A University of Four Seasons

1. Central Lawn
   Containing the beautiful Sakushu Kotani River, this oasis on campus is a great place in spring for viewing cherry blossoms.

2. Botanic Gardens
   About a kilometer to the south of the Sapporo Campus lies our Botanic Gardens, containing a museum of Ainu relics, and many thematic gardens.

3. Ginko Avenue
   An east-west thoroughfare of Sapporo Campus, this avenue of 70 mature gingko trees is particularly beautiful in summer and autumn and attracts many photographers and tourists.

4. Model Barn
   This Important Cultural Property, built in 1877, was based on President Clark’s belief that successful farming depended on spacious stables to shelter animals from severe winters. Built in the style of 19th century American barns, it was moved to its present site in 1910.

Hokkaido University Museum
Originally the Faculty of Science, this historical building became the University Museum in 1999. Completed in 1929 in Gothic Revival style, it holds over 4 million scientific specimens, original documents and works of art.
Dr. W.S. Clark
Founding father of Hokkaido University
1826–1886

Chenery

1876 Hokkaido University opens as ‘Sapporo Agricultural College.’
Dr. William S. Clark, the President of the Massachusetts Agricultural Party in the USA, takes up the post of President of the College.

1877 The model barn, one of the first buildings of the University (and still existing today) is completed.

1892 Dr. Ukichiro Nakaya successfully produces the world’s first artificial snow crystal.

1893 The trees of the University’s Poplar Avenue are planted as a windbreak.

1903 The Faculty of Agriculture main building is completed. Originally built out of wood, it was rebuilt in 1936.

1909 The Historical Museum Hall is completed in French Renaissance Style.

1918 In 1918, the University becomes the 5th prestigious university in mainland Japan to join a League of Seven Imperial Universities formed by the Imperial Japanese government. This distinction continues to hold prominence in Japan today.

1935 Hakodate Campus opens, and the School of Fisheries transfers from Sapporo Campus.

1936 Dr. Ukichiro Nakaya successfully produces the world’s first artificial snow crystal.

1947 After WWII, Hokkaido Imperial University is renamed Hokkaido University.

1976 The Centennial Anniversary of the University is celebrated.

1999 Hokkaido University Museum is established to house over 4 million historical artifacts under one roof.

2007 Sustainability Week event is held for the first time.

2008 Hokkaido University is a joint host of the G8 University Summit and establishes the ‘Sapporo Sustainability Declaration.’

Famous Alumni
Kazuo Uchiumi – writer and intellectual of the Meiji Era (1880)
Isao Nishio – writer, statesman, philosopher, educator (1881)
Takumi Aoki – novelist, essayist and short story writer (1900)
Akira Ifukube – composer of classical music and film scores, including Godzilla (1935)
Ryusei Yamaguchi – pioneer in the field of cloning (1952)
Yasunari Murata – singer, and oldest man to climb Mt Everest (1953)

*Historical Photos are the property of Hokkaido University Main Library.

‘Be ambitious not for money or for selfish aggrandizement, not for that evanescent thing which men call fame. Be ambitious for knowledge, for righteousness, and for the uplift of your people.’
~ 1877

Chronology

Students playing Golf, 1903

School of Nursing, 1902
Sapporo Agricultural School, 1901

Celebrating 25 years.

School of Science, 1902

Students
Faculty of Economics

Students of Economics

Chronology

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Message from the President

Hokkaido University has always upheld its founding spirit of producing leaders to pave the way toward a brighter future. The school is committed to research and education without being affected by stereotypes which are in line with our four basic philosophies. These four philosophies have served as the backbone of Hokkaido University for over a century, and serve as constant pointers toward future objectives.

1. Frontier Spirit – Originating from the phrase ‘lofty ambition’, uttered by Dr. W.S. Clark during the opening ceremony of Sapporo Agricultural College;
2. Global Perspectives – Attaching importance to the spirit of open-mindedness, as has been the case since the school’s foundation;
3. An All Round Education – For the development of individuals with a well rounded character, a high intellect and a broad range of knowledge;
4. Practical Learning – To emphasize the pursuit of universal truths and return the fruits of research to society through their application and practical use.

