



Inter-University Research
Institute Corporation
**National
Institutes for
the Humanities**

大学共同利用機関法人
人間文化研究機構

GUIDE BOOK
2016 - 2017

NIHU

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<http://www-e.nihu.jp/e/>

Introduction from the President

Based on the vision and mission, we at the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) aim to creatively rebuild the knowledge and traditions that humankind has heretofore developed in the context of different societies and customs, transcending boundaries between academic disciplines, so that we can advance new paradigms for research into human culture, and contribute to our continued survival and coexistence.

This year marks the first year of our Third Medium-Term Plan (FY2016-2021), over the course of which all six of the inter-university research institutes* that make up NIHU (see following page for details) will work together to develop academic disciplines that are not bound by conventional fields of study and to create an organization that is capable of functioning as a world-leading research facility in each area of specialization. We intend to develop mechanisms to help strengthen university functions and facilitate the mobility of faculty members, and to give greater visibility to the results and the importance of research on the humanities and human cultures, as we do our level best to give something back to society.

During the first year of this process, FY2016, we are launching three types of NIHU Transdisciplinary Project aimed at achieving real academic progress. We intend to reconfigure the organizational and operational structure of NIHU in order to strengthen the functionality of the organization itself. At the heart of this effort will be the Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation and the Center for Information and Public Relations. We will also be establishing a Strategy Planning Committee in order to improve governance, and seeking input from a wide range of outside experts in an effort to strengthen governance capabilities.

Rather than six institutes working separately, such mechanisms will enable us to push full steam ahead towards achieving our goals, embodied in the slogan “diversity united.”

September 2016

National Institutes for the Humanities
Inter-University Research Institute Corporation

President **TACHIMOTO Narifumi**



✳ Inter-University Research Institutes

Inter-university research institutes are research institutes run by a community of researchers, a world-class concept developed uniquely in Japan. Rather than working within the framework of individual universities, their role is to serve as a core facility for joint use and collaborative research between researchers based at universities and other institutions nationwide, as a hub for international “brain circulation,” and as a focal point combining different academic disciplines and creating new ones.

NIHU's Vision and Mission

Amongst the most important and urgent issues that we face in the 21st century are how humankind can coexist with nature, and how human beings should interact with one another around the world. Humanities research potentially holds the key to fundamental solutions to these issues. Rather than relying solely on science and technology, we need to reassess our approach to human cultures if we want to develop healthy and affluent societies, and NIHU needs to play a leading role in that process.

Here at NIHU, we believe we have a duty to creatively rebuild knowledge and traditions accumulated by humankind to date, transcending boundaries between academic fields, societies and customs, so that we can set out new paradigms in research into human cultures, with the aim of solving problems and genuinely enriching people's lives. To achieve this vision, we have set out a four-pronged mission (see below) shared by all six of the institutions that make up NIHU, underlining their roles and responsibilities; integration, excellence in research and education, advancement of joint use and collaborative research, and cooperation with and contribution to society.

Integration

NIHU will recognize a diverse range of values, set out comprehensive methodologies for understanding humanity and cultures, and contribute to social and creative development.

Excellence in Research and Education

NIHU will serve as a central global research facility, and contribute to the creation of education and research organizations capable of responding to social and cultural change.

Advancement of Joint Use and Collaborative Research

NIHU will help to strengthen and promote universities' international research capabilities, improve research conditions, and create an environment that facilitates the movement of faculty members.

Cooperation with and Contribution to Society

NIHU will strengthen its information and promotional capabilities in order to disseminate the results of humanities research, and will work on projects designed to contribute to society and provide information in cooperation with industry and other entities.

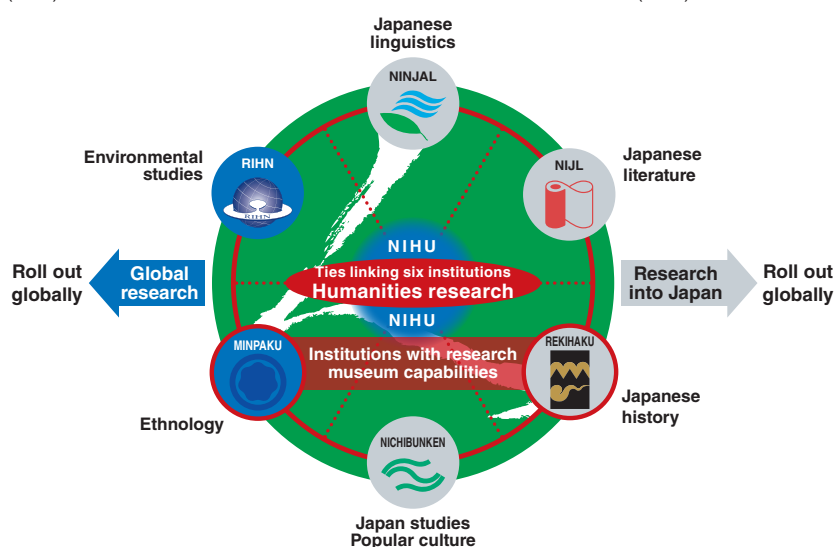
Organizational Structure of NIHU

As an inter-university research institutes corporation, NIHU is headed by a President chosen by the academic community to serve as chief executive. The President is assisted by a number of Executive Directors. Important matters concerning the running of the organization are discussed by three committees; the Strategy Planning Committee, the Administrative Council, and the Education and Research Council. There is also an Advisory Board, consisting of the President and Executive Directors of NIHU and the heads of the six other institutions, whose role is to discuss matters relating to cooperation between NIHU and individual institutes.

In an effort to further strengthen governance at NIHU, we have established two new organizations in 2016, namely the Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI) and the Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP).

CTI will strengthen mutual cooperation with the six institutions, and will spearhead NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects in conjunction with universities and research institutions in Japan and other parts of the world.

