

TOP GLOBAL UNIVERSITY JAPAN

Prime

Okayama University
PRactical Interactive Mode for Education





Move on Now

Okayama University
PRactical Interactive Mode for Education

With its proud history and culture founded on an educational tradition dating back to the days of the Shizutani School, the oldest school for common people in Japan, Okayama has a track record of educating high-caliber all-round achievers. Regardless of how the times have changed and how complex the world has become, our mission remains unchanged – to produce next-generation global leaders for society. Now is the time for us to communicate our commitment to the well-being of society to the world. We firmly believe that the global, practice-oriented education at Okayama University will change individuals, communities and the world for the better.

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Changing the World

Topics

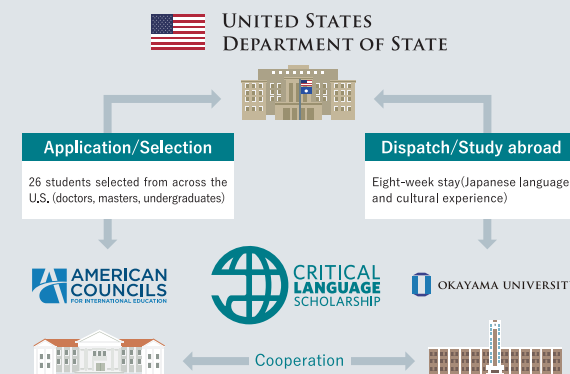
1 Critical Language Scholarship [CLS]

Host 26 American students accepted into the US Department of State's Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program

Okayama University was selected as the only Japanese institute to host an eight-week CLS Program sponsored by the US Department of State with funding provided by the US government.

This scholarship has been awarded to 26 undergraduate and graduate students who have been selected among approximately 600 students in the U.S. as a finalist. They are committed to learning Japanese language and culture. We offer opportunities for these students to immerse themselves into the Japanese culture outside of the classroom. We also offer the host family accommodation which is the best way to get to know local people, improve their language skills, and discover something new at first hand.

This represents our university-wide initiatives that we identify and develop talent in students, and help them grow, by incorporating the SDGs and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) into our academic and operational activities.



The Critical Language Scholarship Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State <<http://eca.state.gov/>> ; with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by American Councils for International Education <<http://www.americancouncils.org/>>

Topics

2 International Youth Conference

Okayama University Vice President invited to the International Youth Conference, commenced in commemoration of the royal marriage of Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince and Princess (present Emperor and Empress), hosted jointly by the Cabinet Office and the Imperial Household Agency

The International Youth Conference is organized annually by the Cabinet Office and the Imperial Household Agency, and was commenced as part of the commemoration of the royal marriage of Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince and Princess (present Emperor and Empress). Okayama University's Vice President for Global Engagement Strategy Atsufumi Yokoi was invited to the 2018 International Youth Conference held in Tokyo as a keynote speaker. He also served as a facilitator of the discussion on the theme of "Water and Disaster" in which nine selected youth delegates from various parts of the world exchanged views within the framework of the SDGs in the presence of Their Imperial Highnesses.



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Topics

3 Tsuyama Ideathon

Okayama University "Tsuyama Ideathon," an event that brings together students and local residents to come up with new ideas

Okayama University organizes an event called "Tsuyama Ideathon," in which students and local residents are invited to develop new ideas together. The term Ideathon is a coined word combining "idea" and "marathon" that has come to be used recently. In this event, people from various backgrounds get together to generate new ideas on specific topics while exchanging opinions. Participants from Okayama University include overseas students enrolled in the Discovery Program for Global Learners, which offers a diverse education based on problem-solving, transcending the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines. This event gives Okayama University students opportunities to deepen their understanding of the realities, strengths and problems of the local community while engaging in discussion with local residents to help revitalize the local community.



Prime

PRactical Interactive Mode for Education

Producing “all-round achievers” in a global community

By changing individuals, communities, and the world,
Okayama University will have a major global presence within a decade.

