

Kyoto University, Kyoto iCAP, BioLabs Launches BioLabs Academy GK to Advance  
Entrepreneurial Education for Scientists and Startups in Japan

Kyoto, Japan / Boston, USA — April 2025 – Kyoto University and its wholly owned subsidiary, Kyoto University Innovation Capital Co., Ltd. (Kyoto iCAP), have collaborated with BioLabs, the world's largest life science incubator platform based in the United States, to establish a new company—BioLabs Academy GK—dedicated to entrepreneurial education and support services for Japanese researchers and startup companies. This initiative represents the shared commitment of BioLabs and Kyoto University to continuously drive innovation in Japan's life science ecosystem.

BioLabs Academy will work in close partnership with Kyoto University and its affiliates, while also drawing upon collaborations with universities and research institutions across Japan. With Kyoto as its base, and focusing to serve all of Japan, BioLabs Academy aims to empower entrepreneurial scientists through high-impact programming and hands-on mentorship.

BioLabs builds on more than a decade of experience in supporting entrepreneurs in the biotech industry. Since its founding in 2010 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, BioLabs has grown into a global innovation platform, operating over 20 locations across the United States, France, Germany, and Japan, including partner sites such as LabCentral in Boston/Cambridge and MBC BioLabs in San Francisco. More than 1,200 biotech startups have benefited from this network since its inception.

BioLabs Academy also draws from the BioLabs Masterclass program, which brings scientific entrepreneurs from Japan to Boston. Since 2018, five Masterclass programs have supported startup founders from Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Tokyo, Hokkaido and other region from Japan, offering them direct exposure to the U.S. biotech ecosystem and access to global mentors and investors.

This initiative marks a decisive step in redefining innovation in life sciences. BioLabs Academy offers a structured, repeatable path to venture creation—grounded in global best practices and adapted to Japan's research ecosystem. Founders will access strategic frameworks, operational support, and an international network of mentors and investors, helping turn world-class science into globally relevant ventures.

Dr. Johannes Fruehauf, Founder and CEO of BioLabs, commented, "The launch of BioLabs Academy marks a major milestone in our long-standing engagement with Japan. By focusing on education and capability-building, we aim to bridge the extraordinary science emerging from Japanese institutions with global commercialization pathways."

Mr. Koji Murota, Deputy Executive Director of Kyoto University and Director-General of the Office of Institutional Advancement and Communications (IAC), stated, "This initiative is central to our vision of expanding Japan's biotech startup ecosystem and empowering global entrepreneurs to thrive not only in the Kansai region but throughout Japan."

Mr. Ko Kusumi, President & CEO of Kyoto University Innovation Capital (KUICap), commented: “By combining our investment capabilities with BioLabs’ international network and operational expertise, this collaboration will advance a more connected and effective innovation ecosystem—bridging Japan and the world.”

Dr. Tomoyoshi Koyanagi, Director of Business Development at Kyoto University Hospital’s Institute for Advancement of Clinical and Translational Science (iACT), who serves as the Japanese representative for BioLabs Academy, commented, “BioLabs Academy will play a vital role in empowering a new generation of scientific founders. Through collaboration with Kyoto University and beyond, we will develop a platform that fosters real-world innovation and global partnerships.”

#### About BioLabs

BioLabs is a membership-based innovation platform and network of shared laboratories. It offers fully equipped, professionally managed lab and office space, coupled with strategic programming and access to global industry partners and capital. BioLabs operates in major innovation hubs across the United States, Europe, and Asia. Learn more at [www.biolabs.io](http://www.biolabs.io)

#### About Kyoto University

Kyoto University, founded in 1897, is renowned for its spirit of academic freedom and cutting-edge research capabilities, and has produced numerous Nobel laureates. In the fields of startup support and entrepreneurial development, the Office of Institutional Advancement and Communications takes the lead. Working in close collaboration with Kyoto iCAP, a subsidiary of Kyoto University, it is committed to advancing the startup ecosystem. Learn more at [www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en](http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en)