HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

Spring 2005



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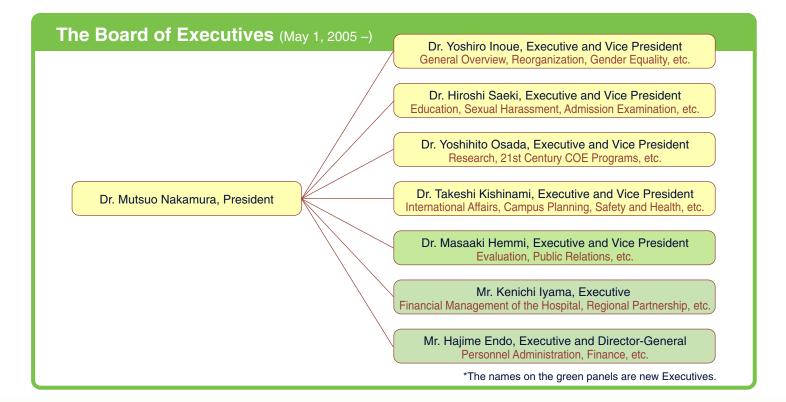
President Mutsuo Nakamura Reappointed

At the 4th Presidential Election Committee meeting on February 3, 2005, President Mutsuo Nakamura was chosen as a candidate for president, and he was reelected. It was the first election of president since the University gained the status of an independent corporation. The Presidential Election Committee, established in accordance with the National University Corporation Law, held an open Q&A session with initial candidates and implemented an on-campus opinion hearing and vote. The president was appointed by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for a two-year term effective May 1.

President Nakamura said, "Hokkaido University will strive to further promote education and research, to cooperate even more closely with society and to contribute to world peace and safety by making the most of its strengths as an independent corporation whose autonomy is respected." He added, "The entire staff endeavors to fulfill the university's inherent educational mission of developing excellent human resources."



President Nakamura





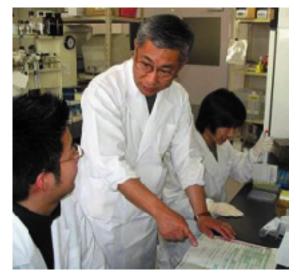
2005 Japan Academy Award Goes to Dr. Kida, Dean of the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine

The prestigious Japan Academy Award for fiscal 2005 will be conferred on Dr. Hiroshi Kida, Dean, the Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine.

The title of the award-winning research program is "Studies on Control of Influenza – Mechanism of Emergence of Pandemic Influenza Virus Strains in Poultry, Domestic Animals and Humans, and Molecular Basis of the Neutralization of Viral Infectivity with Antibodies –".

Dr. Kida reasserted that influenza is a zoonotic infection, and he found that influenza virogenes for animals and humans originate in enteroviruses of migratory ducks and that the viruses remain in duck-nesting lakes and ponds in northern regions.

Drawing on his findings, he has proposed influenza countermeasures. He is currently promoting international joint research.



Dr. Hiroshi Kida

What is the Japan Academy Award?

The Japan Academy Award is a prestigious academic award that is also known as the Nobel Prize of Japan. It is presented to the author of a paper, book and other research accomplishment of outstanding academic excellence. The award has been given each year since 1911. His Majesty the Emperor has attended the commendation ceremony every year since 1949, and Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress have done so since 1990.



Members of the Laboratory of Microbiology

For details, please see the 21st Century COE Program "Program of Excellence for Zoonosis Control" website.

http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/veteri/coe/e/index. html



Hokkaido University – The University of Auckland Joint Symposium – Hokkaido: For the Coexistence between Environment and Human Society –

New Zealand is renowned for its advanced measures against alien species, and The University of Auckland has played a central role in such undertakings. A joint environmental symposium between The University of Auckland, a core university in New Zealand, and Hokkaido University (HU) was held in the HU Conference Hall on March 19 and in Yume Hall in the municipality of Shari, near the Shiretoko peninsula, on March 22. It addressed alien species problems and issues of World Heritage designation. Environmental solutions focused on partnerships between academia and local communities, and



Provided by Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment



Participants of the Sapporo Session with President Nakamura

To realize these undertakings, it was decided that the symposium should be held not only in Sapporo, but also in the Shiretoko area, which is facing problems related to alien species and possible World Heritage listing. Issues relating to alien species and indigenous peoples were raised during the Sapporo session, and these were discussed in greater depth during the Shiretoko session. Participants also visited several local museums in Shiretoko.

