



The Chiba Institute of Technology (CIT) is celebrating its seventieth anniversary this year. Established under the prewar university system in 1942, it ranks as the thirty-sixth oldest university in Japan. Japan currently has 783 universities, so I believe this should give you an idea of how much tradition CIT has by comparison. It is also the oldest private institute of technology, and if national institutes are also included, it has the second-longest history after the Tokyo Institute of Technology. CIT started with just 160 students, but has approximately ten thousand enrolled today, and has grown into a university that is extremely large not only for Japan, but also the world.

In CIT's founding documents, our educational goal states that we train people to imbue them with an abundant desire to learn and seek knowledge throughout the world. The importance of academics increases in eras of great change. I believe our philosophy, which was drafted in the turbulent World War II era, reflects the limitless expectations of academics and fundamental educational ideals. Modern society hopes for a reliable guide to the future, and this philosophy acts as a source of creativity to advance into that future.

A university's dual mission is obviously education and research. These two have a complementary relationship; if one is lacking, the other cannot produce satisfactory results. Outstanding systems for training students are needed to give substance to both. People are a university's biggest assets, and educating talented, socially adaptable students and sending them out into society is an important responsibility for universities.

For a dynamic academic life and to strengthen the ability of students to find jobs, the expansion of student support systems to generate enthusiasm is crucial. By expanding CIT's existing comprehensive student support mechanisms, which extend from enrollment through career development and employment, I hope to strengthen not just student academic abilities but also their ability to adapt to society and find employment that suits them. As a recently released Central Council for Education report emphasized, this is something related to qualitative changes in departmental teaching and active learning.

CIT has provided society with numerous outstanding research achievements. After receiving wide coverage in TV news programs, newspapers and magazines, I am sure many of you are aware that robots developed at CIT were used to inspect the Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant following the earthquake when people were unable to enter it.

Our tradition-laden faculties have also provided society with numerous outstanding research achievements. For example, CIT received the third-largest allocation of government funds for scientific research among thirty Japanese science and technology universities this year, following only the Tokyo University of Science and Tokyo University of Agriculture, an indication of our university's high research standards. These high-level standards and achievements tie in with an advanced education and the large networks that link the university and society. I think our network contributes greatly not only to students enrolled at CIT, but also more broadly to the industrial world.

Multifaceted approaches are needed to solve single problems in modern society, which has become much more complex. I think that CIT, with its lengthy history, has an obligation to put the networks we have created with corporations and sustained by tradition and actual achievements to work in solving the various problems of modern society. We will promote research support to further develop and strengthen these networks with society.

CIT is striving to be the kind of university that has a thorough understanding of competitive global society, aiming higher and proceeding in a positive direction. We want to be trusted and loved by the people of the world. As part of efforts to achieve that goal, we are strategically developing CIT's education and research, promptly undertaking evaluations and restructuring existing policies while working on various new policies.

Networks with corporations are also indispensable to the training of the students who will be responsible for the Japan of tomorrow. CIT has received tremendous understanding and support from the people, the communities and the companies, which is something that we really appreciate with respect to the educations and researches in CIT. I would like to express my deep appreciation and request that they continue to support CIT as we grow.

29th December, 2012
President Professor Kazuhito Komiya, PhD