



## Honolulu Office of Kobe University Newsletter



# The Third HOKU Symposium held



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### ◆ NEWS

**T** hird HOKU (Honolulu Office of Kobe University) Symposium held

On November 16, 2018, Kobe University held the 3rd HOKU (Honolulu Office of Kobe University) Symposium “Agricultural Science for Sustainable Global Development and Healthy Society”. The event took place at JAIMS (Japan-America Institute of Management Science), where the Honolulu Office is located, and was organized in collaboration with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).

Chaired by Professor Yasuhito Shirai (a member of the Kobe University Office of the Americas and the Graduate School of Agricultural Science), the opening greetings were given by Professor Ken-Ichi

Shimomura (Director of the Office of the Americas) and Professor Steve Goddard (Former Vice Chancellor and member of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln). Professor Shimomura and Professor Goddard spoke on universities in the Americas and pan-Pacific region establishing cooperative relationships based on mutual interests, and expressed their wishes that this symposium would contribute to more in-depth, active research for all participants. To follow, UNL members Mr. Josh Davis (Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement) and Dr. Tala Awada (Associate Dean of the Agricultural

Research Division for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources) introduced UNL's internationalization initiatives and the agricultural research division.

The symposium was composed of three sessions: human health science, agricultural economics, and plant pathology. Academics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of California San Diego, the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Nankai University joined faculty members from the Kobe University Graduate School of Agricultural Science to present their research findings. The event had a lively atmosphere from start to finish: every session was full of active discussions, and the knowledge shared in each presentation was also debated during the coffee breaks and lunch period.



Professor Toshinori Kawabata (Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Science) gave the closing remarks, expressing his gratitude to everyone who participated, and stating Kobe University's intentions for further collaboration to develop academic exchange with universities in the Americas and the pan-Pacific region.

The Honolulu Office of Kobe University will continue to host symposia and workshops to connect researchers from Japan, the Americas and the pan-Pacific region.

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018\\_11\\_29\\_05.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018_11_29_05.html)

## Academic Exchange Agreement concluded with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln



On September 7, 2018, Professor Masahiko Yoshii (Vice President at the time of visitation) visited the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A delegation from University of Nebraska-Lincoln led by Professor Steve Goddard (Associate Vice Chancellor at the time of visitation) had visited Kobe University in February 2018, during which both sides agreed to conclude an inter-university academic exchange agreement. The September visit provided an opportunity to hold a signing ceremony and officially exchange the agreements signed by both institutions. Dr. Sonia Feigenbaum (Associate Vice Chancellor for International Engagement and Global Strategies) exchanged the documents with Executive Vice President Yoshii, and they shared a handshake.

The subsequent meeting was attended by Josh Davis (Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement), Maegan Stevens-Liska (Director of the Office of Global Strategies), other members of the Office of Global Strategies, and Ms. Hisami Imagawa (Business Manager, Nebraska Center Japan). Both sides confirmed their mutual pledge to strengthen our collaborative ties. They discussed the progress of

researcher exchange between our institutions in preparation for the November symposium at our Honolulu Office.

Following the lunch meeting, Vice President Yoshii received a tour of the research facilities at the Nebraska Innovation Campus. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is located on the Corn Belt, and as such it is engaged in advanced research related to agriculture and forestry, the environment, wildlife and vegetation, and food science.

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018\\_10\\_03\\_02.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018_10_03_02.html)

## Visit from University of Southern California

Kobe University and the University of Southern California (USC) have made an agreement this year to jointly implement USC's "Business Japanese Course."

For two weeks from May 28 to June 11, 2018, Master Lecturer Ms. Yuka Kumagai, (The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences), along with eight undergraduate students, visited Kobe University.



The USC students obtained practical knowledge of Japanese business and society, as well as learning about the differences in the culture and business customs through company visits. They experienced various



Japanese industries, ranging from the traditional to the high-tech, along with immersion in Japanese culture and sport through museum visits and watching a baseball game. These activities made for a fruitful two-week stay in Japan.

During their stay, the USC students had opportunities to interact with Kobe University students. They attended a cultural exchange meeting where they interviewed Kobe University students. Facilitating such collaboration is one of the purposes of the course, and it helped the USC students to complete their research on their topics.

At the end of the course, each USC student organized their research results from the various course activities to deliver a presentation in Japanese.

This program is expected to continue and facilitate greater academic exchange between the two universities.

