

# **University Mission, Key Issues & Desired Qualities and Competencies in the Next President of Kyushu University**

**March 19, 2020**

Kyushu University Presidential Selection Committee

At Kyushu University, our basic philosophy is one of ongoing governance reform as we aim to become a world-leading center of excellence in education and research, a vibrant institution capable of addressing future challenges today. In order to fulfill this basic philosophy, Kyushu University has, in a time of declining birth rates, aging populations, social and economic globalization, and financial crises, established an ambitious vision to promote pioneering reforms that include bold organizational restructuring and more efficient allocation of resources.

The next president must exercise good judgment as well as strong leadership and communication skills that will further drive reforms promoted by the university. Below are the qualities and competencies desired of the next president as well as the university's mission and key issues that they will face.

## **1. Desired Qualities & Competencies**

- (1) Noble character, academic excellence, and the skills to appropriately and effectively manage education and research as one of Japan's top leading universities
- (2) A vision for fulfilling the basic philosophy of Kyushu University, the skills needed to communicate that vision to faculty and staff, and the determination and commitment to execute it
- (3) A keen awareness, strong leadership, and crisis management skills needed to direct and supervise faculty and staff as the university's governing authority
- (4) Strong communication skills needed to present the university to Japan and the world
- (5) Excellent management skills

## **2. Mission**

- (1) Promote world-class education, research, and medical care in accordance with the Kyushu University Education Charter and Research Charter and work

toward becoming one of the world's top one hundred universities

- (2) Develop undergraduate and graduate education that fosters an interdisciplinary perspective, problem finding as well as problem solving, and self-learning skills in order to train professionals who will contribute to a global society
- (3) Aim for world-class research capabilities in all fields, from academic research to social deployment, to further promote international collaboration
- (4) Promote social partnerships to meet the needs of society while strengthening university communications in order to promote social change in education, research, and medical care
- (5) Strengthen the action platform that will unify university action under strong governance and establish a system to reinforce our financial base and human resource management by acquiring external funds and expanding private sector investments

### **3. Key Issues**

- (1) Continually share the university's vision with faculty and staff as well as communicate that vision to the general public and work to realize the goals of "Building a Better Future for the World in Asia" and "Becoming a World Leading University" in line with the "National University Corporation Kyushu University Designated National University Corporation Proposal."
- (2) Lead the university and take appropriate action in response to rapid societal changes due to declining birth rates, aging populations, and globalization in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- (3) Promote undergraduate education development and graduate education reform by developing an education and research environment that meets the needs of a digital society, applying the results of interdisciplinary research throughout the university, and building world-class education programs with the aim of training professionals who will lead our society in the future.
- (4) Train early-career, female, and international researchers to create a rich and diverse new generation of researchers.
- (5) Build a strategic system for research promotion that ensures free and open research by securing research time for faculty members, the development of

collaboration between researchers, and an increase in concentrated investment in fields that are strengths of the university.

- (6) Build a strategic system to promote internationalization and the formation of hubs for enhanced researcher mobility.
- (7) Strengthen and promote sustained growth and innovation via co-creation between industry, academia, and government. This will require further promotion of initiatives related to university-backed ventures and recurrent education.
- (8) Further contribute to local and international communities through advanced medical care.
- (9) Contribute to the development of the local community through collaboration with government and industry so that the local community can continue to flourish alongside a university that residents are proud of.
- (10) Further develop the "Functional Enhancement System," including the system of ongoing university reform, share the university's vision and current developments, both top-down and bottom-up, and establish governance that allows the president to lead the university.
- (11) Promote human resource reform to improve the performance of outstanding faculty and staff members.
- (12) Strengthen our financial base through further acquisition of external funds and reduction of expenditures while developing international networks, strengthening fundraising, reinforcing partnerships with alumni associations, and expanding the Kyushu University Fund.
- (13) Promote the sale and utilization of properties such as the former Hakozaki Campus for new urban development projects while continuing to create a fulfilling campus experience for all students and faculty to enjoy.
- (14) Ensure the safety of students, faculty, and staff and further develop disaster-response systems and promote accident prevention across education and research.
- (15) Make recommendations and contributions, in collaboration with other universities and related organizations, to problem solutions and the future development of Fukuoka, Kyushu, Japan, and the international community and reconsider Kyushu University's role as a national university.