

Aiming to Be a World-Leading University



President of Tohoku University
Akihisa INOUE, Ph.D.

Ever since Tohoku University was established in 1907, our Philosophy has always been "Research First" and to maintain an "Open-Door" policy for emphasizing "Practice-Oriented Research and Education." Over the years, this has enabled us to offer our students world-class education and for them to carry out world-class research. In Tohoku University's Annual Review 2008, we describe the remarkable achievements and highlights of the previous year at the University.

Humanity today is facing a variety of difficult and complex challenges which need to be addressed on a global basis. By applying the knowledge we have accumulated over the past century, and by continuing our efforts to achieve innovation in the fields of research and education, our university is determined to play a leading role as a "world-class university" in helping humanity overcome the various challenges it faces today.

As we aim to become a "world-class university," Tohoku University has formulated practical strategies called the "Inoue Plan 2007 (March 2007)" which consists of 5 areas - education, research, community service, campus environment and organization/management.

Looking back to accomplishments in our first year since the plan started, we find ourselves with numerous projects which are steadily making progress. In the area of education, our university has reestablished a liberal arts curriculum which improves implementation structures indigenous to Tohoku University. In the area of research, Tohoku University has submitted a proposal on a basic concept presented through the international institute of advanced studies for materials research to the World Premier International Research Center Initiative which, as a result, enabled us to begin the "WPI Advanced Institute for Materials Research." Additionally, we have the following actions unique to Tohoku University in progress: to encourage entrepreneurs to conduct business through industry-academia collaboration, to upgrade our facilities to meet the international standards, and to recognize our human resource system and establish the Tohoku University Foundation.

Tohoku University has made an enormous step forward to create a new page in our 100-year-history in 2008. 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 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.

Inoue Plan 2007

(Revised 2008)

This is the latest edition of the Tohoku University Action Plan that the Office of the President, led by President Inoue, has implemented since the 2007 academic year. New strategies for the 5 areas which were formulated last year are continuously implemented in the plan, in addition to adjusting it thoroughly according to environmental changes and further evolutions.

Tohoku University News and Events (April 2007 - August 2008)

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Apr 1	-International Advanced Research and Education Organization Established
Apr 5	-"Inoue Plan 2007 - Aiming to Be a Leading University" Announced -Tohoku University Entrance Ceremony
Apr 20	-Tohoku University China Office (Beijing, China) Opened
Jun 21	-Tohoku University Unveiling Ceremony for the Statue of Dr. Lu Xun and Dr. Fujino
Jun 22	-100 th Anniversary Event: Tohoku University's School Logo/Color Inaugural Ceremony
Jul 28, 29	-100 th Anniversary Event: Katahira Festival
Jul 30, 31	-Tohoku University Open Campus
Aug 25, 26	-Tohoku University's Centenary Anniversary Festival
Aug 27	-The Ceremony of Tohoku University Centenary Event
Sep 25	-Tohoku University Commencement Ceremony
Oct 1	-WPI Research Center: Advanced Institute for Materials Research established
Oct 6	-100 th Anniversary Project: Prize Ceremony - The 1 st Abe Jiro Memorial Prize for Essays by Young People -Tohoku University 100 th Anniversary Seminar (Sendai) "How to Get Along with China, a Superpower - New Phase of Sino-Japan Relationships and University Roles"
Oct 6, 7	-Tohoku University Homecoming Day
Dec 11	-Tohoku University 8 th , 100 th Anniversary Seminar "How to Educate Elite Engineers in this Globalizing and High-Tech Dominated Era" (Tokyo)
2 0 0 8	
Feb 1	-Innovation in New Biomedical Engineering Center established
Feb 5	-Award Ceremony - Tohoku University's Prof. Fujino Award (Lu Xun Award) 2007
Feb 25, 26	-2008 Tohoku University Entrance Examination: First Examination for General Admission
Mar 12	-2008 Tohoku University Entrance Examination: Second Examination for General Admission
Mar 25	-Tohoku University Commencement Ceremony
Apr 1	-Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering Established -25 Distinguished Professors Appointed
Apr 2	-Inoue Plan 2007 (Tohoku University Action Plan, Revised 2008) Announced -2008 Tohoku University Entrance Ceremony
Jul 30, 31	-Tohoku University Open Campus
Aug 1	-5 Distinguished Professors Appointed

http://www.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/president/open/plan/Inoue_Plan_2007.pdf



- 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 best 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 the Local Community," Tohoku University returns its human and intellectual resources extensively to society to make a contribution to the development of the entire society.
- 4 Campus Environment** As a "Creator of Knowledge," Tohoku University provides a global-standard campus environment. It maintains a high standard of support for various educational and research activities.
- 5 Organization and Management** Tohoku University is reforming itself into an "Enterprise of Knowledge" to have a firm management base, including a financial base, and to deal with changes in the environmental surroundings and demands of the times.