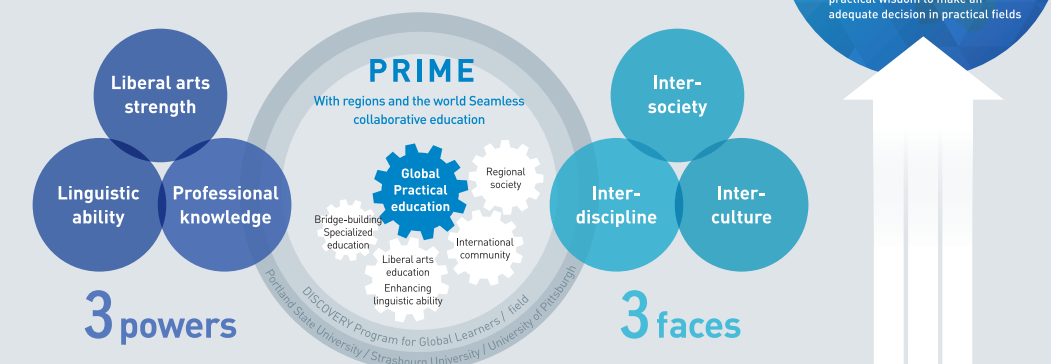
PRIME Program

(PRactical Interactive Mode for Education)

Fostering practical-oriented human resources active in the world

3×3 education

(Acquiring 3 core powers and experiencing 3 faces)



Inter-society

Fostering with the society

- Municipalities, firms, NPOs to take part in education

Inter-culture

Daily cross-cultural experience

- Sending students overseas, accepting overseas students; preparing share houses; establishing and improving learning environment (L-café, learning commons)

Inter-discipline

Interactive exchange and transfer between specialized fields

By developing interdisciplinary education, we will conduct bridge-building education between liberal arts and specialized education, and foster global human resources with various kinds of expertise leading to the international community.

- DISCOVERY Program for Global Learners (arts, sciences combined)
- Strengthening medical engineering fields (different fields combined)

Global-standard liberal arts education and enhancement of English-speaking ability

- Form the Japanese identity needed to be successful on the global stage through a liberal arts education, while improving the ability to communicate your own ideas in English.

Education to foster practical knowledge that can be used on the global stage

- Students acquire the ability to make the right decisions through their experience in problem-solving in local communities, companies, and the international community.
- Global practical education aims to maintain reciprocity with the rest of society.
- Collaborative education involving not just the local region but the international community is being extended to the entire university.

Specialist education based on foundational knowledge and behavior linked to the international community

- Building on the basic knowledge and behavior imparted by a liberal arts education, we are making the most of our strengths as a comprehensive university to train human resources with wide-ranging specialist knowledge.

Okayama University is extending university-wide its international community collaborative education system, with the PRIME (PRactical Interactive Mode for Education) program as the core of this concept. According to this concept, students will not only be able to gain three abilities in terms of knowledge, but will also be given the opportunity to try themselves in global situations by means of three faces of experience, building up the conversational skills, creativity, ability to act, leadership, and decision-making ability required in practical situations and acquiring the capacity to make the right decisions in practical situations (global practical knowledge).

As students, faculty, and staff acquire high-level abilities and head out into the world, and outstanding students, teachers, and researchers come in, Okayama University will transform itself into a university that disseminates the results of creative knowledge and the fruits of skills learned to the world at large.

What is the iPathway

A career path that enables interactive exchange and movement between different specialist disciplines

To make the most of these three pillars, the iPathway is being established as a career path that enables interactive exchange and movement between different specialist disciplines. The iPathway generates interdisciplinary educational development as well as providing education that builds bridges between the general and specialized subjects, helping to produce global human resources with wide-ranging specialist knowledge.

超

Discovery Program for Global Learners

What abilities are needed to work on the global stage? In addition to specialist and problem-solving skills, the ability to adapt to different environments and communicate with people from diverse backgrounds is vital. Our program encourages learners to go beyond cultural and disciplinary boundaries. If you want to compete in the global market, make international connections or forge bridges between local and global networks, then this is the program for you!

