

# 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. For its students and researchers, I believe that the university should function as a “window” to society and the world at large, and that it must be an institution that 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 achieve that, and to ensure that each of our talented and ambitious students are inspired to venture out into the world with confidence to realize their full potential. In line with this, I have made “WINDOW” the keyword for Kyoto University’s current phase, with each of its letters standing to remind the whole university of our key objectives (see below for details).

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

**Juichi Yamagiwa**  
September 2019

## 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 and the World

Providing an environment that fosters aspiration and confidence through the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and support for student career-path development.

**Profile of the President**  
[www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/president/profile.html](http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/president/profile.html)

**More about the WINDOW Concept**  
[www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/window/en](http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/window/en)