



The Chiba Institute of Technology (CIT) is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary this year. CIT was established to offer engineering education equal in quality to that in Europe and America, and to raise the industrial capacity of not just Japan but all of Asia. CIT's prospectus states: "Cultivate individuals that possess a love of country and the desire to collect knowledge from around the world and lead Japan and the rest of Asia in efforts to contribute to world culture." This ideal has been passed down to the current age as the school philosophy: "Contributing to world culture through technology." CIT has gained recognition through its achievements and long history, we are currently the second-oldest institute of technology in Japan after the Tokyo Institute of Technology, and the oldest among private institutes of technology.

CIT continues to change with the times. From the time of its establishment to Japan's economic miracle, CIT devoted efforts to education and research that served as the foundation of Japan's modernization and growth. Since then, CIT has established many departments, such as design, project management and advanced robotics, that are the first of their kind in Japan, in response to the demands of society to become a diverse university that has evolved beyond a simple engineering school. CIT has carved its own path and provided cutting-edge education and research results for seventy-five years. New students are sure to feel CIT's energy and sense of momentum from the moment they enroll. Further evidence can be found in CIT's initiatives and achievements last year, several of which are introduced below.

CIT reformed its engineering division in April 2016 from a system with three faculties and 11 departments to one with five faculties and 17 departments. After the reform, the number of applicants CIT received was the ninth highest out of the 779 universities in Japan. This fact is inspirational, since it is proof that CIT has gained even greater recognition among high school students nationwide.

Around the same time, Meteor, a camera for observing meteors jointly developed by CIT and NASA, was installed in the International Space Station. The video and other images Meteor captures can be viewed live at the control room in our campus.

At RoboCup 2016 in Germany in July, the CIT Brains team won the technical challenge in the humanoid kids size division for the fifth consecutive year.

In August last year, the media widely reported that a research team consisting of members of CIT, the University of Tokyo and other parties had discovered a large deposit of manganese nodules - spherical rocks that contain rare earth elements, in the sea bottom around Minamitori Island, an exclusive economic zone of Japan.

In September, CIT appeared in the list of Times Higher Education (THE)'s World University Rankings for the first time. It placed thirty-ninth in the Japanese university rankings (and eighth out of private universities).

In October, CIT's development of an innovative nonvolatile memory element that can function in 600 degrees Celsius temperatures made front-page headlines. There is hope that this technology can be applied to aircraft and space probes.

And in December, UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond visited Japan and took time during his busy two-day trip to observe the latest robotics technology at CIT.

These are only some of the CIT initiatives and achievements the media have covered. The results and knowledge gained from these efforts are all used to enhance our education. CIT undertakes new educational and research initiatives every year to boost the abilities of the students.

CIT is gradually heading toward its centennial year. As one of Japan's handful of traditional technology universities where both tradition and progressiveness, respect for the past and creativity, preservation and pioneering can be seen, I hope that school personnel and alumni will work together to train truly global people who contribute to world culture through technology.

29th June, 2017

President Professor Kazuhito Komiya, PhD