

MESSAGE

from the PRESIDENT

“A window to society, the world, and all of the possibilities therein.”

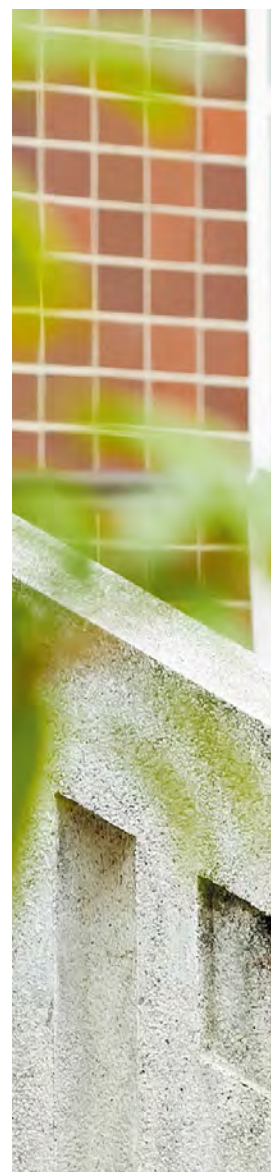
Since its foundation in 1897, Kyoto University has fostered a culture of academic freedom grounded in a spirit of self-reliance and self-respect. I believe that, for its students and researchers, the university should function as a “window” to society and the world at large, and that it must be an institution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

I aim to realize all of the facets of Kyoto University’s WINDOW, and thereby enhance our system to promote creative world-leading research, and make the university even more interdisciplinary and internationally oriented. I aim to provide educational curricula that will enable students to engage in cutting-edge research from their very first year, and which, through experiments, fieldwork, and dialogue, will allow them to fully benefit from the special qualities of Kyoto University.

I look forward to welcoming you to our campuses so that you can experience our unique brand of academic freedom and creativity for yourself. We have prepared a place for you—a place where you can excel and realize your full potential.



Juichi Yamagiwa
April 2016



W
Wild and Wise

We seek to foster wisdom and a “wild” adventurous spirit in our students by providing a diverse education and research environment that offers practical opportunities to explore uncharted academic terrain, and fostering the necessary judgment and decision-making skills to determine the best way forward when encountering unexpected new discoveries.

I
International and Innovative

By providing our students and researchers with a richly international environment, keeping abreast of international developments, and engaging in an ongoing dialogue with the international community, we aim to provide a fertile ground for the generation of innovation and discovery. These efforts are further enhanced by our diverse spectrum of engagements with overseas universities, research institutions, and industry.

N
Natural and Noble

The historic city of Kyoto, abundantly blessed with the gifts of nature, has been an important environmental factor in the development of Kyoto University’s creative and pioneering spirit. We must never forget that there is always more to be learned from nature, and we must strive to maintain an awareness of our human dignity as a part of the natural world.



▶ www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/president/profile.html

D *Diverse and Dynamic*

Modern globalized society has entered an era of diverse cultural intermingling. Kyoto University provides an environment that encourages academic freedom and welcomes diverse cultures and ways of thinking. We develop our students and researchers' awareness of their place in the long span of history, and foster in them the conviction to step forward play their part with confidence.

O *Original and Optimistic*

Within the creative process, we often experience failures, and our ideas are subject to criticism. In the face of such trails, it is vital to maintain an optimistic outlook. At Kyoto University, discussions and debates are a way to mutually enhance the knowledge and understanding of all parties and integrate new ways of thinking. We encourage trans-disciplinary discussions as a wellspring of creativity.

W *Women, leaders in the Workplace*

In order to flourish and effectively serve society, it is vital that universities support the advancement of women in faculty, research, and executive positions, and facilitate their contribution to scholarship and society. Kyoto University is making every effort to ensure that men and women are working together on an equal footing towards a society imbued with hope and potential.

▶ www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/operation/window.html