



大阪大学



OPEN 2021

AY2016 Progress Report (Excerpt)

◆ Progress in AY2016 Annual Plan

Overall, steady progress has been made towards achieving the third mid-term goals and mid-term plan.

◆ Overview of the progress made in AY2016

During AY2016, the first year of the third mid-term goal period, we reviewed the conventional systems and organizations and discussed the creation of new educational systems and research organizations, while entering into comprehensive partnership agreements to overcome the barriers to basic and applied research in our effort to facilitate our evolution into a world-leading research oriented university that meets the expectations of global society. Overall, we have made significant progress, especially in the field of industry-university collaboration.

During the third six-year mid-term goal period, which is positioned as “the period of evolution” towards the 90th anniversary of Osaka University in 2021, we will continue working hard to achieve the five goals of “Openness” in line with the principle of “Osaka University (OU) Vision 2021: Moving Towards University 4.0 through Orchestration and Co-creation of Knowledge.”

Achievements in educational activities (Open Education)

■ Expansion of the Multilingual Expert Program (Highly strategic and ambitious plan)

- A specialized language education program of the same level as that of the School of Foreign Studies was introduced for students in humanities and social sciences to study systematically foreign languages and relevant subjects.
- The program aims to train multilingual experts with academic knowledge, leveraging the resources of the School of Foreign Studies at which 25 different languages are taught.

■ Establishment of the Center for the Study of Co* Design (Highly strategic and ambitious plan)

- A high-level transferable skills development program was formulated (to be launched in AY2017) across graduate schools as a general education program to enable students to apply intellectual skills acquired through highly specialized studies to the solution of problems in other academic fields or social issues.

■ Planning for and promotion of further educational reform

- An agreement was made to introduce the course numbering system on a university-wide basis.
- Introduction of a new academic calendar (four-term system) was discussed and agreed.
- Introduction of new TA and TF systems (that aim to foster educational planning and teaching skills) was discussed and agreed.

To be implemented from AY2017

Achievements in research activities (Open Research)

■ Formation of a world-leading research hub by creating new academic realms (Highly strategic and ambitious plan)

- **Institute for Open and Transdisciplinary Research Initiatives** (To create new academic realms by promoting integrated and transdisciplinary research through society-university co-creation efforts)
- **Institute for Datability Science** (To facilitate the incubation of transdisciplinary research ideas through data-driven research approaches and serve as a hub of international research collaboration)
- **International Advanced Research Institute** (To be opened in AY2017) (To find solutions to complex problems as a world-leading large-scale transdisciplinary research hub)

■ Development of world-class young researchers

- **Institute for Advanced Co-Creation Studies** (To strongly promote the world's cutting-edge research projects with external funds such as donations, while minimizing non-research work)

■ Strengthening of support for establishment of international joint labs (Highly strategic and ambitious plan)

- Support was extended for the establishment of joint labs not only within the University but also in foreign universities under Academic Exchange Agreements.

* Highly strategic and ambitious plans refer to plans approved by the National University Corporation Evaluation Committee, selected from among mid-term plans submitted by applying universities. Unlike ordinary plans, approved plans are closely evaluated in terms of not only achievements but also how and in what manner the plans have been implemented.

Achievements in social contribution and industry-university collaboration activities (Open Innovation)

■ Conclusion of agreement on comprehensive collaboration for entire research process from the stage of basic research

- The Immunology Frontier Research Center entered into a partnership with Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. under which the University will receive substantial research funds for 10 years.
- This industry-university partnership has drawn much attention as a new model of large-scale comprehensive research collaboration in which barriers are removed across the entire process of research from the basic to clinical stages.

■ Continued promotion of industry-university collaboration in a manner unique to Osaka University under the “Industry on Campus” concept

- The number of joint research chairs (departments) and research alliance laboratories increased to 40 and 10 respectively as of the end of AY2016.

■ Opening of an industry-university joint chair in the field of artificial intelligence

- Panasonic Corporation and Osaka University opened Japan’s first joint chair in the field of AI to train experts in AI technology and its application.

Achievements in society-university collaboration, globalization and hospital activities (Open Community)

■ Implementation of measures to accommodate international students and encourage students to study abroad (Highly strategic and ambitious plan)

- The University launched the “Frontier Human Science Program,” a short-term study abroad program for students in humanities and social sciences, developed based on the know-how of the “FrontierLab@OsakaU” program for students in science and engineering.
- The University launched the [Inbound Emergency Support System](#) to offer a 24/7/365 emergency service to international students in English, Chinese and Japanese, and became a member of the Overseas Student Safety Management Assistance (OSSMA) service to ensure the safety of students while studying abroad.

■ New support for outreach activities to share educational and research achievements with society

- The University strengthened support for students as well as researchers in their social contribution activities to encourage the sharing of educational and research achievements with society by opening up new fields of activities.

■ Adoption of Osaka University Hospital under the Global Clinical Trial Development Project by AMED

- Osaka University Hospital was selected as one of the two hospitals for the Global Clinical Trial Development Project in Japan from among core clinical research hospitals designated under the Medical Care Act.
- As a hub of international joint clinical research and trial activities, Osaka University Hospital strengthened training for researchers to promote the Global Clinical Trial Development Project through partnership with eight institutes.

Achievements in University administration and operation activities (Open Governance)

■ Creation of Cluster for Cycle-Oriented Development of Female Researchers through industry-university collaboration

· The University worked in collaboration with the National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition and Daikin Industries, Ltd. to offer a diverse range of promising career paths to female researchers in natural sciences, for example, by providing support to joint research projects in which female researchers serve as project leaders and employing an increasing number of female researchers through the Cross-Appointment System.

■ Strengthening of the strategic post allocation system under the leadership of the President

· The following quotas for posts that can be allocated at the discretion of the President were introduced: (1) quota for young, female, and foreign researchers, (2) quota for OU Vision posts, and (3) special quota (a total of 155 posts).

■ Expansion of the Cross-Appointment System

· The scope of the Cross-Appointment System was expanded to allow exchanges with private companies.
· In April 2017, Osaka University became the first National University Corporation in Japan to accept female researchers from a private company (Daikin Industries, Ltd.).

■ Establishment of Office of Management and Planning

· The University strengthened the ability of the **administration office** to support the operations of the University by leveraging the Institutional Research (IR) and University Research Administrator (URA) systems.