



Inter-University Research  
Institute Corporation

# National Institutes for the Humanities

GUIDE BOOK  
2018 - 2019

NIHU

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<https://www.nihu.jp/en>

# Message from the President



Today, every corner of the world faces threats of war, environment, urbanization, religion, ethnicities, and life and death -- the social and spiritual issues that may trigger societal collapse. The existential significance of humanities studies defined as “the academic field that comprehensively explores humans and its cultures,” is being brought to question. With the current prioritization for science and technology, the field of humanities studies in Japanese universities and research institutions exists under harsh conditions.

With more than 300 members across the fields of humanities and sciences committed to “human culture research”, the National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU) has the largest number of researchers in this field, and our mission is profound. In April 2016, in our third term as an inter-university research corporation, the six institutes that constitute NIHU, through cooperation with other institutions in Japan and overseas, launched 17 “NIHU

Transdisciplinary Projects”. This is a six-year collaborative program that aims to establish new research systems that work extensively with local communities and industries, and contribute to the understanding of contemporary issues.

Perhaps among the most meaningful concepts that Japanese humanities research can convey to the rest of the world are “the meaning of true prosperity,” “the harmonious coexistence of human beings and nature” and “the creation of peace.” These three concepts provide new avenues not only for NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects but also for academic research in general, and are the new value systems of human cultures.

From that perspective, NIHU must play a central role in promoting humanities studies in Japan. The six institutes that make up NIHU must establish themselves as the core organizations in their respective fields in Japan and overseas. This will be possible by making full use of the accumulated cultural resources and personal networks the institutes have built in their own academic fields and promoting state-of-the-art research. In collaboration with universities and institutions throughout the Japanese archipelago, the research process and outcomes of NIHU’s new research model shall be made accessible to academic and local communities. Further we will advance our communication efforts to reach an international audience in our hope to promote Japanese humanities studies and raise domestic and international awareness of its significance.

Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

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

## ★ Inter-University Research Institutes

Inter-university research institutes are research centers run by a community of researchers. Its unique structure was developed in Japan. In contrast to conducting research within the confines of individual universities, they are joint use facilities that function as hubs for information exchange and brain circulation between researchers from Japanese and international institutions. They are also focal points where academic disciplines converge and new ones emerge.

# Vision and Mission

We believe that humanities research potentially holds answers that will help solve critical issues humankind faces in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Questions about how humans can coexist with nature and how they should interact with each other in the global context cannot be answered by science and technology alone. We need to examine and assess our approaches to human cultures and, in doing so, we believe we will find paths toward healthier and wealthier societies. NIHU strives to play a leading role in that process.

Our goals are to innovatively rebuild knowledge and traditions that transcend boundaries between academic fields, societies and customs. We endeavor to create new paradigms in humanities research that genuinely enrich lives through solving problems together.

NIHU's six institutes share these four missions: Integration; Excellence in research and education; Advancement of joint use and collaborative research; Social collaboration and contribution.

## Integration

We shall recognize a diverse range of values, apply methodologies that allow for comprehensive understanding of humanity and its cultures, and contribute toward social progress and creative development.

## Excellence in Research and Education

We shall be a central global facility and contribute toward the creation of educational and research organizations that are responsive to social and cultural changes.

## Advancement of Joint Use and Collaborative Research

We shall endeavor to strengthen international research capabilities of universities and improve research environments that will facilitate academic mobility for its faculty.

## Social Collaboration and Contribution

We shall strengthen our information and promotional capabilities and disseminate the results of our humanities research. We shall make our information accessible to the world, collaborate with industries and other entities on projects, and contribute to society.

# Organizational Structure

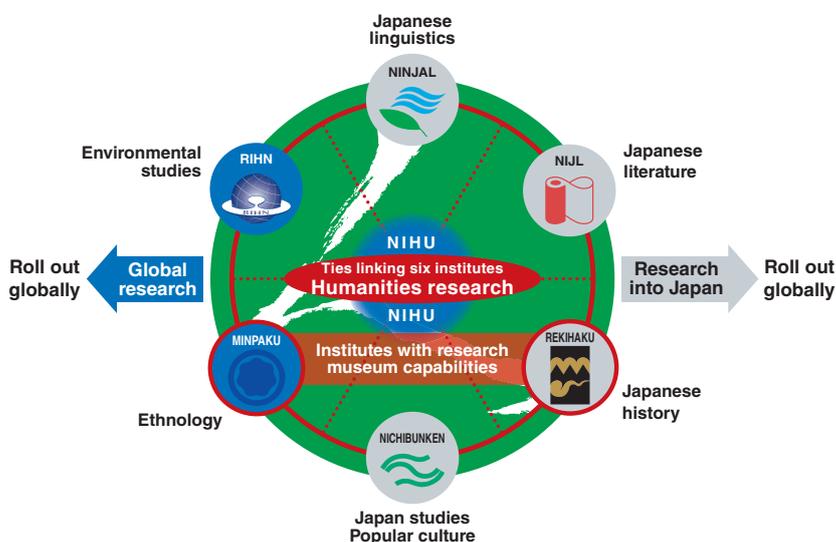
NIHU is one of the four inter-university research institute corporations in Japan, along with the National Institutes of Natural Sciences, the Research Organization for Information and Systems and the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization.