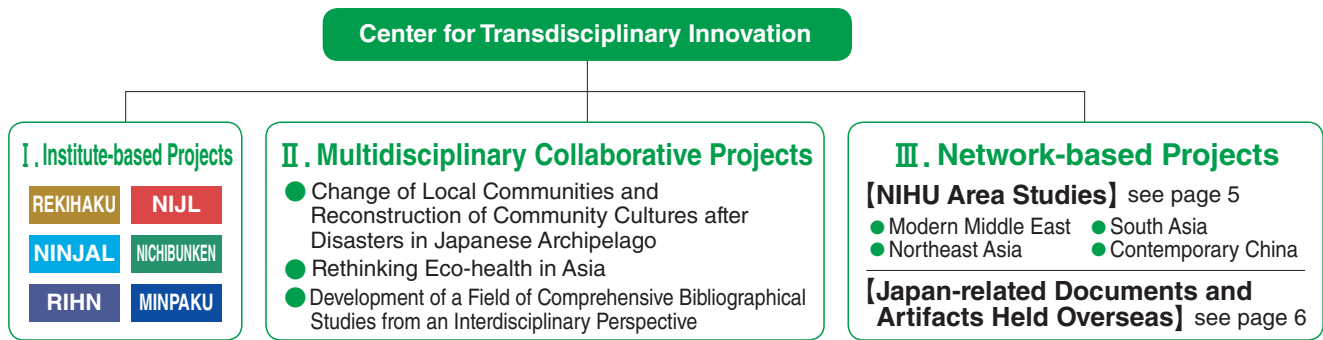
CIP will visualize research resources, including information from researchers affiliated with NIHU and their research results as well as important documents and materials in the possession of the six institutions, with the aim of bringing together intelligence relating to human cultures.



Coordination between six institutions

Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI)

CTI will work with universities, research facilities and local communities in Japan and overseas on an organizational level, to implement NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects designed to shed light on a range of modern-day issues, over the course of six years from FY2016. The aim is to create a new value structure for human culture. Research results from NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects will be made widely available to academic communities and the general public, through channels such as publications, databases, images and exhibitions. It also plans to utilize results within new university education programs. There are three types of NIHU Transdisciplinary Project; (I) Institute-based Projects, (II) Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects, and (III) Network-based Projects (NIHU Area Studies, and Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: NIHU International Collaborative Research and Utilization).



NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects



I. Institute-based Projects

The six institutions will set out priority research themes in line with their respective missions, and then work with domestic and overseas research institutions and researchers to conduct challenging research aimed at furthering their specialist areas.

National Museum of Japanese History (Rekihaku)

Constructing Integrated Studies of Cultural and Research Resources, and Renovating Sharing Infrastructures of Research Resources in Japanese History and Cultures

The project offers unique insights into a variety of studies and Japanese historical resources, through multidisciplinary collaboration with universities, museums, and other institutions. "Integrated Studies of Cultural and Research Resources" approaches Japanese historical resources through interdisciplinary study using information infrastructure. Classifying various cultural and research materials with an interdisciplinary scope can lead to more advanced sharing infrastructure and further cooperative studies. The project will contribute to the advancement of a new academic discipline of Japanese history.

National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL)

Diverse Language Resources and the Consolidation of Japanese-language Studies

In collaboration with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas, the NINJAL project aims to build large-scale corpora that serve as basic data for Japanese language research and for provision to universities and research communities. They include language resources from written and conversational Japanese, classics, dialects, and learners' Japanese. This wide array of language resources will be analyzed linguistically from a variety of angles, with a view to bringing together different fields of research to develop a new model for comprehensive research into the Japanese language. The research results will be published through printed and electronic media on an international scale.

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN)

Transformation Towards Sustainable Futures in Complex Human-Nature Systems in Asia

RIHN has three practical programs aimed at creating possible future societies based on the complex human-nature systems mainly in Asia. Asia is a hive of diverse natural environments, cultures, values and outlooks, and a hot spot for global environmental issues and economic change. RIHN research programs therefore involve 1) Transition to a society that can flexibly deal with environmental change; 2) Fair use and management of diverse resources; 3) Design of wellbeing-enhancing living spaces and lifestyles.

National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL)

Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts

Using historical Japanese texts in general as a resource for research, the institute is working with universities and research institutions all over the world to carry out integrated research that extends beyond the confines of humanities to include other fields such as natural science. In terms of laying foundations for research, it is also scanning around 300,000 Japanese pre-modern texts, and establishing a database that will combine the resulting data with existing bibliographic information.

International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken)

Historical and International Research into Popular Culture to Pursue New Images of Japan

With a focus on historical and international studies of popular culture, the center is working to grasp comprehensively the foundations and diversity of Japanese culture, and to contribute to the creation of new images of Japan/Japanese culture as part of an effort to structurally and comprehensively re-examine Japanese culture as a whole. It is also collecting and digitizing a wide range of related materials for databases, and establishing a mixed-media audio-visual archive, so as to provide universities and institutions in Japan and overseas with research resources and educational materials.

National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku)

Info-Forum Museum for Cultural Resources of the World

The museum is conducting collaborative research with researchers from universities, museums and research institutions in Japan and overseas, and with people from local communities, into ethnological materials in its collection, and is providing multilingual access to the results. It is also establishing a database with forum capabilities, so that people can exchange opinions regarding the relevant information online. The aim is that people all over the world will use this database to share and make joint use of information relating to cultural resources. The museum is currently in the process of populating the database with relevant materials on subjects including North America, Taiwan and Ryukyu, and the Aynu.



The aim of these projects is for the six institutions that make up NIHU to work together based on their specialist areas, including history, literature, language, regional research and the environment, and to cooperate with universities, research institutions and local communities in Japan and overseas, to develop new systems for research into human culture and create new disciplines by combining existing fields.

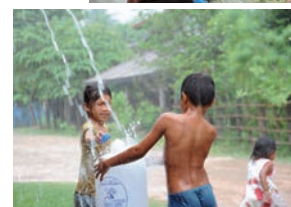
► **Change of Local Communities and Reconstruction of Community Cultures after Disasters in Japanese Archipelago**

Representatives: Junichi Koike (Rekihaku) [lead institution], Nobuko Kibe (NINJAL) [lead institution], Shingo Hidaka (Minpaku), Koichi Watanabe (NIJL), Junpei Kubota (RIHN)
The diversity of community cultures in Japanese Archipelago has been threatened by the change of local communities and disasters. The project aims to shed light on various issues brought forth by such current state from multiple perspectives including language, resource preservation, symbolic representational system and environmental protection, and reconstruct community cultures through practical discussions with people of the communities regarding the local community and development of research base.