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018\\_06\\_18\\_02.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/NEWS/info/2018_06_18_02.html)

## Joint symposium strengthens ties with University of Southern California and University of California, San Diego

On March 8-9, 2019, the Kobe University Graduate School of System Informatics held a joint symposium at HOKU with the University of Southern California (USC) and the University of California, San Diego. This collaboration is founded on an academic exchange agreement concluded in January 2016 between USC and Kobe University's Graduate

School of System Informatics, Graduate School of Engineering and Education Center on Computational Science and Engineering (ECCSE).



On the first day, specialists in computational science and related science and engineering fields gathered from each institution to present their research and hold discussions aimed at promoting research collaboration and encouraging international co-authorship of papers. This was followed on March 9 by splinter meetings in space physics, computational fluid dynamics, molecular simulations and structural engineering. The splinter meetings provided participants with a further chance to engage in focused discussions in their specialized fields.

This event has contributed to developing and expanding the academic research network between our institutions.

## Workshop on Super Aging Societies, Technology Innovation and Trade Friction



On November 11, 2018, the Kobe University Graduate School of

Business Administration hosted a workshop at HOKU under the theme of "Approaches for Advanced Issues in Japan, the United States and China: Super Aging Society, Technology Innovation and Trade Friction".

The workshop was organized by Professor Lin Huang (Graduate School of Business Administration) and attended by professors and businesspeople from organizations in Japan and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The participants presented their research on societal issues shared by Japan, the US and China.

<https://www.b.kobe-u.ac.jp/4084/>

## Elementary school students attached to KU visit Hawaii accompanied by KU students



The elementary school attached to Kobe University is implementing the "Kobe University Elementary School GCP (Global Challenge Program)", based on their educational goals to foster the fundamental qualities of global citizenship. From October 14-19, 2018, a group of elementary school students and teachers visited Honolulu in Hawaii on the HOKU Program accompanied by Kobe University students from the Department of Child Education, Faculty of Global Human Sciences. They visited Hahaione Elementary School located near the Honolulu Office of Kobe University for one-week exchange, and spent a portion of the program with host families.

## ◆ Upcoming events

We are excited to announce that a Joint Program with Georgia Institute of Technology, "Japan Summer Program in Sustainable Development 2019" will be held!

More info (Japanese): <http://www.office.kobe-u.ac.jp/intl-prg/short-term/event/2019/03/14/943.html>

## ◆ Research at Kobe University



Our research highlights are showcased at [Research at Kobe](#).

The diverse spectrum of research at Kobe University attracts students, academics, industry and business interests from across the world. Please visit the research news site and see some of our ongoing research. We hope you will be enlightened.

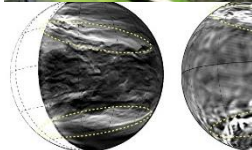
Contact: [intl-relations\(at\)office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:intl-relations@office.kobe-u.ac.jp)



- The stick insects that survive being eaten by birds

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research\\_at\\_kobe\\_en/NEWS/news/2018\\_05\\_28\\_01.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research_at_kobe_en/NEWS/news/2018_05_28_01.html)

Science



- Giant pattern discovered in the clouds of planet Venus

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research\\_at\\_kobe\\_en/NEWS/news/2019\\_01\\_09\\_01.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research_at_kobe_en/NEWS/news/2019_01_09_01.html)

Space Science



- Vitamin D and immune cells stimulate bone marrow disease

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research\\_at\\_kobe\\_en/NEWS/news/2019\\_02\\_08\\_01.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research_at_kobe_en/NEWS/news/2019_02_08_01.html)

Medicine



- Drying without dying: how resurrection plants survive without water

[http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research\\_at\\_kobe\\_en/NEWS/news/2019\\_03\\_01\\_02.html](http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/research_at_kobe_en/NEWS/news/2019_03_01_02.html)

Plant Biology

## ◆ HOKU Facilities

HOKU has a meeting room with space for 15-20 people, Wi-Fi access, and standard equipment such as a screen, projector and whiteboard. It is used for holding seminars and workshops with Kobe University researchers.

Address: JAIS (Japan-America Institute of Management Science)  
6660 Hawaii Kai Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825-1192

## ◆ Social Media

Connect to find news, events, and more!



KobeU\_Global



KobeUniversity  
Global



Kobe University

## ◆ Feedback about our English website

Feedback is always welcome. Please let us know your opinion by filling in a 3-minute questionnaire about the new website: Link to [questionnaire](#)

We hope you enjoyed reading about some of the activities and events in the Office of the Americas.

The Honolulu Office of Kobe University 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-relations \(at\) office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:intl-relations(at)office.kobe-u.ac.jp). Thank you.



[Honolulu Office of Kobe University](#)

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