The chief executive is the president who is selected by a committee of experts in the humanities and related disciplines. Several executive directors are appointed by the president to assist the leadership. Three committees, the Strategic Planning Committee, Administrative Council and Education and Research Council, discuss important matters concerning the operation of the organization. The Advisory Board, consisting of the president, NIHU's executive directors and the heads of NIHU's six institutes, discuss matters relating to cooperation between NIHU headquarters and its institutes.

In 2016, two new centers, the Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI) and the Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP) were established to improve governance at NIHU.

CTI strengthens mutual cooperation between the six institutes and leads NIHU's Transdisciplinary Projects that collaborate with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas.

CIP consolidates data related to human cultures by gathering information and research results from researchers affiliated with NIHU, important documents and materials from the archives of the six institutes. The materials are made available to the public.



**Coordination between six institutes**

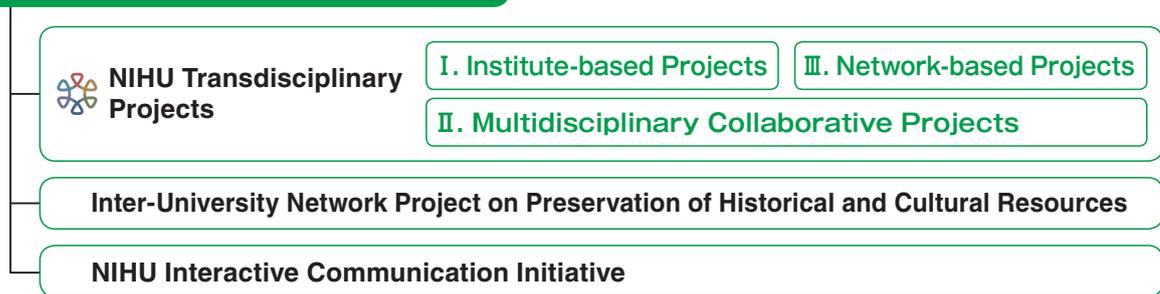
# Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI)

The NIHU Transdisciplinary project, run by the Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI), is a six-year ongoing program launched in 2016. It collaborates with universities, research facilities, and communities in Japan and overseas to examine and analyze modern-day issues to create new value systems for human cultures. Research results from this project are provided to the academic communities as well as to the general public through publications, databases, images and exhibitions. The fruits of research are also used to develop new educational programs in universities.

There are three types of NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects: (I) Institute-based Projects, (II) Multidisciplinary Collaboration Projects, and (III) Network-based Projects (NIHU Area Studies, and Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: NIHU International Collaborative Research and Utilization).

In addition, in collaboration with the Center for Information and Public Relations, CTI manages two programs, the NIHU Interactive Communication Initiative and the Inter-University Network Project on Preservation of Historical and Cultural Resources (launched in the 2018 academic year).

## Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation



## NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects

### I. Institute-based Projects

NIHU's six institutes have established priority research themes in accordance to their respective missions. They collaborate with Japanese and overseas institutions and researchers to conduct research that advances each institute's specialist areas.

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

##### National Museum of Japanese History (Rekihaku)

This 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 studies 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 contributes to the advancement of a new academic discipline of Japanese history.

#### **A New Integration of Japanese Language Studies based on Diverse Language Resources**

##### National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL)

This project builds large-scale corpora that serve as basic data for Japanese language research, by collaborating with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas. The data, which are provided to universities and research communities, include language resources derived from written and conversational Japanese, classics, dialects, and learners' Japanese.

The vast array of language resources is analyzed from linguistic and other angles. Different fields of research are brought together to develop new models for comprehensive research on the Japanese language. Research results are published through print and electronic media for worldwide use.

#### **Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts (NIJL-NW project)**

##### National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL)

This project makes use of various historical Japanese texts as resources for research. In collaboration with universities and research institutions worldwide, the project carries out integrated research that extends beyond humanities research and that incorporates other fields such as the natural sciences. To create a substantial research infrastructure, approximately 300,000 Japanese pre-modern texts are being scanned into a database that combine the resulting data with existing bibliographic information.

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

##### International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken)

The purpose of this project is understanding diverse Japanese cultural traditions and the foundations underlying them through historical and international studies of popular culture. It endeavors to contribute to the creation of new images of Japan and to re-examine Japanese culture as a whole.

A mixed media audio-visual archive is being formed by collecting and digitizing a wide range of materials related to Japanese popular culture. In addition, the fruits of the research will be distributed as research resources and educational materials, for use by universities and institutions in Japan and overseas.

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

 **Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN)**

This project consists of three practical research programs that propose models of future societies based on the complex human-nature histories of Asia. The Asian continent consists of diverse natural environments, cultures, values and perspectives; it is also a hot spot area of global environmental issues and economic change.

The three programs are: 1) Societal Transformation under Environmental Change; 2) Fair Use and Management of Diverse Resources; 3) Designing Lifeworlds for Sustainability and Wellbeing.

## Info-Forum Museum for Cultural Resources of the World

 **National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku)**

This project is carried out in collaboration with researchers from universities, museums and research institutions in Japan and overseas to analyze ethnological materials collected by Minpaku. The results are provided multilingually, made available worldwide, and collected in a database with forum capabilities. The database will allow participants around the world to exchange ideas about the cultural resources. Relevant materials from North America, Taiwan and Ryukyu, and the Ainu are included into the database.

