

# International Pathology

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# **A NEWS BULLETIN**

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# Order of the Rising Sun awarded to American Professor

The Order of the Rising Sun – with Gold Rays and Neck Ribbon has been awarded to Professor Jack Perry Strong, Boyd Professor of Pathology, Louisiana State University, New Orleans, USA and former President of the IAP and long time Hon. Treasurer of the USCAP and the IAP.

The Order of the Rising Sun was inaugurated by the first Meiji Emperor in 1875 to recognise distinguished service to the country by Japanese citizens. Since 1981 it has been conferred on a select number of non Japanese citizens who have made significant contributions to friendly relations between Japan and other countries.

From 2003 women have been awarded this honour. (In 1888 the Emperor inaugurated a special award for women only, called the Order of the Precious Crown. It has 8 classes, class one being reserved for royalty.)

In 1878 the Emperor inaugurated a higher order called The Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum. This is reserved for the emperor himself and for Heads of State of specially selected foreign countries.

Within the Order of the Rising Sun there are 10 classes, class one being the top award.

The main feature of the 'decoration' is an eight pointed medal made of gilt metal (that is metal covered by a thin layer of gold leaf.) In the centre there is a red enamelled sun disc from which spread enamelled white rays. The medal is suspended from three enamelled paulownia leaves by a white ribbon with red borders. This is worn around the neck.

Jack was one of 5 foreign nationals in the United States, and one of 15 worldwide chosen in 2008 to receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. It was presented to him at a formal conferment ceremony hosted by the Consular Office of Japan on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 in the Payilion

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Right: Detail of the insignia of the Order of the Rising Sun. Note how the red 'sun' reflects light rays.

Right above: Jack Strong with his wife, Mihoko.

Right: Jack Strong with Pat, his secretary for the past 25 years.

of the Two Sisters, New Orleans Botanical Garden, City Park, just steps away from the Japanese Garden he led the efforts to build.

The decoration recognizes Jack's outstanding contributions to academic and cultural exchanges between Japan and the United States of America. The decoration was presented by the Honourable Koichi Funayama, Deputy Consul of Japan on behalf of His Majesty Emperor Akihito who wanted the recipients to receive this prestigious honour on their own soil.

Jack Strong was recognized primarily for his 40 year contributions to academic exchanges between American and Japanese doctors and researchers. Jack welcomed the first of his many Japanese postgraduate scholars in 1968. Since that time he became interested in Japanese culture and learned some basics of the language. He was active in fostering cultural exchanges between the sister-cities of New Orleans and Matsue, Japan.

rie has helped the Japanese Division of the IAP over many years, especially in the lead up to their successful hosting of the International Congress of the IAP in Nagoya in 2000.

In recent years as President of the Japanese Garden Society of New Orleans he led the efforts to build a Japanese garden within the New Orleans Botanical Gardens. This was named the Yakumo Japanese Garden after a renowned author and journalist who lived and wrote in New Orleans and Matsue, Japan. This garden now offers the people of Cyclone Katrina-weary New Orleans a place of peace and serenity.

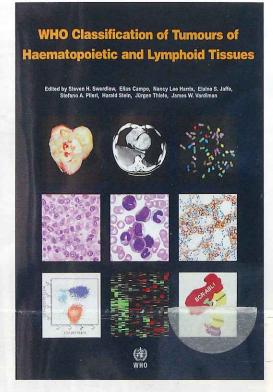
(Information for this article, and a number of the pictures were supplied by Leslie Capo, Director of Information Services, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, and Emily Winckler, Office of the Consulate-General of Japan, USA. General information about the Japanese Imperial awards was obtained from Wikipedia.)





Top: Robert Osamura, Past President of the Japanese Division of the IAP with Jack Strong in Athens. Bob and his team strongly supported Jack's nomination for the Imperial award.

Above: Jack being congratulated by his eldest daughter, Mary Lou. She is wearing a Mikimoto pearl necklace given to her by Patty, Jack's first wife who died in 1996. Jack is wearing his University



# WHO new release in the third series

In this series there are four series editors – Fred Bosman, Elaine Jaffe, Sunil Lakhani and Hiroko Ohgaki. They will appoint editors for each topic. Information and orders from:

-310

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# Meetings

# Diagnostic Surgical Pathology 2009

Riva del Garda, Italy, June 22-26, 2009 Course Directors Robert H. Young, Harvard Medical School, and Juan Rosai, Centro Diagnostico Italiano, Milan.

Contact: www.cme.hms.harvard.edu

# 22nd European Congress of Pathology

Florence, Italy, September 4-9, 2009 Email: info@ecp2009.org www.ecp2009.org

# UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN ACADEMY OF PATHOLOGY

2009 Course Announcements

Diagnostic Cytopathology

January 17-19, 2009 Sandpearl Resort, Clearwater Beach, Florida.

# **Practical Pathology Seminars**

April 30-May 3, 2009 Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, California.

# Diagnostic Pathology Update

June 11-17, 2009 Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls, Canada Contact: www.uscap.org

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