

## Message from the President

As the 21st century rolls on, our society comes to put more emphasis on learning as a fundamental basis for its development. We are all expected to acquire a high level of learning and skills, and thereby to have solid judgment and philosophy of life.

Kochi Women's University has four faculties (Human-Life and Environmental Science, Cultural Studies, Nursing, and Social Welfare) and three graduate institutes both for M. A. and Ph. D. programs (Nursing, Human Life Science, and Human Health Science), and all of these provide pioneering and comprehensive courses of advanced education. As one of the leading public universities in Japan, we have been awarded with a number of JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, which shows how ardently each faculty member is devoted to research and education. As regards the number of applicants, moreover, Kochi Women's University is ranked among the top schools every year and thus dominating the league table of Japanese public universities. This amply testifies to people's high appraisal of our ceaseless efforts.

Kochi Women's University was founded in 1949 to encourage women's enterprise in world peace and cultural development. Our 60 years of endeavor have produced many national and international leaders, and contributed to the full realization of gender-equal society. We support students to secure a variety of professional licenses, too. Among other things, our faculty of Nursing is well known as the first four-year college institution to have begun a training course for nurses in Japan. One of its most brilliant graduates performs her duty as a chair of the International Council of Nurses, and still another has headed the Japanese Nursing Association.

As a hub of the community's intellectual life, Kochi Women's University has dedicated itself wholeheartedly to various community services, as well as to education and research. The close cooperation between students,

faculty, staff and citizens has yielded good results, so that the public's interest in our school keeps growing and they recognize us as a vital part of the community. While enjoying their campus lives, our students are willing to expand their focus off-campus and have great experience in fieldwork, volunteer programs, club activities and others, heartily and invariably supported by the community.

Since the Meiji Restoration, Kochi has produced many political and cultural leaders who built a foundation for modern Japan, and their legacy is felt even today everywhere in Kochi. And Kochi prefecture is blessed by nature, with the beautiful Shimanto basin, the Ashizuri and Muroto capes, the Katsurahama beach and so on, and you can enjoy a rich variety of nature's gifts here.

There is an old German saying, "meeting good people is the best thing you can get out of your life." Welcome to Kochi Women's University. We all look forward to seeing you.

Yosuke Yamane  
President, Kochi Women's University