Hokkaido University is currently promoting three specific areas of development: the improvement and internationalization of education programs, such as the promotion of education in foreign languages; the internationalization of research to create an international research center transcending academic disciplines and national boundaries; and partnerships with society through reinforced collaborative systems involving local communities and industries.

Hokkaido University is one of the leading educational and research institutions in Japan. Making available to the whole world the achievement of education and research, Hokkaido University continues its endeavours, upholding the frontier spirit, to become one of Asia’s research giants.

President of Hokkaido University

FOUR PHILOSOPHIES

FRONTIER SPIRIT
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
PRACTICAL LEARNING
ALL ROUND EDUCATION

Professor Hiroshi Saeki
Hokkaido University President
2007 -
Professor Emeritus
Akira Suzuki
Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 2010

“In order to become a good researcher, you need to have strong foundations. Pay close attention to your research, never do things half-heartedly and be enthusiastic. Hokkaido University will take you where you want to go.”

Suzuki Research

In 2010, Dr. Akira Suzuki was awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work done almost four decades ago when he developed a sophisticated tool called palladium-catalyzed cross couplings. Widely used by chemists across the world today in the production of pharmaceuticals, his research has had a profound and wide ranging impact in the field of chemistry. Dr Suzuki’s award is seen as a reconfirmation of our status as a world-class institution in research and education and Hokkaido University is extremely proud of his achievement.

Professor Emeritus
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Professor Jian Ping Gong
Faculty of Advanced Life Science

‘Of the 36 students in my lab, 14 students are International Students. This brings with it such a diversity of ideas which is invaluable for learning. The research environment and great facilities, coupled with the friendly people that I collaborate with really makes Hokkaido University a special place to be.’

QUICK FACTS

ABOUT HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

TOTAL ENROLMENT
18227

PARTNER UNIVERSITIES
261

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
1340

RANKING IN JAPAN (ARWU 2010)
7

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
11712

OVERSEAS OFFICES
2

RANKING IN ASIA (QS 2011)
20

GRADUATE STUDENTS
6468

FACULTY STAFF
3917

FOREIGN STAFF
590

UNIVERSITY COLOR
FOREST GREEN

OVERSEAS OFFICES ASIA (QS 2011)

UNIVERSITY COLOR
TRILLIUM

WHERE OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COME FROM

CHINA
735

INDIA
50

THAILAND
30

TAIWAN
34

USA
13

KOREA
151

EGYPT
14

PHILIPPINES
22

IRAN
19

BANGLADESH
44

INDONESIA
17

* Data compiled May 2011
A Wide Selection

Hokkaido University is an expansive research intensive establishment encompassing a total of 31 schools. Attracting students and researchers from across Hokkaido as well as nationwide, the university currently has over 18,000 students. We are unique among Japan’s leading universities in the breadth of disciplines we offer, providing wide opportunities for personal development and cross-disciplinary study that delivers unique insights and intellectual debate.

Undergraduate Schools

- Agriculture
- Dental Medicine
- Engineering
- Fisheries Sciences
- Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Science
- Veterinary Medicine
- Economics and Business Administration
- Education
- Law
- Letters

Graduate Schools

- Agriculture*
- Dental Medicine
- Engineering*
- Environmental Science
- Fisheries Sciences
- Health Science
- Information Science and Technology
- Life Science*
- Medicine
- International Media, Communication and Tourism Studies
- Chemical Sciences and Engineering
- Science
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Veterinary Medicine*
- Economics and Business
- Education
- Law
- Letters
- Public Policy

* Includes Degrees offered in English

Our Schools

Left: Faculty of Agriculture  Center: Creative Research Institution ‘CRIS’  Right: School of Environmental Science

Phil Seaton
Associate Professor
Research Faculty of Media and Communication

‘Hokkaido University is an ideal place to research and study. Its lush green campus in the middle of vibrant, bustling Sapporo offers an ideal vantage point from which to gain a distinct perspective on the history and society of Japan and East Asia. With increasing numbers of courses taught in English, comprehensive Japanese language and culture programs, and a brand new International Student Centre in the middle of campus, Hokkaido University is an ideal place to have an enjoyable and stimulating learning experience.’