► **Rethinking Eco-health in Asia**

Representatives: Hein Mallee (RIHN) [lead institution], Jie Chen (NIJL), Atsushi Nobayashi (Minpaku)
Current conceptualizations of health are mostly based on biomedical approaches and rooted in research on disease rather than positive health. Ecohealth is an emerging area of research that explores health concepts in daily life as they relate to ecology, lifestyles and livelihoods, and food culture, against a backdrop of rapid social and environmental change in Asia. The project aims to undertake interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, in particular bringing a humanities and human culture perspective to the table in understanding evolving health, by looking at historical concepts of health and contemporary case studies of multi-stranded social and environmental change. The end goal is to establish a research network on Ecohealth across Asia.



► **Development of a Field of Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective**

Representatives: Keiichi Tanikawa (NIJL) [lead institution], Shigeji Ogura (Rekihaku), Tomokazu Takada (NINJAL), Nanyan Guo (Nichibunken)
Books passed down from ancient times (Japanese pre-modern texts) contain a wealth of information that extends beyond their actual content, including details about paper, ink and binding. As well as reading books and learning about Japanese literature, we need to coordinate with other disciplines, analyze books from a more comprehensive standpoint, and question the very meaning of books, so that we can learn more about their potential and unearth knowledge held by our ancestors. As the lead institution, NIJL will be spearheading an overall project coordinating with other units and with the institution-based Basic Research Project "Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts," with the aim of consolidating research results into general educational programs and establishing "comprehensive bibliographical studies" as a new academic discipline.



III. Network-based Projects

The aim of these projects is to set out important issues for examining Japan in a global context, and exploring societies and cultures, and to form networks with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas, as part of comprehensive research across a wide range of different fields. Network-based Projects consists of Area Studies, and Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas.



NIHU Area Studies

The aim is to conduct research into four regions where there is currently a lack of comprehensive research, in spite of their importance to Japan from a cultural, social, political, economic and environmental standpoint, in order to improve mutual understanding between Japan and each of the relevant regions.

● Northeast Asia

Main theme: **Regional Structure and Its Change in Northeast Asia: in Search of the Way to Coexist from the Point of View of Transborderism**

Representatives: Kazunobu Ikeya (Minpaku), Akihiro Iwashita (Hokkaido University), Hiroki Oka (Tohoku University), Hiroko Imamura (University of Toyama), Atsushi Inoue (Shimane University)

"Northeast Asia" is a regional concept that includes Japan, China, Russia, Mongolia, South Korea and North Korea. It is important in terms of resolving a whole host of issues occurring between these countries. The aim of this research is to map out a vision for coexistence in the region, based on an understanding of the various phenomena surrounding crossing borders as well as sources of social and economic conflict.



● Modern Middle East

Main theme: **Towards a Pluralistic and Multi-Valued Society: People and Cultures of the Middle East in the Age of Global Change**

Representatives: Tetsuo Nishio (Minpaku), Nobuaki Kondo (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), Masayuki Akahori (Sophia University), Yasushi Tonaga (Kyoto University), Hiroshi Nawata (Akita University)

This research project aims to develop new methodologies for Middle East Studies that would allow us to conceptualize the ways in which individuals related to the world. In the age of the global transformation of nature, society, and media, how do the individuals of the Middle East obtain information, accumulate knowledge as well as utilizing them as resources? We strive to examine the resocialization of individuals in relation to the ways in which they create their social spaces through inclusion and exclusion of multiple values.



● South Asia

Main theme: **Structural transformation in globalizing South Asia – Integrated area studies for sustainable, inclusive and peaceful development**

Representatives: [Chief Representative] Koichi Fujita (Kyoto University), [Facility Representative] Tatsuro Fujikura (Kyoto University), Minoru Mio (Minpaku), Tsukasa Mizushima (The University of Tokyo), Kazuo Tomozawa (Hiroshima University), Toshie Awaya (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), Mitsuya Dake (Ryukoku University)

The aim of this research is to foster a comprehensive understanding of contemporary South Asia region and its future prospects, including society, culture, politics, economy, and the environment by interdisciplinary and long-term approaches. It is also aimed at encouraging solution-oriented approaches to the real-world problems toward sustainable, inclusive, and peaceful development of the region, based on the integrated, wide-ranging, and deep insights attained by area specialists.



● Contemporary China

Main theme: **Interdisciplinary research into modern China – Perspectives on a new superpower**

Representatives: Satoshi Amako (Waseda University), Yoshihiro Ishikawa (Kyoto University), Nobuo Takahashi (Keio University), Tomoo Marukawa (The University of Tokyo), Junpei Kubota (RIHN), Akio Tsuchida (Toyo Bunko), Goro Takahashi (Aichi University), Masaharu Hishida (Hosei University), Hiroyuki Kato (Kobe University)

The aim of this research is to analyze a number of key points, speculate on solutions and look ahead to the future of relations between Japan and China. The key points are (1) the current situation in China, including the country's rapid economic growth, strategy on proactive diplomacy, and increasingly powerful military, (2) domestic issues, including growing divisions internally, corruption, the rise of consumerism, damage to the environment, food safety, and unemployment, and (3) significant changes and complexities in Japan-China relations due to China's increasing prominence. Research will also take a general look at how these factors relate to one another, to arrive at overall picture of China as a new superpower.



Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: NIHU International Collaborative Research and Utilization

There are countless invaluable resources relating to Japan in Europe and the Americas, but information on the whereabouts of those resources is not available, due to a shortage of local researchers specializing in Japanese culture, or because the resources are in private collections. In other cases no detailed research has been carried out to determine the value of the relevant resources. The aim of this project is to conduct research into a wide range of resources such as these, including documents, audio and artifacts, and to put the results to good use in Japan and overseas, in an effort to encourage overseas researchers to specialize in Japan and to promote a better understanding of Japanese culture.

