



Hideo Osawa

Chairman of Executive Board
Educational Foundation of Kokushikan

Biography

Hideo Osawa was born in Hokkaido in 1936, and graduated from the Faculty of Physical Education at Kokushikan University in 1960.

He joined the staff of the university in 1960 and became a professor in the Faculty of Physical Education in 1981. He served as head of the faculty from 1992 to 2001 and as president of Kokushikan University from 2003 to 2006.

In 2006, he became an Emeritus Professor and a member of the Executive Board of the Educational Foundation of Kokushikan. He began to serve as the Vice Chairman of the Executive Board from June 2008, before becoming Chairman of the Executive Board in April 2009.

He was Chairman of the Executive Board of the Japan University Football Association (JUFA) in 1998, and a member of the Executive Board of the Japan Football Association (JFA) in 1992. He was Chairman of the Japan Association of Heads of Universities, Schools and Faculties related to Physical Education in 2004, and has been a consultant at JUFA from 2008.

He has served as Director of the Council of Physical Education Universities since 2009 and Director of the Association of Private Universities of Japan since 2012.

Since its founding as the Kokushikan private academy in 1917, Kokushikan has consistently conducted education emphasizing the cultivation of human beings who are outstanding in both academics and sports. When Kokushikan University was opened in 1958, the Faculty of Physical Education was established. Since then, thanks to generous support from people both inside and outside Kokushikan, we have grown into a comprehensive educational foundation comprising a university with 7 undergraduate faculties and 10 graduate schools, an affiliated junior and a senior high school.

Kokushikan was founded 96 years ago on the idea of fostering individuals to help build the nation. Although the way of expressing this philosophy has changed over time, the underlying concept has remained the same: “devotion to others.” This means wholeheartedly doing everything you can for people, something which I learned when I was a student of Kokushikan’s founder, Tokujiro Shibata, who taught with deep compassion. Our founder endeavored to cultivate human resources by practicing the virtues of sincerity, industriousness, insight, and spiritual strength, which are the educational precepts of our foundation today. As his successors, I believe it is our mission to pass on his ideas in accordance with the needs of the times.

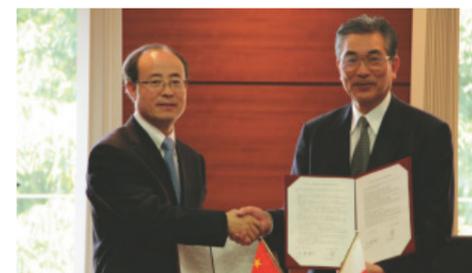
I hear that since the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, there has been an increase in the number of young people with a strong desire to do something for others. This means that the philosophy of our founder, nearly a century ago, lives on to this very day. It is just this kind of person that is needed in Japan right now. In these times, when we are facing so many challenges both domestically and internationally, we are determined to carry on Kokushikan’s founding spirit and continue our earnest efforts to make a positive social contribution.

In 2017 we will celebrate the centennial of our founding. In preparation for that milestone, in 2008 we completed the Omegaoka Complex on our Setagaya Campus as a hub of education and research which we expect to support the progress of the age. As a result, we started integrated education with all major courses available on each campus, thus enabling students to have a more forward-looking four years by taking advantage of the special characteristics of each department and faculty. Furthermore, in April 2013 we opened the Maple Century Hall, a complex with five floors above ground and three basement floors featuring sports facilities, a student lounge, and other amenities that can be used by university and high school students at anytime. With the aim of further enhancing the study environment, we intend to continue our efforts to improve our campuses. Our hope is to continue serving as an affectionate and compassionate school so that students can feel truly glad they chose to study at Kokushikan.

Topics

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Academic exchange agreement concluded with Dalian Neusoft University of Information



In May 2013 Kokushikan concluded an academic exchange agreement with Dalian Neusoft University of Information in China. The university is the twelfth school in China with which Kokushikan has an international agreement, and altogether Kokushikan now has agreements with 40 universities and 1 institution in 19 countries and 1 region. Through exchange between faculty members and students, joint research, internships, sports, and various other exchange programs tailored to meet the objectives and levels of students, Kokushikan hopes to provide students with plenty of opportunities to further polish their international awareness and foreign language skills.

Doctoral course established in Graduate School of Emergency Medical System

In April 2013 Kokushikan opened a doctoral course in the Graduate School of Emergency Medical System. The main aims of this doctoral course are to play a leading role in research on pre-hospital emergency treatment, to conduct research activities relating to pre-hospital emergency medicine, and to foster researchers who have a thorough knowledge of crisis management in times of disaster as well as emergency treatment at ordinary times and who can also promote the building of local emergency medical treatment systems.



School of Science and Engineering celebrates 50th anniversary



In 2013 the School of Science and Engineering mark the 50th anniversary of its founding. Commemorative events have included practical workshops for elementary, junior high, and senior high school students, a special exhibition, and a lecture by Toshihide Masukawa, winner of the Nobel Prize in physics. The school was founded in 1963 as the Faculty of Engineering, since when it has endeavored to pursue advanced education and research in accordance with the progress of science and technology and changing needs of society and to foster talented engineers. The faculty was reorganized as the School of Science and Engineering in April 2007, introducing an educational system of “one department, six fields.” Through the organic linkage of the six fields, the school enables students to study a wide range of areas and aims to develop human resources capable of challenging the new era.

Kokushikan again acquires AA – /stable rating on senior debts

On April 19, 2013, Kokushikan acquired an AA – ranking on senior debts with an outlook of “stable,” the same appraisal as last year, from Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. AA – belongs to the AA range, which is the second highest of JCR’s 10 levels and it signifies a very high level of capacity to honor financial commitments on obligations. From now on also, Kokushikan will continue its earnest efforts to further improve the quality of its education and research and make a positive contribution to society.

