



# Alumni Newsletter Special edition (No. 75)

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## The 10th Kanazawa University Homecoming Day

On Saturday, October 29, 2016, the 10th Kanazawa University Homecoming Day was held at the Kakuma campus covered with beautiful autumn leaves.

We had a very successful and lively day with 176 people attended in the welcome ceremony, and 150 graduates and their family members joined the banquet. The welcome ceremony began by singing the university song together with the Kanazawa University Choir, Philharmonic Orchestra, and all attendees.



### Welcome Address from the President



◆ President Yamazaki delivering a welcome address

President Koetsu Yamazaki delivered a welcome address. As the first year of the third medium-term targets/medium-term plan period (FY2016 to FY2021), he indicated that Kanazawa University will strive to be a world class university for academic research, and shared some facts, including on two major reforms; establishment of the Institute of Liberal Arts and Science that will strongly propel backbone education and drive an advanced level of internationalization for overall education in the university, and establishment of two new schools, the Graduate School of Innovative Preventive Medicine, and the Graduate School of

Professional Development in Teacher Education. As part of its research enhancement, the university invites the world's most advanced researchers, of Nobel Prize winner caliber, as research professors, and one of them, Professor Jean-Pierre Sauvage, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry this year.

### Congratulatory Address from the Chairman of Kanazawa University Alumni Association



◆ Chairman Yamade delivering a congratulatory address (Law & Letters, 1954)

On behalf of the guests, Mr. Tamotsu Yamade, Chairman of Kanazawa University Alumni Association, delivered a congratulatory address and said that the role of the Alumni Association is to understand the environment and conditions that national universities face, and to express its opinions to the university and to society. He said, "From among 86 national universities, Kanazawa University's selection of framework #3 out of three concentrated budget allocation frameworks that the Japanese government requested", was a good choice for the future." And, he delivered a message of encouragement by saying "Please do your very best for the development of the university as one team led by the President."

### Latest Information on Kanazawa University



◆ Trustee Yamamoto reporting the latest information on Kanazawa University

Trustee and Vice President (in charge of international affairs, university hospital and alumni association), Hiroshi Yamamoto, introduced the latest research and activities by the university including ① current and past of the campus, ② the most recent data on Kanazawa University, ③ education and research activities (opening of Institute of Liberal Arts and Science, the Japan Academy awards, the Kanazawa University's focused research Chosen project, and the Research Professor system), and ④ internationalization (research on the ruins of the Mayan Civilization, super global ELP center, etc.).

### The First Campus Tour



◆ Participants touring the Exhibition of Inside Castle Photographs held by the university museum at the Kahoku Gate of the Kanazawa Castle.

On the morning of Saturday, October 29, five courses (① School of Medicine, ② School of Health Sciences, ③ inside the old castle, ④ north of Kakuma, and ⑤ south of Kakuma) of campus tour were conducted, and a total of 80 people participated. Inside the old castle, many participants became emotional looking at the location of the school buildings that they graduated from and the area after the school ground where they enjoyed their club activities.

### Presenting a Theme Song for the Kakuma Forest, Mori ni Hairo (Let's Go into the Forest)

At the end of the welcome ceremony, the Mori-no-miyako Boys and Girls choir (26 members) sang Mori ni Hairo (Let's Go into the Forest) (Lyrics by Makoto Eguchi, music by Masato Kai), the theme song for the Kakuma forest, with lovely voices. Mori ni Hairo was introduced as a choir song composed last year and as the theme song for the Kakuma forest, where learning and playing in a forest are fostered with care in the forest through the efforts for forest conservation by community collaboration among Kanazawa University and local companies, kindergarten of the forest, and Mokuiku (education of woods) movement to become familiar with trees since childhood.



◆ The Mori-no-miyako Boys and Girls Choir singing

● Special Lecture



For the special lecture, the President of Otaru University of Commerce, Tateo Wada, gave a lecture titled "Placing myself in the University: A little Memoir." His lecture was divided into four topics; I. University student days, II. Teaching staff days, III. University reform days, and IV. National universities in the 21st century, and he talked about his experience as student, teaching staff, and the university and the environment surrounding the universities from the view of University President.