Libraries

18 (As of May)

Research Institutes & Centers

26

Undergraduate Schools

12

Graduate Schools

19

* Includes Degrees offered in English

For more information, visit our website: [Hokkaido University Website](https://www.hokudai.ac.jp)
Institutes
• Institute of Low Temperature Science
• Research Institute for Electronic Science
• Institute for Genetic Medicine

Centers
• Catalysis Research Center
• Slavic Research Center
• Information Initiative Center
• Central Institute of Isotope Science
• The Hokkaido University Museum
• Research Center for Integrated Quantum Electronics
• Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere
• Meme Media Laboratory
• Research and Education Center for Brain Science

Centers (cont)
• Research Center for Zoonosis Control
• Hokkaido University Archives
• Center for Advanced Tourism Studies
• Center for Language Learning
• Center for Ainu and Indigenous Studies
• Center for Experimental Research in Social Sciences
• Research Institute for Information Law and Policy
• Research Center for Environmental Nano and Bio Engineering
• Research Center for Integrative Mathematics
• Center for Sustainability Science
• Center of Education and Research for Topological Science and Technology
• Center for Environmental and Health Sciences
• Center for Translational Research
• Health Care Center

Hokkaido University Research and Business Park
Hokkaido University Research and Business Park is a core research and business center situated in the northern campus area of Hokkaido University. The mission of the Business Park is to materialize a system for executing activities ranging from R&D to commercialization through the combined efforts of the governing bodies of Hokkaido Prefecture, financial/economic circles, and academic institutions. The ultimate goal of the project is to utilize the intellectual property of universities and other academic institutions to develop innovative technologies and new products, create new business ventures, and thereby contribute to the economic vitality of Hokkaido.

The Northern Campus Area of Hokkaido University (HU) now boasts a concentration of more than a dozen institutes/centers that belong to the university, government, or private sector: 6 university-owned institutes/centers, 4 public research institutes engaged in applied research, 2 organizations promoting industry-academia-government collaborations, and several other University affiliated R&D facilities.
Exchange Programs

• HUSTEP (Hokkaido University Short-Term Exchange Program)

HUSTEP is a ‘junior year abroad’ type program designed to provide students from affiliated universities with the opportunity to study for one academic year in Japan at Hokkaido University. Participants in this program take a wide variety of courses offered in English in the fields of Culture and Society, Environment, and Science and Technology. In addition, participants can pursue independent research under the guidance of a faculty member. Students also have a chance to study the Japanese Language. For more information, please use the following link: http://www.isc.hokudai.ac.jp and click on ‘Course Program’. For enquiries, email rkouryu@oia.hokudai.ac.jp

• Japanese Language & Culture Studies Program

The JLCS Program is a ‘junior year abroad’ intensive Japanese Language and Culture program designed for Japanese Majors from affiliated Universities to develop their Japanese skills and broaden their horizons about Japan. The course offers over 540+ hours of classroom language learning separated into three brackets.
1. Japanese Language Courses (300+ hours)
2. Japanese linguistics, culture and society courses
3. Directed study in students’ chosen field.
Students entering are expected to have the equivalency of the JLPT N3 or higher with a satisfactory academic record at their home University. For more information, please use the following link: http://www.isc.hokudai.ac.jp and click on ‘Course Program’. For enquiries, email rkouryu@isc.hokudai.ac.jp

International Graduate Degree Programs in English

• English Engineering Education Program (E³)

E³ is a Masters or Doctoral Engineering program where students can choose from almost all Engineering fields and also have the option to study outside their primary subject group. For more information on this unique program, please visit the following link: http://www.eng.hokudai.ac.jp/e3

