



# KU Alumni Newsletter

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## The 12th Kanazawa University Homecoming Day 2018

On Saturday, October 27, 2018, the 12th Kanazawa University Homecoming Day took place at Kakuma Campus ablaze with autumn foliage. The event was a huge success, with 208 alumni and their family attending the opening ceremony and 189 at the banquet. The opening ceremony began with a rendition of the alma mater, with the Kanazawa University Choir members and attendees coming together to sing as one.



### Welcome Address by the President



In his welcome address, Kanazawa University President Koetsu Yamazaki reported on the university's recent efforts. First he explained the reorganization of the College of Human and Social Sciences and the College of Science and Engineering as part of the educational reform. He then described the admission policy reform to implement a College-based admission for arts and science majors in the second round of the entrance exam as well as for three Schools in the College of Science and Engineering in the first round of the entrance exam. Students admitted through this system are allowed sufficient time to explore various interests before deciding on their major. In the areas of social contribution and regional revitalization, President Yamazaki noted that the university established the Kanazawa University Soltio Field (synthetic turf field) in May 2018 in collaboration with Honda Estilo, manager of

◆ President Yamazaki delivering the welcome address

former national soccer player Keisuke Honda, and Kanazawa City. Open to the public, the new soccer field is used not only by university students but also by local elementary school children and adult players. This summer holiday season, the facility hosted a number of football matches, attracting a whole range of users from different age groups and from all walks of life, testifying to our commitment to promote youth education and regional revitalization.

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

On behalf of the guests of honor, Mr. Tamotsu Yamade, chairman of the Kanazawa University Alumni Association, delivered a congratulatory address, in which he noted that the selection of the Nano Life Science Institute scheme as a World Premier International Research Center Initiative by MEXT will provide Kanazawa University with a firm foothold for establishing a global presence. The chairman then offered words of encouragement and expressed his hope that the president and faculty members will continue to make concerted efforts for the development of the university.



◆ Chairman Yamade (Class of 1954, Faculty of Law & Letters) delivering his congratulatory address

### Latest Information on Kanazawa University



◆ Trustee Ohtake offering the latest information on Kanazawa University

Under the title "Toward a University Loved by the Earth and that Shines in the World," Trustee and Vice President (in charge of educational reform of Liberal Arts and Science, Finance and Hospital) Shigeki Ohtake gave an update on the latest information concerning the university including:

- 1) Basic data of the university
- 2) Future vision and strategy
- 3) New YAMAZAKI Plan 2018
- 4) Formation of a world-class research base through advanced research and creation of the university's new signature academic domain via integrated studies

- 5) Development under the KU brand of future workers who can play a leading role on the international stage
- 6) Establishment of an international collaboration network and promotion of "brain circulation"
- 7) Promotion of social contribution and social implementation through coordination between the region and the wider world
- 8) Promotion of strategic management via aggressive governance reform efforts
- 9) Promotion of innovative clinical studies and university hospital reform to enhance its function as a core medical center

### Student's Reports on Studying Abroad

- ◇ Mr. Yuta Ichikoshi, a 4th-year student at the School of Regional Development Studies, College of Human and Social Sciences "My Exchange Year in Finland" University of Jyväskylä, Finland (April 2017 to May 2018)
- ◇ Ms. Midori Suzuki, a 2nd-year student in the Master's Program at the Division of Natural System, Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology "My Life at the University" Natural History Museum, Great Britain (August 2017 to February 2018)
- ★ Their comments:  
You will never know what studying abroad will mean to you until you experience it.  
I am thankful to KU for encouraging me to study abroad.



◆ Mr. Ichikoshi (left) and Ms. Suzuki (right) at the briefing session

## Special Lecture

For the special lecture, Project Professor Masataka Nakazawa of the Research Organization of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University (Trustee of Kanazawa University [in charge of Industry-University Collaboration and Educational Reform]), gave a lecture titled "Kanazawa and I, and Research."

His lecture was divided in five topics: I. My memories of Kanazawa, II. Road to invention of Erbium-Doped Fiber Amplifier (EDFA), III. Striving for a new EDFA-based optical communication technique, IV. Message to young people, and V. Ending remarks. In the talk, Professor Nakazawa set out in a readily comprehensible way the evolution of optical fibers for optical communication networks that support information and communication technology today.

