Building Kyushu University’s future through the TGU project

Kyushu University is endeavoring to become a globally leading education and research hub in Kyushu District, Japan. We are implementing major reforms in research, education, and governance as well as enhancing our capacity for strategic information delivery based on our particular institutional strengths—our comprehensiveness, which permits international collaboration in a variety of disciplines and fields of academic research; our resourcefulness, which facilitates multifaceted approaches to research and education; and our global openness, which supports a broad, diverse engagement in education and research with all corners of the world, and drawing specifically upon our considerable experience in Asia. The construction of, and relocation to, a new main campus at Ito—site of the new hub area that will attract the world’s leading minds, and that will shape and ensure the University’s future—were completed in September 2018.

Project summary

“SHARE-Q” is a package of enhancements and reforms in research, education, and governance. The initiatives are intended jointly to achieve the following goals: ① internationalization of education, ② internationalization of research, ③ governance reforms to support internationalization, ④ enhancement of international visibility and strengthening of reputation management, ⑤ improvements for an internationalized campus, and ⑥ development and greater use of overseas offices. Establishment of the “Top Global Hub Campus” by the time of project completion will derive from the synergistic effects of nine “SHARE” components, centered on the new campus, as shown below:
Featured initiatives in SHARE-Q internationalization, University reform, and education reform:

1. Establishment of a new undergraduate school (School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation) Implement “Class Share” synergies through Japanese students and international students studying together.
2. Recruiting of international faculty, and requirement for new appointees to teach classes in a foreign language. Double the number of international faculty by 2023. Require all new teachers to conduct classes in a foreign tongue.
3. Establishment of priority research areas Increase internationally co-authored papers through establishment of priority areas for world-leading research.
4. Reform of research portfolios Enhancement of research capabilities of each department through organizational and other reforms: Implement external evaluations by committees that include world-leading researchers.
5. Enhancement of strategic reputation management Improve international visibility and status through strategic reputation management, achieving top-100 standing in global university rankings.

Measures for the promotion of collaboration with foreign universities

1. Standardize curricula through increased double degree and joint degree programs
   Increase number of double degree/joint degree programs (from six to sixteen over 10 years) and frequency of courses taught jointly with partner universities.
2. Increase student mobility through short-term student exchange
   Launch new short-term student exchange programs for global human resources development.
3. Utilize overseas offices
   Establish overseas offices to function as hubs for collaborative research and education, to promote the exchange of graduate students and young researchers, and to sponsor international symposia.
4. Facilitate administrative staff development
   Enhance administrative staff capabilities for institutional globalization through training programs in collaboration with partner institutions, internal training, qualification testing, and training tours in overseas offices.
2. FY2014 Progress

Meeting common indicators and targets

Internationalization

1. Increase of international student and academic staff recruitment
   a. Clarification of fundamental policy and regulations for academic staff recruitment
   b. Expansion of overseas student recruitment efforts
   c. Discussions on possibility of new short-term student exchange programs with foreign institutions.

2. Enhancement of support for international students
   a. Support for international student career planning: Hiring of new coordinators for career counseling of international students; held job-hunting guidance workshop and a recruiting fair with Japanese companies eager to hire international students.
   b. Improvement of housing options for students: Opened new dormitories to house both international and Japanese students together, providing accommodation for more than 1,300 residents on the main campus.

3. Strengthening of education abroad management
   a. Establishment of Global Student Exchange Center: Center staff now offer study abroad advising services at every campus. Eleven students were selected by the Japanese Government as full-scholarship recipients under the TOBITATE Japan program.

4. Promotion of education and research internationalization
   a. Change of academic calendar: Discussions on shifting to the quarter system, to start in 2017.
   b. Multi-lingualization of classes: Set fundamental policy for promotion of conducting classes in foreign languages, with goal to hold 25% of all classes in an another tongue.

University reform

1. Personnel system reforms
   a. Introduction and application to 13 tenured professors of a new annual salary system, consisting of base and performance-related compensation. To be gradually extended and applied to senior faculty members according to age from 2015.
   b. Introduction of a faculty joint appointment system to promote cross-departmental collaboration by talented faculty members.

2. Governance Reforms
   a. Revision of University rules defining the President’s leadership authority and clarification of regulations establishing the role of faculty councils. Reorganization of committee system to enhance efficiency.
   b. Holding of intensive English training programs for administrative staff, who were TOEIC-IP tested. Implementation for all administrative staff of TOEIC e-learning courses and TOEIC-IP testing in 2015.

Education reform

1. Education System Reforms
   a. Launching of new undergraduate “KIKAN Education” curricula to nurture “active learners” who will continue to learn independently throughout their lifetime.
   b. Various internationalization-related reforms including review and restructuring of the GPA system, reworking of the course numbering system, and revision of standardized syllabus formats.
   c. In response to the growth of MOOCs, offering of first online course—“Global Social Archaeology,” produced by the Innovation Center for Educational Resource and approved by JMOOC—as part of “OpenLearning, Japan.”

2. Student participation in university governance
   a. Student Committee for Internationalization of Kyushu University (SCIKyu) held the workshop to discuss various topics on “Internationalized university.” The report of the discussion was introduced to the university president.
University’s own indicators and targets

1. Efforts to raise standing in world university rankings
   a. Launching of the Reputation Management Unit to improve the university’s visibility, establish its “brand,” and improve its global ranking through strategic dissemination of information about education and research achievements and enhancing of internal communications.

2. Internationalization of educational system
   a. Concluding of MOUs promoting double-degree programs with Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia and Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. Conclusion of first Campus Asia Program double-degree master’s course, a joint effort of Pusan National University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Kyushu University.

