

2016 年秋入学式祝辞

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, at Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, we have 60 young and promising scientists from various countries, as new members; 22 of them for masters and 38 for Ph.D. courses. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all here.

You are about to start new challenges to pursue your research and to be top-level global scientists. The way you chose will be tough, but I am sure it will also lead you to a worthwhile life. This is because science can provide the best solution to the problems that threaten the very existence of nature and human beings, and it also helps creating environmentally-sustainable societies. This might be some sort of endless challenge. As time changes, people and society also change. And the problems become more complicated, or even, new problems appear and spread, from somewhere, one after another. As new technologies are created and new findings emerge, we find more and more things to figure out. An American physicist, Dr. John Bardeen, during his 2nd Nobel Prize speech in 1972, expressed himself in this fashion:

“Science is a field which grows continuously with ever expanding frontiers.”

The agenda of issues that science has to deal with will continue expanding. Therefore, we, the scientists, should keep on working

continuously, day by day, decade after decade, collaborating and cooperating among ourselves internationally. To keep our legacy alive, the scientific society needs to nurture young and talented researchers like you, to succeed us. I believe you can find joy in exploring new frontiers and going beyond all the research that exists now. So get ready to go into the unknown to help save nature and humanity along with us. We will give you the best we can in terms of support and opportunity to accelerate your potential.

Since its establishment, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology has focused on the globalization of our researches and we have exerted ourselves to create and maintain a fully internationalized atmosphere, to bring up men and women of wisdom who can work globally. We have succeeded to develop active collaborations with a great number of domestic and foreign research groups in the academia, the industry or government sector to maximize the effectiveness of our cutting-edge researches and harvest its fruits. The open mind necessary to create new attractive curriculums and programs for global research is one of our remarkable characteristics, and we have invited or employed many foreign researchers in these researches. All of our efforts are for the one and only shared aim: promoting our scientific research for intellectual innovation with high and accurate level, and cultivating global human resources for “the realization of sustainable society”, that is the best future we can hope. If you devote 100% of your focus to your research having in mind yourself, your family and friends, and the future generations, you might fly higher than you expect. We know you have enough talent for it.

Before I close this speech, I would like to mention one more thing. To accomplish your challenge, you need a healthy mind and a healthy body, combined with a strong will. Especially, the students from abroad will find many difficulties living in a different culture. Take good care of yourselves. Now, take a look around you. People in this room will be your friends, your colleagues, and most importantly, your partners in your personal and professional life. They are the best source of energy to make your experiences here priceless.

Once again, I would like to extend my cordial welcome to you, and I hope you can enjoy your university life, spreading your wings for a bright future and for our beautiful world. We are certain of your success.

Good luck and thank you for your attention.