Concluding Summary

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This conference has shown once again the beauty of quantum physics. For the first time I participated in a conference which covered such a broad scope of topics in this area.

This conference has allowed us to get a good idea of the spectrum of interests of theoretical physics in Japan, and of high energy physics in particular. First of all, expressing the common feeling of the foreign participants, let me thank the organizers, especially Sugino-san, Kawai-san and Ninomiya-san, for the possibility to participate in such an interesting event.

Let us again wish happy birthday to Masao Ninomiya and also congratulate him on his new appointment. Not many get such a beautiful present as an institute on their 60th birthday (laughing). Of course, I wish a great success and new scientific discoveries for the Okayama Institute for Quantum Physics.

I believe this conference sets the stage for quantum physics at the new institute and shows how diverse and interesting it could be. This conference was not only an interesting confrontation of ideas and various points of views of physics but also a certain confrontation of generations, which I consider a very useful thing. Perhaps, the young researchers will start understanding only later that the older scientists were on many occasions right. It is sometimes a very useful experience to try to put yourself for an instant outside of your own point of view.

Actually, one of the interesting confrontations in this conference was discussion of the question of whether theoretical physics should be first of all beautiful, or if the priority should rather be given to usefulness for explaining nature. Sometimes it seems that these two points, beauty and usefulness, are far from each other. I believe that everyone should create his or her own blend of these viewpoints in order to get the most efficient insight into physical reality.

But I think that it is difficult to convince young people not to do beautiful physics because, first of all, they like beautiful things, dramatically beautiful things. But before they will understand beautiful things, they should be more realistic and create some good robust work.

I do not have the time to review every talk of this conference. Among the subjects I was happy to hear about was holography, which I did not know very much about. This was a great opportunity for me. Also, I saw what a lively science is modern cosmology, and that it is very well represented in Japan. I really felt that if one wants to be permanently confronted with real experiments, it is a very good field to be in. This is really a very exciting scientific adventure, since one has, and one will have, so many experiments and observations. I also learned here a great deal about such different things as quantum strings and DNA structure.

The broad scope of this conference made it an interesting experience, which is worth repeating in the future.

Let me thank you again for inviting me here, and I hope that our cooperation will continue.