

## **Collegium Ramazzini Medal presentation ceremony in honour of Professor Le Van Trung, Hanoi, Vietnam, November 2007**

### ***Cerimonia di presentazione della Medaglia del Collegium Ramazzini in ricordo del Professor Le Van Trung, Hanoi, Vietnam, novembre 2007***

As announced, sadly, in the 4<sup>th</sup> issue 2007 of the European Journal of Oncology, Professor Le Van Trung, Former Director of the Vietnamese National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health and, upon his retirement, President of the Vietnam Association of Occupational Health, passed away in June last year, at the age of 74.

Professor Le Van Trung had been elected to membership of the Collegium Ramazzini in 2000 and

had consequently become an Emeritus member. He had been a major figure in his country but, because of the distance and because of his age and state of health, he had not been able to come to Italy to receive his Fellowship medal, portraying Bernardino Ramazzini, Father of Occupational Medicine.

The Executive Council of the Collegium, meeting in Carpi, Italy, in October 2007, had decided that it would be a fine gesture, in view of Professor Le Van



Professor Le Van Trung's family members and colleagues, including Professor Khuc Xuyen and Professor Nguyen Khac Hai, together with Doctors Myron and Karyl Mehlman, at the ceremony in the National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health, Hanoi

## Report

Trung's many and sustained contributions to public health, preventive medicine and the health of workers, to present his medal posthumously to his family. An official letter, from the President and the Secretary General, was prepared to accompany the medal, and I was requested to present these personally on the occasion of my journey to Vietnam the following month.

The presentation was organised by and held at the Vietnam National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health. Presentation of the Collegium Ramazzini Medal to Professor Trung's son, Le Tuan was made in the presence of most of the senior staff of the Institute (NIOEH), including the current director and the deputy director, members of the Vietnam Occupational Health Association (VOHA) and some senior members of the Vietnamese government. Colleagues present at the ceremony included: Professor Khuc Xuyen, General

Secretary of NIOEH and Vice President of VOHA; Professor Nguyen Khac Hai, Director of NIOEH and Vice President of VOHA; Lady Professor Nguyen Ngo Nga, Vice President of VOHA; Lady Doctor Tran Thi Lien, Vice Director of NIOEH; and Doctor Tran Ba Thoai of VOHA, retired former Vice Director of NIOEH.

This was the first time in the history of the Collegium that a membership medal had been presented outside of Italy, and this presentation was meant as an honour to Professor Trung and his associates, to recognize his election to Fellowship in this prestigious organization for his contributions to occupational and public health.

**Myron A. Mehlman**

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