

Message from the President



Published since 2011, *Kyoto University Research Activities* aims to regularly showcase diverse examples of our current research achievements. The previous issue was a special edition commemorating the joint award of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2012 to Dr. Shinya Yamanaka and Sir John Gurdon. Accordingly, that issue focused on our current research achievements in fields relating to iPS cells. Dr. Yamanaka's award is the eighth Nobel Prize to be conferred on a Kyoto University researcher, and I believe that those Nobel Prizes, and the many other internationally recognized accolades which have been conferred upon our scholars, confirm that our philosophy of academic freedom and culture of full institutional autonomy provide a rich and fertile academic environment conducive to fostering world-class talent.



President
Hiroshi Matsumoto

This fifth regular volume of *Research Activities*, features seven ongoing projects among our thirteen Global Centers of Excellence (GCOE) programs. Combined with the six completed GCOE programs featured in Vol.2 No.2, published in June 2012, you can gain an overview of all thirteen of our projects, and the wide range of research that they cover.

Kyoto University seeks to cultivate globally-minded scholars who can think and act creatively and independently, and who have the knowledge, skill, and vision to be international leaders in their fields. To that end, we are committed to continually enhancing our academic environment through establishing innovative new programs and facilities, such as the Hakubi Project and the Graduate School of Advanced Leadership. Both of those initiatives are featured in this issue, and I hope that you will enjoy reading about them.

December 2012

H. Matsumoto
Hiroshi Matsumoto

