

Name:	Masaru Tanaka	
Job:	Professor, Kyushu University	
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Academic degree:	PhD in Science, Hokkaido University (2003)	
Professional Experience:	1996 – 2000	Researcher, Research & Development Center, TERUMO Corporation.
	2000 – 2004	Assistant Professor, Research Institute for Electronic Science, Hokkaido University.
	2004 – 2006	Associate Professor, Creative Research Initiative "Sousei", Hokkaido University.
	2006 – 2007	Associate Professor, Nanotechnology Research Center, Hokkaido University.
	2007 – 2009	Associate Professor, Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials, Tohoku University.
	2009	Visiting Scientist, Dept. of New Materials and Biosystems, Max-Planck-Institute for Metals Research.
	2009–2015	Professor, Department of Engineering, Yamagata University.
	2015 –	Professor, Institute for Materials Chemistry and Engineering, Kyushu University.
Recognition:	PRESTO Investigator, JST (2001-2005) A leader of Funding Program for Next Generation World-Leading Researchers (NEXT Program, Japan) (2011-2014) Program officer, MEXT, Japan (2011-2014) Award for Young Investigator of the Japanese Society for Biomaterials (2009) Asahi Kasei Award, The Society of Polymer Science, Japan (2011) The Ichimura Prize in Science for Excellent Achievement (2019) A leader of Grant in Aid of MEXT: Aquatic Functional Materials (2019-)	
Current Research:	Chemistry of Biomedical Materials and Medical Devices, Biocompatibility of Polymers and Bio-interfacial Water, The Roles of water molecules in the biointerface - clarification of biocompatibility mechanisms, Tissue Engineering, Biomaterials, Polymer Science, Biointerphases	

Masaru Tanaka is a professor at Kyushu University. He worked for TERUMO Co. (Leading Medical Devices and Tissue Engineering Company in Japan) and designed novel biocompatible polymers and commercialized as medical devices such as catheters, stents, and artificial lung and heart (Global market share No.1). In 2000 he moved to Hokkaido University and in 2007 he moved to Tohoku University. Stents covered with the self-organized porous 3D films are commercially available in the world clinical market (over 200 original patents). In 2009 he was awarded a full professorship at Yamagata University. He became a leader of Funding Program for Next Generation World-Leading Researchers (NEXT Program, Japan 2011-2014). Since 2015, he has been at Kyushu University as a full Professor. Thus far, he has published over 240 papers in peer reviewed journals (H-index 53) and has received 30 awards including the Award for the Japanese Society for Biomaterials. He received the SPSJ Asahi Kasei Award for his intermediate water concept based on the role of interfacial water at material interphases. Intermediate water content is a good predictor of biological responses to materials and is used for high throughput materials discovery. His roles are designing biocompatible multi-functional

materials by controlling the bio-interfacial water states, cell fate control by self-organized biomaterials, precision synthesis of biocompatible polymers and their applications for advanced biomedical devices and tissue engineering.

Representative Academic Awards

1. Young Scientist Award for the Presentation of an Excellent Paper; The Japan Society of Applied Physics. 2002.
2. Award for the Presentation of an Excellent Paper; The Chemical Society of Japan. 2003.
3. Award for the Presentation of an Excellent Paper; The Japanese Society for Regenerative Medicine. 2004.
4. Award for Encouragement of Research in Polymer Science; The Society of Polymer Science, Japan. 2005.
5. The Best Paper Award of The Japanese Society for Artificial Organs, The Japanese Society for Artificial Organs, 2007.
6. British Council PMI2 Connect-Research Co-operation Award, 2008.
7. The Award for Young Investigator of the Japanese Society for Biomaterials, The Japanese Society for Biomaterials, 2009.
8. Asahi Kasei Award, The Society of Polymer Science, Japan, 2011.
9. International Association of Advanced Materials Scientists Award for the year 2016.
10. The Ichimura Prize in Science for Excellent Achievement, 2019.
11. The Award for the Japanese Society for Biomaterials, The Japanese Society for Biomaterials, 2021.
12. The Academic Award from The Chemical Society of Japan, 2025.

Short CV:

Tanaka is a professor at Institute for Materials Chemistry and Engineering, Kyushu University. He worked for TERUMO Co. (Leading Medical Devices Company). In 2000 he moved to Hokkaido University and in 2007 he moved to Tohoku University. He was a Visiting Scientist, at Dept. of New Materials and Biosystems, Max-Planck-Institute (2008-2009). In 2009 he was awarded a full professorship at Yamagata University. Since 2015, he has been at Kyushu University as a full professor. His research focuses on the design of novel biocompatible polymers and the development of medical devices such as catheters, stents, and artificial heart–lung systems: approved by the FDA, achieving a global market-leading share. He has been selected for the “World’s Top 2% Scientists 2025” list.

URL: <http://www.soft-material.jp/>
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As of January 2026