## II. Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects

NIHU's six institutes contribute their specialist expertise (history, literature, language, regional research and the environment) to develop new methodologies for human culture research and to grow new disciplines. The project is carried out in cooperation with universities, research institutions and local communities in Japan and overseas.

### Change of Local Communities and Reconstruction of Community Cultures after Disasters in the Japanese Archipelago

Representatives: Junichi Koike (Rekihaku) [lead institution], Nobuko Kibe (NINJAL) [lead institution], Shingo Hidaka (Minpaku), Koichi Watanabe (NIJL), Tohru Nakashizuka (RIHN)

Changes in local communities and disasters threaten the diversity of community cultures in the Japanese Archipelago. This project examines the impact of such challenges through multiple viewpoints including language, resource preservation, symbolic representational system and environmental protection. By engaging in practical discussions with members of local communities, insights on their perspectives can be gained and collected, and then integrated into efforts that assist communities in reconstructing their cultures.



### Rethinking Eco-health in Asia

Representatives: Hein Mallee (RIHN) [lead institution], Atsushi Iriguchi (NIJL), Atsushi Nobayashi (Minpaku)

Currently our ideas about health focus mainly on biomedical interventions rooted in research on disease rather than on positive health concepts. "Ecohealth" is an emerging research field that explores health concepts in daily life as they relate to ecology, lifestyles, livelihoods, and food culture, against a backdrop of rapid social and environmental change in Asia. This project combines interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to incorporate humanities and human culture to help us understand evolving approaches to health. We examine historical concepts of health and contemporary case studies of social and environmental changes in East and Southeast Asia. One of our objectives is to establish a research network on Ecohealth in 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), Shoichi Inoue (Nichibunken)

Texts passed down from ancient times (Japanese pre-modern texts) contain a wealth of information that extends beyond actual content. These include details about paper, ink and binding. In addition to studying the texts through reading, deeper knowledge about Japanese literature can be attained by incorporating perspectives of other disciplines. We are able to reexamine meanings and unearth knowledge held by our ancestors and understand further the impact of the writings. As the lead institution, NIJL coordinates the overall project. It works in conjunction with NIJL's Institute-based Project. Research results are consolidated into general educational programs as well as "Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies," a new academic discipline.



## III. Network-based Projects

Network-based projects examine critical issues about Japan from a global context by exploring societies and cultures. A wide network of universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas collaborate on comprehensive research programs that incorporate a vast array of fields. Network-based Projects consist of two themes; “Area Studies” and “Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas.”

### NIHU Area Studies

This project focuses on three regions that are significant to Japan from cultural, social, political, economic and environmental perspectives but that are currently lacking in comprehensive research. The program aims to advance 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 Takakura (Tohoku University), Jun Ma (University of Toyama), Xiao Dong Li (The University of Shimane), Rumi Aoyama (Waseda University)

“Northeast Asia” comprises of Japan, China, Russia, Mongolia, South Korea and North Korea and this concept is important in tackling issues confronted by each country. This project maps out a vision for coexistence within Northeast Asia through understanding various phenomena surrounding crossing borders. It examines causes of social and economic conflicts and searches for meaningful solutions to issues occurring among these nations.



#### 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), Tokiyuki Sato (Akita University)

This project examines how individuals in the Middle East obtain information, accumulate knowledge and utilize them as resources in an age of global transformations of the environment, society, and media. We study how individuals relate to the world, at the ways social spaces are created, and at the manners in which individuals relate to them, inclusively or exclusively, based on their diverse 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), Akio Tanabe (The University of Tokyo), Kazuo Tomozawa (Hiroshima University), Toshie Awaya (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), Mitsuya Dake (Ryukoku University)

This project fosters an in-depth understanding of contemporary South Asia and its future prospects by focusing on society, culture, politics, economy, and the environment through interdisciplinary and long-term approaches. By incorporating insights of area specialists we aim to work on real-world problems in this region and find solutions for a sustainable, inclusive and peaceful development of the region.



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

Countless invaluable resources relating to Japan in Europe and the Americas exist, however, due to the small number of researchers specializing in Japanese culture, and because many resources are held in private collections, information on whereabouts of these resources are not easily accessible. In many cases, detailed research to determine the value of the relevant resources is yet to be carried out. This project conducts research on a wide range of resources such as documents, audio and artifacts. We encourage and support overseas researchers who wish to specialize in Japan and who will endeavor to promote better understanding of Japanese culture by making our results available across the globe.

### 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.



Map of Hirado in 1621 (Nationaal Archief)

### 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)

This project investigates resources in Europe collected in nineteenth century Japan and makes the resources with the results of the investigations available to the public through our databases, exhibitions, symposiums and educational programs. The investigations are conducted in three locations, Austria, the UK and Switzerland, through collaboration with their museums and universities. Each location has a different focus. In Vienna, Austria, the focus is on the traditional approach to surveying resources; in the UK, the interactive approach to exhibition development is the focus; in Switzerland, human resource development is highlighted. Based on these three investigations, our objective is to propose an international research scheme for exploring Japan-related resources overseas.



Investigation at the Weltmuseum Wien

### 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 (now Oita prefecture) that were collected by Father Mario Marega were discovered at the Vatican Library. This project raises awareness about the existence of these documents, their historical significance, and their potential as resources for research. The project also assists researchers worldwide by providing guidance on methodologies for studying resources on Japan. It also provides support to the Vatican Library in establishing an archive management system and in making the collected documents available online.



