

Keio University's International Strategy: Past, Present and Future

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Keio University is strongly committed to fostering highly skilled and internationally competent leaders in all disciplines, to producing cutting edge basic and transferable research, and to making a significant and lasting contribution to the complex global challenges we face today. Keio is convinced that the infusion of an international dimension into all aspects of its activities, as well as collaboration with leading higher education institutions around the world is essential to achieving these aims.

This year Keio University will be the first private institution of higher learning in Japan to celebrate its 150th anniversary. Since its founding in 1858 by intellectual visionary Yukichi Fukuzawa, Keio University has been a leader in education and advanced research, having a significant impact on the development and modernization of Japan. In the field of "health and life sciences" in particular, Keio has made a lasting contribution, from its establishment of a department of medicine in 1873 to its present day School of Medicine, Faculty of Nursing and Medical Care, Graduate School of Health Management, and Keio University Hospital, one of the largest and best known general hospitals in the country.

In response to the changing needs of today's society, Keio University has been developing new initiatives to internationalize its curriculum and develop future leaders with in-demand knowledge and skills. These efforts will serve to enrich the university's broad-based system, creating a comprehensive program of study for students and facilitating interdisciplinary initiatives in education, research and service.

Professor Tatsuya Sakamoto, Vice President for International Collaboration and Education, will introduce Keio's international strategy and its impact on the new Faculty of Pharmacy and Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, opening in April, 2008 as a result of the merger with Kyoritsu University of Pharmacy.