The Archives of the Dutch Factory in Hirado: Reconstruction, Research, and Analysis

Representative: Frederik Cryns (Nichibunken)

This project examines the correspondence of the Dutch Factory in Hirado, Japan (1609-1633) in the possession of the National Archives of the Netherlands. Together with our international partners, we will publish annotated transcriptions and Japanese translations of these sources, in order to make them available to researchers in the related disciplines. A special effort will be made to introduce the historic significance of the archives and the research results in a comprehensive way to the general public through international symposiums, exhibitions, a website, an educational program and publications.

Insights into Japan-Related Overseas Artifacts and Documents of the Nineteenth Century in Europe through Research and Use: Developing the Foundation for International Collaboration in Transmitting Japanese Culture

Representative: Kaori Hidaka (Rekihaku)

The aim of this project is to investigate into resources relating to nineteenth century Japan that exist throughout Europe, and to make effective use of them through public access to the databases, exhibitions, symposiums and educational programs. The investigation will be conducted in Vienna, UK and Switzerland in collaboration with museums and universities there. In Vienna, the traditional approach to surveying resources will be highlighted, while the highlight will be on the interactive approach to exhibition development in UK, and on human resource development in Switzerland. The three together will lay the foundation for international collaboration in transmitting Japanese culture.

Research, Conservation and Utilization of the Marega Collection Preserved in the Vatican Library

Representative: Kazuo Otomo (NIJL)

In 2011, over 10,000 documents relating to Christians in the Japanese province of Bungo, collected by Father Mario Marega, were discovered at the Vatican Library. The aims of this project are to promote the academic significance and potential of these documents, and to provide researchers in Japan and overseas with more information about methods of studying resources on Japan, through conducting research into these documents, providing support for the Vatican Library to establish an archive management system, and publishing the collected documents online.

Survey, Study and Use of the Japan-related Documents and Artifacts in North America: Socio-historical Approach to 'Modern Overseas Material Informatics'

Representative: Yoshiyuki Asahi (NINJAL)

This project focuses on materials related to Japanese society, focusing on modern Japanese immigrants in North America. It aims to lead to new material informatics surrounding immigration and about audio and video materials related to Japanese ancestry that have been increasingly at risk of degradation and disposal, together with the data salvage and evaluation of materials.

Coordination between projects to make effective use of research results

Representative: Shigemi Inaga (Nichibunken)

In collaboration with four projects, this project aims to plan seminars, exhibits, and other events concerning Japan-related resources that combine different disciplines, and to promote their implementation in Japan and overseas. Providing information utilizing the results of these researches will encourage the next generation of young scholars overseas specializing in Japan, further comparative research based on international cooperation, and facilitate mutual understanding of Japanese culture on an international level.

Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP)

The aim of CIP is to digitize a comprehensive range of academic research resources relating to human culture, so as to encourage more universities and researchers in Japan and overseas to make use of them. It is also focused on providing people in Japan and overseas with information on materials held by NIHU, as well as researchers and research results, and is working to strengthen interactive communication with the public, in an effort to give something back to society in terms of research results.

Information Division

CIP is working to establish, operate and expand a shared access platform for a researcher database and a research results database (NIHU repository) that will enable users to conduct extensive searches and access the wide range of humanities-related research data that NIHU has built up to date. As part of a project to enable advanced collaboration on research resources meanwhile, CIP will be developing and operating a range of search systems and analytical tools to facilitate the shared nationwide and international use of research resources relating to human culture, and is working to promote the use and introduction of such systems.

Research Resource Databases

Type of database	Outline
NIHU repository	Cloud-based NIHU repository giving users comprehensive access to research papers from the six NIHU institutions (operated via the National Institute of Informatics' JAIRO Cloud system)
Researcher's achievements database	Comprehensive database containing information on researchers throughout NIHU http://nrd.nihu.jp/
Advanced collaboration systems (formerly resource-sharing systems)	Comprehensive systems aimed at promoting collaboration between institutions and Universities

Advanced Collaboration on Research Resources

NIHU launched a project aimed at sharing research resources in FY 2005, in an effort to promote shared access to the institute's accumulated research resources within the academic community. We have also launched and operated a range of research resource sharing systems since FY 2008.

In FY 2016, we renamed research resource sharing systems "advanced collaboration systems" and set to work developing mechanisms in line with public demand, aimed at expanding our activities to date, promoting shared access, and enabling advanced collaboration on resources beyond the confines of individual institutions. We intend to operate these advanced collaboration systems on a three-way integrated basis alongside a repository of information on research results to date, and data on researchers themselves, so that we can effectively share all of NIHU's resources, including people, papers and documents.

Advanced Collaboration Systems

Project	Outline
Integrated Retrieval System nihulNT	Comprehensive search engine for databases operated by the six NIHU institutions as well as organizations such as the National Diet Library and the Center for Integrated Area Studies, Kyoto University (more than 5.5 million records across over 160 databases as of the end of February 2016)
Time-space analysis system GT-Map, GT-Time	GIS analysis-compatible basic tool for simple analysis of data on time and space
Listing System of Personal Names	Tool to enable users to search and locate information on nihulNT using individual names
Portal site for Japanese Studies	English Resource Guide for Japanese Studies and Humanities in Japan Portal site designed to provide international information on humanities research in Japan, incorporating details of Japanese humanities resources in English

Public Relations Division

In addition to gathering information, including trends and results from humanities research as well as NIHU's extensive and wide-ranging collection of research resources, CIP also aims to give something back to society and researchers in Japan and overseas by providing information and organizing PR activities, including publishing research data, organizing public symposiums, holding regular press conference, and promoting industry-academic collaboration. The aim is to show people just how important it is to study humanities and learn about human culture, in an effort to genuinely enrich their everyday lives. CIP also organizes seminars and other such events overseas as well as in Japan, in order to share information on Japanese culture and the latest trends in research in Japan with the rest of the world.

