Poster Award Announcement

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Ceremonial breaking of a sake barrel.

Takashi Sado, poster award winner.

The 14th International Mouse Genome Conference (Nov. 6–9, 2000; Narita, Japan) was an excellent venue for the presentation of the progress and promise of mouse genomics. The meeting covered a complete range of topics, from gene identification, mapping and sequencing, bioinformatics, mutants, and functional genomics, to the future need for further enhancing the production and use of the mouse as a model system. And then there was the welcomed presence of taiko drums and the ceremonial breaking of sake barrels to close the meeting (and did I mention karaoke. . .?)

One of the most gratifying aspects of the meeting was the presentation of the young investigator poster awards, to encourage and promote exceptional work from young researchers. The *Genome Research* poster award (a year's subscription to *Genome Research* and a signed copy of James Watson's new book, *A Passion for DNA*) went to Dr. Takashi Sado from the National Institute of Genetics, Mishima, Shizuoka, Japan. His poster, entitled "Role of Antisense RNA at the *Xist* Locus in X-Inactivation" (co-authors Hiroyuki Sasaki and En Li), presented data on a novel untranslated antisense RNA, *Tsix*, at the *Xist* locus. The work included information on the processing of *Tsix*, its imprinted status on the maternal X chromosome, and evidence that its deletion resulted in the accumulation of *Xist* RNA. The Editors of *Genome Research* congratulate Dr. Sado and his colleagues on the high quality of this work.

—Laurie Goodman