Introduction

As a recollection of Dr. Reiji Natori, President Emeritus of The Jikei University School of Medicine, who passed away on November 20, 2006, Jikeikai Medical Journal publishes this special issue with reprints of two original articles and a review by him published in earlier issues of the Journal. They are prefaced by reminiscences written by Dr Satoshi Kurihara, President of The Jikei University School of Medicine, and Drs. Yoshiki Umazume and Shigeru Takemori, successors of Dr. Natori in the Department of Physiology (I). On behalf of the Editorial Board, I hope that this issue will help readers appreciate Dr. Natori's great achievements.

Senya Matsufuji, Editor-in-Chief