

# Guest Editorial

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It is now 13 years since the first Ian Donald course started in Japan. In the meantime, the progress was tremendous, and we can easily say that it surpassed all expectations.

It is known that Japanese doctors like to be taught in Japanese language. Some of our colleagues have had certain hesitation about the international courses held in foreign languages. However, we manage to produce attractive program offered by the best Japanese experts supported by some presentations in English given by school directors or other speakers. Donald school of ultrasound is the only international education program in Japan, well accepted by Japanese doctors in both basic courses and specialist courses.

Donald school courses traditionally combine science and art to which we would add friendship and human warmness. All previous 12 annual advanced courses and 3 basic focused courses at different Japanese cities have been very well attended.

This is the second time that we are invited to edit Japanese issue of prestigious Donald School Journal of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology. We have selected the most prominent Japanese authors to describe their favorite topics informing few thousands of readers of the journal about the state-of-the-art of diagnostic ultrasound in our country. The readers will find impressive and informative reviews on different hot topics. We are sure that they will find them stimulating and thought-provoking.

In this way, we believe Japanese authors are adding their original contribution to the ever-growing encyclopedia of knowledge. Teaching is a lifelong experience and has to be renewed frequently. The role of our school and its students in 52 countries all over the world is to continue developing enthusiasm for research and education.

For both of us as the guest editors, it has been a pleasurable responsibility to edit the special Japanese issue, and we are grateful to editors-in-chief, Asim and Frank, for offering us this honor.



**Kazuo Maeda**  
**Ritsuko K Pooh**