

Kobe University Brussels European Centre Newsletter

FUJISAWA Masato



New President Appointed



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(1st half of 2021)
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◆ NEWS

New president and executive board members appointed

In April 2021, Prof. FUJISAWA Masato of the Graduate School of Medicine was appointed president of Kobe University for a period of 4 years. This makes him the 15th president of Kobe University, which is one of Japan's oldest leading universities. New executive board members were also selected.

Prof. Fujisawa graduated with a PhD. from the Department of Urology, Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine in 1989. Since then, his research has

been focused on urology (in particular robotic surgery), andrology and renal transplantation. In 2020, he successfully performed the first surgery with "hinotori", the first Japanese-made surgical robot, which his team invented in collaboration with Kobe-based medical robotics company Mediaroid Corporation. He has also served as Director of Kobe University Hospital, Executive Assistant to the President, and Dean of the School and Graduate School of Medicine.

Located in an international port city, Kobe University, working in a spirit of integrity, freedom, and cooperation in keeping with its

open and cosmopolitan culture and environs, aims to contribute to the global community through the creation of knowledge founded on universal values and the fostering of rich understanding and strong leadership skills. Over the years, Kobe University has developed multidisciplinary research and education using its strengths as a comprehensive research university that strikes a balance across academic disciplines, and has deepened its international partnerships under the former president's leadership.



Taking over these initiatives, the new president takes the lead in further developing the university as a global hub for the multidisciplinary co-creation of research and education. He says, "I would like to bolster Kobe University's prestige and increase its contributions to society by promoting the global dissemination of the university's advanced multidisciplinary research and education, and by realizing the 3 pillars of development; cultivating the 'knowledge', efficient 'human resources' and outstanding 'environment' necessary for value creation and its implementation".

Although the coronavirus pandemic has seriously impacted the international exchange of researchers and students among universities, according to President Fujisawa; "In a changing society affected by the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic, Kobe University

will become a regional center aiding the local revitalization of the economy, culture, life, the environment and human activity, while doing our utmost to transmit information throughout Japan and the world in order to benefit global society".

Next year 2022 marks the 120th anniversary of Kobe University's establishment. Mirroring the slogan of 'multidisciplinary co-creation and collaboration', Kobe University will pool its strengths in order to bring about creative improvements and invigorate its core image as a global knowledge hub that will enliven the bright societies of the future.

→ [Kobe University Webpage](#)

The 11th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium

On 20th October 2021, the 11th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium will be held in Brussels jointly with Vrije Universiteit Brussel.



Under the title "Green Horizons, Sustainable Futures: EU and Japan Research for Climate-Prepared, Resilient Societies", this symposium will focus on priority issues related to global climate change, from three different approaches; Economics, Natural science, and Social science and Humanities.

At the symposium, speakers representing leading universities in Japan, Belgium, UK, and EU countries, as well as officials from the European Commission and the Japanese government, are expected to share their experiences, present their projects and discuss initiatives to strengthen research cooperation.

Further details will be provided on the website.

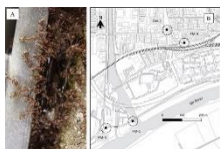
→ [Event News](#)

Workshop and Brokerage Event on EU-Japan Research Collaboration

On 21st October 2021, Kobe University will hold a workshop and brokerage event in Brussels jointly with Vrije Universiteit Brussel, as a follow-up to the 11th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium taking place on the previous day. This 'hands-on' event is primarily aimed at European researchers and research managers from UnILiON member universities interested in collaborating with Japanese institutions and research organisations. Speakers from different sectors will share their experiences and the challenges they have overcome in relation to EU-Japan research collaboration, as well as up-to-date information on funding programmes such as Horizon Europe, which will further mutual understanding of opportunities for joint research and applications for funding between EU and Japan.

Further details will be announced on the Kobe University website.

◆ Research at Kobe University (1st half of 2021)



- eDNA analysis could contribute towards more effective pest control
[Research News](#)

Environmental physiology, Ecology, Conservation biology



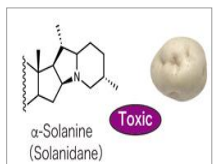
- 'HoLM' - Towards an international hub for optical control and imaging
[Research News](#)

Optics, Medicine, Biology, Information science



- Newly developed AI uses combination of ECG and X-ray results to diagnose arrhythmic disorders
[Research Article](#)

Cardiovascular medicine



- Toxin in potatoes evolved from a bitter-tasting compound in tomatoes
[Research News](#)

Biofunctional science



- How do humpback whales rest? Omnidirectional cameras reveal the secret underwater lives of marine animals
[Research News](#)

Marine biology

Research at Kobe

Everything you need to know about our research is featured on the Research at Kobe website, including the latest press releases as well as articles on our researchers, facilities and collaborations.

If you have any questions about research news, please contact us at:
[intl-relations\(a\)office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:intl-relations(a)office.kobe-u.ac.jp)



2021 Kobe University Research Highlights

'Kobe University Research Highlights -enhancing collaboration with Europe' is now available to download [here](#).

As the first Japanese university to open an office in Brussels in 2010, Kobe University has been a pioneer in developing R&I cooperation between Japan and Europe, working with over 140 European partners.

This publication introduces our projects and research centers corresponding to the 6 research clusters of HORIZON Europe, the EU's new research and innovation investment programme, which has just been launched in 2021.

All our project leaders hope to initiate and expand collaboration with overseas institutions including our European partners. If you are interested in any of the introduced projects, please contact the Office of Research Management. We look forward to hearing from you.

Office of Research Management: [gksh-ura\(a\)research.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:gksh-ura(a)research.kobe-u.ac.jp)

◆ Social Media

Keep up with Kobe University on Social Media!



KobeU_Global



KobeUniversity
Global



Kobe University



Kobe university

Summer Greeting from Kobe
University's official mascot
'Shindai-Uribo'!



◆ Let us know what you think about our English website

Feedback is always welcome. Please let us know your thoughts on our [English-language website](#): Link to [questionnaire](#)

Thank you very much for reading this newsletter. We wish you all a wonderful and safe summer holiday!
Kobe University Brussels European Centre E-newsletter has been sent to you because you have shown an interest in our activities. If you prefer not to receive it, please send a message to us at [intl-kobe_u_bxl\(a\)office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:intl-kobe_u_bxl(a)office.kobe-u.ac.jp). Thank you.



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