

Press Release  
Condolences from Consul-General Mr. Kenichi Okada  
On the Passing of Dr. Ei-ichi Negishi

June 10, 2021

I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Ei-ichi Negishi. Dr. Negishi was the Herbert C. Brown Distinguished Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Purdue University and awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2010.

He was a prolific researcher and published a tremendous number of academic works on an array of problems in synthetic organic chemistry. He received numerous distinguished awards, such as the Chemical Society of Japan Award (1997), the American Chemical Society Award in Organometallic Chemistry (1998), the McCoy Award (1998), the Sigma Xi Award at Purdue (2003), the Nobel Prize in Chemistry (2010), the Order of Culture in Japan (2010), the American Chemical Society Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry (2010), the Indiana Sagamore of the Wabash (2011) and the Purdue Order of the Griffin (2011).

Dr. Negishi was awarded the Nobel Prize for his research on palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions in organic synthesis. The impact of that work is widespread, as it is used in synthetic organic chemistry research worldwide, as well as in the commercial production of an array of pharmaceuticals and molecules used in the electronics industry.

The passing of Dr. Negishi is a profound loss for world chemical society as well as Japan itself. We have truly lost an irreplaceable person. On behalf of the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago, I would like to express my deepest respect for his achievement and for his contributions to our Japan-U.S. academic relations, and pray for a peaceful repose of his soul. I would also like to offer my sincerest condolences to the family of Dr. Negishi. My thoughts are with the family during this difficult time.

With deepest sympathy,

Kenichi Okada  
Consul-General of Japan in Chicago