President Nakamura said, "We at Hokkaido University will make it our mission to be a base of education and research toward achieving harmony between humankind and Hokkaido's natural environment." He noted that HU would do this by learning from experience, including that gained by New Zealand and The University of Auckland, which he said have made courageous decisions regarding the future. The President expressed the hope that Hokkaido, too, would find measures appropriate for this land.

Shiretoko is located in the northeast of Hokkaido, protruding into the southern boundary of the Sea of Okhotsk and also is nominated to the UNESCO list of world heritage.

Shiretoko has an outstanding natural beauty with its pristine landscape and seascape changing dramatically with the four seasons.



Hokkaido University – The University of Auckland Joint Symposium
Sapporo Session: New Zealand's Experience and Hokkaido's Future
Opening Addresses
Prof. Ralph Cooney, Pro Vice-Chancellor, UoA and others
Keynote Address
Invasive alien species issues in New Zealand
Prof. Michael Clout, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
Presentations
The importance of the human dimension in invasive alien species management
Dr. Maj De Poorter, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
and Invasive Species Specialist Group of IUCN SSC
Environmental policy and conservation practice in New Zealand
Dr. Brad Coombes, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
Conserving (bi)cultural heritage: new directions in New Zealand
Prof. Elizabeth Rankin, Faculty of Arts, UoA
Aspects of invasive alien species in Hokkaido
Dr. Tohru Ikeda, Graduate School of Letters, HU
Environmental laws and policies in Hokkaido / Japan
Prof. Takemichi Hatakeyama, Graduate School of Law, HU
Comprehensive environmental conservation by the participation of residents
Dr. Hiroaki Kakizawa, Graduate School of Agriculture, HU
Corporations' efforts to the environmental conservation
Ms. Rena Kikuchi, Aleph Inc.
Panel discussion by all speakers: Prof. Takemichi Hatakeyama (Coordinator)
*UoA is the University of Auckland.

> In fiscal 2005, the Japanese government imposed protective regulations based on The Invasive Alien Species Act. What are these "alien species"? They are organisms that have been introduced outside their natural distribution by humans, sometimes intentionally and sometimes unintentionally. They can cause myriad problems, such as by harming native species and transmitting pathogens.

An owl in Shiretoko Forest (Provided by HOKKAIDO)



At Hokkaido Museum of Northern Peoples



Hokkaido University – The University of Auckland Joint Symposium
Shiretoko Session: Human, Nature, and World Heritage
Opening Addresses
Prof. Ralph Cooney, Pro Vice-Chancellor, UoA and others
Keynote Address
Beyond conservation: museums and indigenous cultures
Prof. Elizabeth Rankin, Faculty of Arts, UoA
Presentations
The importance of social participation in ecosystem conservation in protected areas
Dr. Maj De Poorter, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
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Gaining public support for action against invasive alien species
Prof. Michael Clout, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
Environmental policy and conservation practice in New Zealand
Dr. Brad Coombes, School of Geography and Environmental Science, UoA
Environmental circumstances and histories of Shiretoko, a world heritage candidate site
Mr. Hajime Nakagawa, Curator, Shiretoko Museum
Possibilities for environmental conservation by the participation of residents in Shiretoko
Mr. Yoshikazu Uni, Head, Uni's Office of Nature-human Interaction Studies
The indigenous people's governance and the world heritage
Prof. Yugo Ono, Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science, HU
Appropriate management of Shiretoko
Mr. Toshio Torii, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment
Panel discussion by all speakers: Prof. Yugo Ono (Coordinator)



http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/bureau/news/news-top/english.html