The Workshop for the preservation and conservation of the Marega Collection

### 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 salvages and evaluates materials related to Japanese society focusing primarily on modern Japanese immigrants in North America. These materials that are in audio and video format have been increasingly at risk of degradation and disposal. We will propose new theories and methodologies for investigating immigration by looking at the language, social and life records of Japanese ancestry.



Barbara Kawakami Collection

### 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.

## Inter-University Network Project on Preservation of Historical and Cultural Resources

We promote document survey and data recording, the establishment of a wide support system, historical and cultural materials conservation projects that preserve materials and study preservation methodologies. Furthermore, we aim to inherit and build historical cultures within local communities by making use of materials, developing educational programs, and disseminating information in Japan and overseas. This program is run by NIHU (lead organization, Rekihaku), Tohoku University, Kobe University at the core, and in cooperation with "Shiryō Net," a university based research activity to preserve old historical documents.

## NIHU Interactive Communication Initiative

We aim to pioneer a "visualization and advancement cycle of cutting-edge research at museums and exhibits"; which is about visualizing state-of-the-art research on human culture in museum contexts and exhibits and promoting research through the cooperation of multiple fields, academia and society. This program is run by NIHU's six institutes in collaboration with universities and research institutions across Japan.

# Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP)

CIP digitizes a wide array of academic research resources relating to human culture and facilitates their access to universities and researchers worldwide. NIHU's materials, including information about its researchers and research results, are now easily accessible. CIP strengthens interactive communication with the public and aims to help society with its research results.

## Information Division

CIP operates an ever-expanding shared access platform, a researcher database, and a research results database (NIHU repository). Extensive searches are possible through databases that provide access to a wide range of humanities-related research data that NIHU has amassed. CIP continues to develop, operate, introduce, and promote the use of search systems and analytical tools that facilitate sharing of research resources relating to human culture and advance collaboration within Japan and internationally.

### Research Resource Databases

Name of database	Description
NIHU repository	Cloud-based NIHU repository giving users comprehensive access to research papers from the six NIHU institutes (operated via the National Institute of Informatics' JAIRO Cloud system).
Researchers' profiles	Comprehensive database containing information on researchers throughout NIHU
Advanced collaboration systems (formerly resource-sharing systems)	Comprehensive systems aimed at promoting collaboration between institutions and universities.

### Advanced Collaboration on Research Resources

Since the 2005 academic year, NIHU has been promoting shared access to the institute's accumulated research resources for the academic community. In the 2008 academic year, it began operating a range of research resource sharing systems.

In the 2016 academic year, the research resource sharing systems were renamed "advanced collaboration systems." These systems are geared toward developing mechanisms in line with public demand with the aim of expanding its activities, promoting shared access, and enabling advanced collaboration on resources beyond the confines of individual institutes. NIHU operates these advanced collaboration systems through a three-way integrated process alongside a repository of information on research results and data about researchers. This advanced system has enabled resources, including human resources, papers and documents, to be effectively shared.

### Advanced Collaboration Systems

Name of project	Description
Integrated retrieval system nihulNT	Comprehensive search engine for databases operated by the six NIHU institutes 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 170 databases, as of the end of March 2018).
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 English-language information on humanities research in Japan, and details of Japanese humanities resources.

## Public Relations Division

In addition to aggregating information on trends and results from humanities research and NIHU's extensive collection of research resources, CIP aims to give back to society in ways that benefit researchers as well as the global community. To facilitate broader access to its information, CIP organizes public relations activities by publishing research data, organizing public symposiums, holding regular press conferences, and promoting industry-academic collaboration.

These activities aim to convey the significance and benefits of humanities study and the ways in which greater understanding of human cultures enrich everyday lives. CIP also organizes international seminars and symposiums in Japan and overseas that share information on Japanese culture and the latest trends in research on Japan.

### NIHU Symposiums

NIHU organizes symposiums for the general public in order to share the comprehensive human culture related research resources and results it has accumulated.

Below are the symposiums that were held in 2017:

- 30<sup>th</sup> NIHU Symposium “Rediscovering the Use and Value of Japan-Related Resources Recovered in the West”  
June 11, 2017, Nishijin Plaza, Kyushu University (Fukuoka)
- 31<sup>st</sup> NIHU Symposium “Ecohealth: Healthy Living and the Environment”  
February 17, 2018, Yakurt Hall (Tokyo)
- 32<sup>nd</sup> NIHU Symposium “How Transdisciplinary Research Facilitates Informatics and Humanities Research”  
February 26, 2018, Hitotsubashi Hall (Tokyo)



30<sup>th</sup> NIHU Symposium “Rediscovering the Use and Value of Japan-Related Resources Recovered in the West”



Press conference held in October, 2017

### Publications

#### ▶ NIHU Magazine

NIHU Magazine is a bilingual (Japanese and English-language) publication that covers topics such as the latest research trends and results and activities at NIHU. It is published on a regular basis on the NIHU website. [http://www.nihu.jp/publication/nihu\\_magazine](http://www.nihu.jp/publication/nihu_magazine)

#### ▶ Ningen Bunka

*Ningen Bunka* (Humanities), published on the NIHU website, lists the topics presented at NIHU symposiums. Its first issue was launched following a public lecture and symposium marking the establishment of NIHU in 2004.

