

Substantial Education Continues in Development



Fostering World-Renowned Researchers in New Disciplinary Areas

In April 2006, Tohoku University established the "Institute for International Advanced Research and Education" with the objective of training and supporting talented young researchers as global academic front-runners. The institute assists them to acquire outstanding knowledge, be creative and develop "comprehensive intelligence" in new disciplinary areas which are beyond the existing frameworks of graduate schools and faculties.

President Takashi Yoshimoto (left) and Vice President Akihisa Inoue (right) who has since succeeded to the presidency, in November 2006.

Winners of the Presidential Prize for Educational Excellence

(The award celebrates university staff members who have achieved prominent results based upon Tohoku University's educational philosophy.)

【Graduate School of Information Sciences】 Associate Professor **Hideo Imai**

Awarded for his outstanding instructional talents in mathematics in topics which are required at a high level of technical sophistication, in subjects common across disciplines. He teaches in a lucid and accessible way and significantly contributes to the process of education across disciplinary boundaries.

【Graduate School of Science】 Research Associate **Nobuki Sasaki**

Awarded for his efforts and improvements in the contents of experiments and in modernizing the equipment for "Chemistry - General Experiments," a major course subject in the Faculty of Science. He has succeeded in assembling the nation's finest collection of top-level equipment.

【Graduate School of Life Sciences】 Network for the Joint Lecture of Ecology in Graduate Schools (Representative: Professor Kiwamu Minamisawa)

Professor Minamisawa was recognized with his award for implementing outstanding teaching in the joint lecture on ecology, broadening the students' interdisciplinary vision, based upon the key concepts of Ecology and the Environment. The joint lecture has a 36-year history based upon the university's interdisciplinary network and collaborations with the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, the Graduate School of Science, the Graduate School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Life Sciences.

University House Sanjo Completed

University House Sanjo, which was completed in February of 2007, is a private room dormitory complex with capacity for 416 persons. The dormitory houses both the Japanese and international students, and aims to develop a better understanding of foreign cultures and to promote a collaborative spirit in everyday exchanges.



Student Hall

Adoption of a "Support Program for University Education" Sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

The notation in the parentheses refers to the department implementing the program. * refers to a program adopted in 2006

Support Program for Distinctive University Education

- Educational Program for the Development of Human Resources with International Competence (Faculty of Engineering)
- Nurturing Natural Understanding and Logical Thinking Through Interdisciplinary Scientific Experiments (Center for the Advancement of Higher Education)
- Small-sized Classes in University Research: Aiming for "Transformation of Learning" (Center for the Advancement of Higher Education)*

Initiative for Attractive Education in Graduate Schools

- Program for Fostering Researchers and Educators in Language (Graduate School of Arts and Letters)
- Program for the Development of Young Internationally-Minded Researchers (Graduate School of Science)
- Exploring Aerospace Frontiers Through Flight Testing (Graduate School of Engineering)
- An International Educational Initiative Program for Bio-Nano Electronics (Graduate School of Engineering)

Support Program for Professional Graduate School Formation

- Raising the Curriculum Quality of Accounting School to International Levels (Graduate School of Economics and Management)
- Multilateral Implementation of Experience-Based Education and Infrastructure Development of Public Policy Education (Graduate School of Law)*
- Accounting Education at the Post-Qualification Stage (Graduate School of Economics and Management)*

Achievement in the "Support Program for Distinctive University Education"

The "Basic Seminar", a Small-Sized, Cross-Faculty Educational Activity

The "basic seminar" covers subjects campus-wide and encompasses the whole university. It was started in 2002, on a regular basis, and has developed to the stage at which there are now more than 150 themes covered. The seminar does not focus on one-way instruction from teachers, but emphasizes participation and fieldwork experience, which nurtures the students' independent initiative in a small-sized, cross-faculty class education.



A class for the practical application of "Lactic acid bacteria and functional yogurt," first established in 2006
Small-sized Classes in Research Universities: Aiming for "Transformation of Learning"

Program to Support Medical Education Corresponding to Community Health Care Needs and Other Social Needs

- General Perinatal Practitioner Training Plan (University Hospital)*

Long term Internship Program for Graduate Students

- Education Program for the Development of "Green Steel" (Graduate School of Engineering)

University Education Internationalization Promotion Program

- Strategic International Cooperation Support Project
- Japan-Euro/Japan-China Joint Educational Programs for the Next Generation Leaders (International Affairs Department)
- Support Project For The Practical Application of Overseas Advanced Research
- Education Program for Enhancing Advanced ICT Literacy (Graduate School of Information Sciences)*
- Supporting Projects for Creating New Interdisciplinary Research Areas (Whole University)*
- Long Term Study-Abroad Support Project
- Long Term Study Abroad Program (International Affairs Department)

Achievement Results on the "Initiative for Attractive Education in Graduate Schools"

ARLISS 2006

The top two positions (1. & 2.) in the Come-Back Competition

The ARLISS (A Rocket Launch for International Students Satellites) Come-Back Competition is a competition in which a small robotic payload is sent to an altitude of 4,000 m by a solid rocket, and required to autonomously reach a given goal on the ground. Two teams from the Graduate School of Engineering won the first and second prizes using wheeled rovers which traveled over the desert after landing by parachute from the sky.



The Tohoku University team at the Come-Back Competition in the Nevada Desert, USA
"Project-based learning at the frontier of aerospace engineering"