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The massive earthquake and tsunami that hit the Pacific coast of eastern Japan on March 11, 2011 left more than 20,000 people dead or missing. Many towns and farming and fishing villages were destroyed and a great number of people continue to live in evacuation shelters or temporary housings. We pray for the repose of the souls of those who lost their lives and extend our hope for the early reconstruction of the affected areas.

What we realized anew in the face of this unprecedented disaster is the importance of everyday life. Daily life, which naturally varies from one part of the country to another, forms the basis of human culture. It is replete with language and ideas and sustained by economic activity founded on the accumulation of technology. Together with our families and relatives, our neighbors and communities, we are part of the rich fabric of life woven out of local history, culture, and art.

The National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU), founded in 2004, was incorporated to serve as the holding organization for the major humanities research institutes in Japan. Starting with five, it now comprises six research institutes. NIHU helps each of the institutes to fulfill its discipline-based founding objectives, promotes cooperation among the institutes, and encourages their initiatives in shared use of resources and collaboration with universities and other organizations, involving a wide range of humanities and social sciences researchers in Japan and overseas. Some research institutes are based on multiple disciplines and others are seeking to establish new disciplines.

“Discipline” here refers to the development and transmission of scholarship in certain specialized fields of research that is indispensable to the advancement of human culture. In line with its role as an inter-university research corporation, NIHU takes responsibility for encouraging interdisciplinary and collaborative research, thereby contributing to the enhancement of scholarship as a whole.

National Institutes for the Humanities
KINDA Akihiro, President
Japan’s four Inter-University Research Institute Corporations make available to researchers at public and private universities and research institutes in Japan and overseas large-scale facilities and repositories of materials and information that would be difficult for individual institutes to maintain. Serving as “centers of excellence” (COEs) in their respective areas of scholarly research, they are in a position to facilitate effective collaborative research.

One of these corporations is the National Institutes for the Humanities. Founded on April 1, 2004, NIHU was initially made up of five inter-university research institutes in the humanities: the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Institute of Japanese Literature, the International Research Center for Japanese Studies, the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, and the Research Institute for Human and Nature. On October 1, 2009, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics became the sixth institute to join NIHU. While conducting basic research to fulfill their respective founding purposes, these institutes interact in a complementary fashion, transcending the frameworks of previous scholarship. They make up a comprehensive inter-university research complex where study in the humanities is informed by the perspective of study of the natural environment.

NIHU is dedicated to the advancement of basic research on culture and its extensions in time and space, including empirical study drawing on vast repositories of cultural materials and theoretical study integrating the perspectives of the humanities and social sciences. It also aims to be a global center for comprehensive scholarly research in the humanities, endeavoring to open up new research fields, including collaboration with various fields of the natural sciences.

The six member institutes, each serving as a center for nationwide research exchange, are kept accessible to the researcher community. They actively cooperate and collaborate with universities and research organizations and take initiatives in facilitating multifaceted joint research projects and shared use of research results.

Some of the NIHU institutes—the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Museum of Ethnology, and the National Institute of Japanese Literature—are equipped with museum functions and exhibit facilities. Taking advantage of their distinctive functions, they exhibit research data and achievements in a coordinated manner. The NIHU institutes also issue printed publications and make use of their information technology capabilities to make the information they generate available in and outside Japan, thereby contributing to the broader advancement of scholarship.

As we have entered the twenty-first century, the workings of nature and man are interacting with each other on a global scale, and many difficult problems have arisen as a result. In the face of these serious challenges, NIHU reaffirms the importance of humanities research, which is fundamental to all areas of learning.

◆History

Establishment of Institutions

Establishment as Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes for the Humanities April 1, 2004

The National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics was incorporated into NIHU October 1, 2009

Inter-University Research Institute Corporation NATIONAL INSTITUTES FOR THE HUMANITIES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF JAPANESE HISTORY
April 14, 1981

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE LITERATURE
May 1, 1972

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES
May 21, 1987

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITY AND NATURE
April 1, 2001

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY
June 7, 1974

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS
December 20, 1948

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF JAPANESE HISTORY

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE LITERATURE

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITY AND NATURE

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE HISTORY

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITY AND NATURE

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY
Organizational Chart

Executive Directors
KINDA Akihiro President
NAKAWO Masayoshi Executive Director
ONO Masatoshi Executive Director
KURIKI Shigeo Executive Director/Head, Office of Administration
ISHIGAMI Eiichi Executive Director (part-time)
HIROWATARI Seigo Auditor (part-time)
KOMAGATA Kiyonobu Auditor (part-time)