On deck in the Sea of Okhotsk

Please visit the URL below:

A seal on drift ice (Provided by HOKKAIDO)



Shiretoko Session

Completion Ceremony: International Student Center's Intensive Japanese Language Course

The completion ceremony of the International Student Center's Intensive Japanese Language Course was held in a meeting room at the Center on February 18, 2005. Students who completed the course included three research students from three countries who had enrolled in Hokkaido University (HU) in October 2004, and five Korean students in the Japan-Korea Joint Exchange Program for Undergraduate Students in Science and Engineering. Eleven other research students, who were already conducting research at HU and enrolled in this course through on-campus recruitment, also attended the ceremony along with the others.

The ceremony was attended by the president, vice president, deans and many others. Vice President Nakamura, Director of the International Student Center, handed the completion certificate to each student, and President Nakamura gave a congratulatory speech.

In April, one of the research students will enter a graduate school of HU, another will enroll in Hokkaido University of Education and a third will enter Sapporo Medical University. The five students on the Japan-Korea Joint Exchange Program will enter the Faculty of Engineering to continue their studies.



Mr. Shuvashish Kundu receiving the certificate

Intensive Japanese Language Course

This course aims to enable Monbukagakusho Scholarship students at the graduate level and in teacher training programs to develop an understanding of and proficiency in the Japanese language before they enroll in their universities, faculties or graduate schools.

Length of course: 15 weeks (450 hours) Spring semester: April to July Winter semester: December to February

Please visit the URL below for details: http://www.isc.hokudai.ac.jp/www_ISC/ courses/courses-e1.htm



President Nakamura's congratulations



Welcome and Farewell Party for International Students

On February 18, President Mutsuo Nakamura hosted a get-together to welcome international students enrolling from April 2004 and to congratulate international students who would be returning home after completing their studies in March 2005.

Two hundred international students attended, as well as some 290 others, including representatives of consulates in Sapporo and off-campus support organizations for international students, deans, faculty members, and Foreign Students' Committee members.

President Nakamura and Mr. Oh Young-hwan, the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Sapporo, who represented off-campus guests, delivered addresses, followed by speeches from newly enrolled students and departing students.

On behalf of the newly enrolled students, Ms. Ren Minyi (China; International Student Center's Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course) shared her aspirations, her motivation for learning at Hokkaido University (HU), and her achievements, which included overcoming the fear of making mistakes when speaking Japanese. Mr. Evgueni Issenko (Russia; doctoral course in the Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science), representing the departing students, expressed his determination to make use of the knowledge he gained at HU, especially from his research on glaciers.

The guests talked with faculty members, others from the university, and representatives of support organizations for international students.

In commemoration of happy memories





Mr. Evgueni Issenko (from Russia), making a speech on behalf of the graduates

New Year's Party of International Students (Graduate School of Agriculture)

The 19th New Year's party organized by international students in the Graduate School of Agriculture was held on January 7, 2005. The 81 participants included international students from Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Indonesia, South Korea and Mongolia, and their families. They prepared dishes from their national cuisines, and entertainment was included for the first time. The entertainment featured a video about Bangladesh, a presentation on World Heritage sites in China, a performance of Indonesian folk music by students wearing native costumes of different tribes, a presentation on the Korean New Year by students wearing traditional Korean *chogori* outfits, and Brazilian dancing.



Entertainment by Indonesian students

Get-Together of International Students (**Graduate School of Fisheries Science**)

The Graduate School of Fisheries Science hosted a reception for international students at a hotel in Hakodate on February 25, 2005. This event is held every year in late winter for the purpose of supporting learning and research in Japan by facilitating understanding and friendship between international students studying at the Hakodate campus and the teaching staff. About 80 people attended the gathering. International students who were completing their graduate school studies gave speeches, and faculty advisors praised them for their research. International students matriculating to the graduate school this year were introduced. They mixed with new friends who are also studying at the Hakodate campus.