< Features of the Program >

The Discovery Program for Global Learners allows students to explore their interests across department boundaries, encouraging an interdisciplinary study approach that develops specialist and practical skills. Both domestic and international students have the opportunity to study in English and Japanese, depending on their language ability.

< Curriculum >

At the end of this program, students receive a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences. There are two study tracks: The English-based Discovery Track, which allows students to complete their entire degree in English within the Discovery Program for Global Learners, and the Japanese-based Open Track, which allows students to study in Japanese in departments outside of the Discovery Program for Global Learners.

< Student Diversity >

Since its inception in October 2017, 115 students from 21 countries have joined the program. The program offers discussion-based classes, which encourage students from diverse backgrounds to communicate with and learn from each other.

What Students Gain from the Program



The ability to go beyond conventional and accepted frameworks in order to tackle social issues



Specialist knowledge and research skills needed to find solutions to identified issues



The ability to analyze data creatively and open-mindedly and to disseminate accurate information to society



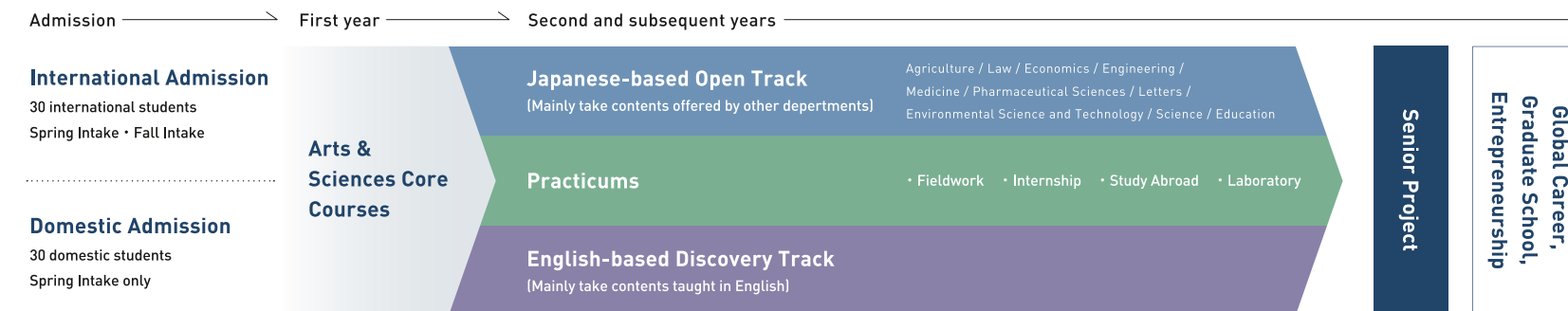
Language and communication skills to embrace multi-cultural environments



Pandita Suthamporn
Discovery Program for Global Learners

My experience with the Discovery Program for Global Learners

Since joining this program, I have been given unique and special opportunities on campus. With the support of my instructors and friends, I have grown more interested in and enthusiastic about studying both inside and outside the classroom. The program has also enhanced my skills and motivated me to learn. I am very grateful for this in-depth, unique experience.



