Top Global University Project for a brighter future

Japan has long had a reputation for imper- 
vative and revolutionary thinking that often 
remained isolated and misunderstood. As we enter 
the 21st century, however, Japan is making a 
concerted effort to become an integral part of 
the global community.

Japan’s global heritage

Japan has a long history of innovation and 
reform, particularly in education and technology. 
Its contributions to fields such as ceramics, 
bonsai, and haiku poetry have been recognized globally. 
In recent years, Japan has been making significant 
advances in technology, including robotics, 
semiconductors, and renewable energy.

A key to the quest for true international 
competitiveness is the Top Global University 
Project (TGUP), launched in 2012 by the Japanese government. 
This initiative aimed to transform Japan’s higher education 
system into one that is globally competitive and 
able to produce world-class researchers and 
innovators. The project sought to create 
seven “Top Global Universities” that would serve as 
models for other institutions throughout the world.

The TGUP has been successful in attracting 
international students and faculty, and has 
increased Japan’s visibility on the global stage. 
It has also led to significant improvements in 
Japanese universities, with many now 
ranking higher in international university 
rankings. This highlights Japan’s commitment 
to becoming a truly global nation.

For Japan and the world

The global focus on Japan and its 
universities has been a double-edged sword. 
On the one hand, it has increased Japan’s 
international profile and helped to 
improve its economic standing. 
On the other hand, it has also 
put pressure on the country 
to deliver on its promises and 
meet the expectations of an 
increasingly globalized world.

Japan’s global education initiatives

Since the launch of the TGUP, Japan has 
seen a significant increase in foreign students 
attending its universities. In 2019, approximately 
260,000 foreign students were enrolled in Japanese 
universities, representing a 10% increase from the previous year.

One of the most significant 
achievements of the TGUP has been its focus 
on internationalization. By the end of 2019, 
over 30,000 foreign students were enrolled at 
Top Global Universities, with plans to increase 
this number to 50,000 by 2023.

Japan’s universities have also 
embraced the idea of a “global 
university model,” which 
emphasizes collaboration with 
other countries and regions. 
This has led to increased 
collaborative research projects 
and joint publications, as well as 
more international partnerships.

Japan’s universities have also 
been working to improve their 
internationalization efforts. 
This includes increasing the 
number of foreign students 
and faculty, as well as 
offering more courses 
in English and 
other foreign languages.

In conclusion

Japan’s global education 
initiatives have been 
successful in attracting 
foreign students and 
faculty, and in improving 
the country’s reputation 
abroad. However, there 
are still challenges to 
overcome, particularly 
in terms of ensuring that 
Japanese universities 
can compete on a 
global scale.

Japan’s universities must continue 
to work towards becoming 
true global players, 
offering high-quality 
education in a range of 
fields, and producing 
research that has 
international impact.

In doing so, Japan can 
contribute to the global 
community and 
play a significant role 
in shaping the future 
of education and 
research.

Inside This Issue

International Christian University ... B2
Sophia University ... B3
Commerzbank’s cooperation with the University of Burgundy ... B4
Voices from foreign students in Japanese universities ... B5

Monday, October 5, 2020

Monday, October 5, 2020
Creating a better future through liberal arts education

For more information on the university, visit https://www.icu.ac.jp/
Amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the implications of online classes and campus life have been significant. Sophia University, a renowned institution in Japan, has adapted to these changes, offering an environment for international cooperation, with a focus on global education and experiences.

### Improved teaching methods
Although students are currently stranded in their homes, the university has continued to offer a range of courses, both online and in-person. Terumichi, who invited them to the campus in the spring semester of 2021, admitting 10 students, believes that they should reconsider and reevaluate their methods of teaching.

### New programs ahead
Sophia University has seen many talented graduates move on to the field of international cooperation, offering their insights and sharing their experiences. The university is taking steps to further improve and transform the campus environment as a university located in the heart of Tokyo.

Sophia University President Yoshiaki Terumichi speaks to The Japan Times. ( bestowed to the editor)

### International Cooperation
Sophia University, in collaboration with the United Nations University, has launched a new program in international cooperation.

### Peace
“Sophia University has倡导ed for ‘an environment that enables our students to think on their own, as what the previous generation from any country, Sophia University will further pursue in order to nurture young people that can contribute to global society.”

### In conclusion
Terumichi said, adding that “They should give their thoughts to those who are left behind, and respect the poor and the outcasts of our world,”

Sophia University’s international students enjoy interacting on campus. (Sophia University)
Top Global Universities in Japan

Expectations toward universities and global talent

The business world has high expectations for global universities, better preparing students to contribute and lead in global society. We asked Corporate Officer and President of Discovery Japan about his experiences and hopes for universities in the global era.

Q: As the Japanese arm of a global company, what are your main concepts and vision?

A: Discovery has evolved over the last 30 years, a certain amount of leadership, for 30 years, a certain amount of leadership, and new out of college or you've been on the job

Q: What are your main concepts or phrases is powering people's passions through the medium of video. So, whether you like cars, whether you like sports, or entertainment or science, or anything else, we want to make sure we have some content for you.

Q: The university system in Japan is shifting its status from a global steering platform to help them recruit the kind of talent that they want, as it is in Canada, where we focus on giving students a chance to study in other countries, I believe that ICU has to

ICU contributed students, in terms of the three universities to attend each other's functions as well.

A: Discovering and developing students, in terms of their educational philosophies without losing their unique environment, curriculum and research opportunities in the future. Sophia University attracts students both domestically and internationally as one of Japan's top universities.

Q: The university system in Japan is shifting its status from a global steering platform to help them recruit the kind of talent that they want, as it is in Canada, where we focus on giving students a chance to study in other countries, I believe that ICU has to

When I look at talent in Japan, global is always one of my keywords. Can you inter-

A: In my current role at Discovery, we

Q: Our ePaper Edition is an enhanced digital replica of our newspaper, which you can read whenever and wherever you like. Enjoy your news-reading experience.

The Japan Times

Fulfilling student life at Sophia University

Name: Hye Min Khant
University: Sophia University
Faculty: Faculty of Liberal Arts
Department of Liberal Arts
Year: Third
Country: Myanmar

As a top international university in Japan, Sophia University attracts students both domestically and internationally as one of Japan's top universities. They make my university student life fruitful, worthwhile and full of opportunities.

Q: Our ePaper Edition is an enhanced digital replica of our newspaper, which you can read whenever and wherever you like.

Enjoy your news-reading experience.

Print subscribers who have activated their digital access can enjoy The Japan Times ePaper Edition, which offers new tools for reading a familiar format.

Our ePaper Edition is an enhanced digital replica of our newspaper, which you can read whenever and wherever you like.

Activate your digital access:
http://jtimes.jp/activate

Inquiries: Customer Service Desk, The Japan Times Email: jtsales@japantimes.co.jp

Customer Service Desk, The Japan Times

Enjoy your news-reading experience.

Print subscribers who have activated their digital access can enjoy The Japan Times ePaper Edition, which offers new tools for reading a familiar format.