

# Mechanisms of cell transformation and metastasis



## The IFOM-Kyoto University Joint Symposium

by Francesco Blasi

Within the framework of its International Asia Program, IFOM is exploring the possibility of joint ventures with the Kyoto University Medical School (Japan).

This step was finalized to offer to the Japanese colleagues a representation of the science carried out at IFOM and to confront it with a selection of the Kyoto Medical School.

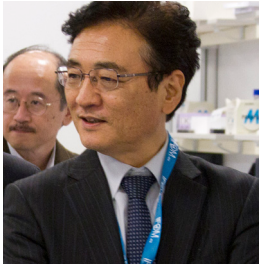
For this reason, with the help of FIRC and of the Kyoto University Medical School, IFOM organized a meeting on “Mechanisms of Cell transformation and metastasis” on October 25-26, 2012, in Milano on the IFOM premises.

The speakers included 6 from the Kyoto University delegation including Prof. Tasuku Honjo, 15 from IFOM including Institute’s Director Marco Foiani, 4 from non-IFOM Milan Institutions, IEO-IIT, H San Raffaele and Istituto Clinico Humanitas.

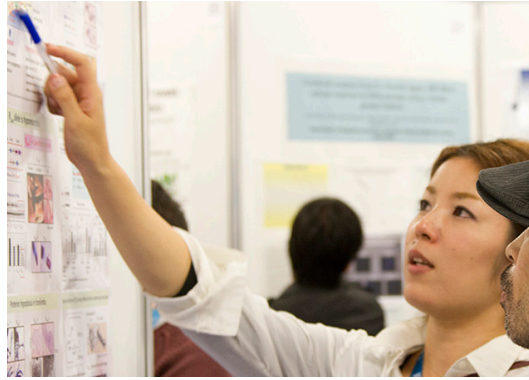


*Some pictures from the event*





*Nagahiro Minato and Makoto Noda during the lab tour*



*Poster session*

Finally the Directors of the two Institutions with whom IFOM has already an operating collaboration-agreement, Sir David Lane from A\*Star (Singapore) and Prof. Satyajit Mayor from NCBS (Bangalore, India) also delivered lectures.

In addition about 10 young Japanese and 15 young Italian scientists presented their work in the form of posters.

The meeting covered topics like genome stability and cancer, stem cells and cancer stem cells, inflammation and cancer, cell motility and metastasis, mechanisms of tumor suppression, signalling in cancer, genome stability syndromes and new frontiers in cancer therapy.

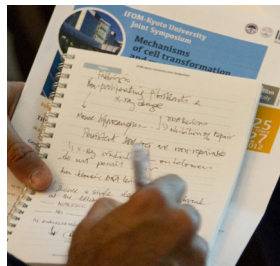
It therefore promoted a high-level multidisciplinary confrontation on new research frontiers in particular on cancer. In addition, the meeting succeeded in its goal to initiate a process that will hopefully lead to tighter cooperation between IFOM and Kyoto University.



The overall result of the meeting was the signature of an Agreement to implement the scientific exchanges between the two Institutions, which is now in the process of being realized in the form of IFOM scientists visiting Kyoto University laboratories.



*Tomas Lindahl and Tasuku Honjo*



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Mechanisms of cell transformation and metastasis

*The author:*



**Francesco Blasi**  
*IFOM Deputy Director*

Born in Naples, October 19, 1937. MD from Naples University Medical School, then two post-Docs at the Max Planck Institut fuer Biophysik (Frankfurt, Germany) and NIH (National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases) Bethesda, MD (U.S.A.). In 1970 back in Italy at the CNR Research Center in the Naples University Medical School, then in 1980 Full Professor at the II Faculty of Medicine of the University of Naples.

Subsequently, Professor at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark and finally in Milano since 1992.

Is at IFOM since 2004, Director of research program Transcriptional Regulation in Development and Cancer.

From 2007 to 2011 coordinates the Molecular Oncology PhD program of SEMM. In 2011 becomes Deputy Director for Science of IFOM.

Has previously been Director of the International Institute of Genetics and Biophysics of CNR in Naples (1980-1983), of the Molecular and Cellular Biology Center in Copenhagen (Denmark), (1988- 1992), and of the Department of Cellular Biology and Functional Genomics (1998-

2006) at DIBIT, Ospedale San Raffaele.

In 1979 is elected member of EMBO, the prestigious European Molecular Biology Organization, and 1991-1993 of its Council. Since 1992 is a member of Academia Europaea. Has received national and international prizes and is Author of over 270 research articles in prestigious international Journals, including Nature and Cell. Has been a member of the Advisory Board of AIRC, Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro, and of the Board of EMBO Journal.