拓 Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems

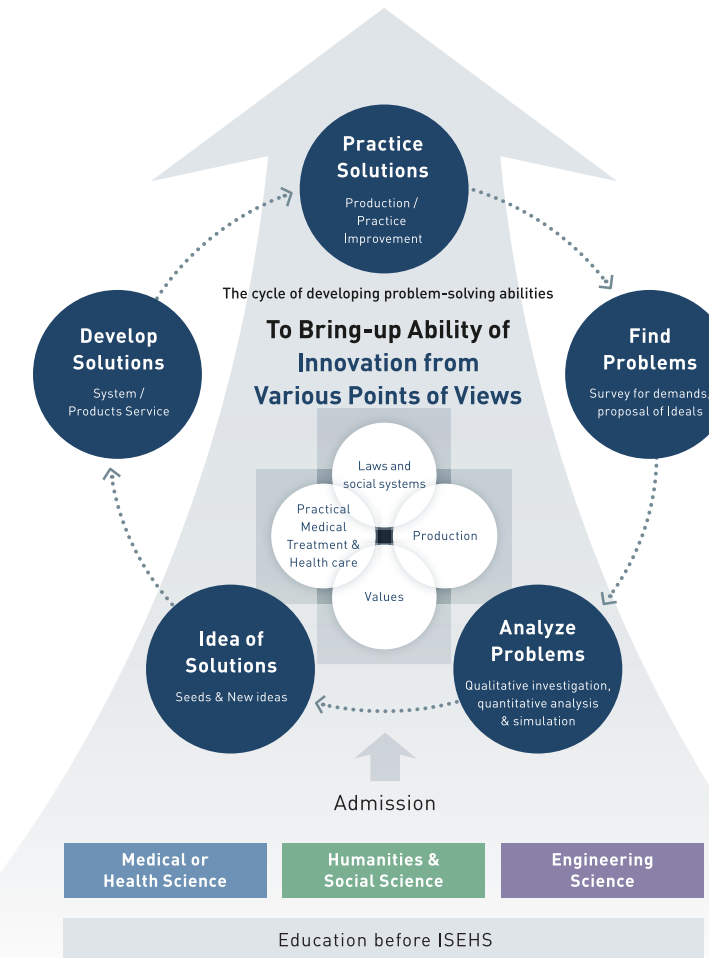
We train people capable of understanding issues and challenges with the people and practices (health systems) in medical care settings, combining research, technological development, and an understanding of both material aspects and people, and comprehending other fields while making use of their own specialist knowledge, and contributing to problem-solving and supporting the foundations of innovation in society by working in cooperation with others to create things and ideas that will be useful in society.

Course name : Department of Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems(Master's Course)
Department of Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems(Doctor's Course)
Degree name : Master of Science in interdisciplinary studies,MSc / Doctor of Philosophy,PhD

The curriculum is designed to fit the training cycle for people with a background in engineering, medical care, and humanities and social sciences. Incorporating both integrated and specialized subjects, this cycle consists of four activities with the aim of creating things and ideas that are useful to society:

- (1) Examine the natural and social environments (the people and practices that together constitute an actual setting)
- (2) Study these academically through observation and analysis
- (3) As constructive academic work, collaborate with others to apply the resulting discoveries to the creation of new devices, systems, and ideas
- (4) Apply the ideas that emerge to the natural and social environments (the people and practices that together constitute an actual setting) examined in activity (1) (for use in society)

Research pivoting on specialist skills

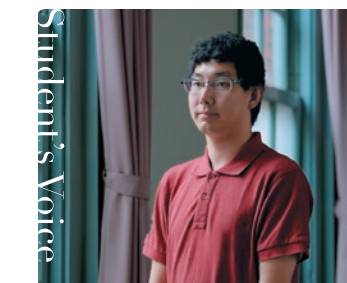


Problems will be solved by going through several phases in a cycle of actions. Students, who have experiences in medical/health science, humanities & social science or engineering science respectively, will take part in the spiral actions to find and solve the problems from the various points of views, which they study in ISEHS, on the basis of their expertise.

Through this procedure, suitable system planning, production, practical medical application will become available together with innovations. The graduates will take their career path of ISEHS reflecting their expertise.

Examples of career paths using specialist skills after completing the course

Medicine	Humanities and social sciences	Engineering
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pharmaceutical ind. Care Service Hospitals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University Professors Business consultants Public Officials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug discovery companies Material ind. Medical devices and biomedical materials manufacturers Device manufacturing companies IT/AI companies



Masatoshi Fujii
Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems

Conducting research to connect society with the university

I major in interdisciplinary science and engineering to develop ways to provide connections between social issues and the university focusing on the SDGs, including health systems, as a common language. Uniquely, the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems aims to create new knowledge by combining diverse perspectives from different disciplines, such as the natural sciences, and humanities/social sciences. We are working hard to contribute to the well-being of the local community and achieve world-class research results.