• Graduate Program in Chemistry and Materials Science

This is a Doctoral program known as the Asian Graduate Schools program as it is conducted by 4 leading Universities across Asia. The program includes all major fields in chemistry and materials science and inter-university exchange is encouraged. For more information, please visit the following link: http://www.eng.hokudai.ac.jp/ags/

• Special Postgraduate Program in Bio-systems Sustainability

This is an innovative Masters or Doctoral program that provides a unique combination of study fields as food, health and environment to meet urgent needs in research and development for preservation and sustainable utilization of our limited resources. For more information please visit the following link: http://www.agr.hokudai.ac.jp/ge/admission

• Special Training Program for Veterinary Research

In this Doctoral program, students can research with English speaking professors within the fields of Biomedical Science, Disease Control, Veterinary Clinical Science, Environmental Veterinary Science or Applied Veterinary Science. For more information, please use the following link: http://www.vetmed.hokudai.ac.jp/PGD/cover_page.html

• International Graduate Program for Research Pioneers in Life-Sciences

This Doctoral Program is a Life Sciences program particularly focusing on new research fields such as biotechnology and nanotechnology. For more information, please use the following link: http://altair.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/grad/igp/

• International Graduate Program in the Natural History Sciences

In this Masters or Doctoral Program students can choose from a wide range of modern earth and planetary sciences including, atmospheric and oceanic science, earth science, and biogeochemistry. For more information, please visit the following link: http://www.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/pv/nhs/home/
Hokkaido University Sustainability Initiatives

Hokkaido University continues to reaffirm its position as an innovative leader in sustainability striving to achieve our goal of providing an exceptional learning and research environment that advances global sustainability. Currently, we are committed to fulfilling 4 initiatives over the coming years.

1. Hosting Sustainability Weeks event. Hokkaido University's Sustainability Weeks event, now in its 5th year, is an annual program of public seminars and international symposia intended to promote further research and education toward the achievement of a truly sustainable society. This event held in October, covers themes such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, sanitation and health, quality of life, sustainable production and consumption, and sanitation and health. All carbon emitted through this hive of activity is offset through the University’s Northern Forest Project, a 5 year carbon offset initiative aimed at maximizing CO2 absorption in our forests.

2. Fostering emerging talent to lead a Sustainable Future. Hokkaido University places special emphasis on fostering global perspectives in our students to advance sustainable practice well into the future. To this end, we initiate the HUIGS program (Hokkaido University Inter-department Graduate Study in Sustainability) to foster sustainability awareness amongst our student body. The Center for Sustainability Science also initiates the promotion of joint classes connecting Hokkaido University with partner institutions via the Internet.

3. Establishing a truly sustainable campus. We aim to combine the results of our cutting edge research with innovative ideas from our students to create a miniature society that is sustainable in every aspect. Via research, we intend to translate best practice into action on campus.

4. Leading Sustainability Networks and Consortiums. Collaboration is essential when we tackle problems that defy solutions by single states or regions acting alone. Hokkaido University will continue to exercise leadership to build networks with other organizations within Japan and overseas.

Sapporo Sustainability Declaration (S.S.D.)

In the spirit of the pioneering forefathers that established flourishing communities on this great northern island, Hokkaido University is devoted to promoting interdisciplinary research and education aimed at contributing to the sustainable development of humanity as a whole. The highlight of our substantial efforts has been the establishment of the Sapporo Sustainability Declaration, which was adopted by the presidents of research universities from 20 overseas universities, the United Nations University, and 14 Japanese universities at the inaugural G8 summit in 2008. We remain fully committed to fulfilling the Declaration that recognizes the responsibilities of universities in achieving global sustainability.

Sustainability Consortiums

ProSPER.Net, the network for the Promotion of Sustainability in Postgraduate Education and Research is a consortium of leading higher education institutions in Asia and the Pacific under the auspices of the United Nations University (IAS) that strives to bring about understanding and delivery of Sustainable Development at the postgraduate level. We are proud to be an active member and current Chair of the Board.

