

## The IMSUT International Joint Usage/Research Center held its FY2021 Research Findings Presentation Meeting

The IMSUT International Joint Usage/Research Center (IMSUT IJURC) held its research findings presentation meeting for FY2021 via Zoom from March 2nd to 4th, 2022. (The second day was hosted jointly with the Medical Mycology Research Center, Chiba University). Aiming to function as a hub for joint research, IMSUT IJURC has established three core research areas (Area 1, Area 2 and Area 3). From the three areas, research findings of 16 domestic and 6 international joint research projects were presented at the meeting attended by a total of 135 researchers from Japan and abroad.

March 2nd, the first day of the meeting, began with opening remarks by Dr. Yuji Yamanashi, Dean of IMSUT. Three reports on the projects of Area 1 (Development of Cutting-Edge Medical Therapies), including achievements through the development of viral immunotherapy, and five presentations from Area 2 (Genome/Cancer/Disease Systems Biology) were made to share the latest findings from each research field.



<Left> Chair Dr. Todo (IMSUT) <Right> Dr. Yamanashi (IMSUT Dean)

The second day proceeded as a joint presentation with the Medical Mycology Research Center, Chiba University. Following Dr. Mitsutoshi Yoneyama's opening remarks, Dr. Norifumi Iijima of the National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation and Health gave a special lecture on the importance of defense mechanisms built up in peripheral tissues. His lecture was followed by a very lively Q&A session that extended the scheduled time.



<Left> Dr. Iijima (National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition) <Right> Dr. Yoneyama (MMRC, Chiba Univ.)

In the following session, four presentations were made by Chiba University and four by IMSUT from Area 3 (Infectious Diseases and Immunology). Many valuable findings from cutting-edge research projects, including a study into the effects of the herpes virus on the progression of dementia, were introduced.

On the final day of the meeting, six overseas research collaborators from the three core Research Areas shared their achievements, including findings on novel carcinogenesis processes by genomic analysis, achieved through global teamwork. During the Q&A session, many questions were asked not only by the participants from the same research field but also by researchers from different specialized fields. In pursuit of fundamental research, the researchers actively exchanged opinions across their research specialties.



<Left> Dr. Teh (NCCS) <Right> Chair Dr. Inada (IMSUT)

For this FY2021 meeting, researchers got together from universities and research institutions in Japan and abroad, including Fukushima Medical University, Shinshu University, Kyoto University, Aichi Developmental Disability Center, Nagasaki University, Kagawa University, University of Auckland, Khon Kaen University, National Cancer Centre Singapore, and Sun Yat-sen University.

The meeting provided an opportunity for researchers in medical sciences to exchange frank opinions, demonstrating the valuable partnership fostered across countries and institutions through the IMSUT IJURC.