

Message from the President

Since its foundation in 1897, Kyoto University has fostered a culture of academic freedom grounded in a spirit of self-reliance and self-respect. I believe that, for its students and researchers, the university should function as a “window” to society and the world at large, and that it must be an institution which can respond to the needs and demands of the current era. My role as president, therefore, is to work together with all of Kyoto University’s faculty and staff members to open such a window to society, the world, and all of the possibilities therein. In this way I hope to give our talented and ambitious students a helping hand to get out into the world and realize their full potential. In line with this concept, I have adopted “WINDOW” as the keyword for Kyoto University’s current phase, with each of its letters standing to remind us of our key objectives.

In line with the principles of the Window Concept (see the following page for details), we have introduced several new initiatives in recent years. These include the Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study (KUIAS), which was established in 2016 as an international hub for cutting-edge research. Also in 2016, a special admission system was instituted to facilitate the admission of students with particularly strong aptitudes for their chosen fields of interest. The new system aims to provide such students with opportunities to pursue their own particular talents, and make their own unique contributions to society. And this year, we launched a new program for highly-motivated international undergraduate students called the Kyoto University International Undergraduate Program (Kyoto iUP), which provides them with a unique opportunity to study side-by-side with their Japanese peers.

At Kyoto University, we seek, through creative education and research, to contribute to the advancement of human knowledge and wisdom, and to help to find solutions to pressing global-scale issues. I invite ambitious students and researchers from around the world to join us in our endeavors.



Juichi Yamagiwa
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WINDOW

A Vision for the Future

W

Wild and Wise

Fostering in our students the practical skills and resources to venture into new realms of knowledge, together with sound judgment and decision-making skills.

I

International and Innovative

Enhancing and internationalizing our education and research environment to provide increasingly fertile ground for innovation and new developments.

N

Natural and Noble

Looking to nature as our closest and greatest teacher, and maintaining an awareness of our human dignity as part of the natural world.

D

Diverse and Dynamic

Maintaining an open mind towards diverse cultures and ways of thinking, and providing a calm vantage point from which our scholars can approach their studies, informed by the vast span of history.

O

Original and Optimistic

Cultivating the ability to fearlessly embrace errors and criticism as opportunities to learn new perspectives and integrate them into our path to success.

W

Women, Leaders in the Workplace

Supporting the advancement of women in faculty, staff, and executive positions, and ensuring that men and women can work together on an equal footing towards a society imbued with promise and potential.