

Koji Nakanishi

Professor Koji Nakanishi was born on May 11, 1925, in Hong Kong. He completed his B.S. degree (1947) and Ph.D. degree (1954) at Nagoya University in Nagoya, Japan. Professor Nakanishi's academic career includes professorships at Nagoya University (1955-58), Tokyo Kyoiku University (1958-1963), Tohoku University (1963-1969) and Columbia University (1969-present). He held the position of Research Director at the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi, Kenya from 1969-1977, and he is presently Director of the Bioorganic Institute in Osaka, Japan.

During Professor Nakanishi's distinguished career, he has received numerous honors and awards including the Award in Pure Chemistry from the Chemical Society of Japan (1954), Asahi Cultural Award (1968), Ernest Guenther Award from the American Chemical Society (1978), the Chemical Society of Japan Award (1979) and membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1973). Professor Nakanishi has delivered numerous plenary and invited lectures and he holds membership in many societies and professional organizations.

Professor Nakanishi's research interests include the isolation and structural elucidation of physiologically active natural products and the applications of spectroscopy to structure determination. His research efforts have resulted in over 300 scientific publications and he is the author of an influential book on infra-red spectroscopy and is editor of a multivolume tome on the chemistry of natural products.