3. Internationalization of research
   a. Reorganization of the University Research Administration Office into the Industry-University-Government Collaboration Management Center to support pursuit of competitive funds—the Center promotes international joint research grants—and to enhance project management.
   b. 135 international symposiums and academic conferences hosted or co-hosted by Kyushu University were held, such as the International Japan-Egypt Conference on Electronics, Communications and Computers co-hosted by Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST).

4. Creation of the future-oriented campus
   a. Construction on Ito Campus and in the Global Zone of Ito Kyosokan (Harmony House) and Dormitory 3, where, together with Dormitories 1 and 2 and Ito Guest House, over 1,300 international and Japanese students now live together.
   b. Construction begun on the Internationalization Library, which has a variety of facilitative learning features such as the Active Learning Space. Scheduled for partial opening and use in FY2016.

Initiatives for the enhancement of international reputation

1. Survey and analysis for improving international reputation:
   a. World university rankings analysis
   b. Strategy formulation (regional branding, university branding, global approach, marketing programs)

2. Website renewal:
   a. Strategic dissemination of information
   b. Rapid, effective information-provision system
   c. Widespread accessibility for the world-wide user

3. Become a member of “the World 100 Reputation Network”:
   a. Expanding international networking with professionals for visibility among world-class universities
   b. Strategic promotion overseas

Results of promotion of collaboration with foreign universities

1. New style of overseas office in Australia
   Establishment of branch of Institute of Mathematics for Industry (IMI) at La Trobe University in March 2015. Serves as hub for promoting activities such as joint research and student exchanges with institutes and industry in the Oceania area. Unique in that office staff are jointly selected by both universities—hired by La Trobe and assigned to work as IMI branch staff.

2. Cyber-Security Center
   Established to enhance research and education on cyber-security in collaboration with the University of Maryland.

3. ASEAN in Today’s World
   Two-week international study program focusing on ASEAN and East Asian affairs, held most recently in March 2015 at Hanoi National University, with students from six partner universities attending.

Breaking news!

Japan-Australia Universities Symposium
   Event to promote and strengthen university partnerships between institutions in Japan and Australia, to be held in Sydney on 24 November 2015.
3. FY2015 Progress

Common indicators and targets

**Internationalization**
Increase staffing in international offices; enhance the visibility of Kyushu University abroad; raise the level of student exchange activity and reception of foreign guest instructors, using dedicated grants.

**Installment of study-abroad coordinators**
Study-abroad coordinators have been placed on all campuses. Steps have been taken to encourage and facilitate overseas study by Japanese students in diverse academic fields.

**Ranked second nationally in TOBITATE Japan Program awards!**
KU applicants were awarded the second highest number nationwide of TOBITATE government scholarships during the program’s 4th round. This success in part reflects the efforts of the study-abroad coordinators.

**Invitations to foreign faculty**
Foreign instructors and researchers, and especially faculty eminent in their respective fields, have been welcomed, through international exchange agreements with partner institutions, to join or spend time with various academic units.

**University Reforms**
Facilitate systemic reform and administrative staff development under the President’s Action Plan.

**Employment through Cross-Appointment System**
We introduced the Cross-Appointment System to personnel management in the Medical Science, Pharmacy, Humanities, and Social Science divisions. An expert authority on border studies, for example, received joint appointments in Humanities and Social Science.

**Expansion of new annual salary system for tenured professors**
Many senior (211) and special project faculty members were brought within the new annual salary system, which will expand eventually to include all faculty.

**Administered TOEIC-IP to all administrative staff under age 55**
Approximately 700 took the test and 19.8% of them earned scores above 600.

**Implemented staff training at the University of Sydney**
Dispatched five staff for a month of administrative training at the University of Sydney to broaden awareness of international practices and further their global and inter-cultural competencies.

**Education Reforms**
Reforms for educational internationalization

**Formulation of draft plans for the establishment of a new undergraduate school (to be established in FY2018)**
Principles, issues, and implementation schedules were identified in three policy areas: admissions, curricula, and diplomas.

**Introduction of academic calendar quarter system**
Reforms were implemented to the syllabus, GPA, course numbering and rubric systems; in FY2017, the University academic calendar will change to a quarter system.

**Classes to be taught in a foreign language**
In the near future, 25% of University classes will be conducted in a foreign language exclusively or in a combination with Japanese.

**Syllabi in English**
Course syllabi published originally in Japanese are being translated comprehensively into English for greater accessibility.

**Support for individual English study through the Self-Access Learning Centre (SALC)**
SALC was established in 2014. In 2015, 2722 students used SALC, tripling the number of users from the first year.
University’s own indicators and targets

Efforts to raise standing in world university rankings
We implemented benchmarking for comparisons with both domestic and foreign universities, in the areas of branding, reputation management, and research. We also conducted close inspections of data submitted to the THE and QS evaluators.

Expansion of double degree programs
We established double-degree programs with the Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST), National Taiwan University, and several other institutions. Similar arrangements now exist with 11 universities, exceeding the target (10) for FY2016. We also conducted a forum to develop better understanding of double-degree programs and their role in international education cooperation.

Building a future-oriented campus
The new General Science Research Building on Ito Campus was opened in October. Work was begun on the Central Library, the Humanities and Social Sciences Research and Teaching Building, and the Agriculture Research and Teaching Building. All are expected to be completed by 2018, when the University’s relocation to Ito Campus also concludes.

Initiatives for the enhancement of international reputation

Sponsored Japan-China University Presidents Conference
The theme of the conference was “Internationalization of Chinese and Japanese Universities in the Global Era”; We adopted the “Fukuoka Declaration: Internationalization of Universities in China and Japan.”

