

# Homage

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Dr. Masatake Muraki (1923-2009)

去る2009年10月3日、教育研究所元所長であられた  
村木正武元教授（言語学博士）（86歳）が逝去されました。

研究所といたしまして、ここに謹んで哀悼の意を表します。

Dr. Masatake Muraki, former Director of IERS,  
passed away on October 3, 2009.

IERS expresses its condolences.

David W. Rackham  
Director of IERS

# 村木正武先生を悼んで

## In Homage to Prof. Masatake Muraki

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Former Director of the Institute for Educational Research and Service, Professor Masatake Muraki, passed away in 2009 after a long and distinguished career in ICU and Japan. Professor Muraki was Director of the Institute during the formative years 1984-1988 as both Graduate School of Education and the undergraduate curricula were expanding and programmes emerging. Professor Muraki was a steady hand in his supervision of our bulletin *Educational Studies*. He himself contributed several articles, in particular during his tenure as Director: Vols. 24, 26, 28 and 29. In the field of linguistics Professor Muraki's work spanned the range of grammatical analysis, phonetics and phonology, linguistic universals, error analysis in foreign language learning. Works such as his paper 'Sound Change in a Tohoku Dialect' in the book *Language and Social Interaction* (Routledge, 1970) and the book *Presupposition and Thematization* (Kaitakusha 1974) were highly regarded. The volume *Studies in Language Sciences – A Festschrift in Honour of Prof. Masatake Muraki* was published in 1998 by Kanda University of International Studies – where he had an academic appointment - in recognition of his significant contribution to the field of language studies. Muraki sensei was the canonical scholar who was always, to employ his own term with which he entitled a book in honour of his ICU colleague Kazuko Inoue, 'in search of the human mind'. Like the proverbial ships passing in the night, my own

career crossed with Professor Muraki. I was a new member of the ICU Faculty on the brink of the 1990s. On my first day, I walked to my new office down a cold corridor in the ERB 1 building, across the hall from the IERS. I knocked on a brown door. Professor Muraki opened and gave me the warmest of smiles, exclaiming, "Welcome to ICU. This was my office and now it is yours." Professor Muraki retired from ICU in 1988. In the same year, I went in to his office and sat in his chair. The office was empty. I followed in his footsteps a decade later as Director of IERS. As the 'baton' passes from one hand and one generation to the next what a pleasure to proceed from the scholarly excellence that epitomized Professor Masatake Muraki and, in particular, his efforts on behalf on the IERS.