

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we celebrate the enrollment of new students for masters and Ph.D. courses. To you, young scientists, welcome to Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology! It's my great pleasure to have you all here from various countries as new members of our university. You made the right choice, because we provide the best place to realize your dreams.

This university has established itself as a leading research-oriented academic institution in Japan for more than 130 years. Our basic principle is promoting intellectual innovation and cultivating global human resources for "the realization of sustainable society." And to approach this mission, we have aggressively developed agricultural and engineering researches, and created a lot of new fused grounds of study. And we have also developed active and flexible collaborations with diverse research groups of academia, industry or government sector to maximize the effectiveness of our cutting-edge researches and harvest its fruits. Furthermore, to bring up opinion leaders who work globally, we have involved in more than 80 international collaborative agreements and promoted the beneficial exchange of leading researchers and talented students. All these approaches are making this university a perfect environment for you to accelerate your potential and realize your dreams. Now, it's your turn. Your success in taking these advantages relies on the effort you will make from now on.

Now, let me talk about Andrew Carnegie. As you know, he is one of the world-famous industrialists, and also philanthropists. He was neither a scientist nor a teacher, but he had devoted his energy and funds to the advancement of education and scientific research, and supported establishment of a lot of libraries, universities and institutions, like Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington D.C. Anyway, he himself was a "man of effort". He said, "The average person puts only 25% of his energy and ability into his work. The world will take off its hat to those who put in more than 50% of their capacity, and the world will stand on its head for those few

and far between souls who devote 100%.” Of course, it’s not easy to keep applying full energy to your pursuit. But if you want to change this world, you need to lead it. If you want to solve the global problems like environmental degradation or energy issues with your research, and I believe we, the scientists, should do it, you need to be at the top of your research area. Be positive! You have ability, and you also have talent. And now, you took a chance in your hand to devote it for your dream. You should devote 100% to your research for yourself, your family and friends, all of us, and our future generation. Can you see? In front of you, there is a bright future as a world-leading scientist who can make our better future, a sustainable society. Your dream, your enthusiasm, your effort, your persistence, your knowledge, your challenge, all of your energy and ability will make the path to that future.

Before I close this speech, I’d like to mention one more thing. To accomplish your challenge, you need a strong body, as well as strong will. Especially the students from abroad will find a lot of difficulties in living in a different culture. Take good care of yourself, and take a look around you. People in this room will be your friends and your colleagues. They are your best source of power to make the most of your extraordinarily valuable experience here in Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology.

I hope you can enjoy your university life, and spread your wings for your bright future and for our beautiful world.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Tadashi Matsunaga
President