Directors-General of the Research Institutes
HIRAKAWA Minami Director-General, National Museum of Japanese History
IMANISHI Yuichiro Director-General, National Institute of Japanese Literature
KAGEYAMA Taro Director-General, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics
INOKI Takenori Director-General, International Research Center for Japanese Studies
TACHIMOTO Narifumi Director-General, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
SUDO Ken'ichi Director-General, National Museum of Ethnology
Promotion of Research in the Humanities

In the twenty-first century, coexistence, harmony, and protection of the earth’s environment are pressing issues for all humankind. Facing the challenges of these issues, NIHU seeks to create new fields of study in the humanities and take the lead in advanced inter-institutional and international research. In these endeavors, it promotes seven types of activities—inter-institutional research, inter-institutional exhibitions, resource sharing, international collaborative research on Japan-related documents and artifacts overseas, international collaboration and cooperation in research, area studies, and public information services.

In 2010, NIHU established the Research Integration Committee under its Academic Senate (an advisory body). This committee was tasked to review the research and educational programs as well as social outreach activities of each of the six institutes within NIHU during the first medium-term plan (2004–2009), based on feedback from the researcher community, and it was also tasked with providing advice about directions institute activities should take over the period of the second medium-term plan (2010–2015).

NIHU promotes programs of the seven types described above as well as the distinctive programs of each of its six institutes. The Research Integration Committee also reviews these NIHU-wide activities. The committee examines the organizational and management aspects of relations between NIHU and its respective institutes.

I. Inter-Institutional Research

As university-level entities for inter-institutional research, the six institutes that make up NIHU serve pivotal roles in their respective fields of scholarship. Each institute collects, organizes, catalogs and studies a vast and diverse collection of materials and research information and makes it available for use to researchers throughout the country. The institutes also conduct team research projects in collaboration with scholars in Japan and overseas.

NIHU integrates the research resources and research results accumulated by the six institutes and promotes inter-institutional research for the further advancement of scholarship. During the first medium-term plan, its inter-institutional and collaborative research projects were centered around two themes: “Integrated Research on Exchange between Japan and Eurasia” and “Advanced Application of Cultural Resources.”

Second Medium-Term (FY 2010–2015) Inter-Institutional Research Themes

With the launching of the second medium-term plan in 2010, the following two collaborative research projects are underway.

Comprehensive Research on Human Cultural Resources

Research under this theme will focus on the relationship of humans to resources, studying the history of humankind from the viewpoint of the development and use of diverse resources. Studies will examine anew the practice, institutions, and relevant concepts/values of various eras and different parts of the world in terms of their relationship to the use of resources.

II. Inter-Institutional Exhibitions

As one means of making accessible to the public the achievements of the research conducted under its institutes, NIHU holds various kinds of exhibitions. The National Museum of Japanese History and the National Museum of Ethnology both have large-scale exhibition halls, and they maintain permanent exhibitions and hold special exhibitions. The National Institute of Japanese Literature, which moved to a new building in 2008, now has space for public exhibitions. As one type of exhibition, NIHU promotes the holding of inter-institutional exhibitions for showing to the public the results of research by two or more institutions.

Inter-Institutional Exhibitions in FY 2011

Painting the City: Kyoto and Edo

Part I. “Scenes In and Around Kyoto” Screens and Genre Paintings

Part II. Famous Scenes and Genre Paintings of Edo

March 27–May 6, 2012


Paintings that depict medieval and early modern cities are valuable resources for study about the urban society of those times. Chronicling the historical development of Kyoto, the exhibit shows the “Scenes In and Around Kyoto” screens (Rakuchū-Rakugai-zu byōbu) among other paintings in the collection of the National Museum of Japanese History. The Edo-related displays feature the representation of the city and its noted places in the “Edo-zu byōbu,” ukiyo-e, shokunin-zuki-ashi-e (illustrations of various craftsmen), and other works.
How to Feel the Earth: Passing on Nature and Culture to Posterity
November 2011: Expo Memorial Park, Aichi prefecture
December 2011: National Taitung University, Taiwan

Activities aimed at children are crucial to finding solutions to global environmental problems and promoting mutual understanding between different cultures. One such event is the exhibition of children’s paintings (now in the collection of the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature) that were submitted to the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) annual International Children’s Painting Competition on the Environment. The idea of this exhibition is to foster the sound development of children’s intellect and encourage their perceptivity and sensitivity toward nature and culture.

