



MISSION STATEMENT

Since its foundation, Tohoku University has been committed to a "Research First" principle and an "Open-Door" policy, and the University is internationally recognized for its outstanding standards in education and research. The university contributes to world peace and equality by devoting itself to research useful in the solutions of social problems and by developing leadership qualities in students.

HISTORY

Tohoku University was founded in 1907 as the third Imperial University of Japan, following Tokyo Imperial University and Kyoto Imperial University. From the start, it displayed to the world an unswerving commitment to an "Open-Door" admissions policy. In contrast to the other Imperial Universities, it accepted graduates from Higher Technical Schools and Normal Schools and, despite opposition from the government at that time, it became Japan's first National University to admit female students in 1913 (admitting three in that year).

At the time of its founding, Tohoku University was able to attract a group of young and brilliant researchers who had trained around the world to serve on its faculty. Partly as a result of this, a "Research First" principle came to develop, which calls upon our scholars not only to pursue highly productive research but to also put their findings to work in the teaching of their students. In addition to this, Tohoku University has nurtured a tradition of "Practice-Oriented Research and Education," in which their results of cutting-edge research are being put to use for the good of society and the improvement of ways of living. Evidence of our pioneering practice (before the World War II period) includes the establishment of local venture businesses which foster regional industry as well as our status as the national center for research into family law - the domestic branch of law which is closely associated with our daily lives.

This spirit, which continued strongly through World War II and the rapid economic growth of the postwar period, still remains vibrant and can be seen in today's new era of advanced globalization.

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[Pictures]
Front cover
The University's Main Administrative Building (Katahira Campus)
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The Zelkova street that runs through the Graduate School/School of Engineering (Aobayama Campus)

The Annual Review 2007 covers activities conducted from April 2006 to March 2007.