

Message from the President

2020 has been a challenging year for all of us. The spread of COVID-19 has locked down many parts of the world, making it very difficult for people to lead a normal life. Osaka City University has been combating this disease and helping everyone get back on their feet.

I am proud to be president of Osaka City University (OCU) which celebrated its 140th year in 2020. Tomoatsu Godai, a SAMURAI warrior who helped initiate the Meiji Restoration, drew upon the SAURAI spirit “Happiness for others” when he founded OCU as a technical college in 1880. Hajime Seki, Mayor of Osaka, built upon this spirit with the theme “OCU for the City, the City for OCU”, when he upgraded OCU from a school to a university in 1949.

This spirit has given our university a freehearted character, and it has produced many great alumni. Among them are Distinguished Professor Yoichiro Nambu, who established the theoretical physics group at our university and won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2008 for the discovery of the theory of spontaneous broken symmetry, which is the basis for elementary particle physics. He was followed by Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, Director of the Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University, who earned his PhD from Osaka City University, and won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 2012 for his research on iPS cells (induced pluripotent stem cells). In the business world as well, this spirit has seen the education of founders of major companies and representatives of stock market listed companies, as well as internationally active alumni.

What does society need? Talented people who can clearly indicate what they want to do and turn it into what they can do. The significance of enrolling in a university is to make this happen. At OCU, our education helps you achieve this. We consider worldliness and communication to be two important skills, and so have arranged programs around this, including liberal arts and specialized education, as well as the science of Osaka’s famous “comedy” culture, international business practice, and global practical economic development. We also actively promote overseas exchanges and support extracurricular activities.

Nothing would make me happier than for everyone who studies at this university to enjoy deeper communication with good teachers and friends as they get a running start towards the goals in life they have found here, all in this liberal academic environment cultivated by our traditions. My slogan for the university is to be “a local base of knowledge, health, and smiling faces.” Let us follow that slogan, and grow together at a university we are proud of, where we turn dreams into reality.



TETSUO ARAKAWA
President, Osaka City University

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