挑 Global Practical Education

The practical social collaborative educational programs are speeding up in tandem with the SDGs

Global Practical Education, an initiative to maintain reciprocity between the university on the one hand and the local community, companies, and the international community on the other, is being rolled out throughout the university.

International and Japanese students form cross-faculty teams in which they learn about the history, culture, and industry at both the local and global scale. They take knowledge gained in the classroom out into the world, working in partnership with the wider community through work experience placements and other programs on issues that directly confront society.

Students acquire the global practical knowledge required to solve problems from a borderless perspective, while becoming involved in problem-solving within society.



Miyuki Yoshikawa
Practice-Oriented
Education Planner

Developing next generation who recognize the importance of the sustainability of society and are motivated to contribute to this vision

The liberal arts course “International internship” prioritizes prior education and reflection as well as work period. For most students, forestry is not related to their major fields of study, but by questions such as “How do you think if you consider issues related to forests from an engineering student’s perspective?” or “What are labor problems?” they realize the relevance of their academic learning at higher education to society. I think such awareness will make students more determined to contribute to solving social problems.



Hiroko Sezaki
Faculty of Letters

Proposing improvements upon discovering a practice that has been taken for granted

In a factory where many foreigners were working, I noticed that warning signs were written in kanji characters and suggested replacing them with pictograms. I found that the ability of observing details and precisely expressing what we think to others are also common skills for preparing research notes and making research presentations. I also realized the university where people seek for the universal and respond intellectually, and the workplace, where their response must be improvised depending on the circumstances have common points and are actually connected. I also learned that local companies play a major role in industry and appreciated their value.

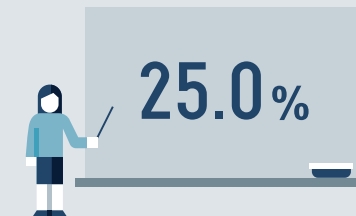


A : Program for Learning from the Local Community and Environment in Mizushima, Kurashiki
B : Forestry industry experience in an international internship

Vision —Target for Year 2023—

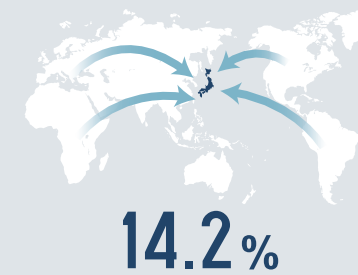
Percentage of female faculty and staff (Female faculty)

(Female faculty / all full-time faculty)



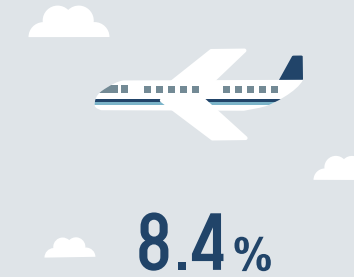
Percentage of non-Japanese international students

(Non-Japanese international students / all students)



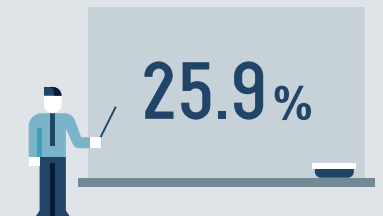
Percentage of Japanese students with experience of studying overseas

(Number of students with experience of studying overseas / all students)



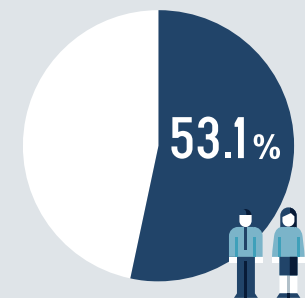
Number and percentage of courses taught in a foreign language

(Number of courses taught in a foreign language / all courses)



Introduction of annual salary system (Faculty)

(Number of faculty receiving an annual salary / all full-time faculty)



Percentage of students with cross-cultural experience



100%

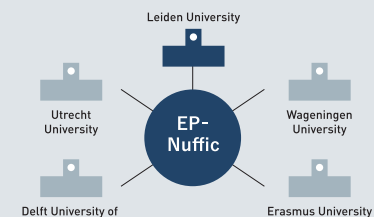
Number of advanced all-round achievers



560

EP-Nuffic

(Formerly the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education)



A three-month short-term program for approximately 20 Leiden University undergraduates will start from AY2018.

