

## **The 26th CDB Meeting Report Mechanistic Perspectives of Multicellular Organization**

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The 26th CDB Meeting was held at the RIKEN CDB from September 8 to 9, welcoming a total of 135 participants from 5 different countries. This meeting was themed, 'Mechanistic Perspectives of Multicellular Organization,' and the two-day program featured 17 talks and 50 posters, and plentiful opportunities to explore the interface between biology and mechanics in relation to development.

The understanding of development has been greatly advanced by discoveries in genetics, which have identified molecular factors underlying characteristic morphologies and functions. We are now trying to bridge our understanding at the genetic and molecular levels to that of integrated multicellular systems. This meeting focused on mechanical aspects of multicellular organization to open up a more comprehensive understanding of such systems.

This meeting was organized by young scientists working in developmental biology, physics, and mechanical engineering in Japan in the hopes of stimulating discussion across disciplines and between young scientific minds. We appreciate the active participation of all involved as well as the opportunity to build this meeting.