

# Applause and Congratulations

Neurosurgeons everywhere applaud and congratulate Professors Tetsuo Kanno and Yoko Kato for their world class academic and scientific contributions to neurosurgery and especially for their focus on elevating neurosurgical education and patient care throughout Asia. This journal is just one of their many magnificent contributions to Asian and international neurosurgery. Asia has given the world some of its most outstanding and creative neurosurgeons. This journal serves as the focus of that creativity and plays an important role in spreading it throughout the world. I am especially proud to be asked to prepare this introduction to this issue of Asian neurosurgery. My work with young neurosurgeons in Asia has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my life and a source of many treasured friendships. Especially gratifying has been the relationship with the young neurosurgeons from Asia and their families who have attended our courses and studied microsurgical anatomy with us. I was truly excited, nearly 45 years ago, when I received the first request of a young neurosurgeon from Asia wanting to study microsurgical anatomy with us. He and many other trainees from Asia have become world leaders. Several dozen of our former fellows have become neurosurgery department chairmen and many more are in the early embryonic stages of their career.

Participating in meetings and courses in Asia has made me aware that neurosurgeons share a magnificent, professional gift that transcends national and continental borders: Our lives have yielded an opportunity to help mankind in a unique and exciting way. Our work is done in response to the idea that human life is sacred, that the brain and nervous system are the crown jewels of creation and evolution, and that it makes good sense to spend years of our lives in study in order to be able to help others. The skills we use are among the most delicate, most fateful, and to the layman, the most awesome of any profession. I congratulate Professors Kanno and Kato on their contribution of the *Asian Journal of Neurosurgery* to the world of neurosurgery. It will elevate the care of neurosurgical patients around the globe.



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