All members of the staff



Meeting the new companions



Comprehensive Partnership

New Comprehensive Partnership Agreements were concluded as follows: National Institute for Materials Science, Japan National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology Dentsu Hokkaido Inc. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)





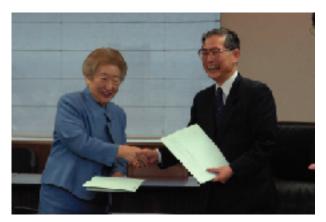
President Teruo Kishi, National Institute for Materials Science, Japan



President Mitsuo Saito, Dentsu Hokkaido Inc.



President Hiroyuki Yoshikawa, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology



President Sadako Ogata, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

What is the Comprehensive Partnership?

The Comprehensive Partnership refers to a partnership of technical (research) exchanges and also of personnel exchanges, human resource development, and so on.

Hokkaido University is currently strongly promoting government-industry-academia collaboration.

Donations for Restoration of Poplar Avenue



Poplar Avenue after a long winter

December 26, Mr. Takaharu Harada, Manager of the Sapporo branch of Daimaru Department Store, presented donations collected at the store.

Many people sent e-mails and letters with enthusiastic messages of support. The uprooting of Poplar Avenue caused many well-wishers to rally behind HU.

Typhoon Songda caused serious damage to the Hokkaido University (HU) campus on September 8, 2004. One particularly devastated site was Poplar Avenue, a landmark that is an important Hokkaido sightseeing spot. Many who heard on the news about the destruction of Poplar Avenue offered donations. President Nakamura soon decided to restore the landmark, opening a bank account to receive donations, which poured in from September 27 to the end of December. The 4,289 contributors gave ¥24,706,460. The Foundation for Restoration of Poplar Avenue, formed by business leaders in Hokkaido, also pitched in. On December 17, Mr. Kazuo Toda, the Honorary President of the Hokkaido

Economic Federation, delivered contributions from 13 groups and 49 companies on behalf of the Foundation. On



Presentation of benefaction from the Foundation for Restoration of Poplar Avenue

Fundraising for Great Sumatra Earthquake Victims



In support of countries hit by the December 26, 2004 earthquake off Sumatra and the subsequent tsunami, student volunteers including those from affected countries carried out an emergency fundraising campaign from January 20 to 28. The ¥1,876,540 in donations was delivered by the students to the Japan Committee for UNICEF (Hokkaido branch) on February 1 for use in reconstruction.

Mr. Roxy Mathew (from India) handing the donation to the staff, the Japan Committee for UNICEF (Hokkaido Branch)



The 4th Joint Seminar between Japan and Korea by Core Univ. Program on Fisheries Sciences – Natural Disaster and Crisis Management for Surrounding Fisheries –

The 4th Joint Seminar between Japan and Korea by Core University Program on Fisheries Sciences (FiSCUP) was held on December 15 and 16, 2004, in the Hokkaido University Conference Hall. It was attended by about 40 researchers from Korea and about 60 from Japan.

The Core University Program between Japan and Korea is an exchange project for fisheries university unions, with Pukyong National University in Korea and HU as the core universities. The program was launched in FY 2001 with the cooperation of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation.

Intended to discuss the achievements and direction of the joint program, the annual seminar has been hosted alternately by Japan and Korea. During the two days, lively discussions focused on issues of social concern, such as earthquakes, typhoons and other natural disasters, marine pollution, red tides, fish disease and food poisoning.



