

William and Francis Fry Honorary Fellowship Recipient Speech

When you are in your twenties, your death is beyond the horizon.

About a year and a half ago, I received surgery to remove colon cancer.

Right before the surgery, I felt my death was **this** close, and asked myself, "Have I done anything I can hand to the next generation, for which I can give up my life if I have to?"

I felt I had done something however **small** it was, and I was prepared for the surgery.

Considering the smallness of what I have done, this award is way too big by orders of magnitude.

Probably, what is meant here is that in order to deserve this award

I should survive a little longer and continue working to deliver something more to the next generation.

But you should be careful.

I may sometimes deliver you wrong information, of course, non-intentionally, like I almost did yesterday.

So ask questions anytime when you think I am going to deliver you something strange.

Thank you.

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Shin-ichiro Umemura