### Social Media

#### ▶ Twitter / Facebook / YouTube

CIP provides information on NIHU through Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

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



## International Collaboration

NIHU has cooperative ties with many overseas institutions engaged in humanities research. NIHU hosts international researchers in Japan, sends Japanese researchers abroad, and actively organizes and provides speakers for international symposiums held outside of Japan.

In the academic year 2017, through its agreement with the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), NIHU provided placements and guidance to one early career researcher and one graduate student based in the UK who conduct research specializing on Japan at Nichibunken and Minpaku, respectively. NIHU continues to contribute to the development of overseas researchers through these types of activities.



International Symposium, 2017 “Northeast Asia: The Fetal Stage,” held in September, 2017.

### Overseas Research Facilities

NIHU opened overseas research facilities (liaison offices) to promote international collaborative research with overseas institutions. It provides information on research on Japan and Japanese culture to people in other countries.

In July 2016, NIHU established liaison offices at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences in Ulan Bator, in October 2016 at the EHESS (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales) in Paris, and in April 2017 at the Sejong Institute in Gyeonggi, South Korea.

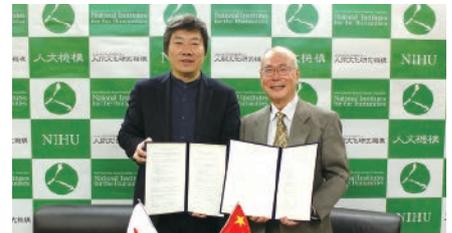
In December 2017, NIHU concluded an agreement with China’s Northeast Normal University to open a liaison office at the University in 2018.



Opening ceremony of the liaison office at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences

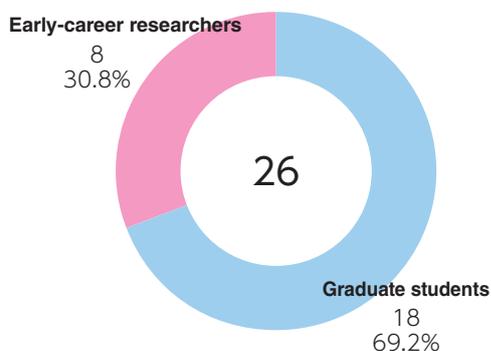


Signing ceremony of an agreement for academic exchange with EHESS



Signing ceremony of an agreement for academic exchange with Northeast Normal University

### Profile of UK AHRC International Placement Scheme (IPS) Fellows (2009-2017)



### Universities that have sent IPS Fellows to NIHU through the NIHU-AHRC Partnership

University of Kent, University College London, University of the Arts of London, The University of Manchester, University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art, University of Nottingham, The University of Sunderland, University of Reading, University of East Anglia, University of London, Queen's University of Belfast, Tate, Keele University, University of Birmingham, University of Sheffield, Cardiff University, Falmouth University, Durham University, University of York

(Total 21 universities)

# Graduate Education, Joint Use and Collaborative Research

## Graduate University for Advanced Studies

NIHU's four humanities research institutes offer courses at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sokendai). The five graduate (doctoral) courses are designed to take advantage of the institutes' resources and provide an array of specialized training for researchers.

	School	Department	Name of Institute	Number of students (as of May 1, 2017)	Number of degrees awarded (FY2016)
Three-year postdoctoral course	Cultural and Social Studies	Regional Studies	National Museum of Ethnology	11 (7)	1
		Comparative Studies	National Museum of Ethnology	17 (6)	1
		Japanese Studies	International Research Center for Japanese Studies	20 (6)	1 (1)
		Japanese History	National Museum of Japanese History	10 (1)	1
		Japanese Literature	National Institute of Japanese Literature	6 (0)	4
		Total		64 (20)	8 (1)

(Unit: People) (Numbers in brackets: Overseas students)

## Contributing to Universities and Graduate Education

Through agreements with universities, we contribute to the advancement of graduate education by providing placements for graduate students, research guidance, coordinating lecture subjects, and taking part in committees for awarding degrees (collaborative graduate programs). The National Museum of Ethnology and the National Museum of Japanese History make their collections and exhibit materials available to universities for use in lectures and training. The National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) provides university faculty and graduate schools opportunities to hold "NIJL Seminars" at the institute. As part of the seminar, they are also given access to the institute's extensive collection as lecture materials.

### Graduate Programs offered in collaboration with Japanese Universities

- National Museum of Japanese History Chiba University
- National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
- Research Institute for Humanity and Nature Nagoya University, Tohoku University

## Joint Use and Collaborative Research

The vast libraries of NIHU's institutes house a plethora of research resources and databases in their respective specialist fields. They contain information obtained from universities and other institutions nationwide, and from their own facilities. The materials are provided to Japanese and overseas research institutions for joint use and collaborative research. Through its lending program, universities and institutions can use these materials for seminars and researchers for their studies.