III. Resource Sharing

The Committee on Resource Sharing Projects at NIHU is engaged in research and development on analysis systems and databases, as well as maintenance of numerous databases.

Bringing together more than 100 databases created by the institutes under the NIHU umbrella, the committee developed the Integrated Retrieval System (nihu INT) that enables one-touch cross-sectional search of databases containing information of high value for research in the humanities. The committee also developed an application called “nihuONE” that provides public access to small-scale databases. NIHU is currently engaged in the development of the “GT-Map/GT-Time System,” a spatiotemporal search and analysis system that incorporates the parameters of time (year, period, etc.) and space (geographical location, place names, etc.).

The committee promotes the building of resource-sharing environments linked to universities and research institutes throughout Japan. In 2009, NIHU established a Study Group on Humanities Information Resource Sharing. In July 2010, a two-way unified search system was activated that links the National Diet Library Digital Archives Portal, PORTA, with NIHU’s Integrated Retrieval System (nihu INT).

IV. International Collaborative Research on Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Overseas

In 2010, NIHU embarked upon an international collaborative research project with related research institutions, including some overseas, to survey and examine Japan-related documents and artifacts located in other countries. To further this project, NIHU established the Committee for Survey and Research of Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Overseas with members from outside research organizations and experienced scholars and experts on this subject.

Japan-related materials held in Europe, the Americas, and various parts of Asia include some whose whereabouts are not confirmed and others about which detailed information has yet to be compiled. The inventory and study of such materials by specialists in cultural anthropology, folklore, history, Japanese literature, Japanese language, art history, Asian studies, and other fields are urgent tasks for the advancement of Japanese studies, best undertaken through international collaboration. Through this project, Japan-related documents and artifacts located in other countries can be preserved and made accessible for research. The project helps to invigorate research on Japanese culture in international society and to substantiate the significance of Japanese culture in world history.

In FY 2011, as in FY 2010, the project dealt with Japan-related materials of two types: those taken out of Japan in the early modern and modern periods and those left overseas by Japanese emigrants from the modern period onward. Work focused on the survey and study of the Siebold family collection and on other materials collected in Japan and taken overseas in the nineteenth century and on materials overseas relating to Japanese emigrants to Asia and the Americas and their environment in modern and recent times.

V. International Collaboration and Cooperation in Research

NIHU and its six member institutes together have academic exchange agreements with sixty-six universities and research institutes in other countries. In FY 2010, a number of international projects were conducted in collaboration with such overseas organizations, including cosponsorship of an international gathering on “Japan-China Comparative Book History Research” with three Chinese research institutes, an overseas symposium at the University of Indonesia, an international symposium titled “Whaling Cultures of the World: Past, Present, and Future” held at the National Museum of Ethnology, and a joint excavation project with the National University of San Marcos (Peru).

Based on an agreement between NIHU and the Arts and
Promotion of Research in the Humanities

NIHU promotes three programs in area studies, focusing on the Islamic region and China and India today, all of which have special social and scholarly significance to Japan. In accordance with plans drawn up by the Committee for Area Studies composed of scholars and non-academic experts, NIHU has created research centers jointly with universities and research institutes, and through networks among these centers, promoted integrated research to comprehensively understand and explain the cultures and societies of these priority regions. For this purpose the NIHU Center for Area Studies recruits young researchers and assigns them to work at these research centers.

Islamic Area Studies
- **Institute of Islamic Area Studies, Organization for Islamic Area Studies, Waseda University**
  Major theme: “Islamic Civilization and Knowledge”
  Director: YUKAWA Takeshi
- **Department of Islamic Area Studies, Center for Evolving Humanities, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo**
  Major theme: “Thought and Politics in Islamic Areas: Comparison and Relations”
  Director: KOMATSU Hisao
- **Center for Islamic Studies, Sophia University**
  Major theme: “Modern Experiences of Muslims and Their Networks”
  Director: KISAICHI Masatoshi
- **Center for Islamic Area Studies, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University**
  Major theme: “International Organizations/Institutions in the Islamic World”
  Director: KOSUGI Yasushi