71 diplomas certified under the HUIGS program since 2008.

11,196 number of participants, Sustainability Weeks, 2010.

65,000 hectares of forest owned by Hokkaido University.

35 signatories of universities from around the world to sign the S.S.D.

20% targeted CO2 emissions reduction by 2020 from 2005 levels.

Dr Takashi Mikami
Executive Director
Office for a Sustainable Campus

‘The newly established Office for a Sustainable Campus was set up to collect ideas, suggestions, and recommendations for campus sustainability from faculties and other organizations and to develop action plans to achieve its goals. We look forward to the fruits it will produce for the future well-being of not only everyone at Hokkaido University but also in the wider community.’
Hokkaido University is proud to lead many large scale collaborative research projects. Here are four amongst a plethora of projects aiming to advance society through research and development:

1. **Working to detect and control epidemics**

   The Establishment of International Collaboration Centers for Zoonosis Control

   Eradication of infectious diseases such as the H1N1 influenza virus, SARS, and Ebola hemorrhagic fever, whose causative agents infect both humans and animals, is impossible. However, with the help of Hokkaido University’s International Collaboration Centers for Zoonosis Control, we can forecast outbreaks in order to prevent epidemics. This type of zoonosis control as well as global scale surveillance networks are vital to the prompt detection of infected domestic fowl and other carriers which enable their extermination in order to minimize the threat of pandemics. Through the establishment of such collaborative research networks, it is hoped that we can foster doctors specializing in zoonosis that are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to combat infectious diseases.

2. **Working to re-shape Japan’s borders**

   After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the disintegration of the former European communist sphere, there is an ever increasing importance of interaction between the Slavic and Eurasian spheres and their surrounding areas. This project aims to analyze border issues, territorial disputes, and cultural frictions prevalent throughout the region, by taking both actual facts and perceptions of the people into consideration. By inviting already established but fragmented researchers into a united forum, this project aims to create a conscious theoretical framework of border studies, while at the same time introducing useful sources of border related expertise from the hitherto untapped Eurasia and East Asia regions into the International Community. With its emphasis on creating a core of young border studies researchers from both within the university and beyond, this program aims to nurture the human and educational resources that are vital for policy recommendation in this field in the future.

3. **Strengthening our adaptive capacity toward climate change**

   With the advent of climate change, there are increasing cases of flooding caused by severe storms in urban areas, where drainage capacity is inadequate. Since water discharge often causes serious damage and loss of life, an early warning system for severe storms needs to be established with urgency. This joint research project with other research organizations seeks to reveal physical processes that cause severe storms in urban areas based on field observations, statistical analysis of past events, and data assimilation studies with high resolution numerical atmospheric models.

4. **Developing new medical treatments and discovering new pharmaceuticals**

   The Matching Program for Innovations in Future Drug Discovery and Medical Care of Hokkaido University is a groundbreaking endeavor aiming to develop innovative pharmaceutical and medical technologies for the benefit of future generations. Through the joint efforts of Hokkaido University and world-leading companies in Japan in an industry-university-government collaboration, Hokkaido University is establishing the Center for Innovations in Future Drug Discovery and Medical Care as a core research institution. Researchers from Japan and overseas as well as researchers educated through this program will conduct pharmaceutical R&D and educate on drug discovery and medical care that is needed by private companies and academia. The center will be an independent, world-class research center that will accelerate the development of beneficial drugs, as well as diagnostic and therapeutic technologies.
In 2010, Hokkaido University launched the Office of International Affairs (OIA) in an organizational restructuring effort that will further promote internationalization in education and research. The Office of International Affairs is now a ‘one-stop shop’ to get information and guidance on a wide range of issues that were previously separate in location and authority.

The OIA’s overall goal is to improve the international mobility of faculty members and students, to secure outstanding students and researchers from abroad, and to encourage mobility amongst Japanese students to overseas institutions.