A seminar using museum collections

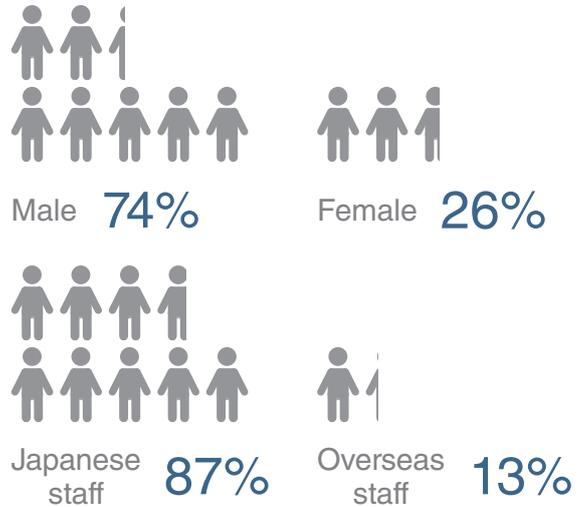


Vacuum line to prepare sample for radiocarbon dating (Rekihaku)

# NIHU at a Glance

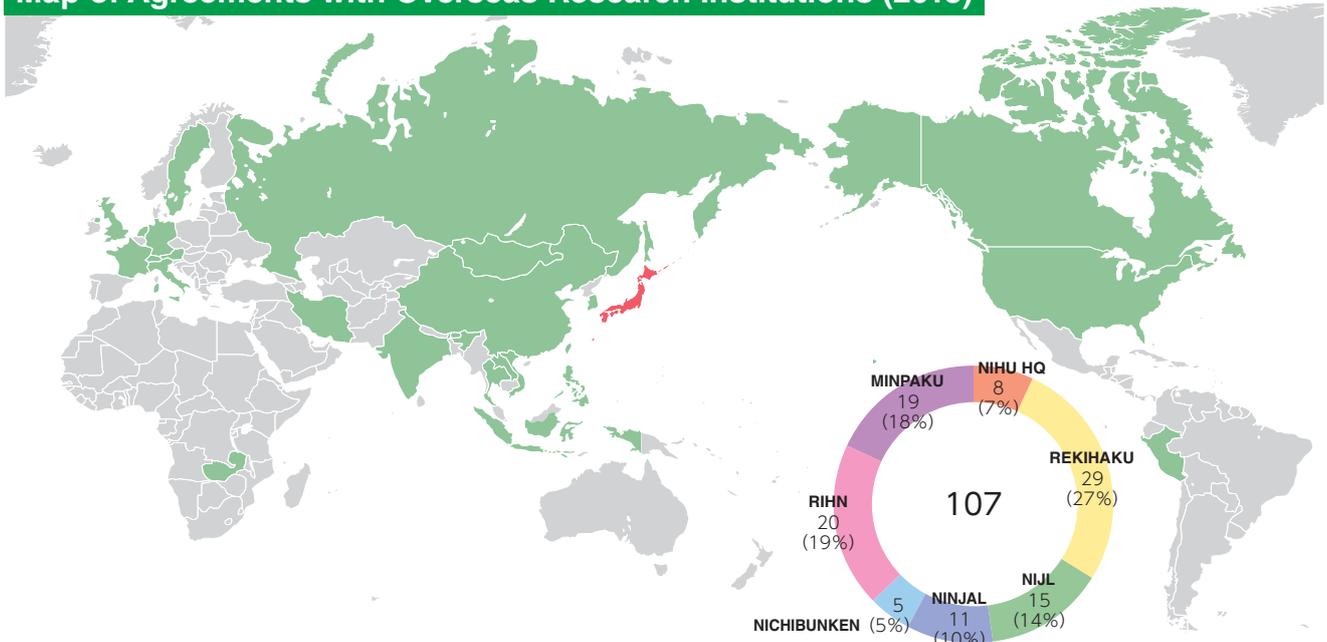
## Profile of Academic and Administrative Staff (2017) ...10

Organization	Academic staff	Administrative staff
NIHU HQ	 33	 31
REKIHAKU	 46	 43
NIJL	 32	 36
NINJAL	 31	 25
NICHIBUNKEN	 44	 36
RIHN	 28	 24
MINPAKU	 58	 49

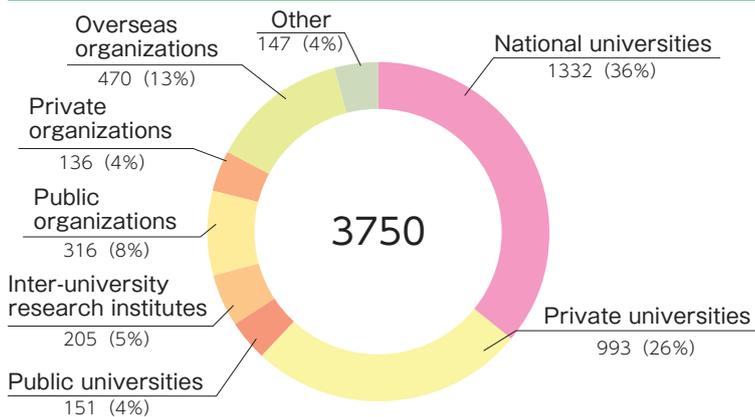


\*Percentages calculated from the numbers of academic staff.

## Map of Agreements with Overseas Research Institutions (2018)



## Diversity of Researchers Collaborating with NIHU (2017)



In the 2017 academic year,  
NIHU researchers travelled to  
**28** countries and regions  
to give **108** invited lectures.

