To all students,

## **Classes in the Second Semester of AY 2021**

The Japanese government has announced that the state of emergency in Kyoto Prefecture due to the COVID-19 pandemic shall be extended until September 30. Recently, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection has been decreasing, however the medical care system is still under great strain.

Classes at Kyoto University will commence from October 1. As a general rule, however, classes shall be provided online until October 21 (Thu) in order to reduce the number of people on campus and prevent the spread of the virus. Please note that some courses may commence face-to-face classes earlier than October 21 (Thu) depending on the curriculum or timetable. Please therefore be sure to check the relevant information on KULASIS and your department's website.

Regarding classes after October 22 (Fri), the university is planning to resume face-to-face classes gradually, depending on the changing situation. Information about the resumption of face-to-face classes will be provided approximately one week in advance. The university will continue to extend the student lunch break by 15 minutes in the second semester, same as the first semester. Please check the class time schedule carefully.

We sincerely regret that we cannot meet the expectations of our students who are looking forward to the resumption of face-to-face classes, but under the current circumstances it is vital that we do our utmost to protect not only the health of our students and staff, but also the wider community and society as a whole. We also ask our students to be sure to take all possible measures to prevent infection and avoid spreading the virus.

Takao Hirajima Executive Vice-President for Education