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connecting for life

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May 31, 2013

Yasuaki Harabuchi, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman,
Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
Asahikawa Medical University
Midorigaoka Higashi 2-1-1-1, Asahikawa
Hokkaido 078-8510,
Japan

Dear Professor Harabuchi,

It is a distinct honor and with great pleasure that I write this letter on the occasion of the celebration of your 15th anniversary as Professor and Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology.

I was of course aware of your many contributions to the field of Otolaryngology for a long time, but got to know more about your work, your department and your colleagues when I had the good fortune to have one of your fellows Dr. Yusuke Abe work in my laboratory. As a result we became collaborators and published together an important paper in American Journal Respiratory Critical Care Medicine in 2002.

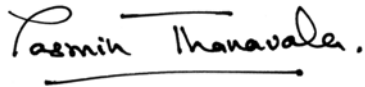
I then had the good fortune to be invited to give a seminar hosted by your Department in April 2003 during my first visit to Japan for the International Symposium in Wakayama. I had the opportunity to meet your fellows and hear about their work. My husband and I had the great pleasure to enjoy your gracious hospitality at a wonderful traditional Japanese dinner.

We remained in touch over the years and then I had the honor to be invited by you to speak at the 7th International Symposium of Tonsils and Mucosal Barriers of the Upper Airways July 2010 for which you served as the Symposium President. Your skills of organization were demonstrated in the excellent scientific program that you prepared and the high caliber speakers that you assembled from all over the world. It was clear that all your guests held you in high esteem. Additionally we were all thrilled by the many magnificent cultural and social events that you arranged for our enjoyment. They have made a wonderful and lasting memory.

Your legacy is the many, many students and fellows that you have trained under your able leadership, the many colleagues from all around the world that treasure your collaboration and your friendship.

It is with greatest pleasure that my husband and I send you our warmest felicitations and salute you as you celebrate your 15th year anniversary as Chairman of the Department.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yasmin Thanavala." The signature is written in a cursive style. There are two horizontal lines drawn above the name and one horizontal line drawn below the name.

Yasmin Thanavala,
Professor and Member.