Foreign Offices

Along with the Hokkaido University Beijing Office established in April 2006, Hokkaido University has opened an office in Seoul, Korea in April 2011. These offices seek to provide information and services to researchers and students, as well as support former international students in alumni associations’ activities. Additional offices in other parts of the globe are also being planned.

Exchange Agreements

Hokkaido University, which has had deep ties with other countries since its foundation, has consistently promoted academic, social and cultural exchange to contribute to the development of the international community. While expanding opportunities for Hokkaido University students to study and engage in research programs abroad, the university has also actively received international students and researchers, and the number of such acceptances is on the increase.

The significant presence of non-Japanese faculty members also gives the campus an international flavor. Exchanges between universities are thriving. We have 261 exchange agreements with overseas universities in 43 countries and regions on university-wide, as well as departmental levels. (as of May 2011)

Distribution Map of Partner Universities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Office of International Affairs Opened April 2011

Facilities include:
- Student Support Desk
- Student Counselling
- Student Study / Computer Room
- Student Lounge / Lunch room
- Great Lounge
- Prayer room
- Lecture Rooms
- Language Labs
- Conference Facilities
- Outdoor Private Patio
At Hokkaido University, there is more to student life than just lectures and tutorials. An abundance of opportunities await International Students to become part of the many activities available on campus.

Students can join one of over 250 clubs and societies, participate in sporting activities, visit the University’s museum, attend a university festival like Hokudai-Sai or just relax with friends in one of the many University eateries in between lectures. Hokkaido University offers a world of potential fun for students to obtain new experiences and to make new friends. This diversity means that every student can find something that suits them, and meet like-minded people to share their interests.

Joining a club, circle, or society is simple! During Orientation Week of each semester, students just need to sign up at the clubs’ booths.
Hokkaido is the northernmost region of Japan, consisting of one large island and 509 surrounding islands. Dotting the center of the island are mountain ranges and impressive volcanoes which are surrounded by coastal plains. The islands' total land mass area is 83000km², making up 22% of the total land mass of Japan.

Sapporo, meaning 'great dry river' in the Ainu language, is the capital of Hokkaido and Japan's fifth largest city. Sapporo is also one of Japan's youngest cities, and is unique in its block-style city layout. The seasonal climate in Sapporo consists of mild summers with plenty of sunshine, followed by cold, snowy winter weather and seasonal north-westerly winds. Each of the four seasons in Sapporo are very distinct and have something quite different to offer.

Sapporo boasts many instantly recognisable landmarks. Highlights include the historic Sapporo Beer Museum with its gigantic beer garden, the Old Hokkaido Government Building with its imposing architecture, Sapporo Dome which hosts many football and baseball matches and the city TV tower which overlooks beautiful Odori Park.

*For more details, visit: [http://en.visit-hokkaido.jp/](http://en.visit-hokkaido.jp/)

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**Florine Marie**

**Exchange Student (HUSTEP) 2011**

I love living in Hokkaido for the feeling to live in harmony with nature. Nowhere else is is your everyday life wonderfully affected by the seasons than in Hokkaido. You can also enjoy the freshest sushi in Japan, the funny Genghis Khan and a lot of other wonderful food specialities.
Hakodate

Picturesque Hakodate is home to Hokkaido University’s Faculty of Fisheries Science and is located on the south-west of the island. With a population of approximately 300,000 people, the coastal city is at the base of Mount Hakodate, which boasts amazing natural beauty. The view from the summit is renowned for having one of the most beautiful views in Japan, particularly at night.

Since it opened in 1935, the Hakodate Campus has had a proud history of being at the forefront of fisheries research and is one of the largest campuses of its kind in Japan.
The campus serves as an urban oasis full of natural beauty within the confines of the bustling city.

Not far from the city center is the Sapporo Campus and Botanical Gardens, which together cover 190 hectares and double as places of relaxation for locals. Often voted as the most beautiful campus in Japan, the Sapporo Campus boasts tree-lined boulevards and ponds, historical architecture, and bountiful wildlife. With extensive experimental forests throughout Hokkaido, the university is one of the nation’s largest with a total area of 66,000 hectares.