Participated in “the World 100 Reputation Network”
We joined the World 100 Reputation Network, which links people in charge of reputation management at the world’s top universities. We attended the Network annual meeting, presented our university, and began to build our own network.

Efforts of RM
We held a reputation management seminar for our board members led by the president of World 100 Reputation Network, and a science writing seminar conducted by an expert from Kyoto University.

Promoting collaboration with foreign universities

UQ-KU Project
We launched a project with the University of Queensland, Australia, to facilitate further interchange. Through an activity center and coordinator placed at UQ, we are promoting academic exchanges, educational cooperation, and industry-academia collaboration.

Inviting researchers and units from World Top 100 universities
We invited to Kyushu University 46 researchers in nanomaterials, Japanese humanities and other fields, from World Top 100 universities such as MIT, Stanford University, and UCSB. And we are collaborating in the area of research education.

Educational cooperation with Malaysia-Japan International Institute (MJIT)
We opened at the University of Technology Malaysia, as one of several ODA projects, the office of MJIT, which hosted a discussion to establish a double degree program.

Free Description

“Japan-Australia University Symposium Towards Successful Partnerships: Learning from Experiences”
This symposium, which took place in Sydney, was held with the objective of fostering strong relationships between universities in the two countries. It contributed to the promotion of Kyushu University and other TGU universities. The event has resulted in the start-up of joint research with the University of New South Wales and in a colloquium with La Trove University in the humanities and social sciences.

Formulation of Kyushu University Action Plans 2015
We announced action plans and priorities for the next six years that identify and determine the fundamental directions our university will take.

Institute of Energy Research and Education
We established, as a priority undertaking based on the President’s Action Plan, the Institute of Energy Research and Education. Faculty/personnel points were allocated for this as part of the University activation system.

Initiation of review of ways to reorganize and strengthen the humanities and social sciences divisions
These are designated important concerns, as based on the President’s Action Plan.
4. FY2016 Progress

- Common indicators and targets

**Internationalization**

Kyushu University ranked first in number of full-scholarship recipients for the TOBITATE Japan Program 6th award cycle

Support and encouragement of students by study abroad coordinators of the Global Student Exchange Center produced this impressive result.

The University’s cumulative award success since the inception of TOBITATE Japan places it 2nd among all national institutions.

**International Courses**

Beginning in FY2018, and following the successful precedent and experience of the Schools of Engineering and Agriculture, six more Kyushu departments will establish international courses using English as the medium of instruction.

**Closer Relationship with Egypt**

We jointly organized with the Japanese Embassy in Egypt an educational recruiting event, attended by 750 people, called the “Exchange Program Fair.” And in another important collaborative effort, the Center for Japan-Egypt Cooperation in Science and Technology Kyushu University (E-JUST) launched an innovative new double degree program.

**University Reforms**

**Formulation of Internationalization, RM, and Media Strategies**

Various strategies necessary to internationalize Kyushu University and based on the President’s 2015-2020 Action Plan were developed.

**The Office of Institutional Research (IR)**

The Office for Information of University Evaluation was reorganized to IR office and a massive amount of data is being collected. Introduction of SciVal and Pure enables us to analyze international research more effectively.

**Personnel-System Reforms**

The University developed and implemented the Joint Hiring System, which is designed to attract and employ highly talented researchers from both Japan and abroad.

**Translating into English of University Rules and Regulations**

In response to the University participation and needs of growing numbers of foreign faculty and international students, we are progressively translating into English, and thereby making more accessible, many of Kyushu University’s rules and regulations.

**Education Reforms**

**Establishment of a Major New School**

The School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation, to be launched in April 2018, will have as its primary objective the cultivation of individuals with a global outlook and possessing knowledge and skills appropriate for playing active roles in the international community.

**Joint Usage Center**

In line with its dual aims to develop liberal science education and promote programs fostering the development of specialists, MEXT recently designated Kyushu University a Joint Usage Center for education.

**Education with ICT (Information-Communication Technology)**

The University is striving to enhance educational performance through ICT-enabled measures, including implementation of the M2B System. This innovative approach was recognized with the 2016 E-Learning Award, and consists of complementary e-learning (“Moodle”), e-portfolio (“Mahara”), and digital textbook distribution (“BookLooper”) systems, jointly intended to improve instructional support, student learning, and the analysis of educational data.
Global Advisory Board Meeting

Five outstanding scholars from leading higher education institutions abroad, including Stanford University and the University of Oxford, joined a convening of the Kyushu University's Global Advisory Board. The participants offered invaluable opinions and advice on the School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation, to be launched next year, and on the strengthening of the University's international competitiveness, among other topics. Reflections collected from international faculty regarding University management were presented and discussed.

Launching of Self-Driving Bus Field Trials

Field trials of a self-driving bus have begun on Ito campus. It is hoped this new technology might help to resolve mobility issues related to the ultra-aging of Japanese society. Regular use of the bus on campus is planned for the future.

University Indicators and Targets

Formulation of a Basic Action Plan for World University Ranking Improvement.
Based on the Task Force commissioned by the President, developed a basic action plan to elevate Kyushu's standing in the leading world university ranking systems. An all-campus FD/SD seminar addressing the topic and related issues was also held.

Enhancement of Double Degree (DD) Programs
With this year's establishment of a DD program through E-JUST, the number of double degree agreements with partner universities reached 12 in total, exceeding the target for FY 2017.

