

SPEAKERS



Stuart Schreiber

Morris Loeb Research Professor, Harvard University



Frank Fang

CSO, Socrates-GMP



Margaret Hsu

*Director, Clinical Drug Supply Management,
AbbVie Inc.*



Scott Miller

Sterling Professor of Chemistry, Yale University



Tohru Fukuyama

Professor Emeritus, Tokyo University



YOSHITO KISHI

(1937-2023)



Yoshito Kishi was a towering figure in organic chemistry renowned for his syntheses of complex natural products and impact on the development of halichondrin, paving the way for the creation of powerful cancer therapies.

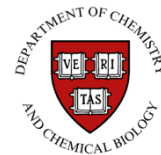
Born in Nagoya, Japan, in 1937, Kishi received his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Nagoya University under the supervision of Professor Yoshimasa Hirata, who was acclaimed for his achievements in the chemistry of naturally occurring compounds. In 1963, Kishi married his wife, Tokiko. Three years later, he became an instructor at Nagoya before taking a leave to come to Harvard to study the synthesis of vitamin B12 as a postdoctoral fellow in the lab of Nobel Prize-winning Professor Robert B. Woodward. Upon completing his fellowship, Kishi returned to Nagoya as an associate professor, but returned to Harvard as a visiting professor in 1972. He joined the faculty as professor of chemistry in 1974 and served as chair of the department from 1989-1992.

The Kishi Lab advanced methods of convergent synthesis, which enables complex molecules to be assembled from subunits rather than constructed linearly. One innovation that bears his name, the Nozaki-Hiyama-Kishi reaction, protected the highly reactive functional groups while they were being assembled. In 1992, Kishi achieved the first total synthesis of a halichondrin molecule (halichondrin B), and a simplified version of that molecule, eribulin, became a drug that treats metastatic breast cancer and liposarcoma.

Yoshito Kishi is as remembered for developing important anti-cancer agents as being a devoted mentor.

~The Harvard Gazette, Yahya Chaudhry

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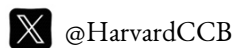
YOSHITO KISHI SYMPOSIUM
HARVARD CCB
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

Schedule of Events

August 23, 2025

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Arrival and Registration	Atrium
3:00 pm – 3:05 pm	Introduction <i>Professor Daniel Kabne</i> <i>Chair, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology</i>	Auditorium
3:05 pm – 3:45 pm	Welcome Remarks <i>Stuart Schreiber</i> <i>Morris Loeb Research Professor, Harvard University</i>	Auditorium
3:45 pm – 4:05 pm	“The Nozaki-Hiyama-Kishi Reaction: New Methodology Enabled Medicine Creation” <i>Frank Fang</i> <i>CSO, Socrates-GMP</i>	Auditorium
4:05 pm – 4:25 pm	“My Kishi Family” <i>Margaret Hsu</i> <i>Director, Clinical Drug Supply Management, AbbVie Inc.</i>	Auditorium
4:25 pm – 4:45 pm	“Professor Kishi and the Embrace of Complexity” <i>Scott Miller</i> <i>Sterling Professor of Chemistry, Yale University</i>	Auditorium
4:45 pm – 5:30 pm	“Professor Kishi and Me” <i>Keynote by Tobru Fukuyama</i> <i>Professor Emeritus, Tokyo University</i>	Auditorium
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Reception with Toast and Reading of the Memorial Minute	Atrium
6:30 pm – 6:45 pm	Video Presentation	Auditorium
6:45 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner	Dining Room

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