Accelerating efforts for the development of globally-competent all-round achievers focusing on the SDGs as a common language

The PRIME (PRActical Interactive Mode for Education) program of Okayama University aims to increase its presence as a driver of the internationalization of education and enhance its ability to train all-round achievers who serve the local community and play a leading role in international society. In academic year 2017, the university incorporated the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in 2015 into the PRIME program to make it more globally compatible, and has since been promoting its internationalization efforts focusing on the SDGs as a common language that connects the university to the world. By introducing the vision of the SDGs, we will be able to train all-round achievers with the ability to identify social problems and help solve them, and build closer partnerships with the local community and international society.



About “SDGs”

SDGs stands for Sustainable Development Goals, which were adopted at the United Nations Summit in September 2015 as a global vision to be achieved by 2030 through concerted efforts by international society. The SDGs set 17 goals towards the creation of a sustainable world with a pledge that no one will be left behind. They are universal goals that are relevant to developing and developed countries alike.

Pick up

Winning a special award at the 1st Japan SDGs Award

Okayama University was honored with a special award, SDGs Partnership Award, at the first Japan SDGs Award presented by the SDGs Promotion Headquarters of the Japanese Government, headed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Okayama University is the only national university to have received this coveted award, which was established to recognize outstanding corporate and institutional initiatives towards the SDGs.



SDGs initiatives at Okayama University

From Okayama to the world and from the world to Okayama: Acting globally to contribute to the SDGs



Working for the SDGs on campus! TFT menu developed by Okayama University students

Okayama University has started offering the Table For Two (TFT) menu to provide school meals to children in developing countries. The idea of the TFT menu was conceived by students of the university and introduced in cooperation with Okayama University Co-op.

TFT is a social program initiated in Japan that aims to simultaneously address obesity in developed countries and hunger in developing countries by sharing meals between participants in the former and children in the latter across time and distance. When one orders a TFT menu item, 20 yen is automatically donated to the TFT secretariat and the donated money is used to provide school meals to children in Africa and Asia (Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania and the Philippines).



Students of Okayama University participated in an international youth summit, the One Young World 2018, as members of the Japanese delegation

Two students of Okayama University participated in an international youth summit, the One Young World (OYW) 2018, held in The Hague, the Netherlands, as members of the Japanese delegation. OYW is one of the largest summit meetings in the world, attended by young next-generation leaders from more than 190 countries. Established as a global industry-academia-government collaboration project to bring together next-generation leaders to address global issues and find solutions, OYW is rapidly expanding its scale and network. Okayama University first participated in OYW in 2015 as an official OYW partner when the summit was held in Bangkok, Thailand, and has since sent two student representatives to OYW for four consecutive years. During the OYW 2018, the two students participated in plenary sessions, workshops and networking events, and engaged in discussions on various topics within the framework of the SDGs, including climate change, war and peace, education, human rights, leadership and global business.



I Undergraduate School

- _ Faculty of Letters
- _ Faculty of Education
- _ Faculty of Law
- _ Faculty of Economics
- _ Faculty of Science
- _ Medical School
- _ Dental School
- _ Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
- _ Faculty of Engineering
- _ Faculty of Environmental Science and Technology
- _ Faculty of Agriculture
- _ Discovery Program for Global Learners

II Graduate School

- _ Graduate School of Education
- _ Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- _ Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology
- _ Graduate School of Health Sciences
- _ Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science
- _ Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- _ Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems
- _ School of Law

III Students

Undergraduate
10,113
[Total]

Graduate
2,899
[Total]

