, cross-border education becomes a crucial approach, and this symposium serves a great platform for cross-border education. In the 2016 meeting, we had scientists and students from Taiwan, Japan, Guam, and the Philippines. Additionally, this symposium is not only cross-border but also cross-disciplinary. The topics presented in the symposium covered many aspects of sciences, including medicine, social-economy, ecotoxicology, algae and seagrass science, coral biology, and conservation of fishery resources. All the participants were benefited from the intellectual inspiration of the talks during the sessions.

Countries along the Kuroshio Current share similar natural resources and challenges. With the rapid development of internationalization, these countries should have broader and deeper cooperation on some critical issues such as climate

change, environmental pollution, management of marine resources, and sustainable development. Cross-border education could be an efficient approach to promote long-term cooperation between the Kuroshio countries. This symposium was established in 2007 by three founder universities, including Kochi University in Japan, Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan, and Bicol University in the Philippines. We, National Dong Hwa University, as well as National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, in Taiwan, are much honored to be able to participate in the symposiums of 2014 and 2015. The most impressive to me is that many young researchers and graduate students are

working very hard and have achieved significantly in many areas of science through this Kuroshio initiative. From the findings they presented in the sessions we can tell that they are making positive impacts for their home countries. These young scientists will definitely become the elites in their respective area and lead the Kuroshio Current Alliance to move forward into the future.

Finally, I would like to wish my very best to the future of the Kuroshio Network. I look forward to seeing more and more scientific progresses and international cooperation initiatives from this program to promote sustainable development of the countries in the Kuroshio region.