**ISSFAL BOARD NOMINATION 2012**

**Candidate Statement**

**Professor Toru Moriguchi, Ph. D**

As a Professor at Azabu University in Japan, I am currently researching the effects of n-3 fatty acids in animals. As a Board Member of the Japan Society for Lipid Nutrition, I involved in the conduct of public relations and the dissemination of its research activities regarding fish diets containing n-3 fatty acids. My current application has the support of three members of ISSFAL: Prof. Harumi Okuyama, Prof. Tomohito Hamazaki and Prof. Hiramitsu Suzuki. They are all members of ISSFAL, and also the first, the past and the current president, respectively, of the Japan Society for Lipid Nutrition. In addition, Professor Tomohito Hamazaki serves as a director of ISSFAL until March. I am honoured to be able to submit this document with the support of these Japanese lipid nutrition researchers.

I have researched the importance of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid in the human diet using experimental animal models in the Laboratory of Membrane Biochemistry & Biophysics in the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism in the National Institutes of Health for three years from 1997. Following this research, I have continued investigations in this field for 14 years. During this time, I have participated in the congresses of ISSFAL and performed 11 oral and poster presentations in Montreal (2002), Brighton (2004) and Cairns (2006). I have made and collaborated on over 40 lipid nutritional presentations and have authored and co-authored more than 20 scientific papers in total. After working as a researcher for a pharmaceutical company, I joined Azabu University as a Professor in the Laboratory of Food and Nutritional Science in 2008. Since then I have been able to concentrate on my research studies. Currently, the importance of dietary n-3 fatty acid has been recognised not only in Japan but also worldwide. The Japanese diet has been recognized as one which makes particular use of marine resources. Therefore, Japanese people have taken high doses of n-3 fatty acids over many generations. However, changes in social habits led to the younger generation avoiding eating fish, even in Japan. To address this problem, researchers should continue to clarify the health benefits of n-3 fatty acids. I also work with other groups in other countries and believe that it is important to deepen such exchanges. I firmly believe that the ISSFAL is the best organization to address these problems in the world. As a Director of ISSFAL, my goal would be to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of humanity, through the dissemination of the body of research built up by the ISSFAL and its members.

Professor Toru Moriguchi, Ph. D

Azabu University, Japan

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1. Prof. Harumi Okuyama, Kinjo University College of Pharmacy, Japan
2. Prof. Tomohito Hamazaki, University of Toyama, Japan
3. Prof. Hiramitsu Suzuki, Kagawa Nutrition University, Japan