As of May 1, 2019

IV International Students / Overseas Offices

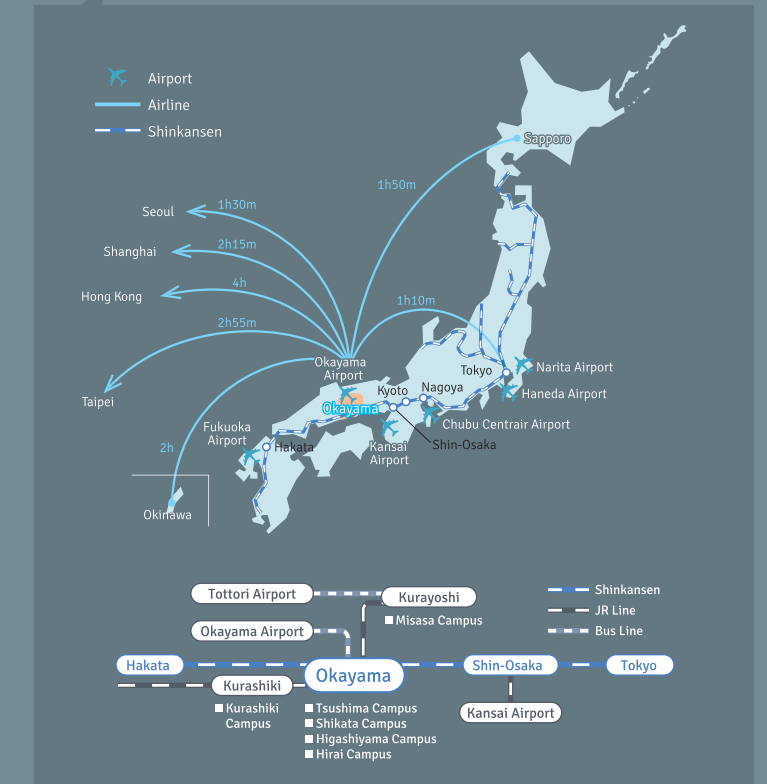


Academic Year 2018

Overseas Offices

- Vietnam**
 - Okayama University Office in Hue
 - Okayama University Office in Ho Chi Minh City
- China**
 - Okayama University Office in Changchun
 - Okayama University Office in Shenyang
 - Okayama University Office in Shanghai
- Myanmar**
 - Okayama University Japan Educational Information Center Mandalay Branch
- India**
 - Collaborative Research Center of Okayama University for Infectious Diseases in India
- U.K.**
 - Okayama University Office in London

V Access



Mission

Forging a global presence for Okayama University by 2023

As students, faculty, and staff acquire high-level abilities and head out into the world, and outstanding students, teachers, and researchers come in, Okayama University will transform itself into a university that disseminates the results of creative knowledge and the fruits of skills learned to the world at large. By changing individuals, communities, and the world, Okayama University aims to have a major global presence within a decade.



**By changing individuals, communities, and the world,
Okayama University will have a major global presence within a decade.**

