

Defining HU's Goals for the Fourth Mid-Term Objectives Period

As a university pursuing peace: University of World-Wide Repute
and Splendor for Years into the Future

27th January 2022 (Reiwa 4)



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Principles and Basic Policies

Hiroshima University is a national research university established in 1949 in Hiroshima, which is the first atomic-bomb stricken city in the history of humankind. Coupled with its five guiding principles of The Pursuit of Peace; The Creation of New Forms of Knowledge; The Nurturing of Well-Rounded Human Beings; Collaboration with the Local, Regional and International Community; and Continuous Self-Development, the University will set the following as its mission: contributing to the well-being of humankind by realizing a free and peaceful international community, while constantly reflecting on its expected roles in the world.

HU shall aim to establish a world-class research and education base that implements ‘Science for Sustainable Development (now being disseminated as a new philosophy for Peace Science)’, and shall play a pivotal role in regional co-creation, by attracting overseas universities to open their branches on the campus of HU as well as through the Town and Gown Initiative where the Town (the local citizens/local municipality) and the Gown (the University) collaborate with each other. In so doing, the University functions as a knowledge hub that brings the local and global communities together so as to ‘cultivate peace-pursuing, cultured individuals with an international mindset and a challenging spirit’, which contributes towards realizing a free and peaceful global society that promotes diversity.

In addition, in order to remain as ‘the university of world-wide repute and splendor for years into the future’ in an ever-changing society, HU will enhance its functionality and invest into the future proactively and autonomously in all of the following categories: education, research, social contribution, healthcare, and management of HU. In addition to promoting basic research based on the free ideas of researchers, HU will strengthen initiatives that contribute to the realization of carbon neutrality and Society 5.0 in order to solve social problems from the local to the global scale, and in particular to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), and hence shall constantly engage itself in creating new forms of wisdom and value with a vision of realizing lasting peace and many kinds of happiness (well-being) within each member of our society.

1. Education

Under the philosophy of pursuing peace, HU will attempt to realize a campus full of diversity, so that international students with various cultural backgrounds and ideas coupled with strong motivation and a curious mindset, will come and study at HU, regardless of their nationality, age, gender, or disabilities etc. By providing a learning and education environment that serves as a bridge between the local communities and the world, with each student pursuing proactive and flexible learning according to their personal goals as well as their unique personalities, HU aims to cultivate individuals who are equipped with a rich sense of humanity and wide-ranging education, excellent level of expertise and an ability to identify and solve problems, who can contribute to the realization of a global society that is capable of achieving free and peaceful sustainable development.

HU shall constantly reevaluate and improve the content, methods and implementation of education at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels so that it can deal with social changes in a timely manner, as well as advancing scientific technologies, and providing education that is internationally viable. In addition, HU intends to expand and enhance its

network of domestic/international universities and communities, while being committed to provide a new education environment that utilizes digital technology.

2. Research

While promoting discipline-based research under the four-graduate-school system established following the graduate school reorganization, HU aims to strengthen and develop research fields that can serve to enhance its presence in the international research network through its wide range of world-class research activities by developing interdisciplinary research and a learning environment that will identify solutions of global issues, as well as create new knowledge, which cannot be handled adequately within the conventional academic framework.

HU shall aim to become a world-class research hub, capable of continuously creating innovations that pave the way for solutions for local, national and global social issues by collaborating with outstanding research institutions in Japan and overseas. Furthermore, by enhancing the research environment in terms of both material and human resources, HU will enable its researchers to pursue unique research, driven by free-flowing thoughts that serve to bridge the entire process, i.e. from finding and defining social issues to coming up with solutions. In addition, as a university which supported the recovery process of Fukushima after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, which was caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake, HU shall aim to develop research center(s) which deal with healthcare for radiation disasters.

3. Creating a New Society together through Social Contributions and Town & Gown Innovations

By promoting academia-government-community collaboration, HU will create a research environment that regularly shares the entire process, i.e. from identifying social issues to coming up with solutions for them, which then translates into social implementation.

As a university committed to meeting the globally recognized SDGs, HU aims to:

- i) become a pioneer in the world in such a way that state-of-the-art solutions to global-scale issues can be implemented by local communities in Hiroshima Prefecture;
- ii) realize the ‘Carbon Neutral × Smart Campus 5.0 Declaration’ and build an ecosystem that can be sustained and is capable of constantly creating innovations that are globally competitive, through the help of the international Academia-Government-Industry partnerships.

At the same time, HU intends to contribute towards creating and revitalizing local communities through digital transformation, as well as planning to develop local towns/cities that are safe, secure and resilient, that can cope with threats from natural disasters and infectious diseases, etc.

By promoting research and education collaboration with local communities and industries, HU shall aim to cultivate individuals who can also take on active roles in their local communities, while still maintaining a global mindset and perspective.

