

To all of the new students, congratulations on your admission to Gifu University today. We are extremely pleased to welcome so many aspiring, ambitious new entrants join our academic community at Gifu University. My heartfelt congratulations also extend to the students' guardians and to those who have supported them every step of the way.

For more than 70 years since the founding of Gifu University, we have witnessed many significant educational and academic achievements aimed at promoting the well-being of our citizens and establishing a dynamic, sustainable growth of our local communities. In this day and age of enormous, rapid changes in Japan and the world over, national university corporations are increasingly asked to review their strategies and goals more than ever to foster young leaders who are capable of guiding the nation and leading the world, particularly in the fields of advanced technologies and sciences.

One of the outcomes has been the strategic integration between Gifu University and Nagoya University under one national university corporation scheme with our joint primal goal to raise the standards of its respective academic missions both in quality and quantity.

After many in-depth discussions and opinion exchanges which lasted for three years, on April 1, 2020, under the new name of National University Corporation "Tokai National Higher Education and Research System," Gifu University and Nagoya University have made an important first step into creating a new chapter in our academic history. For those new students who are just joining our community, you are the first batch of students who will benefit from the array of opportunities in this first-ever national scheme of academic integration.

In this new Japanese era called "Reiwa," backed by our long history of academic excellence and merits, both Gifu University and Nagoya University will stay committed to taking on huge challenges in spearheading higher educational goals to guide and support your hopes and dreams. That is central to our mission!

Together with you, we can build the world's best national university systems reaching out not only to our local communities but also extending our reach globally.

One of our principal educational goals is to "cultivate human resources who can create the better future with other like-minded fellows through their strong commitments and courage."

Keeping this in mind, we are strongly committed to setting an innovative educational

platform to help inspire our youths and enable them to set a precedent for future generations.

We at the new Tokai National Higher Education and Research System are here to support and guide you to be the best you can be. I encourage you to actively contribute and be involved towards your academic success and join us as a proud member of Gifu University and the Tokai National Higher Education and Research System.

April 2020

Seiichi Matsuo

Chancellor

National University Corporation

Tokai National Higher Education and Research System