NIHU Symposiums

NIHU organizes symposiums in order to share the comprehensive research resources and results it has accumulated to date field of human culture with the general public.

- 26th Symposium "The Middle East in Distress"
April 25, 2015 Ibuka Auditorium, Waseda University (Tokyo)
- 27th Symposium "Siebold's Introduction of Japanese Culture: Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of His Death"
January 30, 2016 Yakult Hall (Tokyo)
- 28th Symposium "Niche of Yokai"
June 11, 2016 Yurakucho Asahi Hall (Tokyo)

The 29th Symposium is scheduled to take place in Tokyo on October 15, 2016, and will be based on the theme of "Japanese food."



January 13, 2016
3rd Press Conference



27th Symposium "Siebold's Introduction of Japanese Culture: Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of His Death"

Publications

▶ NIHU Magazine

NIHU Magazine is a bilingual publication containing articles in Japanese and English on subjects such as the latest research trends, results and activities at NIHU. It is published on a regular basis via the NIHU website. http://www.nihu.jp/publication/nihu_magazine

▶ Ningen Bunka

Published via the NIHU website, Ningen Bunka (Humanities) serves as a record of subjects covered during NIHU symposiums. The first issue was produced following a public lecture and symposium to mark the establishment of NIHU in 2004. The latest issue, entitled "The Middle East in Distress" (Vol.25), was published on May 1, 2016.

▶ HUMAN

Subtitled "the forest of knowledge", *HUMAN* is a general publication on the humanities, edited by NIHU and published by Heibonsha.

▶ Twitter / Facebook / YouTube

We also provide information on NIHU via Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

Twitter <https://twitter.com/NIHUofficial>
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NIHUofficial>
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/NihuJP>



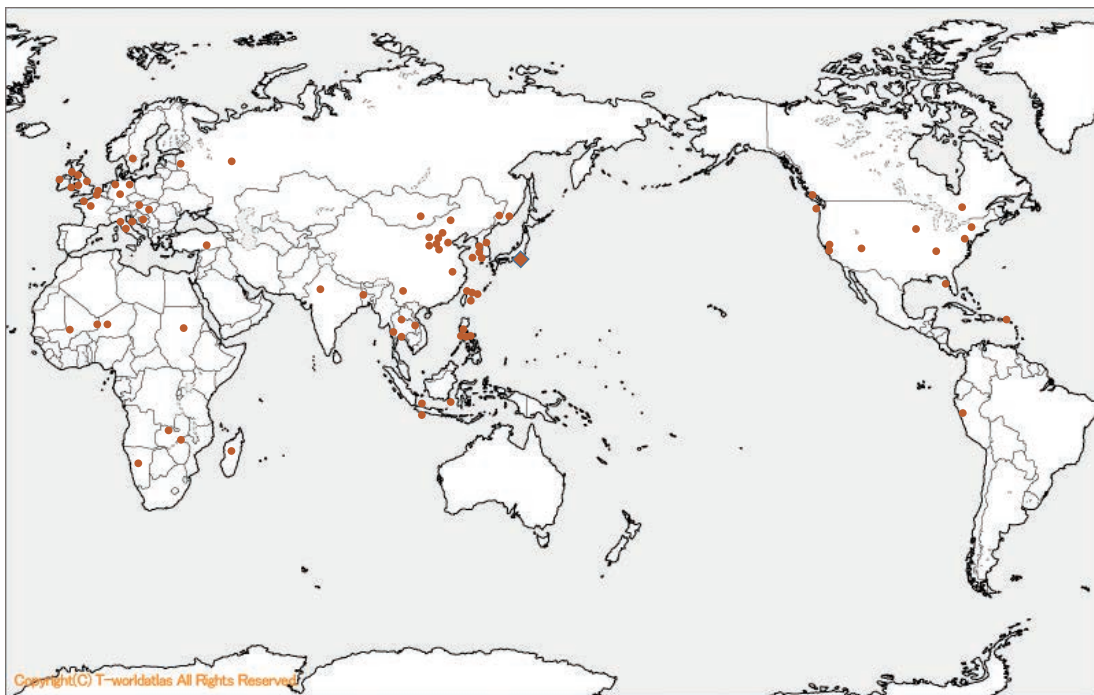
International Collaboration

We aim to establish cooperative research ties with a whole host of overseas research institutions engaged in humanities research. As well as hosting foreign researchers and sending researchers overseas, that includes actively organizing and providing speakers for international symposiums in other countries.

As part of an agreement with the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), in FY 2015 we provided placements and guidance for three young graduate researchers from other countries who were conducting research specializing on Japan. We continue to contribute to the development of overseas researchers through activities such as these.

*Researchers who received placements in FY2015 based on an agreement with AHRC

Agreements with Overseas Research Institutions



Number of Visiting Research Fellows

	National Museum of Japanese History	National Institute of Japanese Literature	National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics	International Research Center for Japanese Studies	Research Institute for Humanity and Nature	National Museum of Ethnology	Total
Visiting Research Fellows	43	9	83	72	154	65	426

(2014)

Overseas Research Facilities

We establish overseas research facilities (liaison offices) with the aim of promoting international collaborative research with NIHU, and effectively providing people in other countries with information on research into Japan and Japanese culture. We have established a NIHU liaison office at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences in FY 2016, and are planning to establish an office in Paris too.

Opening Ceremony of NIHU liaison office at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences (Jul, 2016)



NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies

The NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies recognizes the achievements of outstanding Japanese studies by scholars from overseas. The prize was established in 2011 with the support of YKK Corporation in order to encourage and promote Japanese studies overseas. It is presented to researchers for outstanding achievement in scholarship on literature, language, history, folklore/ethnology, culture, the environment or other fields relating to Japan.



