

Celebration for Dr. Motoyama's 100th Birthday!

Dear Dr. Motoyama,

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the joyous occasion of your 100th birthday. It is remarkable to realize that nearly twenty-eight years have passed since the completion of the second and final phase of the campus construction. Thanks to the steadfast dedication of the faculty who oversee the school, both the campus and its buildings continue to preserve their original appearance even today. As an architect, I am filled with gratitude each time I visit and see how faithfully the campus has been maintained.

My association with you as an architect began thirty-one years ago, around September 1994, when we started searching together for the future site of the school. Securing a site large enough for a full campus proved challenging due to the numerous municipal regulations that applied, and it was not easy to find a location that would embody your ideal vision. Ultimately, however, we were able to select the present site as the realization of that vision, and it was my privilege to proceed with its design alongside you. Dr. Sato's insights were also invaluable and thoughtfully incorporated.

You may recall that when we began designing the buildings for the second phase, you suddenly remarked, "Since the first phase is based on triangles, let us make the next one circular." From that moment, the concept of the present campus took shape. The interplay of circular and triangular forms arranged around the stone garden and pond symbolizes the diversity of those who use this campus. At the same time, the harmony and tranquility that the space conveys reflect precisely what you envisioned. Indeed, this sense of harmony and peace embodies the spirit of Japan's *sukiya* architecture. Your spirit is forever embedded in the campus itself.

Throughout our long association, you have been both a mentor to me and a dear friend. It has been an immense honor to have served as the architect for this campus.

Once again, please accept my warmest congratulations on your 100th birthday.

With profound respect,
Hiroo Kurano

本山先生、100歳のお誕生日おめでとうございます。早いもので、学校のキャンパスの最終工事2工事の竣工日からほぼ28年が経ちます。キャンパスもその中の建物も、学校運営している先生方の努力によって、今日も昔の容貌をそのまま維持しております。私は建築家として、学校を訪れる度に、そのことを感謝しております。

本山先生との建築家としての、お付き合いの始まりは31年前の1994年の9月ごろから、一緒に学校の将来の敷地を探し始めた頃でした。キャンパスとして必要な割合大きな面積の敷地となるものには、市のいろいろな規制がかかっており、なかなか先生の理想のキャンパスとしての敷地を見つけるのが大変でした。そして、ようやく現在の敷地を理想のキャンパスとして、決定し、一緒にデザインを進めてきました。佐藤先生のご意見も貴重なものとして取り入れられました。覚えておられますか。第二期工事の建物の設計を始めるときに、本山先生は私に、突然、「1期工事は三角形が主体であるので、次は円形にしよう」と言われました。それで現在のキャンパスができたわけです。石庭や池を中心とした円形と三角形の多様な形をした建物の構成は、このキャンパスを使う人の多様性を表し、しかもその中に調和と平安を感じるのはまさに先生の希望していたことですね。そして、まさにこの調和と平安こそ日本の「すき家建築」の精神が現れております。この先生の精神はこのキャンパスの中に永久に残されて行きます。

先生は、この長いお付き合いを通して、私にとって、教師であり、親しい友人でもありました。そして、このキャンパスの建築家として携わって来ましたことを大変光栄に思います。

改めて、100歳の誕生日おめでとうございます。

倉野博夫

写真の説明：

1. 第一期工事の竣工式(March 10, 1996)に、関係者並びに日本からお祝いに来られた方々と本山先生ご夫妻(前列の中央)とともに撮った写真です。
2. 第二期工事の竣工式のことを佐藤先生がニューズレター(Spring 1999)で説明したものです。本山先生と奥様の写真が載っております。

Masatsune Sato, Hon. Ph.D.
Chief Financial Officer



A photograph taken at the completion ceremony of Phase I (March 10, 1996), featuring Dr. and Mrs. Motoyama at the center of the front row, together with faculty, members of the project, City officials and guests from Japan who came to celebrate the occasion.



The second phase Circular building with Stone Garden reflecting the first phase Triangular building.

