Profiles of Four Japanese Universities with Interest in Research Collaborations in North America

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Osaka University

One of the leading research universities
11 schools, 16 graduate schools
23 research institutes & centers,
2 hospitals, 4 libraries
3,225 faculty, 23,288 students
*As of May 1st, 2017

No.63 in QS World University Ranking 2018

No.31 in the Nature Index 2017 Innovation
No.5 Immunology, No.1 Biology & Biochemistry,
No.2 Chemistry, No.1 Plant & Animal Science

on TR’s list of “The World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds” for 2016

No.1 in Japan
Example of internal funds for international collaboration

International Joint Research Promotion Program

- This program aims to help establishing international joint labs in all research fields.
- Visiting researchers from overseas must conduct research at Osaka University for at least a total of 1 month per year.
- 60,000$/year, Max. 3 years
- Other available support:
  Grants for inter-university symposia, a cross-appointment system, etc.

Contact us for more info!
info-ura@lserp.osaka-u.ac.jp
(Research Management and Administration Section, OU)
Our Overseas Centers in USA, Netherlands, Thailand, and China

Missions
1. Promoting international student exchange
2. Developing and supporting international research collaboration
3. Enhancing global outreach
4. Building knowledge networks with overseas partners

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Tohoku University at a Glance
Third National (Imperial) University Established in 1907

Faculties/ Schools:
Undergraduate (10), Graduate (16), Professional Graduate Schools (3), Research Institutes (6)

Number of Students: About 18,000
International Students 1,600
Undergraduate 11,000
Master 4,100
Doctor Course 2,700

Number of Staff:
Teaching Staff 3,200
Administrative/Technical Staff 3,300

Total Budget:
About 1.4 billion USD

Please visit our webpage @ http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/index.html

4 Strategic Focus Research Areas:
- Materials Science
- Spin Science
- Advanced Medical System
- Disaster Science

From Tokyo to Sendai:
200 Miles
1.5 h by Bullet Train
Tohoku University collaboration with North America:
Some Examples of Research Labs, Joint Graduate Programs, and MOUs

Spintronics Joint research lab:
University of Chicago

Joint graduate program partners:
- Case Western Reserve University
- Pennsylvania State University
- University of Hawaii
- Colorado School of Mines
- Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego

World hub of disaster science:
- World Conference and Forum in Sendai
- Multi-Hazard Program with APRU
- Digital archive project with the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University
How Tohoku University supports strategic exchanges:

‘Tohoku Forum for Creativity’ as an international visitor research institute

- Aim: research and brain circulation
- Workshops, symposium, and mutual short- and mid-term visits during the typical program period of 1-3 month.
- 3-4 Programs per year; 15 thematic and 3 junior programs

[Thematic Program]

**Recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami**

*Future Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction*

**July 2014 – March 2015**

**Principal Invited Researchers from N. America**
- Andrew Gordon (Harvard University)
- John Rundle (UC Davis)
- Karl Kim (University of Hawaii)

[Thematic Program]

**Earth and Planetary Dynamics**

*July - October 2016*

**Events**
- International Workshops
  - New Challenges in Volcanic Cycling at the Deep Earth (July 5, 2016 - July 9, 2016)
  - Dynamics and Interactions of Ocean and Atmosphere (July 13, 2016 - July 15, 2016)
  - Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Protection of Human Rights: Building Integrated Networks between Academic, State and Societal Actors (July 28, 2016 - July 30, 2016)
- Conference: The 2016 ACCS Conference: Social and Environmental Sustainability

**Key Participants Include**
- Andrew Gordon (Harvard University)
- John Rundle (UC Davis)
- Karl Kim (University of Hawaii)
- Shang-Ping Xie (UC San Diego)
- William F. McDonough (University of Maryland)

[Junior Program]

**Interdisciplinary Approach to the Protection of Human Rights: Building Integrated Networks between Academic, State and Societal Actors**

**July 28, 2016 - July 30, 2016**

**Organizers**
- Tohoku University
- NGO AnnieCannons, Inc.

**Program organizers from N. America**
- Claret Vargas (Stanford University)
- Laura Hackney (NGO AnnieCannons, Inc)

Please visit our webpage @ [http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/index.html](http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/index.html)
How URAs can support international collaboration:

Grant proposal and event support as coordinator/advisor

ACP, currently Core-to-Core Program, ‘Cutting-Edge Organic Chemistry in Asia’ supported by JSPS since 2006

Who we are:
- Consortium of organic chemists from Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia

What we do:
- Annual conference
- Annual student symposium
- International award seminar tours

Since 2015, Tohoku University is leading the network as the Secretariat Office.

