



Open Ceremony



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We are a prestigious school with a long history and an old tradition among public women's universities in Japan. The entrance examination competition rates for our university are always in the highest rank among all national and public universities in Japan, making us "the most favorite university to enter" among students preparing for entrance examinations across the nation.

In addition, our university is the first university that has established a 4 year university education program in nursing in Japan. Today, we have postgraduate courses leading to Master and Doctor degrees in nursing. Our university is a model to follow for the other 120 colleges of nursing across Japan.

What's more, graduates of our university are elected as president of International Council of Nurses and also president of Japanese Association of Nurses, respectively. They are now the top leaders of nurses domestically and internationally.

Since olden times, Kochi prefecture has been an advanced prefecture in women's higher education. Our school is one of the three remaining public women's universities in Japan.

Japanese society is rapidly aging with the lowest birth rate in the world and consequently the number of students preparing for university entrance examinations are decreasing. Because of the reasons such as this, the situation surrounding the managing of Japanese universities has become quite severe. Under such circumstance, we have been working on extensive "Reform" in management and administration since 1998. Regarding education, we initiated compulsory subjects common to all students such as English for improving English conversation ability and interdisciplinary subjects like "Kochi Regional Study" and "Women's Studies" so that all students at our university should take those subjects.

Such advanced effort made by our university has inevitably lead to the creation of this JICA project. We would be happy if we could learn together with you and also learn from you.

I hope that all the participants will achieve the initial training objective and also enjoy campus life and daily life in Kochi prefecture.

Hideyasu Aoyama
President, Kochi Women's University