An excerpt from the [Spring 1999 CIHS newsletter](#) in which Dr. Sato describes the completion ceremony of Phase II, accompanied by a photograph of Dr. and Mrs. Motoyama.

The history of the buildings and the campus of CIHS

Hiroo Kurano AIA Emirates

August 21, 2024

Revised

First of all, I would like to thank Stacy Gomes and CIHS for giving me the opportunity to write this article.

I am grateful to have met and worked with Dr. Motoyama on this project from the search for the site that led to the current site being decided on to the completion of all construction works.

I am also reminded of Dr. Sato's extraordinary support during this time.

I have tried to write here as accurately as possible, based on my memories from over 30 years ago and in the old record files that remain, to the best of my knowledge.

However, please forgive me if there is any error.

1. Acquisition of the site (Around September 1994 through December 1994):

Dr. Motoyama searched extensively for a suitable site for building his ideal campus.

The current site (701 Garden View Court Encinitas. CA) was the one he finally decided to acquire.

This site originally consisted of three different consecutive sites running north and south along Garden View Court with different levels.

Those addresses are 701, 721 and 741 Garden View Court (Lot # 15, 14 and 13).

The southernmost and lowest level site was 701 (Lot # 15) and faced Garden View Drive.

Later, these three sites were consolidated legally as a site of which the official address is 701 Garden View Court Encinitas.

The total area is 2.59 acres.

2. The First Phase Design and Construction (September 1994 through March 10, 1996):

Around September 1994, we immediately held detailed discussions with Dr. Motoyama with the cooperation of Dr. Sato, and designed the building for the first phase construction on the lowest level of the southernmost site (Lot #15) at the corner of Garden View Drive and Garden View Court.

Kurano Associates, Inc. obtained a MUP (Major Use Permit) around February 1995 and the building permit April, 1995 from the city.

The building (10,080 square feet) was originally designed to house the school's administration offices, office for Dr. Motoyama, research labs, class rooms, a library, and a large classroom.

3. The First Phase Construction (February 1995 through March 10, 1996):

Taylor Ball - General Contractor completed construction February 1996.

The opening ceremony was held on March 10, 1996. (See the pictures of the attachments by separate email. The picture of guests from Japan and the U.S. and the participants of the First Phase project in front of the building and the picture of First Phase construction.)

4. The Second Phase Design and construction (The entire Campus Design and Construction, additional 10,600 square foot building to First Phase. 20,680 square feet total. (April 1997 through January 29,1999).

The most significant matter at this stage is the design of the entire Campus including the Second Phase building in relation to the First Phase building.

This is because the site is large at 2.59 acres and is located in a key location in the City of Encinitas.

It is important that Dr. Motoyama's ideal environment for the entire campus is expressed so that the environment, which is made up of not only the function of a school but also the buildings and landscape there, provides a comfortable space for the people who live around there.

The city also importantly requires that the environment be a harmonious one as an element of the surrounding community.

5. MUP (Major Use Permit) for the Second Phase:

Conceptual Design drawings and documents for MUP were submitted June 30, 1997, and the Public Hearing was held August 7, 1997.

MUP was required before the Building Permit (for Construction drawing and Specification) was issued.

MUP was issued after approval by the City's Community Development Board with Public hearing.

Kurano Associates, Inc. in cooperation with the city planning department, submitted a comprehensive Conceptual Design plan and the document to the city, including amendments to the First Phase of construction which had already been approved and constructed.

We mailed the invitation to the Public Hearing to all necessary residents and building owners surrounding the site by the direction of the city.

On August 7, 1997 Design of The Second Phase received unanimous consent from the City planning commission at a public hearing with no appeals from the neighborhood during the 15-day appeal period.

The City of Encinitas, its planning commissioners and the neighbors seemed to like our design of the entire Campus and this addition to the Campus, as well as CIHS' existing facilities and the operation. (See the attachment by the separate email, CIHS Newsletter Fall 1997)

6. The Second Phase Construction (October 1997 through January 29, 1999):

As soon as the Grading and Building Permit were issued, the General Contractor, Taylor Ball, began construction on the Second Phase, following on from the First Phase October 1997.