- The 5th NIHU Prize
Alexander Vovin
(Professor of École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)



December 9, 2015

- Past NIHU Prize
1st Ronald Toby
(Professor of University of Illinois)



January 11, 2012

- 2nd Augustin Berque
(Professor of École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales)



January , 2013

- 3rd LIN Wen Yueh
(Emeritus Professor of National Taiwan University)



December 10, 2013

- 4th Irmela Hijiya-Kirschnerit
(Professor of the Freie Universität Berlin)



December 11, 2014

Overseas Symposiums



TRACING CHRISTIANITY IN EARLY MODERN JAPAN

The Marega Collection in the Vatican Library and its Value for International Co-operation

September 12, 2015 Vatican Library, Rome

Research Projects

Research projects at Rekihaku are organized and conducted with researchers in Japan and overseas. "Collaborative research" consists of "basic research" aimed to conduct interdisciplinary research with the framework of broader themes (3 projects), "scientific research" addressing the development of methodological foundations for historical studies (15 projects), and "development-style research" aimed at breaking ground for new areas of study and developing human resources (1 project). In addition, "Survey research on documents and artifacts" designed for making effective use of Rekihaku's holdings (4 projects) and "exhibition projects" in exhibition development of special and featured exhibitions (20 projects) are conducted. (Actual number of projects conducted in FY 2015)

Scholarly Exchange

Rekihaku has signed 20 international and domestic cooperation agreements to date (as of FY2015), with the aim of promoting academic exchanges with universities and other research institutes in Japan and overseas.

Exhibitions

The permanent exhibition at Rekihaku focuses on key themes in Japanese history and culture, from the Paleolithic period and ancient times to modern times, with an emphasis on the history of everyday life of the people. Special exhibitions and featured exhibitions are held to present the achievements of collaborative research and collecting activities. Special programs on traditional plants are offered at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life as well.

Collections / Databases

Rekihaku has been collecting authentic materials, reproductions, audio-visual materials, and other resources. As of May 1, 2015, Rekihaku has 239,098 items in its collection (including 5 national treasures, 85 important cultural assets and 27 art treasures). It also has a library of 330,803 titles. For research use, Rekihaku provides extensive access to several databases, including those containing its collections, bibliographical information and the full text of historical records, as well as those containing the achievements of collaborative research (46 databases as of May 1, 2015).



国立歴史民俗博物館

National Museum
of Japanese History



Regular Exhibition "Various Japanese Writings"



Making the most of ancient Japanese texts as a rich intellectual resource

The National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) is a comprehensive scientific research institution specializing in Japanese literature. That includes collecting literature and related documents on a large scale from all over Japan, and providing materials for use by researchers working across a range of fields relating to Japanese Literature, as well as promoting advanced collaborative research. Building on its track record in documentary research in the field of ancient Japanese texts, built up over 40 years since the institute was founded, NIJL works with research institutions and researchers in Japan and overseas to make the most of ancient Japanese texts as a rich intellectual resource, and is committed to paving the way for research spanning different fields.

A museum promoting research on Japanese history and culture

The National Museum of Japanese History (Rekihaku) is an inter-university research institute in the form of a museum established to advance research on Japanese History and culture. Its vision is to offer the historical perspective that will open the way to the future, and to enhance mutual understanding among people with divergent perceptions of history. In pursuing the vision above, Rekihaku values its research style (museum-based research integration) in which resources, research, and exhibitions are organically linked and presented through sharing and public access. Rekihaku will promote interdisciplinary collaborative research with researchers in Japan and overseas as well as cooperation and integration across different fields in view of the Third Medium-Term Plan.



Basic Research "Comprehensive Study of the Ryukyu Kingdom in the East Asian Seas during the Middle Ages," joint study in Miyakojima (Tomb of Toyumya Nakasone)



国文学研究資料館

National Institute
of Japanese Literature



Collecting and Using Resources

NIJL collects Japanese literature and related source texts (manuscripts, first editions, etc.) in digital and other formats, offers reading and copying services, and provides reproductions via the inter-library loan system. Selected materials are also accessible as ancient text datasets via the NIJL website or the Informatics Research Data Repository operated by the National Institute of Informatics.

Database Access

NIJL provides access to academic information via a range of databases (28 databases as of April 1, 2016).

Exhibition Spaces

NIJL exhibits results achieved through its documentary research and collaborative research projects. It also organizes regularly changing temporary exhibitions, showcasing a variety of different themes.

International Exchange

NIJL organizes the International Conference on Japanese Literature, the International Conference on Pre-Modern Japanese Texts, and other international symposiums and events, in an effort to encourage exchange with researchers from in Japan and overseas and promote the internationalization of research into Japanese culture. It also invites leading overseas researchers to Japan and provides a venue for them to conduct academic research.

Corpora and Databases

A corpus is a language database that contains large volumes of electronic text that can be searched and analyzed in detail. NINJAL designs and builds corpora, such as the Corpus of Spontaneous Japanese and the Balanced Corpus of Contemporary Written Japanese, and provides shared access for language research and a wide range of other purposes, including in the information processing industry. It is currently in the processes of building a diverse array of corpora, from dialects and historical Japanese through to everyday conversation and Japanese as a second language.

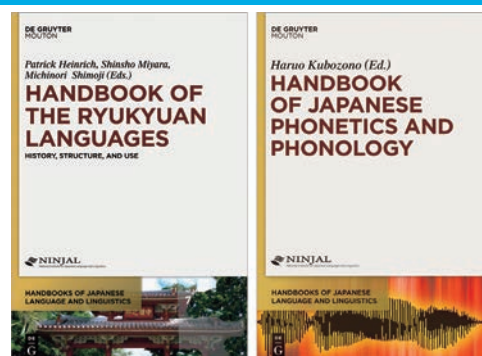
NINJAL also publishes a number of databases and datasets via its website, including the Bibliographic Database of Japanese Language Research.

Research Library

As Japan's only library devoted exclusively to the Japanese language, NINJAL's research library archives research materials and linguistic resources concerning Japanese language studies as well as related fields such as Japanese language education and linguistics.

