

MISSION STATEMENT

Tohoku University has been committed to the “Research First” principle and “Open Door” policy since its foundation, and is internationally recognized for its outstanding standards in education and research. The university contributes to world peace and equity by devoting itself to research useful in solving societal problems, and educating human resources in leadership skills.

HISTORY

Tohoku University was founded in 1907 as the third Imperial University of Japan, following Tokyo Imperial University and Kyoto Imperial University. From its start, it displayed to the world an unswerving commitment to an “Open Door” policy. Departing from the norms of other imperial universities, it accepted graduates from technical schools and higher normal schools, and despite opposition from the government at that time, became Japan's First 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. For this reason, a “Research First” principle was established, calling upon scholars to not only 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 the results of cutting edge research are being put to use for the good of society and the improvement of living standards. Evidence of our pioneering practice (before the Second World War) includes the establishment of local venture businesses which have contributed to regional industry, and our status as the nation's center for research on 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, remains alive and can be seen in today's new era of advanced globalization.

C O N T E N T S

Mission Statement	
History	1
Our Path Toward Becoming a World-Class University	3
Tohoku University News and Events (April 2009–July 2010)	
Inoue Plan 2007 (Revised for 2010)	4
Recent Research Topics	
Fighting infectious diseases through field researches to save the children of the world—Prof. Hitoshi Oshitani	5
Reconstruction of social sciences from a gender perspective—Prof. Miyoko Tsujimura	6
Policy issues on the social dimension of engineering and technologies—Prof. Yuko Harayama	7
A key to elucidating the mechanism of atherogenesis—Prof. Masaaki Sato	8
Elucidating the culture of human beings in the Ice Age from stone tools—Prof. Kaoru Akoshima	9
Mysterious plants that do not travel but stay put—Prof. Masao Watanabe	10
Electronic Doctor's Bag: A mobile communications system for home-visit medical services—Prof. Makoto Yoshizawa	11
Revealing an “unknown interaction of molecules”—Prof. Kazue Kurihara	12
Award Winners 2009 (August 2009–July 2010)	13
Environment/Organization/Management	15
Educational Excellence	17
Student Activities	19
Industry-Academia Collaboration	21
International Exchange Programs	23
Contribution to Society and Gender Equality	25
Tohoku University Shuyukai	27
Campus Environment	29
Divisional Major Achievement (FY2009)	31
Overview of Tohoku University	
Data and Overview/Location of Tohoku University	33
Contacts	34

*This Annual Review 2010 covers activities conducted from April 2009 to July 2010.

*Personal information of those who are in this Annual Review including affiliation, position, and age is not current.