Contemporary Chinese Area Studies
- **Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies, Organization for Asian Studies, Waseda University**
  Major theme: “China’s Sustainability of Development”
  Director: AMAKO Satoshi
- **Research Center for Modern and Contemporary China, Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University**
  Major theme: “Fundamental Structure of Modern and Contemporary China from the Point of View of Humanities”
  Director: MORI Tokihiko
- **Center for Contemporary China Studies, Institute of East Asian Studies, Keio University**
  Major theme: “Governance and Politics in China”
  Director: KOKUBUN Ryosei
- **Contemporary China Research Base, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo**
  Major theme: “Economic Growth and Stability in China”
  Director: TAJIMA Toshio
- **RIHN Initiative for Chinese Environmental Issues**
  Major theme: “Chinese Social Development and the Environmental Preservation”
  Director: KUBOTA Jumpei
- **Documentation Center for China Studies, The Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library)**
  Major theme: “Constructing a System of Collecting and Studying Source Materials for China Studies”
  Director: TAKADA Yukio

Contemporary India Area Studies
- **Center for the Study of Contemporary India, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University**
  Major theme: “Sustainable Humanosphere, Society and Politics in Contemporary India”
  Director: TANABE Akio
- **Center for Indian Studies, The University of Tokyo**
  Major theme: “Economic Development and Environmental Change in Contemporary India”
  Director: MIZUSHIMA Tsukasa
- **Center for Contemporary India Studies, Hiroshima University**
  Major theme: “Spatial Structure and Social Change in Contemporary India”
  Director: OKAHASHI Hidenori
VII. Public Information Services

Lectures and Symposia
NIHU holds lectures and symposiums in order to make scholarly achievements in humanities research as widely known as possible.

15th Public Lecture and Symposium
"Understanding the Uprisings in the Arab World"
July 2, 2011
Miyako Messe, Kyoto

To promote better understanding of the Middle East and Islamic world, NIHU held a public lecture and panel discussion to present some of the achievements of its area studies promotion project on the Islamic region.

16th Public Lecture and Symposium
“The Ryūkyū Islands Chain as Viewed from Asia: Its Maritime People, Products, and Culture”
September 23, 2011
Osaka Museum of History, Osaka

Cultural features of the Southwest Islands centering on Okinawa and Amami were reexamined from an Asian perspective through reports and discussion among archaeologists, historians, folklorists, and other specialists.

17th Public Lecture and Symposium
“Remote Forests and Local Forests: How They Are Linked in the Global Era”
October 7, 2011
Kyoto International Conference Center, Kyoto

Forests, once a close and familiar part of people’s lives, now often seem very far away. For this year, the International Year of Forests, specialists in relevant fields discussed from different standpoints how to make woods and forests something people can once again relate to in daily life.

Publications

Human
This magazine, designed to provide information on the achievements in humanities research of NIHU and its six institutes, is commercially produced as a joint project with a commercial publisher in order to assure it will reach as wide a readership as possible.

Ningen Bunka
A PR magazine introducing the content of public lectures and symposiums, Ningen bunka, “Humanities,” was published in print up to volume 13, “Diversity of Language Patterns.” Its publication will continue online.

Intellectual Property

The Intellectual Properties Administration Office at NIHU maintains and manages intellectual properties including the holdings of libraries and museums, books and other publications resulting from institute research, and databases and other materials in the possession of the six institutes. It also works to build and improve systems for making these intellectual assets available and useful to society. The office holds seminars as a means of cultivating better understanding of intellectual property issues.

NIHU is a member of the Liaison Committee of Intellectual Property Sections at Inter-University Research Institutes, along with the National Institutes of Natural Sciences, the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, and the Research Organization of Information and Systems.

On-Site Heat Treatment (National Museum of Ethnology)

Methyl bromide, one of the chemical products once widely used to preserve cultural assets, archives, books and the like, was partly responsible for depletion of the earth’s ozone layer. Now banned, it was no longer produced after 2005 in developed countries. Treatment methods that do not use chemicals have now been developed, including heat treatment. An on-site heat treatment apparatus has been devised to treat hard-to-move large-size or very heavy artifacts.
Founded in April 1981, the National Museum of Japanese History (NMJH, popularly known as “Rekihaku”) is engaged in interdisciplinary and comprehensive research across the four areas of history, archaeology, folklore, and database development. It has the entire range of museum functions—collection, organizing, storage, investigation, and dissemination (through exhibitions, publishing, information databases, and so forth) of scholarly documents, artifacts and information. Rekihaku is an advocate of “museum-based research integration,” a new approach that organically links resources (documents and artifacts), research, and display, and opens up its activities both domestically and internationally, thereby promoting full utilization of the museum’s functions.

A crucial role of Rekihaku as an inter-university research institute is to enable researchers in Japan and abroad to join together to make productive use of the multiple functions mentioned above. Rekihaku also supports and trains scholars who as researchers and educators will provide direction for the next generation.