Initiatives for the Enhancement of University International Reputation

Enhancing and Promoting Institutional Strengths
Kyushu University positioned itself as an innovative energy research leader in the rapidly shifting technology-industry-society environment through the establishment of the Inter/Transdisciplinary Energy Research Platform. In another initiative, it sponsored, in February 2017, the “Energy Week” international symposium, attracting a large and professionally diverse number of international researchers.

Organization of World Social Science Forum
Kyushu University is planning to sponsor and host the World Social Science Forum in 2018. This is a primary event in the annual calendar of the International Social Science Council (ISSC), one of the most prestigious of social science research associations.

Establishment RM Strategy
Kyushu University’s RM Unit developed a formal RM strategy to elevate the institution’s international reputation. Efforts are being coordinated with the University's internationalization and media strategies, in the interest of improving our standing in world university rankings and overall global reputation.

Promoting Collaboration with Foreign Universities

Strengthening of Cooperation with Australian Universities
The Japan-Australia University Symposium held in 2014 promoted cooperation with Australian universities. Several of the joint projects that resulted include: collaborative research in “Hydrogen and Cyber Security” with the University of New South Wales; student and faculty exchanges through the “UQ-KU Research Education Exchange Project” with the University of Queensland; and workshops and colloquia in the humanities and social sciences with La Trobe University, mainly through the Australia Branch of the Institute of Mathematics for Industry.

Consortium with Swedish Universities
The first Japan-Sweden University Presidents Conference, held in 2015, resulted in Kyushu University joining the “MIRAI Project,” a pilot undertaking designed to establish a platform for collaboration between institutions from both countries, and allowing younger researchers especially new opportunities for joint research.

Free Description

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5. FY2017 Progress

Common indicators and targets

**Internationalization**

Double Degree Programs with overseas universities
The Graduate School of Human Environment reached agreement of establishing a new double master degree program for architecture with Busan University, Korea and another with Tongji University, China. The number of graduates from our degree programs reached 81 (KU students: 22. Partner institution students: 49).

Overseas Offices
The university Hanoi Office organized “Power of Research –Kyushu University Symposium Hanoi 2018,” attended by more than 90 people, to showcase the attractiveness as a research university. Also, as last year, Cairo Office, Egypt held recruiting events in Cairo and Alexandria. Approximately 950 people participated.

Symposium in Stockholm
Kyushu University organized “International Symposium on Self-Assembly, Colloid and Nanomaterials Chemistry” in Stockholm with the aim of improving the recognition of our university. We Invited prominent scientists from all over the world.

**University Reforms**

Institutional Research (IR)
The IR Office collected massive fundamental data to publish “Kyushu University Fact Book” both in Japanese and English. The IR office analyzed the various data through SciVal, Pure and the BI (Business Intelligence) software. The analytics result has been shared to the headquarters and relevant members in the university. It allows the information to be monitored over the years to be visible for management of university.

External Evaluation Committee
We held an external evaluation committee with four outside well-experienced individuals including one foreign national as a place to examine past achievements of Kyushu University TGU Project (SHARE-Q).

**Education Reforms**

School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation
Following the governmental approval to establish the new school, the managing system to run the school, such as the administrative office to support faculties and students, has been set up. 486 applicants to 105 spots shows the success of recruiting activities.

New Entrance Examination System
In the new school, we conducted all four types of entrance exams listed in our new entrance examination "QUBE". We will verify the achievements and aim to develop to all schools.

Education Innovation Initiative
The initiative was established as a university's academic management organization that aims to improve the quality of education by planning and promoting policies of the whole school education reform.
University Indicators and Targets

Global campus
On Ito campus, we started on-demand bus simulation experiment using smartphone application. Kyushu University, Itoshima City and three companies entered into a collaboration agreement on "Itoshima-shi Kyushu University international village concept". We aim to make communities as international science and research cities that are attractive by setting neighboring districts as accepting bases for foreign students and foreign researchers.

5th place in THE Japan University Ranking
In the main ranking which is the main index of educational comprehension, we made a leap from the seventh place of last year to the fifth place. "Educational outcomes" earn high points.

Initiatives for the Enhancement of University International Reputation

Promotion of reputation management (RM)
In collaboration with Deloitte & Tohmatsu which is an international think tank, based on the RM strategy formulated last year, we held a workshop by executive members and another workshop by RM unit members. Thorough the results of overseas university benchmark survey, international student survey and global enterprise survey, the current situation and extract issues have been shared to the members. Among the issues, The executive members exchanged opinions with members of the Globalization Advisory Board on clarification of research flagship and enhancement of dissemination of overseas information.

Promoting Collaboration with Foreign Universities

Cooperation with the University of Queensland
As a part of the "UQ - KU Project" initiative, we started accepting 15 UQ students. The program cooperates with private enterprises, acquires knowledge of a wide range of engineering fields, history of development of Japanese engineering technology including the current situation of industry, business manners and others.

ASEAN International Study Program at Malaya University
We held a program consisting of ASEAN specialized subjects and an introduction course for Asian culture at University of Malaya, Malaysia for undergraduate students of ASEAN countries. 32 people from 11 universities in seven countries including Japan and Malaysia participated.

Free Description

The first simulated UN camp in Japan
Students from the International Student Committee of Kyushu University(SCIKyu) held the summer camp at the university campus, together with volunteers such as the Oxford University United Nations Association and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. It aimed to equip students with the skill to become a global leader by providing an environment for learning international sense of debate and cross-cultural understanding. 40 university students and high school students inside and outside the university participated.