## Research Projects

Research projects at Rekihaku are organized and conducted with researchers in Japan and overseas. "Collaborative research" consists of "principal research" aiming for interdisciplinary collaboration on core research themes based on Rekihaku's mission (5 projects), "fundamental research" addressing the development of methodological foundations for historical studies (11 projects), and "developmental research" aimed at breaking ground for new areas of study and developing human resources. In addition, "Research projects on Rekihaku's collections" designed for making effective use of the museum's holdings (3 projects) and "exhibition projects" in exhibition development of special and featured exhibitions (18 projects) are conducted. (Actual number of projects conducted in FY 2017)

## Scholarly Exchange

Rekihaku has signed 39 international and domestic cooperation agreements to date (as of May 1, 2017), with the aim of promoting scholarly exchange with universities and other research institutes in Japan and overseas.

## Exhibitions

Permanent exhibitions at Rekihaku present key themes in Japanese history and culture, from prehistoric and ancient times to modern times, with an emphasis on the history of daily life of the people. Special exhibitions and featured exhibitions are held to publicize the achievements of collaborative research and collecting activities. Seasonal exhibitions of traditional plants are offered at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life as well.

## Collections / Databases

Rekihaku is committed to collecting authentic materials, reproductions, audio-visual materials, and other resources. As of May 1, 2017, Rekihaku has 249,299 items in its collection (including 5 national treasures, 86 important cultural properties and 27 art treasures). It also has a library of 342,506 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 (53 databases as of May 1, 2017).

## A research institute promoting research on Japanese history and culture

The National Museum of Japanese History (Rekihaku) is a museum-based inter-university research institute established to advance research on Japanese history and culture. Its vision is to offer 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 initiatives involving multidisciplinary cooperation towards developing a new field of Japanese history.



Collaborative research titled "Gendering the History of the Japanese Archipelago"



国立歴史民俗博物館

National Museum  
of Japanese History



Press conference, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



NIJL Arts Initiative  
Innovation through the Legacy of Japanese Literature

## 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.



国文学研究資料館

National Institute  
of Japanese Literature



## Collecting and Using Resources

NIJL collects primarily Japanese literature and related source texts (manuscripts, printed editions, and other historical documents, etc.) in digital and other formats, offers reading and copying services, and provides reproductions via the inter-library loan system. The Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works may be freely accessed through the NIJL website. Selected materials are also accessible as ancient text datasets, in which each individual work may be downloaded as a single file, via the NIJL website or the Dataset of Pre-modern Japanese Texts made available through the Research Organization of Information and Systems, the Joint Support-Center for Data Science Research, the Center for Open Data in the Humanities.

## Database Access

NIJL provides access to academic information via a range of databases (31 databases as of April 1, 2018).

## 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.

## NIJL Arts Initiative

NIJL will strive to bring our abundant store of pre-modern materials into the light of the modern world, in hopes of engaging with these materials in a number of original ways. We will actively utilize these rich cultural resources as a means of responding to the current needs of society, as well as assisting with the spread of Japanese culture and learning throughout the world.

## 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, the Balanced Corpus of Contemporary Written Japanese, and the NINJAL Web Japanese Corpus, and provides shared access for language research and a wide range of other purposes, including in the information processing industry. NINJAL is currently in the processes of building a diverse array of corpora, from dialects and historical Japanese 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.

## 国立国語研究所



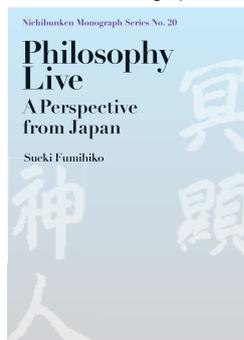
# National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics



Japan Review



Nichibunken Monograph Series



## 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. In addition to staying 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



## 国際日本文化研究センター

# International Research Center for Japanese Studies



## 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 520,000 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 248\* lectures recorded since 1997. (\*As of March 1, 2018)

### Facilities and Equipment

RIHN places particular importance on developing technologies to measure relationships 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 use of stable isotope analysis within 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 research resources within the field. In particular, the RIHN Archives contains documents regarding 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 working with the public to explore the future of humanity and nature

The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) examines global environmental issues in the context of the relationship between humanity and nature. In this perspective, environmental problems are always linked to human culture. The institute conducts comprehensive research with the aim of resolving these issues. RIHN research is conducted through research programs and projects, each of which identifies appropriate themes, methods and other research resources that can be developed within a given time frame. RIHN also emphasizes 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.



Glacier expedition in Kyrgyz Republic



## 総合地球環境学研究所 Research Institute for Humanity and Nature



Special Exhibition "A 'Tower of the Sun' Collection:  
Expo '70 Ethnological Mission"



## A "forum" sharing and creating knowledge of the world

The National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku) is an inter-university research institute of cultural anthropology equipped with one of the world's largest museum facilities as well as post-graduate educational facilities. As a focal point for international research and shared access, it conducts research and studies on peoples, societies and cultures the world over, accumulates cultural resources and disseminates the information there of through exhibitions based on international collaboration. Minpaku has been constructing an online "Info-Forum Museum" which enables both researchers and source communities where the resources were originally made to exchange and share information related to cultural resources of the world, and thus creates new knowledge of the humanity.

