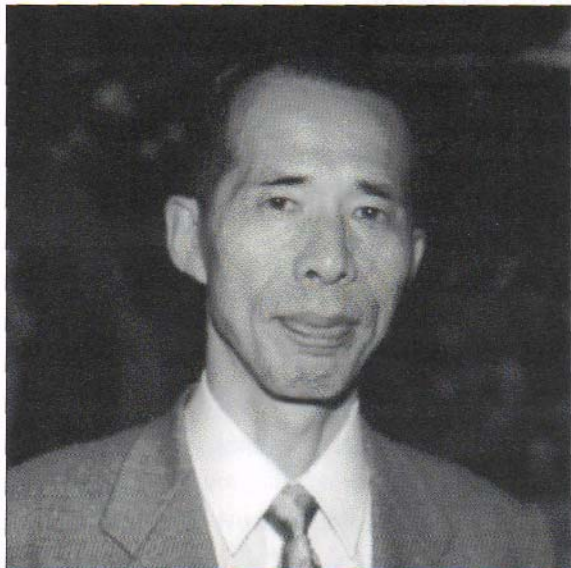


# ***Award for Nagao***

**T**o celebrate 50 years of conferences on machine translation, the MT Summit in San Diego gave an award for lifelong service to Professor Makoto Nagao. The award was presented to



Professor Nagao by Dr Muriel Vasconcellos, president of the International Association for Machine Translation.

Makoto Nagao has been a leading figure in machine translation for the past 35 years. As a young engineering graduate, he began in 1962 with the generation of English sentences, and introduced the probabilistic application of grammar rules. He gave a paper on this at the first COLING (computational linguistics) conference in New York in 1965. He pioneered inputting in kanji characters in Japan, and headed a laboratory at Kyoto University specialising in MT work. Most of the leading people involved in MT in Japan have been Professor Nagao's students. He was also one of the first to propose development of knowledge-based and example-based MT systems. He had the idea for the first MT Summit conference, and became the first president of the International Association for Machine Translation which developed out of them. ■