Innovation Club starts
Students aiming to create venture businesses "Kyushu University Innovation Club" was established. A software development company that supports artificial intelligence (AI) to determine the presence or absence of disease from a microscopic image was launched as the first venture.
New establishment: School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation

The School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation was established in April 2018. It develops advanced human resources that create new knowledge and values in an ever-changing global society. All students are required to study abroad. Out of 105 the newly enrolled students, 55 went to study abroad in FY 2018.

Expansion of international courses

In addition to the Schools of Law, Engineering and Agriculture, other four Schools have newly launched international courses. The names of the four Schools and the number of student enrollment are as follows: School of Letters (11); School of Economics (10); School of Science (10); School of Pharmaceutical Sciences (6). The School of Education is due to inaugurate a new international program in April, 2019.

Tobitate!-Study Abroad JAPAN-The number of our successful applicants for the 10th batch is 2nd in the country

The coordinators of the Global Student Exchange Center provide one-stop, in-depth support for the Japanese students who wish to study abroad. The number of successful applicants for the 10th term is 20, and is the second in the country.

Crisis management for students traveling abroad

The “Kyudai Seven Steps” was adopted as the university-wide guideline for crisis management as the styles of study abroad program by individual departments become increasingly variegated. Experts were invited from outside to run seminars for students’ safety while studying abroad. 235 participated.

Graduate Education Reform

The “Kyushu University Graduate School Education Reform Guidelines” was adopted as the medium- to long-term basic policy to aspire to provide the world’s highest quality graduate education. To this end, the multi-teaching instructor system (made up of specialists from universities and companies in and outside Japan), a more transparent degree examination system involving examiners from outside the university, the Da Vinci program (custom-made graduate degree programs that involve different graduate schools, majors and educational programs) have been developed and are now being strongly promoted.

Internationalization via student organizations

Taking seriously the requests from international students, the Student Committee for Internationalization of Kyushu University (SCIKyu) organized by foreign and domestic students planned and implemented the “vegetarian food project” (which requested each cafeteria on campus to provide a vegetarian menu and apart of the plan will start to provide in April 2019) and the “tandem project” (a language exchange project that helps students the language they want to learn with their tandem partners).
Initiatives for Strengthening International Reputation

Strengthen global communications
The positions of a science communicator and a head of International Public Relations Section were newly created at the Public Relations Office; They have begun working on improving the content of press releases, websites and public relations magazines in English.

Programs and commercials featuring Kyushu U were aired in seven countries and regions of Asia. The video distributed via the program's official SNS, together with the above, made Kyushu U very popular in study fairs in Indonesia.

Activation of Overseas Alumni Associations
The Overseas Alumni Association Task Force was established as part of the brand building strategy overseas. With the aim of raising the name recognition of Kyushu U overseas, we are taking initiatives to establish a functional collaborative relationship with existing alumni associations outside Japan. In Egypt, Thailand, and Vietnam, Kyushu U leaders joined the gatherings of our alumni, and promoted the need for establishing an overseas alumni association in those countries.

Collaborations with Foreign Universities

Cooperation with the University of Queensland
Through the UQ-KU Research and Education Exchange project with University of Queensland (UQ), Australia, Kyushu U accepted 20 UQ engineering students (UQ-JPIE) and dispatched 18 of our Engineering students (Q2PEC). The School of Economics launched the "Global Diploma Program", whose participants spend five weeks in UQ. Also Kyushu U dispatched 12 young academic staff to UQ who took part in the workshop on teaching methods. It not only strengthens cooperation between UQ and Kyushu U; it also contributes to deepening the friendship between Australia and Japan.

International Symposium in Europe
Kyushu U co-organized the 1st International Symposium "International Chemistry Symposium" at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany and the second one was held at Kyushu University. Kyushu U also organized another international symposium with same theme at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden. These events helped us deepening the ties with these two universities and brought into relief our research strengths in Europe.

Collaboration with the Middle East and North Africa Region
With the start of Study in Japan Global Network Project, we strengthened the functions of our Cairo Office, Egypt, one of our priority countries. As the kick-off event for the project was held in Cairo. It served as a major networking event among key individuals from Egyptian universities and local branches of Japanese companies.

Establishment of Kyushu University Institute for Asian and Oceanian Studies
The university leaders have agreed to set up the Kyushu University Institute for Asian and Oceanian Studies which sets out to address social issues in the Asia-Oceania region by utilizing the human and intellectual resources that the Kyushu U has in hand.

Completion of the largest futurist campus
Ito Campus, the largest single campus in Japan, was completed. International conferences etc., are being held on campus, using the facilities like "Jonathan KS Choi Cultural Centre of Japan" built through donations from overseas. Kyushu U now stands out as a “top global hub campus” where the intellectual leaders from all over the world engage with one another.
7. FY2019 Progress

Common Indicators and Targets

Internationalization

Increasing the number of international students by promoting international compatibility

In FY2019, the number of international students exceeded 3,500. The ratio of international students to all students increased steadily to 11.5% in 2016, 12.0% in 2017, 12.6% in 2018, and 13.0% in 2019. In the background, there is an increase in international compatibility of the educational system such as the English syllabus (reaching 91.2% as of 2019 FY).

Road to Strategic Partnership --NTU-KYUSHU COLLOQUIUM

Held a research exchange meeting "NTU-KYUSHU COLLOQUIUM" with the National Taiwan University (NTU), with which we are building a strategic relationship. From both universities, about 30 researchers representing the fields of Forestry, Japanese language, Museums, Education, Architecture, Earth Resources, Medical care, and Organic EL meet together to discuss possibilities of research and education exchanges in the future. In addition, there were presentations by students.