- I. Regarding his memories of Kanazawa, the professor talked about his student days in the city, showing some pictures.
- II. The road to the invention of the EDFA and III. Striving for new EDFA-based optical communication touched on the painstaking efforts he made through trial and error in developing optical fibers and optical amplifiers that enable information to travel long distances in optical communication systems.
- IV. In his message to young people, Professor Nakazawa spoke passionately and based on his own experience about the importance of devoting yourself to the tasks before you and continuing to "sharpen your sword" of intelligence, which you can use to carve out a life for yourself, and reiterated that human intelligence knows no boundaries.
- V. In the closing remarks, he emphasized that curiosity, passion and perseverance are what matters for successful research and technological development, and the keys to success are a determination to forge your own path in something you enjoy doing, finding the courage to not follow a course of study already pursued by someone else and to squarely face up to the new.



◆ Prof. Masataka Nakazawa, Trustee of Kanazawa University and Project Professor of Research Organization of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University (alumnus from the Faculty of Engineering, 1975)

### The 8th Kanazawa University Alumni Association Chairman Meeting

At the 8th Kanazawa University Alumni Association Chairman Meeting, there was a partial change of officers, and Chairman Yamade introduced Dr. Munetaka Kunishima, Chairman of the Pharmacy Alumni Association, and Dr. Hiroyuki Tsuchiya, Chairman of Juzen Alumni Association. Chairman Shigeyoshi Kanoh of the Alumni Association reported that Chairman Yamade offered a congratulatory address (read aloud by Chairman Kanoh as his proxy) at the diploma conferment ceremony and also participated in the enrollment ceremony and Kanazawa University International Award conferment ceremony.

[New Alumni Association Officers (2017 Oct 28 to 2019 Oct 27)]

- Chairman: Tamotsu Yamade (Law & Letters)
- Vice Chairs: Takeki Ataka (Law & Letters), Shuro Kaneura (Education)  
Takashi Nakanishi (Science), Shinichi Nakamura (Medicine)  
Munetaka Kunishima (Pharmaceutical Sciences)  
Kosuke Matsubara (Health Sciences)  
Shigeyoshi Kanoh (Engineering)
- Representative Trustee:  
Shigeyoshi Kanoh (Vice President of Kanazawa University)
- Trustees: Nobuhiro Torigoe (Law & Letters), Hitoshi Sawano (Education)  
Masayoshi Yamamoto (Science), Hiroyuki Tsuchiya (Medicine)  
Ryo Matsushita (Pharmaceutical Sciences)  
Taro Matsuzaki (Health Sciences)  
Masahito Segi (Engineering),
- Auditors: Mitsuhiro Tokuno (Law & Letters), Yasuo Iwata (Education)

### Campus Tour

The campus tour took place on the morning of Saturday, October 27 in four areas (1. School of Medicine, 2. inside the old castle, 3. College of Human and Social Sciences and 4. College of Science and Engineering). A total of 63 people went on the tour.

In the old castle section, alumni strolled around the area looking at the place where their undergraduate building used to be and the field they used to run around on during their extra-curricular activities, noting the passage of time.

### Banquet

The evening banquet started with a toast by Chairman Yamade. Before the event, the Kanazawa University Philharmonic Orchestra played "Always with Me" from the film *Spirited Away* and then followed the toast with the first movement of Mozart's "Divertimento for String Quartet," which helped create a joyful atmosphere.

Thereafter, alumni volunteers dressed in matching *happi* coats sang the university song, "Kita-no-miyako" ("Northern Capital"), and "Nankagun" ("Troops Bound Southward"), bringing the evening's excitement to a peak.

Lastly, Vice President Kanoh gave some closing remarks, saying he hoped to see the same happy faces again next year on Saturday, October 26.



◆ Alumni singing the university song and dormitory song



◆ Vice President Kanoh delivering closing remarks



◆ Performance by the Philharmonic Orchestra

- The university will never hire a contractor to collect alumni's information. If you receive such contact by TEL, etc., please be careful.
- If you wish to include announcements/reports of alumni activities in a region, work, club, dormitory, etc., in "KU Alumni Newsletter," please contact KU Alumni Office.