



***Yuko Okamoto*** received his B.S.-M.S. in physics from Brown University in 1979 and Ph.D. in physics from Cornell University in 1984. After his postdoctoral work at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, he worked as an assistant professor (later, an associate professor) at Nara Women's University from 1986 to 1995. He moved to the Institute for Molecular Science in 1995 as an associate professor and then to the current position of professor of biophysics at Nagoya University in 2005. His research has focused on the development of enhanced sampling methods in molecular simulations, for example, *replica-exchange molecular dynamics* and other *generalized-ensemble algorithms*, and their applications to computational physics/chemistry/biology problems such as protein folding, ligand binding, and prediction of three-dimensional structures of molecules.