Strategically Strengthening Overseas Bases -- Opened Ankara Office, Turkey

In June 2019, a local base for All Japan was established in Ankara, Turkey, in order to acquire excellent international students from the Middle East and North Africa. The opening ceremony was held in Ankara on June 21, 2019. Higher education officials from both Japan and Turkey participated to widely publicize the existence of Kyushu University and Ankara Office. Going forward, we will strengthen activities aimed at acquiring international students from neighboring countries including Turkey.

University Reforms

Strategic Recombination of Research and Education Portfolio

Established "Kyushu University Institute for Asian and Oceanian Studies" for strategic partnerships with overseas universities and strengthening international joint research. Beyond the framework of traditional research fields, we established six "clusters" that address social issues, and promote interdisciplinary research in all-Kyushu University system. In addition, the four departments of Humanities (Humanities, Education, Law, Economy) have also established "the Collaborative Platform in Research and Education on Humanities and Social Sciences" to further activate interdisciplinary research and education.

Promotion of Diversity

Implemented numerous efforts to diversify the research environment. [Example 1] The "Kyushu University Renaissance Project", which is a sustainable human resource development strategy for young researchers. The project links undergraduate education, graduate education, and researcher development.

[Example 2] "SENTAN-Q", a global faculty training program for women and young researchers, is also worthy of mentioning. After the training, participants who reached the target level will be promoted to higher ranks.

Tenured URA

In 2019, we introduced the tenure track system for University Research Administrator(URA). It has become possible to develop a wide range of URA who are familiar with our university's research strategy, peculiar circumstances, and science and technology policies both inside and outside Japan. In 2019 FY, a URA for regular position was hired through an open recruitment. We will continue to expand the research support system by URA.
**Education Reforms**

**Strengthening educational management by Kyushu University Education Innovation Initiative**
From FY2017, promoted educational reform centered on Kyushu University Education Innovation Initiative In FY2019, we began to review degree programs that transcend the boundaries of organizations such as undergraduate and graduate schools, curriculum that emphasizes internal quality assurance, syllabus, and teaching methods, and strengthened organizational efforts. In addition, we conducted the educational management training to Can Tho University (Vietnam).

**Development of Double Degree Program (DDP)**
Currently 17 DDPs are in progress. In FY2019, MOU was newly signed with Kama University and Leuven Catholic University. Since 2016, the DDP of our university has been consistently awarded (16 degree grantees, 9 grantees) every year, and we promote internationalization both inside and outside the university. It contributes to the development of global human resources.

**Central Library Officially Launched**
Had grand opening of the central library in October 2018 with the relocation of the Ito campus. It has a total area of approximately 20,000 m² and is one of the largest in Japan with approximately 3.5 million books. In FY 2019, we promoted open access to the contents held, developed electronic teaching materials using ICT through Innovation Center for Educational Resource, and conducted nearly 180 seminars using the active learning space "Cute. Commons". Also, for stable operation, we started recruiting naming rights partners.

**School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation**
In the "School of Interdisciplinary Science and Innovation" newly established in 2018, study abroad is obligatory as a graduation requirement, in addition to the curriculum that integrates arts and science, and thorough language education. In FY2019, a total of 80 students studied abroad. In addition, with the internationalization of the campus in mind, we have adopted multiple entrance exam forms, including the “international entrance exam”. We have recruited many applicants from Asia, North America and Latin America.

**University Indicators and Targets**

**QS-APPLE 2019 Held in Japan for the First Time**
For the first time in Japan, we have invited QS-APPLE (QS Asia Pacific Professional Leaders in Education), a well-known international education and research forum. This is the 15th time, and about 700 people (233 organizations, 33 countries), which is a record high, participated. In addition to standard events such as keynotes, various sessions, and dinner parties, we had, as our original projects, a campus tour, a joint booth (Study in Japan Pavilion) in which 14 Japanese universities participated, and a panel with the SGU logo for showcasing SGU project intending to be posted in social media. By hosting QS-APPLE, it led to improvement of overseas recognition and reputation, not only at our university but also at Japanese universities as a whole. Also, with the cooperation of Fukuoka Convention and Visitors Bureau, we received the support of many student interns. We thought that it would be an opportunity to learn by having them experience the international conference in various roles such as moderator, session assistant, tour attendant, etc.

**Initiatives for the Enhancement of University International Reputation**
**Strengthen International Research Publicity**
Centered on the Science Communicator, which was adopted for the first time at our university, we review the research publicity of our university, post on the media issued by Ranker, and perform branding analysis. It has achieved great results in planning and management of international conference and enhancing research pages on HP and booklets. As for HP, in October 2019, the number of access was quadrupled from the previous year to 3700, and we won the bronze award in the Creative Award/Homepage category announced annually by QS. In addition, EurekAlert! (a site for transmitting research results to the world through posting of English press releases) was introduced in FY2019. We posted 7 research results and received 23,000 accesses from overseas.

**Interactive version of Fact Book released**
Institutional Research (IR) Office published “Interactive Fact Book”. The Fact Book is a collection of details of university management, such as the number of faculty members and students, the status of applications, admissions, career and employment, research, industry-academia-government collaboration, and income/expenditure, etc. There was a PDF version of Fact Book so far, but this is the first time to publish an interactive version that allows you to select data and operate diagrams on a browser. English version is also available.
8. FY2020 Progress

Inauguration of New President and Launch of New Executive Board

New executive board was established in October, 2020. The new executive board aims to shift from an administrative structure to a management structure by establishing an organization to achieve the mid-long term visions of newly appointed President Ishibashi, jointly developed by and collaborated between faculties and reflecting the opinions of diverse stakeholders in university initiatives. New initiatives such as appointing a provost, setting up an executive office of the president for strategic planning and arrangements of internal matters and promoting diversity will strengthen governance diligently.