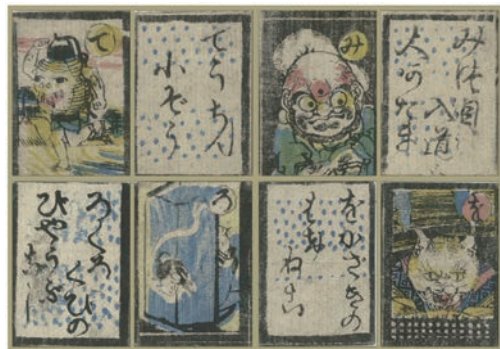
Conducting comprehensive research into the Japanese language

The National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL) is a core international research facility engaged in research into Japanese language, linguistics and Japanese language education. Its aim is to maintain an overview of the characteristics of Japanese in the context of world languages, and its universal nature and linguistic diversity. As well as getting involved in large-scale collaborative research with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas, NINJAL provides the results of its research for joint use as a resource for language research, in an effort to advance and internationalize Japanese language research, and promote the development of new areas of research.



"Handbooks of Japanese Language and Linguistics" Series

Yōkai Karuta, Nichibunken



国際日本文化研究センター



An international research facility focused on studying Japanese culture and providing support to Japan scholars around the world

The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) is an institution whose aim is to conduct comprehensive research, both scholarly and international in nature, on Japanese culture and to assist researchers specializing in Japanese studies around the world. As part of its core team research activities, the center sets out themes that span different disciplines and approach Japanese culture from an international perspective, and involves researchers from a wide range of specialist fields in Japan and overseas. In addition to hosting a large number of overseas research scholars every year, Nichibunken acts as an international hub for research on Japanese culture, through activities such as organizing international symposiums and forums, facilitating academic exchange, and gathering and disseminating research data.

Library

The Nichibunken Library collects a wide range of materials that are essential to research into Japan and makes the relevant materials available to researchers. It also provides access to various kinds of information relating to Japanese studies. The library's 510,000 titles can be searched online, and are available for other universities and institutions to copy or borrow on request via the inter-library loan system. One of the key points when it comes to collecting materials is to ensure comprehensive coverage of books about Japan written in different languages, and translated texts. As well as books and other such publications, the library is also active in collecting colored photographs from the late Edo and Meiji periods, old maps, and audio visual materials such as videos, DVDs and CDs.

Databases

Nichibunken maintains databases of the materials in its collection, in-house research results, and Japan-related materials held by other institutions. It currently provides online access to 49* different databases.

Nichibunken also broadcasts academic lectures and other such events online in real time, as well as providing public access to an archive of 236* lectures recorded since 1997. (*As of April 1, 2016)

Facilities and Equipment

RIHN places particular importance on developing technologies to measure the relationship between humanity and nature, and on using those technologies to perform environmental diagnoses. To this end, RIHN maintains a world-class laboratory for stable isotope analysis. It is also working with universities and research institutions around the world to stimulate the new academic discipline stable isotope environmental studies.

Databases

RIHN has established a data facility for humanity and nature, and carries out activities with the aim of gathering, storing and making effective use of data, historical documents, and other resources relating to research within the field. In particular, the RIHN Archive contains resources documenting research results and other activities (publications, research data, reports, and so on), and establishes an important resource for future generations. As well as carrying out research and development using these resources, and developing new analytical methods and areas of research, RIHN promotes shared-use of resources between universities and research institutions nationwide through activities such as NIHU's project to enable advanced collaboration on research resources.

A research facility exploring the future of humanity and nature in partnership with the public

The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) views global environmental issues in the context of the relationship between humanity and nature, meaning that they are issues linked to human culture. The institute conducts comprehensive research with the aim of resolving these issues. RIHN research is conducted through research projects, each of which identifies appropriate themes, methods and other research resources employed within a given timeframe. Research projects also emphasize working with local residents and other stakeholders, as well as the wider research community. Such qualities distinguish RIHN from other environmental research institutions in Japan.



Fieldwork friends, Bali, Indonesia



総合地球環境学研究所

Research Institute
for Humanity and
Nature



国立民族学博物館

National Museum of Ethnology



Special Lecture and Performance, "Masks Alive: The Balinese Masked Dance and Music"



A "center of knowledge" sharing the joys of discovering new worlds

The National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku) is a research facility specializing in cultural anthropology and other related fields, while also doubling as a museum. As a focal point for international research and shared access, it conducts research and studies into peoples, societies and cultures the world over, organizes international exhibitions, and promotes the international shared use of the museum's cultural resources. Minpaku is committed to furthering international collaborative research and exhibitions, and has been creating an online "Info-Forum Museum for Cultural Resources of the World" based its achievements to date, as it continues to share information and access to cultural resources on a global scale.

Collection

Minpaku encourages shared use of its collection, which contains some 340,000 items. As well as making items available for use in research and university education, it also lends items to other museums and touring exhibitions.

Library

The Minpaku Library specializes in cultural anthropology and other related fields, and houses a collection of some 260,000 titles in Japanese and 390,000 titles in other languages. The library also provides document copying and lending services through the inter-library loan system.

Databases

In addition to online catalogs detailing artifacts, audiovisual resources, books and other documents in its collection, Minpaku provides online access to databases such as the "Korean Daily Commodities Collection" and "Performing Arts Film."

Exhibitions

● Main Exhibitions

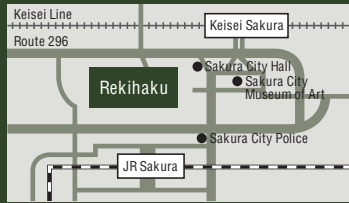
The museum's permanent exhibition is divided between nine regional galleries and two cross-cultural galleries showcasing music and language. The unveiling of exhibits highlighting Central and North Asia, and Aynu culture, on June 16, 2016 marked the completion of a 8-year project to create a new permanent exhibition at Minpaku. The museum also has thematic exhibition gallery that showcases contemporary issues or the latest research. A recent example was "Ancient Rock Art of the Amur River Basin: A Sacred Place of the Indigenous People, Sikachi Alyan," which ran from May 21 to July 21, 2015.