With my organic chemistry background and international experiences, I support the events and planning as Secretary General.
NAIST was founded in 1991 as a Japanese national university consisting solely of graduate schools in three integrated areas: information science, biological sciences, and materials science. NAIST is a national university of a new kind in Japan.
NAIST as an international research university

International students in NAIST (As of July 2017)

International students comprise about **21%**
Total: **221 students from 30 countries/regions**

Academic Exchange Agreement (as of Aug 1, 2017)

**27 Countries/Regions 90 Institutions**
Under the program for Overseas Training for Young Researchers, NAIST dispatches promising assistant professors or associate professors to research institutions overseas for about a year where they concentrate on research to find a new orientation of research and build connections.

**Results of Overseas Training for Young Researchers**

**USA:** UC San Diego, UC Davis, UC San Francisco, Columbia University, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Georgia Institute of Technology, Lerner Research Institute Cleveland Clinic

**Europe:** Radboud University Nijmegen (Netherlands), KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
This network is comprised of International Collaborative Laboratories under the Program for Promoting the Enhancement of Research Universities and Offices under the Top Global University Project.
The International Joint Education and Research Network with USA and CANADA

UBC International Collaborative Laboratory for Plant Cell Walls
(with The University of British Columbia)
Research field: Molecular Biology

NAIST International Collaborative Laboratory for Robotics Vision
(With Carnegie Mellon University)
Research field: Robotics Vision

NAIST - UCDAVIS International Collaborative Laboratory for Medical & Bio Informatics
(With University of California, Davis)
Research field: System Genomics
What's JUNBA?

JUNBA is a network among Japanese university offices in the Bay Area.

Members: Osaka University, Kyushu University, Tohoku University, Yokohama City University, Kagoshima University, Oberlin Gakuen Foundation of America, Waseda University, Nagoya University, Ryukoku University and NAIST.

JSPS San Francisco Office joined as a core member to promote the activities of JUNBA.

The mission of JUNBA is to assist Japanese universities with the enhancement of education and research activities and the creation of new businesses opportunities.

JUNBA aims to attain this mission by facilitating internationalization movements at Japanese universities, supporting the training of university students and personnel, and promoting the development of academia-industry relationships between Japan and the U.S.

Refer: http://www.junba.org/index.html
Hiroshima University

Originated as a teachers’ college in 1874
(merged into a national, comprehensive university in 1949)

15,000 students (1,500 int’l)
1,500 faculty members
11 schools
3 campuses
Founding Spirit: a single unified university, free and pursuing peace

1. The pursuit of **PEACE**
2. The creation of new forms of **KNOWLEDGE**
3. The nurturing of **WELL-ROUNDED** human beings
4. **COLLABORATION** with the local, regional and international community
5. Continuous **SELF-DEVELOPMENT**
SPLENDPOR PLAN 2017
of Hiroshima University

Research

Enhancement of basic and advanced studies
leading to “Science for Sustainable Development”

e.g., education research, physics, space science, material science, semiconductor/nanotechnology, biotechnology, food science, radiation disaster, regenerative medicine, liver diseases, and brain science

Education

Social Contribution
Hiroshima University’s university-wide linkages with North America

*Additionally, we have about 30 departmental MOUs with institutions in North America, including Alberta, Iowa, North Carolina, Texas (Austin), UBC, UCLA, and Washington (Seattle).
International research activities supported by University Research Administrators at HU

- Promoting int’l MICE* in Hiroshima
- Expanding Writing Center
- Strengthening int’l science communication
- Facilitating int’l research networking
- Developing int’l research funds

* MICE = Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Events
Thank you!

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