From left: EVP Murakami; EVP Kono; EVP Hisaeda; EVP Aratono; Pres. Ishibashi; EVP Taniguchi; EVP Fukuda; EVP Naito; EVP Maeda

Activities in FY2020

1. Face to face meeting with faculty deans and young researchers to discuss future plans
   • Conducted with 31 faculties in the university
2. Executive vice presidents, senior vice presidents and vice presidents unit, and faculties collaboration structure
   • Launched team system to support responsible decision making
   • Allocated senior vice presidents to each campus as an area manager.
3. Provost
   • Arranging plans for education and research promotion and strategy, total management
4. Executive Office of the President
   • Planning university wide strategies and supporting to concretize
5. Promoting diversity in the executive board
   • Among 29 executive board members, 6 female and 1 international members
   • Appointing 2 members from outside university

Internationalization

Developing Strategic Partnerships — Strategic Partnership Colloquia Series

Kyushu University and the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign (Illinois), USA, a strategic partner, jointly held the “Strategic Partnership Colloquia Series.” The series opened with the kick-off theme on “Go Beyond Net Zero – CO2 Capture and Utilization –”. The second session, entitled “Mathematics Without Borders — Applied and Applicable”, was joined not only by researchers and current students in the field of mathematics, but also by students to newly enroll in the Graduate Program of Mathematics for Innovation (GPMI). Kyushu University aims to expand collaboration with Illinois through continuous research and student exchange.

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NEW Partner Institutions — MoU with the University of Glasgow

An online signing ceremony for an MoU on academic cooperation with the University of Glasgow, UK and academic webinar sessions were held. The parallel webinar sessions covered seven topics: earth science, economy, comparative and international education, the school of interdisciplinary science and innovation, humanities, museum, and studying abroad. In the session on “studying abroad”, in particular, participants agreed to have further discussions about student exchange using COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning), which offers Kyushu University students the opportunity to study together with students overseas by using ICT tools.

University Reform

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Education Reforms

Initiatives in the COVID-19 pandemic
The “Student Safety and Security Plan With & Beyond COVID-19” was formulated to ensure students’ safety in the university. By securing learning opportunities while ensuring infection prevention, the high standard education through a hybrid approach of distance learning and in-person classes was maintained.

1. Infection prevention measures
   - Practicing social distancing
   - Disinfection, sanitation & anti-virus measures
2. Enhancing our learning environment
   - Academic services using information technology
   - Intercultural education inside Japan
3. Enhancing student services
   - Introduction of an AI information system for students
   - English proficiency incentive program
   - Student career & employment support
   - Financial aid for international students

Information on Kyushu University guidance level in accordance with the current situation and latest news inside and outside of the campus were made available on the ‘COVID-19 Updates and Resources’ website (in Japanese and English).

Conclusion of Collaborative Agreement with Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU)
An agreement was concluded with Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Beppu city, Oita: President Haruaki Deguchi). The purpose of this agreement is to collaborate and cooperate comprehensively in order to develop human resources who can succeed in any global field such as international organizations and or NGOs. The universities will jointly organize international symposia and seminars using the network of international partner institutions. They will also hold workshops for students from both universities who aim to succeed in international organizations including the United Nations in order to provide students’ career support. It is expected to develop human resources who will succeed globally from the Kyushu area by using education resources of both universities.

Initiatives for the Enhancement of University International Reputation

Opening of the Stockholm Office
Kyushu University has strengthened collaboration with universities in Sweden through the university consortium “MIRAI project” whose purpose was to offer an opportunity for interaction to young researchers in both countries, which could lead to write papers and apply for external funds jointly. In February, 2021, the office opened and an administrative staff has been allocated. The office held several international webinars with universities in Sweden, which Kyushu University has established a relationship through the project. The office has promoted aggressively in Europe to improve the presence of Kyushu University as a research university.

Hosting of the Asia Week
Kyushu University has held a two weeks online event under the theme of “Universities to Grow Societal Impact”. In this event, participants shared issues in this COVID-19 pandemic and discussed solutions for global issues including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There were symposia organized jointly by the Faculty of Medical Sciences and Seoul National University College of Medicine, and solely held by Kyushu University Institute for Asian and Oceanian Studies (Q-AOS). While closely connecting from Fukuoka/Kyushu to Japan, Asia, and the world, Kyushu University strongly appealed to create a society that can solve the social issues faced through comprehensive knowledge and to realize the development of a sustainable society.

University Indicators and Targets

Participation in QS-APPLE2020
Kyushu University participated in QS-APPLE, an international forum conducted by Quarry Simmons (QS), a well-known university evaluation organization in the U.K. QS-APPLE is mainly for universities located in Asia Pacific and serves as a forum for networking and sharing good practices. This year’s 15th conference was held online for the first time due to the pandemic. We presented a speech titled “Approaches to solving global issues through design and their educational effects” in the sub-section meeting. We also had an online booth and many people from different universities came to visit.

Launching of the “Webinar 100”
In a situation where the spread of Covid-19 has restricted travel to and from overseas, Kyushu University supports its faculty, staff and students through among others the development of ICT facilities in order to continue academic and student exchanges with overseas universities and to develop effective recruitment of foreign students living abroad. As a result, we were able to hold online seminars, symposiums, short-term student exchange programs, and our own online study abroad fairs. This initiative contributed to the establishment of a foundation for online virtual exchange, which will become a new form of international exchange after the pandemic is resolved.
9. FY2021 Progress

Common indicators and targets

Internationalization

Development of strategic international relations

1. Expansion and enhancement of overseas bases

As an activity of Stockholm Liaison Office, the University's base in Europe, a commemorative seminar was held in October 2021 in a hybrid format in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan in Sweden, JSPS Stockholm Office, Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, and KTH Royal Institute of Technology.