I. During his university student days, students were able to live comfortably although the Japanese economy was slowing down after the high growth period in the 1970s and suffered periodic downturns. However, the economy continued to grow, and demand for university graduates was increasing. Back then, the population of 18-year-olds was 1.95 million, and 23% of them continued their education at university. Currently, the population of 18-year-olds is 1.2 million, and 56.5% of them go to university. This is an age of mass producing university graduates.

II. In his teaching staff days in 1980s, he was devoted to his research, and had no interest in other university matters, but during this time, signs of reform (liberalization of education) began to appear in national universities.

III. University reform days in the 1990s, the time for university reform had begun.

IV. National universities in the 21st century, he took the position of Vice President in 2001. In 2004 national universities were privatized in response to the declining birthrate, the oversupply of universities and the need for stricter fiscal discipline by the Government. In 2013, the national university reform plan was promulgated. The reform proceeded to redefine missions and reinforce functions, and in 2014 he became President.

Starting in 2016, the third medium-term target period began, and the national government requested concentrated budget allocation in response to functional enhancement of budget estimates. The government requested universities to choose one of three frameworks, and Otaru University of Commerce chose #1. At the end, President Wada concluded that he wished to play the role of developing human resources by offering high quality education at low tuition fees as a national university while the national government requests further functional enhancement = branding of university.



◆ Mr. Tateo Wada lecturing President, Otaru University of Commerce (Faculty of Law and Letters, 1975)

● The 6th Executive Meeting of Kanazawa University Alumni Association

In the 6th Executive Meeting of Kanazawa University Alumni Association, some executive members changed and Chairman Yamade introduced Chairman of Tsuruma Alumni Association Kosuke Matsubara, Chairman of Alumni Association for Kanazawa University School of Pharmaceutical Sciences Chisato Mukai, and Chairman of Kanazawa Engineering Association Shigeyoshi Kanoh.

Representative Trustee Hiroshi Yamamoto reported that former Chairman of Kanazawa University Alumni Association Akira Miyama was approved to be Honorary Chairmen with the recommendation by the board of trustees and Chairman requested on June 17, and two organizations, Kanazawa University Alumni Association in Indonesia and Kanazawa University Circle S OB Group "Shin-en-kai" were newly registered as Alumni Associations.



◆ A scene from the 6th Executive Meeting of Kanazawa University Alumni Association

[New Executives of the Alumni Association (November 5, 2015 to November 4, 2017)]

- Chairman Tamotsu Yamade (Law & Letters)
- Vice Chairman Tateki Ataka (Law & Letters), Shuro Kaneura (Education)  
Takashi Nakanishi (Science), Shinichi Nakamura (Medicine)  
Kosuke Matsubara (Health Sciences), Chisato Mukai (Pharmaceutical Sciences)  
Shigeyoshi Kanoh (Engineering)
- Representative Hiroshi Yamamoto (Trustee (in charge of Alumni Association) & Vice President of Kanazawa University)
- Trustee Nobuhiro Torigoe (Law & Letters), Hitoshi Sawano (Education)  
Masayoshi Yamamoto (Science), Akishi Ohi (Medicine)  
Taro Matsuzaki (Health Sciences), Ryo Matsushita (Pharmaceutical Sciences)  
Yoshio Iwata (Engineering), Soichiro Kita (Shiko)
- Auditor Mitsuhiro Tokuno (Law & Letters), Yasuo Iwata (Education)

● Banquet

The banquet in the evening started with a toast proposed by Chairman Yamade. The Koto and Shakuhachi Club of Kanazawa University performed Rokudan-no-shirabe before the opening and after the toast to add a blast.

Thereafter, some of the alumni volunteers sang the university song, Kita-no-miyako (northern capital), and Nankagun (Army going south) in a uniform happi coat; everybody had a blast.

Lastly, Trustee Yamamoto made closing remarks with the schedule for next meeting, on Saturday, October 28, and expressed his wish to see everybody's smiling face again.



◆ Alumni singing the school song and dormitory song



◆ Closing remarks by Trustee Yamamoto



◆ Performance by Koto Shakuhachi Club

- The university will never request vendors to create name lists. Please be careful when solicited by phone.
- Please contact the Alumni Association Office if you wish to provide updates on the activities of this alumni association such as regional, occupational, circles, and dormitory, dates for general meetings, receptions, and reports on the events in alumni newsletter.