

Symposium

Grand Master Celebration Gloria Gutman (convener), Johanna E.M.H. van Bronswijk (convener), *Gerontechnology* 25(s)

PARTICIPANTS: Helianthe Kort (Chair, The Netherlands), Vappu Taipale (Finland), Shigekazu Ishihara (Japan), James Fozard (USA), Neil Charness (USA), Johanna E.M.H. van Bronswijk (The Netherlands), Yeh-Liang Hsu (Taiwan), Gloria Gutman (Canada)

ISSUES: At the 10th World Conference of the International Society for Gerontechnology (ISG), held in Vancouver in 2010, a Presidential symposium was held to celebrate ISG's first Grand Master, James Fozard, on the occasion of his 80th birthday [1]. Since that time, 8 Grand Masters have been confirmed at ISG World Conferences: Herman Bouma and Vappu Taipale (Eindhoven, 2012), J.E.M.H. van Bronswijk (Taipei, 2014), Alain Franco (Nice, 2016), Neil Charness (St. Petersburg, 2018), the late Anthea Tinker (Trondheim, 2020), Shigekazu Ishihara (Daegu, 2022), and Yeh-Liang Hsu (Frankfurt, 2024). **CONTENT:** In this symposium, we celebrate Dr. Yeh-Liang Hsu and formally inaugurate him as the 9th ISG Grand Master. ISG President Kort will describe the reasons this honour was conferred upon him, citing his role as a researcher and educator and his stellar service as the Editor of the organization's official journal *Gerontechnology*, a position originated and previously held by Grand Master J.E.H.M. van Bronswijk. Grand Masters Taipale and Ishihara will offer congratulations in person; others will do so by way of recorded videos. Dr. Hsu will respond, recounting highlights of his experience as Editor and as President of the Taiwan Chapter of ISG. Gloria Gutman will highlight the importance of Grand Masters as role models and as custodians of ISG's corporate history. **CONCLUSION:** This symposium will celebrate Dr. Hsu as a scholar, visionary leader, and mentor, and reinforce the important role that Grand Masters have played in the evolution of ISG and will continue to play in its development as a unique special interest group associated with the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG).

Keywords: Gerontechnology; Grand Master legacy; ISG organizational history

References:

1. Franco, A., Bouma, H., Ming, W. K., Bouwhuis, D. G., van Bronswijk, J. E. M. H., Charness, N., Sixsmith, A., van der Plaats, J. J., Kearns, W. D., & Fozard, J. L. (2010). Celebrating the contributions of James Leonard Fozard, Grand Master of Gerontechnology, on his 80th birthday. *Gerontechnology*, 9(2). <https://doi.org/10.4017/gt.2010.09.02.315.00>