MINPAKU



## 国立民族学博物館 National Museum of Ethnology



### Collection

Minpaku encourages shared use of its collection, which contains some 340,000 items and 70,000 audio-visual materials. 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 410,000 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. Two were held in FY2017: "Resilience of Indigenous Cultures in Canada: Past, Present and Future" (Sep.7 to Dec.5) "A World Full of Life: The Art of Fujito Takeki, an Aynu Master Carver" (Jan.11 to Mar.13)

#### ● 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 "Revisiting Siebold's Japan Museum" in fall 2017, followed by "A 'Tower of the Sun' Collection: Expo '70 Ethnological Mission" in spring 2018.

## National Museum of Japanese History

117 Jonai-cho, Sakura City,  
Chiba 285-8502 Japan  
TEL: +81-43-486-0123  
FAX: +81-43-486-4209  
<http://www.rekihaku.ac.jp/english/>



## 国立歴史民俗博物館

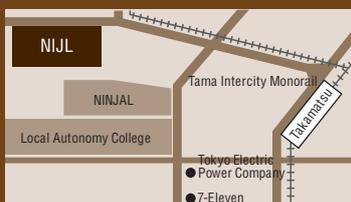
〒285-8502  
千葉県佐倉市城内町117  
TEL:043-486-0123(代表)  
FAX:043-486-4209

【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  
FAX: +81-42-526-8604  
[http://www.nijl.ac.jp/index\\_e.html](http://www.nijl.ac.jp/index_e.html)



## 国文学研究資料館

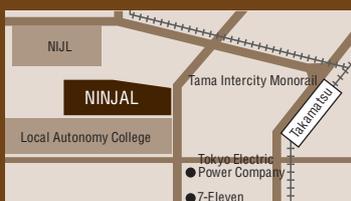
〒190-0014  
東京都立川市緑町10-3  
TEL:050-5533-2900(代表)  
FAX:042-526-8604

【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  
FAX: +81-42-540-4333  
<http://www.ninjal.ac.jp/english/>



## 国立国語研究所

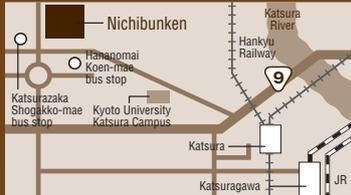
〒190-8561  
東京都立川市緑町10-2  
TEL:042-540-4300(代表)  
FAX:042-540-4333

【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「自治大学校・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  
FAX: +81-75-335-2091  
<http://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/>



## 国際日本文化研究センター

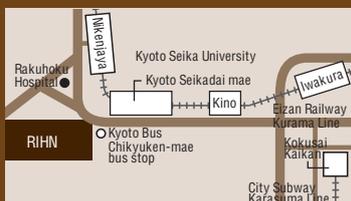
〒610-1192  
京都府京都市西京区御陵大枝山町3-2  
TEL:075-335-2222(代表)  
FAX:075-335-2091

【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(徒歩5分)  
JR東海道本線「桂川駅」→ヤサカバス(30分)「花の舞公園前」下車(徒歩5分)



## Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

457-4 Motoyama, Kamigamo,  
Kita-ku, Kyoto City, Kyoto 603-8047  
Japan  
TEL: +81-75-707-2100  
FAX: +81-75-707-2106  
[http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn\\_e/index.html](http://www.chikyu.ac.jp/rihn_e/index.html)



## 総合地球環境学研究所

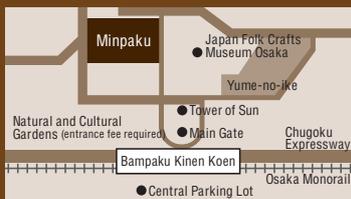
〒603-8047  
京都府京都市北区上賀茂本山457-4  
TEL:075-707-2100(代表)  
FAX:075-707-2106

【最寄り駅】  
地下鉄丸丸線「国際会館駅」→京都バス(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

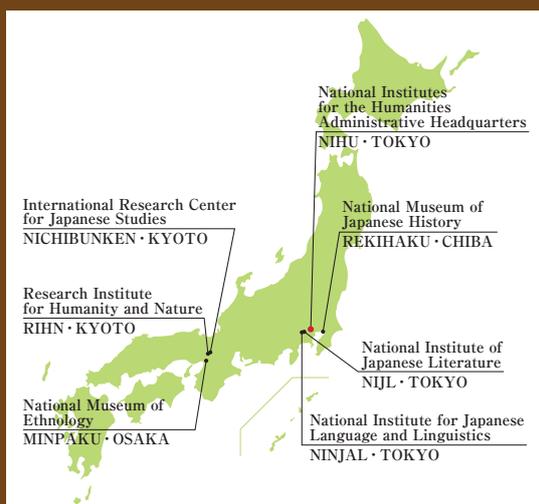
10-1 Senri Expo Park, Suita City,  
Osaka 565-8511 Japan (on the  
Premises of Expo Park)  
TEL: +81-6-6876-2151  
FAX: +81-6-6875-0401  
<http://www.minpaku.ac.jp/english/>



## 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)  
FAX:06-6875-0401

【最寄り駅】  
大阪モノレール「万博記念公園駅」「公園東口駅」(徒歩15分)



Inter-University Research Institute Corporation

## National Institutes for the Humanities Administrative Headquarters

2nd Floor, Hulic Kamiyacho Bldg.  
4-3-13 Toranomon, Minato-ku,  
Tokyo 105-0001 Japan  
TEL: +81-3-6402-9200  
FAX: +81-3-6402-9240  
<https://www.nihu.jp/en>

## 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)  
FAX:03-6402-9240

【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)

