

## Introduction

Launched as a subsidized project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in 2012, the Kyoto University Research Administration office (KURA) is committed to strengthening and facilitating research at Kyoto University and creating networks between academia, industry, and society.

## Message from KURA members

The ever-increasing need for collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue — both in Japan and around the world — requires a response that draws on a wide range of talent and expertise.

The Kyoto University Research Administration Office (KURA) was launched in April 2012 to provide an effective foundation of support to researchers, by bringing together professionals with diverse capabilities and backgrounds.

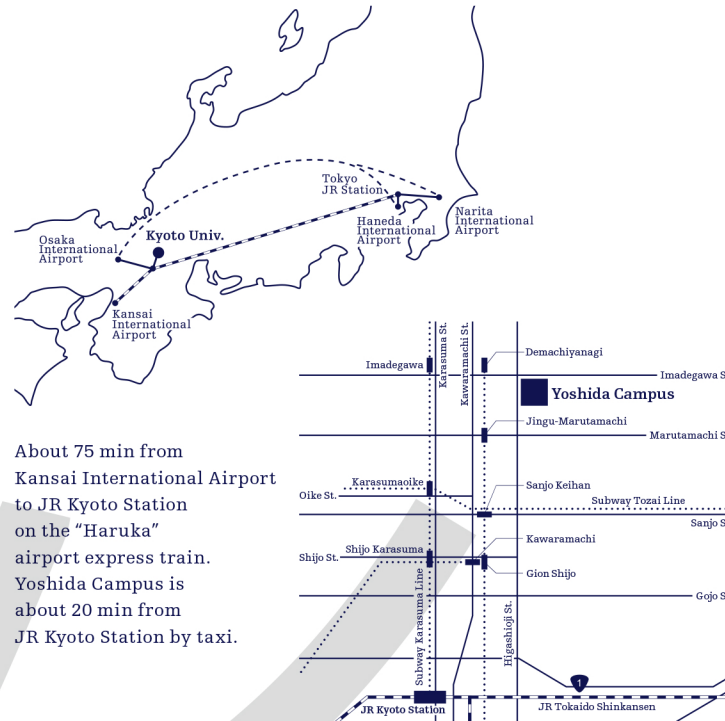
We are dedicated to cultivating an environment that enables researchers to excel and expand their horizons. Through our combined efforts, we aim to continue to contribute to the development of world-class knowledge and ideas.

## Kyoto

As the ancient capital of Japan, with over 1,200 years of history, Kyoto has a rich cultural heritage that draws visitors from around the world. Home to 17 World Heritage Sites, and world-famous temples, gardens, and traditional festivals, the city of Kyoto offers a unique blend of tradition and modernity, with a wealth of cultural treasures influenced by both the East and West.

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Kyoto  
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Connecting  
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# 京都大学 学術研究支援室

# Kyoto University Research Administration Office

## Connecting Research Worlds

### Our vision

To contribute to Kyoto University's excellence in academic achievement by cooperating with faculty and researchers, and become a leading research administration hub that brings together professionals with diverse capabilities.

### Our mission

- 1) To cultivate an environment that enables researchers to demonstrate their full potential and support the promotion of research.
- 2) To conduct data analysis relating to the promotion of research and provision of information.
- 3) To promote visibility of research activities and the dissemination of research results, with a focus on returning the benefits of research to society.
- 4) To support human resource development and the establishment of infrastructure directed towards strengthening the activity of URAs.

### Our team

More than 20 experienced University Research Administrators (URAs) and administrative staff are happy to assist you with any queries. Please do not hesitate to get in touch.

### Organizational structure



### Creating a supportive environment



KURA offers expert guidance and support to researchers, including support for grant applications, project planning and management, and public engagement, through cross-departmental and cross-institutional collaboration.

### Applying for research funds



KURA supports the acquisition of competitive funds by actively cooperating with departmental URAs, as well as relevant departments and organizations within the university, respecting the needs and interests of individual researchers.

### Research Funding in Japan at a Glance

One of the largest research-funding programs in Japan is Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, also known as Kakenhi. Managed by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Grants-in-Aid are awarded to researchers in fields across the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. In FY2014, the Kakenhi budget totaled ¥227.6 billion, comprising the majority of Japanese government funding for competitive research grants that year. In FY2013, the number of applications reached about 98,000, of which about 26,000 were selected. Currently, around 72,000 research projects nationwide are being supported by the Kakenhi program.

### Taking a global view



As part of Kyoto University's International Strategy known as the "2x by 2020" (Double by Twenty-Two) Initiative formulated in June 2013, KURA is engaged in promoting and facilitating international and interdisciplinary research. These activities are being supported by the establishment of three representative offices and centers in Asia and Europe, and projects underway in other parts of the world.

### About Kyoto University

Founded in 1897, Kyoto University is the second oldest national university in Japan. Today, the university has grown to encompass 10 faculties, 18 graduate schools, 14 research institutes, and numerous research and office facilities around the world. The outstanding quality of research at Kyoto University is testified by the groundbreaking achievements and activities of KU researchers and alumni, who include eight Nobel Prize laureates, two Fields medalists and one Gauss Prize laureate.

### Communicating research to the world



KURA works closely with researchers to help promote visibility of research activities and the dissemination of research findings to the wider world. In addition, KURA facilitates communication between academia and society through large-scale events such as KU Academic Day, with a focus on returning the benefits of research to society.

Examples of KURA's public engagement and outreach activities include:

- Organizing workshops for manuscript editing
- Publishing communications materials and websites such as K.U.RESEARCH, highlighting cutting-edge research at KU
- Conducting interviews for Forefronts of Research on the KU website
- Managing events such as KURA Hour at the KU Library

### Valuing skills and experiences



We support human resource development and the establishment of infrastructure directed towards strengthening the activity of URAs. We are engaged in:

- Supporting training programs and the development of URAs with a high level of knowledge and expertise
- Strengthening Kyoto University's URA network through close collaboration and exchange with departmental URAs
- Building networks with other URAs and relevant organizations both within and outside Japan

### Analyzing data



KURA supports the formulation of research promotion methods by exploring analytical methods relating to research capabilities and the research environment. By using the latest technologies, KURA is analyzing patterns and trends relating to academic policies and developing new insights into the use of research metrics.