

A message from the President

Confronting social realities, and meeting the challenges of social change

With my inauguration as the 42nd President of Kansai University in October this year, I would like to assert my determination to fully pursue my responsibilities in leading this university, with its long and splendid history and sense of tradition.

Kansai University has seen remarkable development over its many years. We celebrated our 130th anniversary in November. We have 13 faculties, 13 graduate schools, three professional graduate schools, as well as a preparatory course for international students. Over our long history, all those involved in building our institution have had to overcome various hardships to achieve such prestigious standing. While always keeping this in mind, we now need to make a courageous new start in order to explore an even brighter future, and a new era of further reform that balances reality and ideals. In order to proudly pass on "the burning torch of intelligence" at our 150th, or even 200th anniversary, we must gather all our collective wisdom to engineer a concrete plan for reform, and proceed boldly.

The keys to cementing a robust set of reforms are research and education for the further growth of the university, and social and international engagement to strongly connect with the outside world. These are the most important elements necessary for the university to pursue its mission as an essential organ of higher education, and as part of our society, community, and indeed the world, for a richer, brighter future.

1. Further enhancement of research as the driving force of our university

Providing a free and energetic environment for research is one of the key elements required to invigorate our university. Therefore, we will strive to raise research standards university-wide through the creation of a strategic research-promotion structure. In this way, we will establish an intellectual and creative climate to initiate new research organizations aiming at scholarly breakthroughs, as well as to strengthen our existing research institutes.

2. Education that disseminates a broad base of knowledge

The knowhow created through good research should be passed on to the next generation through solid educational activities. To realize this, our team of teachers and staff members will work together to provide support to students so that they may learn in an independent and autonomous manner. We will be sensitive to what is happening in the world and greater society, by learning from a diverse pool of exemplary projects for improving university education, with the aim of fostering students who can think, act and make a difference to the society they live in.

3. Fruitful collaboration between the university and society

We believe that we can assure the kind of sound academic environment where active research and learning profoundly rooted in society can be established through interaction with the world outside of the campus. Therefore, we will make every effort to involve ourselves in a range of activities that foster comprehensive exchanges with the society we serve, extending beyond the framework of business-academia collaborations.

4. International activities as a commitment to globalization

Our university will continue to make bold moves from a strategic perspective in a variety of ways. These include greater diversity among university staff and teachers; promotion of cross-cultural education; international education addressing global issues, such as the environment, energy, terrorism and conflicts; regional studies; foreign-language education of English and other languages; and an increase in the number of students who study overseas.

As President of Kansai University, I am firmly committed to demonstrating and perpetuating our outstanding, original presence as an institution. Furthermore, I resolve to take on the significant responsibility of promoting our university as an institution that fosters students who can think and act effectively toward a brighter future. This, of course, is of the utmost importance to our students, their families, alumni, business, corporations and local communities and, in fact, contemporary global society as a whole.

Shibai Keiji, President



Globalizing Kansai University



Vice President
Dean, Division of
International Affairs
Maeda Yutaka

As Japanese society becomes more connected to global society, understanding and respecting diverse cultures, languages and people is essential especially for the younger generation. It is important for Kansai University to foster human resources with specialized knowledge and technology skills, language proficiency, practical communication competence, problem-finding and solving capabilities, and adaptability to an intercultural environment.

Through "Globalizing Kandai" initiatives undertaken in 2004, and "Kansai University Global Initiatives" in 2010, Kansai University has achieved promising results. Vibrant student and researcher exchange programs with universities all over the world have been initiated with the support of all of our faculties and graduate schools. Our language education programs have also been continually improved, and more and more students are demonstrating a high level of linguistic proficiency and confidence.

One of our university mottos is "gaku no jitsuge (学の実化)." This roughly translates as "harmony between academia and society," and it was promoted by Juntarō Yamaoka—one of our early presidents who rejuvenated Kansai University during the early part of the twentieth century. Education, research and social contribution are conducted under this driving principle at Kansai University. Now is time to realize this philosophy from a global point of view as well.

It is our intention to further accelerate the internalization of our university. To this end, Kansai University is introducing what we call the Intercultural Immersion Initiatives (TripleI). Our campuses offer many opportunities and activities for students and faculty to immerse themselves in various languages and cultures. Moreover, we are providing and increasing number of groundbreaking international programs promoting student mobility with our partner universities, language courses, and other enterprises. For example, the Kansai University

Global Frontier curriculum provides both Japanese and international students the opportunity to study content courses in various fields in English. We also offer courses using interactive online collaboration with students at foreign universities. The Kansai University Collaborative Online International Learning subjects are taught in our newly established Multilingual Immersion Room. Through these programs, students can engage themselves in an intercultural environment inside the university.

