

Dr. Hiroshi Motoyama 100th Birthday Tribute

by Dr. Richard Jelusich, graduate, faculty and Chairman of CIHS board

CIHS in a Vision

When I was working with Dr. Motoyama in 2005, he told me that he "saw" the California Institute for Human Science in a vision in 1972. As many of you know, CIHS opened its doors in September, 1992. This revelation was one of many things I learned about the spiritual depth of Dr. Motoyama.

Origins

In the Spring of 1992, I had been living on the central coast of San Diego for many years, and I felt this very strong intuition to move north about 25 miles to Leucadia, a sleepy little beach town on the train tracks, and the Pacific Coast Highway, a part of Encinitas. I had no idea why I felt so compelled to move.

I rented an apartment on Vulcan Avenue, which paralleled the train tracks and Pacific Coast Highway. That summer, in August, I read in the local newsletter that the "California Institute for Human Science" would be opening its doors for the first time in September, offering Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology and Human Science (now called Integral Health).

Instantly I knew why I had moved to Leucadia. Interestingly, Leucadia was founded by a group of British spiritualists, after the Greek isle.

At that time, where was CIHS located? On Vulcan Avenue, about 1 mile south of my apartment on the same street! (The new campus' existing location was completed in 1996) To many, Encinitas is a mecca for those who are seeking a more integral (mind, body, spirit) way of life. And it's no surprise that CIHS would be located there.

Dr. Motoyama was in Encinitas at the institute, and I was fortunate enough to have an

interview with him. Eloquently, I opened the conversation with: "I have no job and no money, but I want to go to your school." Dr. Motoyama nodded approvingly and about ten minutes into the interview I blurted out "Besides, you were my father five lifetimes ago!" I don't know what possessed me to say that but he responded in his heavy Japanese accent, "I know!" I was so very sure of the spiritual connection and the love and respect I felt for him.

So, "Dad" gave me a double scholarship so that I could attend the beginning of classes that September. There were three students and three faculty. One of those faculty you know today, Dr. Gaetan Chevalier.

Dr. Motoyama passed on September 19, 2015. He did not get to see CIHS' successful WASC accreditation in July 2021. But he did 'see' CIHS in a vision in 1972 and worked arduously to help his vision materialize. That you are reading this now is part of fulfilling his vision and mission for what CIHS represents: an institute of higher learning where people may grow in their spiritual, scientific and scholarly paths to serve the global human community.

About God

I received my doctorate from CIHS in 1999 and Dr. Motoyama had previously told me, "You get your Ph.D. and you come back here and teach!" It took me a while but in late 2003 I wrote to Dr. Motoyama in Japan for "permission to apply" to teach.

It is very Japanese not to just apply, but to ask permission to apply. That said, I was interviewed by CIHS staff and became adjunct faculty in 2004, then Dean of Administration in 2005, and then Dr. Motoyama appointed me to the Board of Trustees in 2006 (the first American to serve on the Board).

In those years of working for and with Dr. Motoyama, there were many times when we were just in casual conversation. I remember one time walking down the hall with him and I asked: "you created CIHS to lead people to God, right?" And Dr. Motoyama responded "yes." This, I knew in my heart and renewed my dedication to help CIHS grow in any way that I could.

Dr. Motoyama asked me, in 2004, to teach Karma and Reincarnation in his place. In his place! I felt so inept to do so, but I thought he saw something in me that I could adequately teach from his book "Karma and Reincarnation" and other texts. I have been teaching that course ever since.

I remember Dr. Motoyama and I teaching weekend workshops. Please realize that Dr. Motoyama had a thick Japanese accent. I noticed the effect of this when watching the faces of the attendees when he was lecturing. I realized that part of my work was to

amplify what he said so looks of comprehension would register on the faces of the attendees!

Motoyama Philosophy and Practice

In 2018 I traveled to Tokyo to meet with the Tamamitsu Jinja Board of Directors (Dr. Motoyama was head priest of the Shinto Shrine). Of the many topics we covered, one was the Jinja wanting assurance that CIHS would continue to help students understand the real foundation of CIHS and Dr. Motoyama's philosophy.

I responded that we would create a course called "Motoyama Philosophy and Practice" so students could comprehend the spiritual, scientific and scholarly depth of Dr. Motoyama and the reason why CIHS was incepted.

Since that time, I've taught that course four times, and elements of the course are included in all new student orientations. Though Dr. Motoyama has written many books and articles, I chose five books that I felt captured the essence of his teachings, especially what I consider to be his capstone work "Being and the Logic of Interactive Function." Those other texts are. "What is Religion," "Toward a Superconsciousness," "Science and the Evolution of Consciousness," and "Karma and Reincarnation."

Reading these books can help you to weave more of the essence of Dr. Motoyama's being into your life. All of Dr. Motoyama's books are about emancipating the individual from the illusion of separation. These sample books bring it together to honor Dr. Motoyama's character and his gift to the Earth and the global human community while he was incarnated here.