2014 — 2023

Message from the President

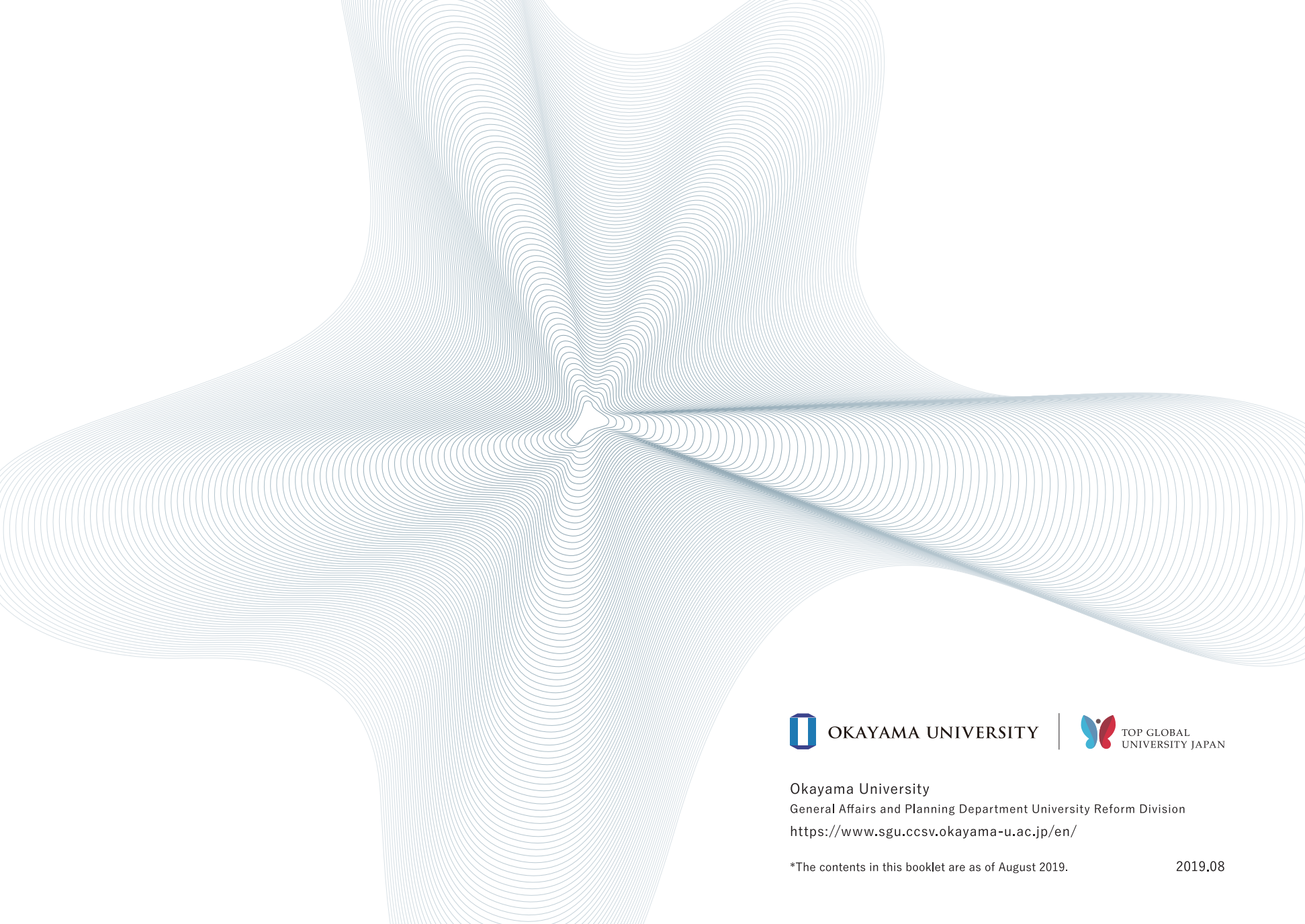
Training globally-competent all-round achievers

In 2014, Okayama University was selected by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology to take part in the Top Global University Project in recognition of our leading role in developing globally-competent human resources and internationalizing education. This project provides prioritized support to universities that are capable of conducting world-class education and research and driving internationalization. As a university firmly rooted in the community and with the ability to lead the internationalization of Japanese society, Okayama University is rolling out various programs university-wide to encourage the reform of education and research and produce forward-looking globally-competent all-round achievers.

All-round achievers are people with the good sense to make the right decisions in practical situations. To be aware of the issues facing contemporary society and engage with them independently and practically on the ground requires not just language abilities, a well-rounded education, and a high level of specialization, but also actual practical experience on the ground.

As the issues facing humanity are becoming ever more complex, based on Okayama University's objective of "constructing a new paradigm for the sustainable evolution of humanity" we will train global human resources with the practical ability to identify and resolve social issues and build more integral partnerships with the local community and international society to create a sustainable society. By changing individuals, communities, and the world, our aim is for Okayama University to have a major global presence.

Okayama University President



OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY



TOP GLOBAL
UNIVERSITY JAPAN

Okayama University

General Affairs and Planning Department University Reform Division

<https://www.sgu.ccsv.okayama-u.ac.jp/en/>

*The contents in this booklet are as of August 2019.

2019.08