The Completion Ceremony was held on January 29, 1999. (See the attachment by the separate email, CIHS Newsletter Spring 1999)

7. Maintenance period continue:

It is 25 years since the completion of The Second Phase construction.

After the completion of construction, the continual maintenance has been important for the buildings and the landscape.

Dr. Sato and successor Dr. Baba have maintained the campus continuously.

8. Design Concept:

Design of the new Second Phase Building (about 10,600 square feet with two stories, 21 rooms for multipurpose use (e.g. classrooms, research labs, offices) completes the Campus Master Plan of three lots and enhances the function and the quality of the existing facility.

The ground on which the new Second Phase Building was constructed is at a higher elevation than that of the First Phase Building. However, the new Second Phase Building was sunken to compensate for the different ground levels.

The advantage to this is that the sunken building will not infringe upon the view and the ocean breeze of the East side residential neighbors.

That design was made so that the first floor of the new Second Phase Building is the same level as the first floor of the existing First Phase Building.

The lobby of the new Second Phase Building is on the middle level between the first and second floor.

In addition to the Sunken level, the clearly defined corridors and the elevator provide easy access for the disabled people as an ADA requirement.

The curved mirror glass curtain wall of Second Phase Building reflects the image of the existing First Phase Building and the sunset. This smooth and simple round form of the building creates a contrast and harmony with the complex forms with the triangle form of the existing First Phase Building.

The enclosed courtyard contains a Japanese-style Rock Garden. This is a quiet, peaceful spot where people can come to sit and meditate, while the other half of the courtyard with a fountain and pear trees creates a cheerful meeting place.

The Landscape and Parking Design:

Regarding the entire landscaping plan, aside from new landscaping plans within the site, it is important to make use of the existing trees on the site, and have them

act as a buffer between the campus and the residential area to the east. (See the attachment by the separate email, Landscape Plan)

Regarding the parking plan, it was requested to provide the number of parking spaces necessary for the square foot area of the classrooms, laboratories, offices, etc. on the site. In addition, in accordance with ADA regulations, the number and location of parking spaces for disabled people were specified. (See the attachment by the separate email, Parking Plan)

9. The Design Philosophy:

The most important Design Philosophy of the Campus is “Diversity, Harmony and Unity all in One place.”

I remember when we started Second Phase design, Dr. Motoyama wanted a circular shape building this time.

As you know, the First Phase building is more like a triangular shape. So, we worked together and now you can see the result- a triangular shape and a circular shape now co-exist.

Two diverse buildings and the surrounding neighbor environment are in harmony and unity with the Japanese style rock garden and fountain in the center.

The neighborhood and the city liked the design so we got city approval quickly.

Many people who come through here really like the ambience of this school campus and when you visit the school you will see Dr. Motoyama’s philosophy: Diversity, Harmony and Unity all in One place.

This design was based on Dr. Motoyama’s philosophy and also the Japanese architectural design concept of “Sukiya” originated in the Japanese Tea Ceremony about 500 years ago.

(See the attachment for my article “The Special Relevance of Sukiya Architecture for North American Japanese Gardens” published by NAJGA (North American Japanese Garden Association, najga.org) 2017.)

10. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to President Dr. Hiroshi Motoyama, Dr. Masatsune Sato, and Dr. Hideki Baba who led this wonderful project, as well as to Dr. Motoyama's wife Dr. Kaoru Motoyama, his son Dr. Kazuhiro Motoyama, Dr. Thomas Brophy, Dr. Gaetan Chevalier and the late Mr. Akira Kawano who indirectly supported us, and to Taylor Ball and its many

subcontractors who did the actual construction works, and to the staff of Kurano Associates, Inc.

And above all, I would like specially to thank God for blessing this project from start to finish and its Future.