Under the ‘Town & Gown’ initiative, the Town (which refers to the local people and

municipal government concerned) and the Gown (which refers to the University) collaborate with each other, and work together to achieve sustainable development of the region and betterment of the University. Under such initiatives, HU plays a pivotal role in the process of creating a town/city that is peaceful and comfortable to live in. It also aims to realize an inclusive society in which people from around the world can come and settle in, and where the residents respect and recognize each other regardless of their differences in personalities and roles.

Based on the ‘Comprehensive Agreement on Promoting Mutual Collaboration’ and other arrangements made between HU, Higashi-Hiroshima City, and several private companies, HU aims to establish a model that enables the local city and the University to grow together by developing a field of social experiment that encapsulates HU’s campus and its neighboring areas. These initiatives are towards realizing Society 5.0 and transforming Higashi-Hiroshima and its neighboring areas into Smart Cities.

While working towards achieving the SDGs, HU shall become a driving force of social change in Japan by 1) collaborating with companies and investors who are paving the way for the future; 2) promoting implementation of innovations in science and technology to provide solutions to issues faced by local communities; and 3) providing learning opportunities for promising students who are motivated to think seriously about and shape future society.

4. Establishing a global campus that is free from the constraints of time and space

As a hub of international exchange in education, research and social contribution, HU is determined to become an attractive university that is globally recognized. The University shall enable leading overseas universities to engage in their research and education activities at HU, while also conducting research and education overseas, with the goal of expanding its campuses across the world. Not only has HU succeeded in bringing the Thunderbird School of Global Management - Arizona State University - Hiroshima University Global Initiative to its campus, it has also established the Morito Institute of Global Higher Education in Beijing on the campus of Capital Normal University. What is more, by creating global communities through its overseas bases, HU intends to promote cooperation and collaboration between industry-government-academia and its stakeholders, including alumni who are active globally.

By effectively combining communication in the real world with that in the virtual world, HU intends to become an institution that is free from the constraints of time and space, providing an education, learning, and research environment that is secure, safe and long-lasting.

5. HU as a Research and Education Organization

HU shall fulfil its role as a world-class research and education center where it implements ‘Science for Sustainable Development’ while also committing itself to building a futuristic and innovative research and education organization.

HU shall implement flexible self-improvement that is not bound by a conventional frame of

reference by doing the following:

- i) establishing new graduate school(s) and a base organization which is responsible for implementing collaborative programs between the four reorganized Graduate Schools.
- ii) forming agreements with some section(s) of a given university and/or universities in and outside of Japan.
- iii) establishing a consortium with organizations such as the local governments in Japan.
- iv) reviewing the structure of research and education organization vis-à-vis its future direction.

6. HU Hospital

Based on its long-term vision, HU Hospital shall efficiently streamline its healthcare system, which entails i) further improving the quality of healthcare at the Hospital, ii) addressing issues such as aging population combined with diminishing numbers of children, changes in disease patterns, as well as new threats, such as infectious diseases. In addition, it shall establish a solid management base that guarantees high-quality healthcare and education, and that will improve work-life balance by further utilizing digital technology.

By recruiting and training human resources who are necessary to promoting the research and development of cutting-edge medical treatment, the Hospital shall promote the development of medical technology that is globally recognized and maintains a competitive advantage.

The Hospital shall work together with overseas hospitals and partner institutions to seamlessly support the process of career formation extending across postgraduate clinical training as well as life-long education, and therefore shall cultivate medical professionals who are global-minded and will grow to be forerunners of the world of medicine and healthcare.

7. Affiliated Schools (primary and secondary)

All of the affiliated schools shall cultivate individuals who will be able to think deeply about what the future of society should be like and act proactively to realize their ideals, through integration with HU. By utilizing the advantage of having a variety of schools (from kindergarten to high school) as well as by testing out pioneering and experimental curriculum such as STEAM education etc., the affiliated schools of HU shall lead educational reforms that will encompass both primary and secondary education in Japan.

8. Management

As an institution intending to become a top-class research and education hub that pursues ‘Science for Sustainable Development’, HU shall aim to build a stable management base so that it can maximize the function of its education, research, social contributions and healthcare under the leadership of the President, by diversifying its revenue sources and enhancing its cooperation between administrative and faculty members.

HU is committed to improving the outcomes of the students’ performance in their studies as well as the QOL (Quality of Life) of the administrative and faculty members. It will do this

by constantly reexamining whether or not the integrity of HU's governance system is embracing and encouraging all administrative and faculty members so that they can fulfil their respective roles while sharing HU's set vision, and also by constantly reviewing whether or not HU provides an environment where students, administrative staff and faculty members with varying backgrounds feel comfortable studying or working.

In addition, HU will use IR data to conduct evidence-based planning and evaluation, deepen its partnerships through interactive dialogue with a wide range of stakeholders, and improve its environment with the aim of strengthening its functions as a university open to society.

HU will aim to promote digital transformation including RPA (Robotic Process Automation) in which workflows are reexamined using digital technology.