● Special Exhibitions

Special exhibitions are large-scale events designed to comprehensively and systematically showcase the latest research on specific themes. The museum organized an exhibition entitled "Food Culture in Korea and Japan: The Tastes of *Nanum* and *Omotenashi*" in fall 2015, followed by "*Ishuretsuzo*, the Image of Ezo: Tracing Persons, Things and the World" in spring 2016.

National Museum of Japanese History

117 Jonai-cho, Sakura City,
Chiba 285-8502 Japan
TEL: +81-43-486-0123
<http://www.rekihaku.ac.jp/english/>



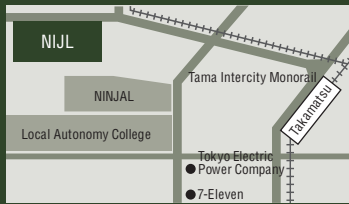
国立歴史民俗博物館

〒285-8502
千葉県佐倉市城内町117
TEL: 043-486-0123 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
京成本線「京成佐倉駅」(徒歩15分)、JR「佐倉駅」→ちばグリーンバス(15分)「国立博物館入口」下車



National Institute of Japanese Literature

10-3 Midori-cho, Tachikawa City,
Tokyo 190-0014 Japan
Tel: +81-50-5533-2900
http://www.nijl.ac.jp/index_e.html



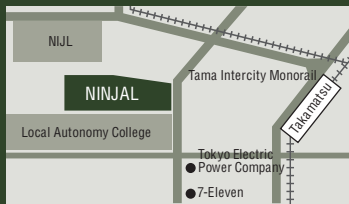
国文学研究資料館

〒190-0014
東京都立川市緑町10-3
TEL: 050-5533-2900 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
多摩都市モノレール「高松駅」(徒歩10分)、JR「立川駅」(徒歩25分)、JR「立川駅」北口バスのりば2番→立川バス「立川学術プラザ」下車(徒歩1分)



National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics

10-2, Midori-cho, Tachikawa City,
Tokyo 190-8561 Japan
TEL: +81-42-540-4300
<http://www.ninjal.ac.jp/english/>



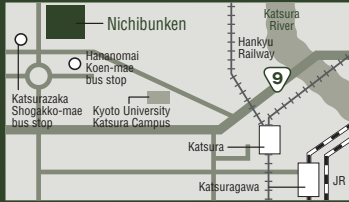
国立国語研究所

〒190-8561
東京都立川市緑町10-2
TEL: 042-540-4300 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
多摩都市モノレール「高松駅」(徒歩7分)、JR「立川駅」(徒歩20分)、JR「立川駅」北口バスのりば2番→立川バス「自治大校舎・国立国語研究所」下車(徒歩1分)



International Research Center for Japanese Studies

3-2 Goryo Oeyama-cho, Nishikyoku-ku,
Kyoto City, Kyoto 610-1192 Japan
TEL: +81-75-335-2222
<http://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/>



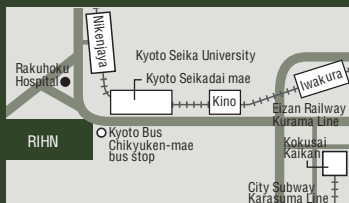
国際日本文化研究センター

〒610-1192
京都府京都市西京区御陵大枝山町3-2
TEL: 075-335-2222 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
阪急京都線「桂駅」→京都市バス(30分)「桂坂小学校前」下車
JR東海道本線「桂川駅」→ヤサカバス(30分)「花の舞公園前」下車



Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

457-4 Motoyama, Kamigamo,
Kita-ku, Kyoto City, Kyoto 603-8047
Japan
TEL: +81-75-707-2100
http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn_e/index.html



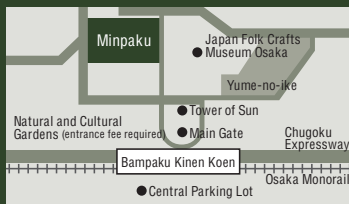
総合地球環境学研究所

〒603-8047
京都府京都市北区上賀茂本山457-4
TEL: 075-707-2100 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
地下鉄烏丸線「国際会館駅」→京都市バス(6分)「地球研前」下車
叡山電車鞍馬線「京都精華大前」(徒歩10分)



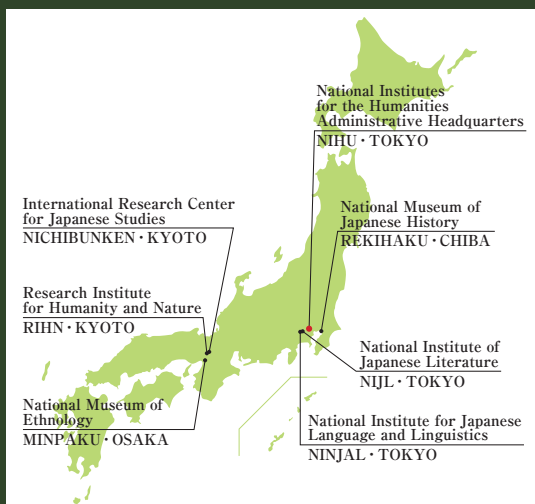
National Museum of Ethnology

10-1 Senri Expo Park, Suita City,
Osaka 565-8511 Japan (on the
Premises of Expo Park)
TEL: +81-6-6876-2151
<http://www.minpaku.ac.jp/english/>



国立民族学博物館

〒565-8511
大阪府吹田市千里万博公園10-1
TEL: 06-6876-2151 (代表)
【最寄り駅】
大阪モノレール「万博記念公園駅」(徒歩15分)



Inter-University Research Institute Corporation

National Institutes for the Humanities Administrative Headquarters

2nd Floor, Hulic kamiyacyo Bldg.
4-3-13 Toranomon, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 105-0001 Japan
TEL: +81-3-6402-9200
<http://www-e.nihu.jp/e/>

大学共同利用機関法人 人間文化研究機構本部

〒105-0001
東京都港区虎ノ門4-3-13
ヒューリック神谷町ビル2F
TEL: 03-6402-9200 (代表)

【最寄り駅】
地下鉄日比谷線「神谷町駅」(出口4b徒歩2分)
地下鉄三田線「御成門駅」(出口A5徒歩10分)

