

Aiming to Be a World-Leading University

President of Tohoku University
Akihisa INOUE

Since its founding in 1907, Tohoku University has been engaged in research and education at the highest international level, while displaying commitments to the philosophies of "Research-First," "Open-Door" and "Practice-Oriented" research and education. In Tohoku University's Annual Review 2007, we describe the remarkable achievements and highlights of the previous year at the University.

In 2007, our university celebrates its 100th anniversary, in the midst of many serious and complex social and global issues which we are forced to face and to conquer. Through persistent efforts to promote research and education and with the accumulation of knowledge which the University has built up during its 100-year history, we are determined to be a front-runner in tackling these issues.

In March 2007, Tohoku University announced the "Inoue Plan (Tohoku University Action Plan)." And based upon a firm commitment towards contributing to human society, the Inoue Plan establishes the specific implementation of a strategic five pillar plan. This includes education, research, our social contribution, the campus environment and the organization and management necessary for a "World-Leading University." Presently, we are initiating various new targets. These include the establishment of an "International Advanced Research and Education Organization" which intends to foster research leaders in science and academia for the 21st century and the introduction of an "Overseas Internship" to foster an international awareness in students. In addition, we are also establishing strategic research centers at a level of global excellence, taking a lead in the creation of new businesses through collaboration with industry, academia and the government, and creating an international standard campus open to the world, without compromising what makes our institution unique.

Our aim to be a "World-Leading University" is not a short-term goal. Therefore, we must make sure that our university's policy has a clear direction to follow, obtain a good understanding concerning our missions and activities, and through mutual cooperation, make definite progress towards our goal. Our intentions as a university are to contribute to the improvement of mankind and to be trusted, respected and loved by society.



The Inoue Plan

The Tohoku University Action Plan was set up following Akihisa INOUE's accession to the presidency of Tohoku University and was formulated in 2007 with the Office of the President at its center. The plan, based upon a firm commitment towards contributing to humanity and society, provides a specific and strategic implementation plan which aims to achieve our goal of becoming a "World-Leading University."



Tohoku University News and Events in FY 2006

2006

4.1	The Institute for International Advanced Research and Education Established
4.6	Tohoku University Entrance Ceremony
5.24	The Tohoku University US Office (Los Altos, California) Opened
6.22	Tohoku University Pre-Centenary Event - One Year Prior to the 100th Anniversary -
7.27	Organizational Partnership Agreement with Seiko Epson Corporation
7.27,28	Tohoku University Open Campus
8.2	Tohoku University's 6th, 100th Anniversary Seminar (Tokyo) "Crisis of Civilization and the Rebirth of Global Community"
9.25	Tohoku University Commencement Ceremony
11.6	Prof. Akihisa INOUE's Accession to the Presidency of Tohoku University
12.3	Tohoku University's 100th Anniversary Seminar, Sendai "Challenge of Advanced Science - To Achieve 'Long Life in Good Health' "
12.4	Presentation Ceremony for Tohoku University's Professor Fujino Incentive Award
12.16	First General Assembly of Tohoku University China Alumni Association (Beihang University, Beijing, China)
12.26	Basic Agreement upon Partnership and Cooperation with Kahoku Shimpō Publishing Co.

2007

1.13	Tohoku University's 7th, 100th Anniversary Seminars (Tokyo) "Children Who Show Agoraphobia, Lack of Motivation, and Sense of Failure - What Their Parents, Teachers, and Society Can Do for Them"
1.31	Organizational Partnership Agreement with The 77 Bank, Ltd.
2.8,9	International Forum for Joint Anniversary "Lyon-Tohoku, Teaming for the Future" - We Pioneer the 2020 Horizon with Science and Technology - (Lyon, France)
2.25,26	2007 Tohoku University Entrance Examination: First Examination for General Admission
3.3	Tohoku University Centenary Education Summit: "New Knowledge Society" (Tokyo)
3.6	Organizational Partnership Agreement: DOWA Holdings Co., Ltd.
3.12	2007 Tohoku University Entrance Examination: Second Examination for General Admission
3.27	Tohoku University Commencement Ceremony

1	Education	The Inoue Plan is designed to reform the university educational system. As a "Transmitter of Knowledge," the university will provide and disseminate the knowledge which it has accumulated through its history as a "Creator of Knowledge," nurturing students to become our future leaders. Those who will play key leadership roles must be provided with strong cultural backgrounds, specialized knowledge and an international outlook.
2	Research	Tohoku University, as a "Creator of Knowledge," has established a research system based upon originality, oriented towards strategies with a long-term perspective. And in order to create the upmost in advanced, top-level achievements in world research, the University carries out research which is driven by fundamental needs and questions.
3	Social contribution	"As a University Open to the World and Community," Tohoku University shares its leadership and its intellectual knowledge with society while contributing to the welfare of all mankind.
4	Campus environment	The university, as a "Creator of Knowledge" and "Transmitter of Knowledge," provides a global-standard campus environment. It maintains a high standard of support for various educational and research activities.
5	Organization and Management	The "Enterprise of Knowledge" scheme is a process of reform in the managerial foundations of the university which includes the financial response to changes in our environmental surroundings and to contemporary challenges.