

Enduring Tradition and New Directions

## A WASEDA THAT SHINES ON THE GLOBAL STAGE



WASEDA University

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WASEDA UNIVERSITY



## To all Alumni and Friends in the USA

It gives me great pleasure to greet you as the president of Waseda University. Since Waseda was founded in 1882, we have promoted exchanges with the United States in various forms. Shigenobu Okuma, the founder of Waseda University, had personal relationships with many visitors from the United States. Before World War II, Kan'ichi Asakawa and Ryusaku Tsunoda, two great scholars who were Waseda alumni, laid the foundation for Japan studies at Yale University and Columbia University, respectively. By that time, our baseball team had already competed in the United States!

Waseda's commitment to exchanges developed further after World War II. Beginning in the 1960s we began establishing relationships with U.S. universities, now exceeding 160 institutions. Every year, more than 700 students participate in exchange programs between Waseda and partner universities in the United States.

Since becoming president in 2018, I have aimed to ensure that Waseda becomes a university that shines on the global stage and leads the international community. To that end, I hope that all students who study at Waseda will hone their skills to "find their own solutions for problems that have no correct answers." I also hope that they will contribute to society within their own respective fields, wherever in the world their work may take them. I would like these students to gain "intellectual resilience" and "flexible sensitivity" through their experiences at Waseda. I also hope they will all travel overseas at least once while they are enrolled at Waseda. For one thing, it is important for them to observe how other countries see Japan. Their experiences abroad will not only contribute to their professional capacity, but will also help them become more well-rounded individuals. I believe all of you who came to Japan and studied at Waseda understand this, especially when you consider how your study abroad helped enrich your own lives.

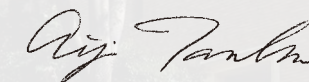
In order for Waseda to shine on the global stage, we must ensure that universities throughout the world understand our many strengths, including the high caliber of our research. The results of our research must enrich our education, attracting excellent students and fostering the next generation of

researchers. I am committed to creating that positive cycle. It is also important for Waseda's research to be truly interdisciplinary, transcending narrow disciplinary boundaries. We must revitalize our research activities and provide an environment in which researchers in various fields can collaborate easily.

The COVID-19 crisis now affecting the international community is having an immense impact on universities. We have had to completely rethink education, research, and cultural activities that we had always assumed would be conducted in person. We also face an urgent need to support students with financial difficulties on account of the pandemic. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, Friends of Waseda, for the kind support you've extended to us.

Waseda University has set forth three missions during this pandemic (1) to protect the health and lives of students and faculty; (2) to provide education in any environment; and (3) to continue research in any condition, regardless of how difficult it may be. In carrying out these missions, our decisions are guided by two broad principles: to "minimize maximum regrets/damage" as we make investment decisions; and secondly, based on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to "leave no one behind." Throughout these difficult months, we have continued to seek new possibilities for institutional growth and renewal. As two examples, we have implemented new educational models that include both in-person and online teaching, and we have explored diverse ways for faculty and staff to work at Waseda.

Our work in transforming Waseda into a university that shines on the global stage has only begun, and your support is essential to the success of this goal. We hope you appreciate this goal of your second alma mater, and ask for your strong support.



Aiji Tanaka, Ph.D.  
President, Waseda University

## Waseda in Numbers (As of 2019)

- Enrollment: 48,724 (40,267 Undergraduate Students, 8,457 Graduate Students)
- Faculty: 5,476
- Undergraduate Schools: 13
- Graduate Schools: 20
- Degree Courses Conducted in English: 21 Courses (7 Undergraduate, 14 Graduate)
- Online Education: 1,511 On Demand Courses
- International Students at Waseda: 8,350 (Including 559 Students from the United States)
- Waseda Students Studying Abroad: 4,580
- International Partners: 1,205 (As of 2020, University wide / Departmental)
- QS 2020 Graduate Employability Ranking: (34th in the World)



# Research at Waseda

Waseda University was chosen by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as part of its Top Global University Project. Through this initiative, we have expanded global joint research activities by establishing seven research units: Global Japanese Studies; Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy; Health Promotion: The Joy of Sports and Exercise; Frontier of Embodiment Informatics: ICT and Robotics; Energy and Nanomaterials; Multiscale Analysis, Modeling and Simulation; and the Global Asia Research Center.

We also conduct international joint research in various areas with more than 160 partner universities in the United States, and have been achieving great results. We promote mutual exchange through these research projects, not only among top researchers, but also those who are young and new to the field. This enables us to expand the global network of individual researchers and support the participation of young researchers in international joint research. In the 2020 QS World University Rankings by Subject, 10 of Waseda's research fields were ranked in the top 100.

- Waseda Ocean Initiative selected for the MEXT TOP Global University Project
- 10 research fields ranked among the top 100 in the QS World University Rankings by Subject (2020)
- The Waseda International House of Literature: *The Haruki Murakami Library*



Robotic needle insertion system



WAREC-1

# Waseda: Japan's most international campus

More than 8,000 students from 114 countries and regions study at Waseda University. Close to 5,000 Japanese students study abroad at Waseda's partner universities in 88 countries and regions. In addition, Waseda continues education and research exchange with more than 160 partner universities in the United States. To date, more than 8,000 students have studied at Waseda and those partner universities through our exchange programs. These exchanges have become even more active in recent years. Every year, more than 400 Waseda students participate in exchange programs in the United States, which is one of the most popular destinations for study abroad.

We have built cutting edge international education programs with 24 partner universities in 14 countries, such as Double Degree Programs and Joint Supervision programs for graduate students. With the goal to enable every student to study abroad at least once while enrolled at Waseda, we have put in place various educational programs. We have an especially long history of exchange with the United States, and these educational programs offer a wide variety of content. For example, over 500 study abroad programs Waseda offers every year includes not only year-long exchange programs, but also short- or mid-term study abroad programs, creating opportunities for more students to study abroad. In cooperation with top universities in the United States, we also conduct the Global Leadership Fellows Program (GLFP), which aims to foster Japanese and American next-generation leaders who can resolve common problems that the international community faces. We are also expanding scholarship programs to provide maximum support to our students who wish to study abroad, as well as international students who wish to study at Waseda.

- International exchange programs
- Double Degree Programs
- Joint Supervision / Cotutelle
- Global Leadership Fellows Program



# Other Initiatives at Waseda University

Waseda University also actively supports the development of top athletes, as well as the promotion of cultural activities (WASEDA Culture). Based on a revolutionary concept, we also operate one of the largest dormitories for international students in Japan, bringing together students with diverse values from all over Japan and the world. There, students deepen mutual understanding by living and studying together, and develop communications skills that are needed to become global leaders. By broadening personal relationships through this dorm, we aim to transform Waseda into a university that shines on the global stage. Currently, we also provide a variety of support to students who are facing financial difficulties due to COVID-19.

## Giving in your Region

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A group photo of our very first graduate students.