Participants of the seminar



Questions and answers session

Session Conference

1st Session: Elucidation of the relationship between stock fluctuations and oceanic environmental changes in the Sea of Japan and adjacent waters

2nd Session: Development of efficient fishing technologies, resource assessment and conservation engineering

3rd Session: Improvement of aquaculture for producing healthy fish, shellfish and seaweed Prevention Method for Aquaculture

4th Session: Use of new fisheries resources for food and medical supplies

Academic Exchange Agreement and Seminar with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa

On November 30, 2004, the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa and the Graduate School of Medicine, Hokkaido University signed an academic exchange agreement at the Japanese Embassy in Ottawa, the capital of Canada. Vice Dean Kotaro Sakurai of the Graduate School of Medicine attended the signing on behalf of Dean Shinzo Nishi. The Vice Dean brought with him the agreement signed by the Dean, which was then signed by Peter Walker, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa. The agreement aims to facilitate research and development in human reproductive endocrinology and to contribute to women's medicine.



Prof. Walker, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa and Prof. Sakurai, Vice Dean, Faculty of Medicine, HU

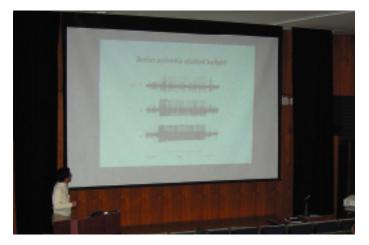
The 6th RIES-Hokudai Symposium "Super"

The Research Institute for Electronic Science (RIES) held the 6th RIES-Hokudai Symposium "Super" at the Hokkaido University Conference Hall on December 13 and 14, 2004. The international symposium was a venue for interdisciplinary discussions and a way to foster transdisciplinary joint research. Under the keyword of "super," five sessions were held on these specialties: supramolecules and ultra thin films, superconductors, "super" in biology, superstructures and ultrafast measurements.

http://www.es.hokudai.ac.jp/symposium/2004/



Presentation by Prof. T.P. Radhakrishnan, University of Hyderabad



Active exchange between different research fields



A Message from an HUSTEP Exchange Student

In my time here at Hokudai as an exchange student, I have seen how Hokkaido and Sapporo in particular have a distinct character within Japan. While classes and cultural events have given me a better understanding of Japanese culture as a whole, living in Sapporo has shown me the uniqueness of Hokkaido. From the monuments like *Akarenga*, Tokei Dai, and the bust of Dr. Clark, to the smaller specialties like soup curry, Genghis Khan barbeque, and Sapporo ramen, Sapporo feels special to me and different from other areas of Japan. In addition to experiencing the city life, from Susukino to Hokudai's Gates, I have also enjoyed the changing seasons and natural beauty of Hokkaido.

For me, living in Sapporo has provided me with an understanding of life in this part of Japan that is more vivid and realistic than what I could have been taught in class. Instead of stereotypes, generalizations, and misconceptions, my experience at Hokudai has given me a glimpse into the real lives of Japanese students and the opinions and lifestyles of Sapporo residents. As a future academic and historian of modern Japan, I see this as a priceless benefit to me both personally and professionally.

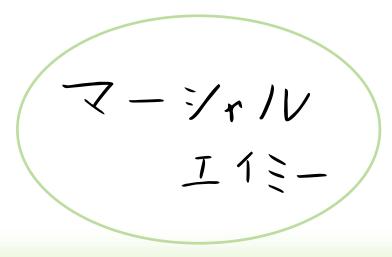
Amy Marshall, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Ms. Amy Marshall learning calligraphy



Sapporo Clock Tower



Signed by Ms. Amy Marshall



Old Hokkaido Government Building



The 21st Century COE Program Base-Activity Debriefing Session

A briefing on "base activities" of the 21st Century COE (Centers of Excellence) Program was held at Keidanren Kaikan in Tokyo on January 28, 2005. The purpose was to make public the achievements realized at Hokkaido University (HU) research and educational bases that were selected for the 21st Century COE Program, and to pass on to society the benefits of such achievements. The briefing also strived to introduce the current status of HU, in which the cultivation of highly specialized persons and professionals and the improvement of adult education are strategically pursued.