I am convinced that the Triple I initiatives will be hugely successful. Japanese and international students benefit greatly through studying together, and we are confident that we are nurturing a generation of motivated global leaders with high aspirations.

It is our mission at Kansai University to contribute to a sustainable global society. We appreciate your cooperation and support.

Kansai University

2016–2017

Faculty

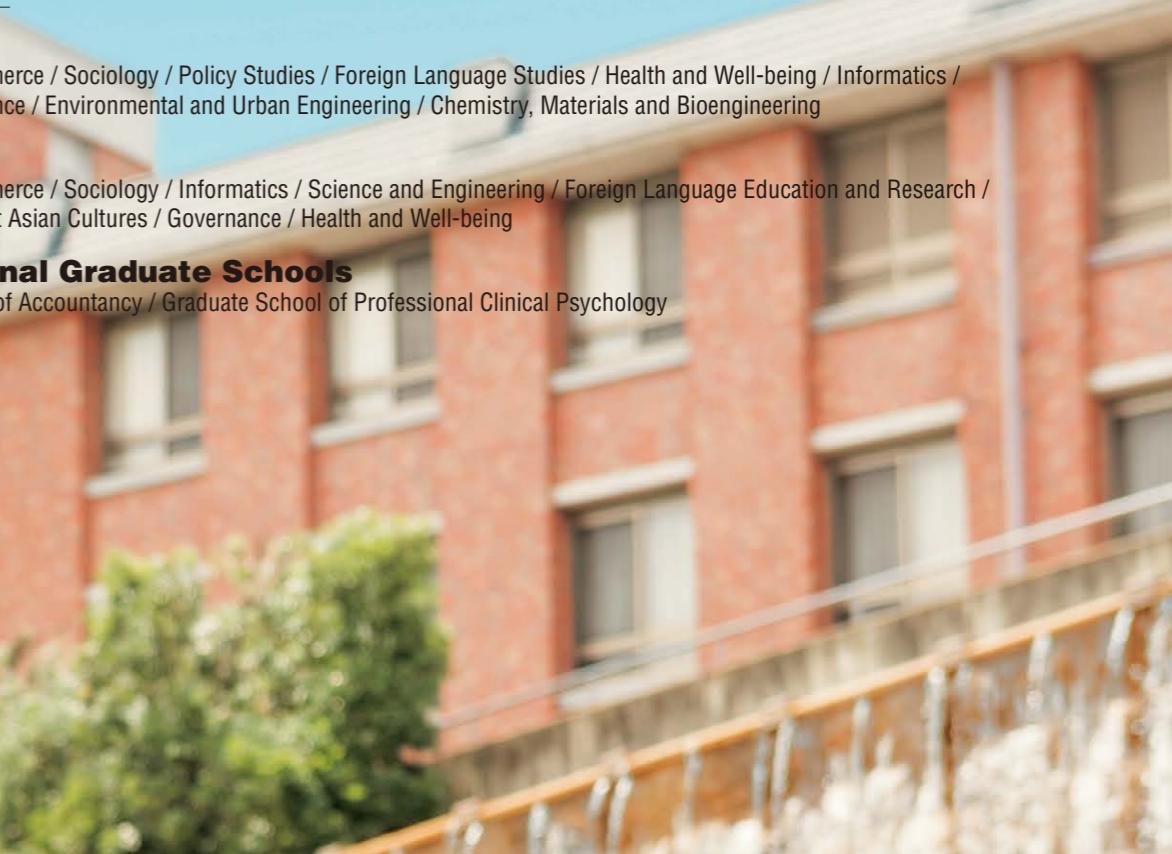
Law / Letters / Economics / Commerce / Sociology / Policy Studies / Foreign Language Studies / Health and Well-being / Informatics / Safety Science / Engineering Science / Environmental and Urban Engineering / Chemistry, Materials and Bioengineering

Graduate Schools

Law / Letters / Economics / Commerce / Sociology / Informatics / Science and Engineering / Foreign Language Education and Research / Psychology / Safety Science / East Asian Cultures / Governance / Health and Well-being

Specialist Professional Graduate Schools

School of Law / Graduate School of Accountancy / Graduate School of Professional Clinical Psychology



Our Mission

Kansai University places the three mainstays of "Education", "Research", and "Social Contribution" as its core objectives. At Kansai University, we encourage our students and faculty members to discover and analyze issues encountered in the course of everyday living, and return the fruits of their findings to the wider community through the promotion of education and research. Our purpose is to nurture talented individuals who are able to play an important role in society, and who can participate at a local and global level with eyes open to the world, and the future.



About Kansai University

Kansai University, one of the leading comprehensive universities in Japan, celebrated its 130th anniversary in 2016. Kansai University is a prestigious private university with 13 undergraduate and 13 graduate programs along with 3 professional graduate schools. There are over 30,000 students enrolled at the university including more than 800 international students.



