Award-Winning Research

Kyoto University is acknowledged as one of the most accomplished research-oriented universities in Asia. That reputation is testified by the accolades conferred on our alumni and researchers, most notably nine Nobel Prize laureates who undertook vital research during their time at the university. In addition to those awards, several other Kyoto University faculty members have received major accolades, including two Fields Medalists, one Gauss Prize winner, and five Lasker Award winners.

Nobel Prize



1949, Physics Hideki Yukawa



1965, Physics Shinichiro Tomonaga



1981, Chemistry Kenichi Fukui



1987, Physiology and Medicine Susumu Tonegawa



2001, Chemistry Ryoji Noyori



2008, Physics Makoto Kobayashi



2008, Physics Toshihide Maskawa



Medicine Shinya Yamanaka



2014, Physics Isamu Akasaki

Fields Medal



1970, Mathematics Heisuke Hironaka



1990, Mathematics Shigefumi Mori

Gauss Prize



2006, Mathematics Kiyoshi Ito

Kyoto Prize



1995, Basic Sciences Chushiro Hayashi



1998, Basic Sciences Kiyoshi Ito



2004, Advanced Technology Alan Curtis Kay



2010, Advanced Technology Shinya Yamanaka

Japan Prize



2005, Information and Media Technology Makoto Nagao



2005, Cell Biology Masatoshi Takeichi

Lasker Award



1987, Basic Medical Research Susumu Tonegawa



1989, Basic Medical Research Yasutomi Nishizuka



1998, Basic Medical Research Yoshio Masui



2009, Basic Medical Research Shinya Yamanaka



2014, Basic Medical Research Kazutoshi Mori

*photos provided by the Japan Prize Foundation



Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, director of the Center for iPS Cell Research and Application (CiRA), receives the 2012 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.



Prof. Kayo Inaba, Kyoto University's executive vice-president for gender equality, international affairs, and public relations, receiving the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award for Women in Science 2014.



Prof. Kazutoshi Mori of Kyoto University's Graduate School of Science receiving the 2014 Albert Lasker Award for Basic Medical Research.