During the first part of the briefing, the leaders of the six research and educational bases that were selected in fiscal 2003 reported on their activities and participated in a question and answer session. In the second part, a panel discussion on "Knowledge merger and utilization" was held, with active discussions about the future of universities in education, research, human resource development, and collaboration with government and industry. In addition, activities at all 12 bases selected between fiscal 2002 and 2004 were introduced, using panels. Mr. Akio Yuki, Administrative Vice-Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and 431 others participated in the session. After the session, a gathering was held jointly with the Hokkaido University Alumni Association, Tokyo, where briefing attendees forged close relationships with alumni.

HU is committed to promoting research on strategic projects, developing world-class research bases, contributing to the domestic and international communities, and furthering basic and applied research that capitalizes on the university's traditions and distinctiveness. HU is also determined to bring results to society as a whole. Starting with this issue, we will introduce each base as a series.





COE Programs Series 1 Center of Excellence for Advanced Life Science on the Base of Bioscience and Nanotechnology

This Center of Excellence (COE) program aims for accomplishments that are significant both academically and socially. Toward this, COE researchers are working to deepen our understanding of biosystems at the molecular level; develop new drugs and tailor medical treatments, based on such understanding; develop new analysis technologies in life science; create biomaterials of interest to various industries; deliver drugs to intracellular target regions via nanotechnology; create artificial tissues and organs indispensable for regenerative medicine; and develop artificial devices that are modeled after organisms.

The Japanese government has clarified its determination to intensively promote four fields: life science, information and telecommunications, the environment, and nanotechnology and materials. The aim is to realize a nation that is solidly supported by creative science and technology. HU has actively participated in this national policy and has improved its research environment with the inauguration of the Next-Generation Post-Genome Research Building, the Nanotechnology Research Center and Creative Research Initiative "Sousei." This COE has established a new university-wide organization consisting of distinguished researchers in the Division of Biological Sciences of the Graduate School of Science, in three divisions of the Graduate School of

The 21st Century COE Program was launched as a new project at MEXT in FY 2002, based on the University Structural Reform Plan (June 2001) and using "subsidies for the establishment of a research center."

This program aims to make our nation's universities bases at the world's most advanced levels of research and education in a variety of academic fields, to improve research and to foster creative workers who will lead the world in the future. It does this through prioritized support that promotes those universities that are distinguished by their international competitiveness.



Creative Research Initiative "Sousei" (CRIS)







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Dr. Yoshihito Osada, Head of the Program, Vice President, Hokkaido University

Pharmaceutical Sciences, in the Institute for Genetic Medicine and in the Research Institute for Electronic Science. This enables the best possible use of these leading-edge facilities, and it allows a focus on research areas that are becoming more interdisciplinary and interrelated. In addition, outstanding young researchers who will one day lead Japan's life science research are fostered by instruction in new research and by subsidy systems for young researchers.

At this COE, researchers in bioscience and nanotechnology enjoy close interactions, innovative research instruction is given, and subsidy

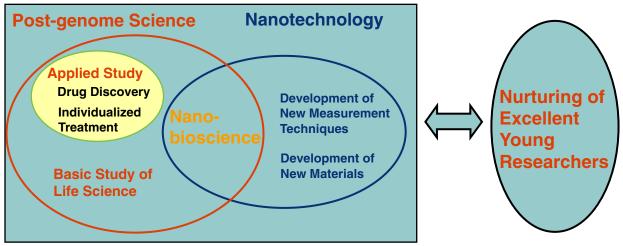
systems are implemented. This contributes greatly to human resources develop-

ment in the emerging field of nanobioscience. In recent years, the budding biotechnology industry has grown significantly, especially that in Hokkaido, in conjunction with the improvement of R&D systems through governmentindustry-academia collaboration. This promises to spark an economic revival in Japan. Life science research at this COE brings benefits to society here in Japan and throughout the world, and supports the development of this nation's bioindustry.