2. Activities through international consortiums

- In the framework of MIRAI 2.0 (an inter-university collaboration among seven Swedish universities and eight Japanese universities), more than 650 participants in the Research & Innovation Week held June 7-11, 2021, and the University presented its initiatives as the Japanese chair of the Sustainability Subcommittee.

- As to APRU (Association of Pacific Rim Universities), regarding the dispatch and acceptance of students, a MOU was concluded with APRU Secretariat in December 2021, enabling virtual study abroad with 60 APRU member universities and starting student exchange under a new framework. The university also offered the course "Japanese Society in the Age of Globalization" to APRU member universities, and the course has started in April 2022. Also, the University proposed a new research project on decarbonization and decided to hold a webinar for young researchers in May and June 2022.

- As to RENKEI (inter-university collaboration program among six British universities and six Japanese universities), the University has served the Japanese chair since January 2022. Through regular monthly meetings of co-chairs and the British council, as well as meetings of Japanese member universities, the University has increased its presence among the member universities.

3. Strengthen strategic partnerships

Holding online regular monthly meetings with the participation of the executive boards of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University, and as a result, they decided to initiate matching funds in FY 2022 in research fields where both agreed. In addition, a series of online seminars (Colloquia Series) was held twice during FY2021 on the topics of Environmental Economics and data management.

Bilingualization of internal documents, etc.

In order to implement the bilingualization in English and Japanese of internal documents, etc. that administrations issue to departments, each administrative section conducted "Bilingualization Trial English Training" between August and October 2021, and a manual for administrative staff was also prepared for full-scale implementation.

Since November, Bilingualization of internal documents using machine translation tools (DeepL) has been started as need, and after these efforts, the decision to implement the bilingualization of internal documents, etc. on a full scale from April 2022 was made at the Board of Trustees in March 2022.

University Reform

Establishment of Global Strategies Office and International Offices

In April 2021, "Global Strategies Office" was established under the direct control of the President for the purpose of promoting the internationalization of the University as a whole, and the "International Office" was established to promote the internationalization of Schools and Graduate School. In addition, International Office Joint Meetings that the members of these offices gathered in one place were held four times in FY2021 to exchange opinions on the international strategy and vision of the University, share information on the internationalization efforts of each Graduate School/School, and exchange opinions on various efforts such as COIL/DD and scholarships for international students.

SIAG submitting its Proposals

SHARE-Q International Advisory Group (SIAG), an advisory board composed of international faculty members, makes a proposal to the Executive Board regarding the internationalization of Kyushu University. In FY2021, as "Proposals for the Internationalization of Kyushu University", SIAG made proposals to the President, Executive Vice Presidents, and other members of the University Executive Board at a meeting held in March 2022 on the following four points: (1) bilingual communication, (2) diversity in recruitment, (3) retention of foreign faculty members, and (4) diversity in representation.
**Education Reforms**

**Resumption of study abroad and reinforcement of crisis management system**

Due to the global pandemic of the COVID-19, we had been suspending sending students abroad, but resumed Double Degree program and exchange programs in the fall semester of 2021 for the first time in 18 months, sending a total of 43 students abroad in FY2021.

Since the resumption of student dispatches amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, the following measures were taken to further strengthen the crisis management system. For students, crisis management seminars and pre-departure orientation were held. In addition to the existing crisis management, detailed guidance tailored to each country/region was provided, in consideration of the risks involved in traveling under the Covid-19 epidemic.

Also for faculty members and staff, in addition to the aforementioned crisis management seminar, a face-to-face crisis management simulation was held in December 2021 to raise awareness of the risk of sending students under COVID-19 pandemic and crisis management at the university. Under the guidance of a lecturer invited from The Japanese Council for the Safety of Overseas Students (JCSOS), participants learned how to deal with the hypothetical situation that a student who studied abroad contracted a COVID-19 overseas, and the content was widely broadcasted to related faculty members and staffs.

![Crisis Management Simulation](image)

**Efforts to establish a joint degree program**

Graduate School of Human - Environment Studies and the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering have begun to consider the program with the aim of establishing the university's first doctoral Joint Degree Program in FY2024.

**Initiatives for the Enhancement of University International Reputation**

**Holding Reputation Management (RM) Seminar**

In July, SHARE Office Open Webinar "Reputation Management for Universities" was held for two consecutive weeks (July 13 and 20, 2021). There were a total of more than 450 participants in two days, mainly from Japanese universities.

The first seminar, entitled "Challenges of Kyushu University's RM Unit," placed the significance of RM in the context of the internationalization of the university, followed the trajectory of RM at the University, and summarized its achievements and challenges.

In the second seminar, "Introduction of RM Good Practices," three universities (Ritsumeikan University, Keio University, and Fujita Health University) that are actively engaged in RM introduced good practices in RM, followed by a panel discussion.

![Reputation Management Seminar](image)

This RM seminar gave benefit to Japanese universities that are taking on the challenge of internationalization, and aimed to fulfill a part of responsibilities as Top Global University Project. This event enabled to deepen the understanding of RM by sharing achievements and issues on the University's RM.

**Strengthening the International Public Relations**

Regarding research findings in the University, as a result of making English articles easily understood in general public, the number of views per article from outside the university doubled, and the number of views from overseas increased by 2.4 times, strengthening public relations outreach.

![Research Close-Up](image)