Post-Genome Research Building, a key center for this program

Development of Post-genome Science Development of Nanotechnology Strengthen Nano-bioscience





Graduate School Introduction Series 1 Graduate School of International Media and Communication



Graduate School of International Media and Communication

The Graduate School of International Media and Communication was established in April 2000 as an independent graduate school without a faculty. One emphasis of the Graduate School is to educate those who wish to enter journalism, public relations and advertising. Research and education in languages, international regional cultures, multimedia and Japanese culture are key roles toward those objectives. Unique in Japan, this graduate school has been received with great interest.

The research focus is international media and communication studies. This was chosen to stay current with trends of internationalization in information, discussion and perspectives. While conflicts are a constant in human society,

nothing occurs without "agreements" in all situations, be it international negotiations, arriving at consensus, cultural values or corporate activities. In international media and communication studies, research addresses the nature of agreement and how it can be reached in today's world of internationalization and diversification. The research considers the basic factors of language, culture, media and public nature.

Since its focus is on agreements in modern society, the graduate school emphasizes cooperation with other aspects of society. Its education and research involves partnerships with a number of organizations, including the Nomura Research Institute, a major Japanese think-tank; The Yomiuri Shimbun, the largest-circulation newspaper in Japan; and Dentsu Inc., a leader in marketing and corporate communication services.



Learning in a free atmosphere



The members of PR research group

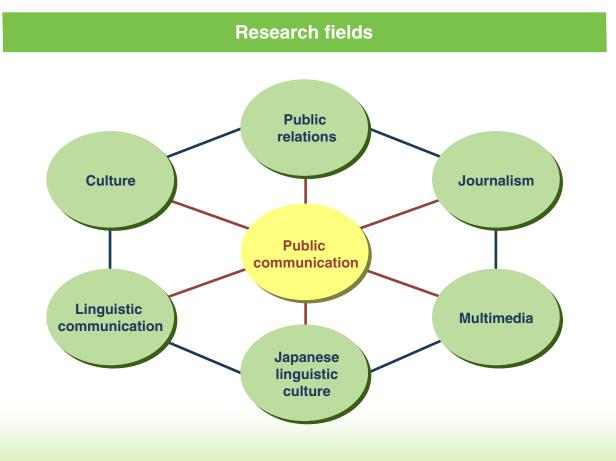
The Graduate School focuses on transmission of information and submission of suggestions to society. This new academic field fosters practical abilities that are directly applicable to international journalism, the management of international organizations and companies, the public relations efforts of self-governing bodies, international exchanges, and institutions of education in Japanese and other languages. Many graduates of the school have entered these fields.

Recent research subjects include:

- Unification of East Asia and the Role of Media
- Corporate PR Strategy and CSR under Complex Globalization
- Media Studies on Settlers, Immigrants, and Refugees
- First- and Second-language Acquisition, and the Development of Linguistic Competence
- Global Cyber-network Education Development

Submission of suggestions to regional society is also an essential aspect of this graduate school's role, and forums and symposiums are held in various fields, including enhancement of the Hokkaido brand's status, public relations of self-governing bodies, and tourism promotion.

Please visit the URL below for details: http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/lang/imc/kohomedia-e.html



We're trying to work on building the Hokkaido Brand.







Thanks to a favorable reception, we are adding pages to our newsletter, starting this month.

We would be grateful to hear your candid views and impressions, as we are hoping to improve its content. Please contact us in the event that you have changed your e-mail address or wish to unsubscribe.

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Hokkaido University Today

Number of students

(2004 academic year	
Faculties	Total
Letters	899
Education	286
Law	1,053
Economics and Business Administration	863
Science	1,315
Medicine	798
Dental Medicine	420
Pharmaceutical Sciences	346
Engineering	2,936
Agriculture	932
Veterinary Medicine	254
Fisheries	906
Total	11,008

Graduate Schools	Total
Letters	520
Education	219
Law	304
Economics and Business Administration	177
Science	747
Medicine	630
Dental Medicine	165
Pharmaceutical Sciences	218
Engineering	1,269
Agriculture	620
Veterinary Medicine	71
Fisheries Sciences	363
Environmental Earth Science	412
International Media and Communication	109
Information Science and Technology	229
Total	6,053