Rekihaku recently decided to completely reconstruct its permanent exhibition space to reflect the results of research that has been done in the more than two decades since its opening, in order to better meet the needs of today’s rapidly changing society. A basic plan for renewal of the permanent exhibition was drawn up and a Renewal Committee of researchers from Japan and abroad was formed. In March 2008 Gallery 3 (Early Modern) reopened with renewed displays, and in March 2010 Gallery 6 (Contemporary History) newly opened. Work is currently going forward to reopen Gallery 4 (Folk Life) in 2013.

At Rekihaku, researchers of various fields from universities and research institutes in Japan and overseas organize research projects under common themes and carry out collaborative studies (“basic,” “scientific,” and “development-style”), as well as surveys of artifacts and exhibition projects. “Basic research” refers to interdisciplinary investigations conducted under broad themes and “scientific research” consists of digitization of collected materials and establishment of new methodological foundations for historical research. With these two as the core of collaborative academic work, “development-style research” is designed to devise new research tasks and train young scholars. The research tasks for fiscal 2011 are as follows:

### Collaborative Research

**Basic Research**
- General Study on the Formation of Folkloric Representation
- General Study for Establishing a New Image of the Ancient Period

**Scientific Research**
- Multifactorial Field Analysis Research
- Historical Resources Development Research
- Innovative Museum Construction Research

**Development-style Research**
- History of Relationship between Human Activities and Plant Utilization in the Jōmon Period
- Folkloric Research on Migration of People and Its Dynamic State

### Surveys of Documents and Artifacts

Three survey projects are being conducted on historical, archaeological, and folkloric artifacts, mainly from the Rekihaku collection.

### Exhibition Projects

Ten projects are being conducted to plan permanent, special, and feature exhibitions.

### Resource Sharing

Rekihaku is engaged in the planned and continuous collection of authentic documents, reproductions, audio and visual materials, and related items. As of May 2011, it has 226,586 items in its collection (including five national treasures, eighty-five important cultural assets, and twenty-seven art treasures). It has a library of 308,731 titles.
Dissemination of Information

Publication of Research Reports

Database Access
Rekihaku provides public access to forty-seven databases (as of May 1, 2011), including twenty-four that contain bibliographic information on various fields and collaborative research outcomes and eight that furnish the full text of classical diaries.

In fiscal 2011, Rekihaku has created a database of Jōmon and Yayoi settlement sites recorded in a summary of reports collected in the scientific research project “Integrative Research on Settlement Sites in the Jōmon and Yayoi Periods.” It has also made publicly available a database of materials used for cultural properties based on a survey of documents concerning pigments, dyes, and other substances used in the production of cultural properties.

Exhibitions

Permanent Exhibition
Rekihaku’s permanent exhibition focuses on the history of the Japanese people’s way of life.
   Gallery 1: Primeval Era and Ancient Times
   Gallery 2: Medieval Period
   Gallery 3: Early Modern Period
   Gallery 4: Folk Life
   Gallery 5: Modern Period
   Gallery 6: Contemporary Period

Special Exhibitions
Rekihaku holds special exhibitions to publicize the results of collaborative research and collection of materials.
   “Beniitajime: Lingerie from the Edo Period to the Meiji Period”
   (July 26-September 4, 2011)
   “Recording Landscapes: Photographic Possibilities”
   (November 8, 2011-January 15, 2012)

Social Outreach
Rekihaku holds forums and lectures as a means of public dissemination of the results of its research.

Educational Projects for Children
Rekihaku conducts educational projects for children, including the “Exploration of Rekihaku,” which consists of easy-to-understand explanations of the exhibits and research activities and a tour of what it looks like behind the scenes of the exhibitions, and the “Rekihaku Worksheets for Children,” which pose questions that can be answered while touring the museum galleries.

Training Workshops for Specialists
Since FY 1993, Rekihaku has been cosponsoring, with the Agency for Cultural Affairs, workshops that provide additional training to specialists from other history and folklore-related institutes.

Academic Exchange
Rekihaku is engaged in scholarly exchange with universities, research institutes, and museums overseas. As of May 2011, ten scholarly exchange agreements have been established.

Graduate School Education
Rekihaku is one of eighteen Japanese inter-university research centers that form a consortium institution for graduate education, the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, which has its headquarters at Hayama (Kanagawa prefecture). Rekihaku researchers are the faculty of the Department of Japanese History of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the university, and offer education at the doctoral program level in history, folklore, archaeology, and analytical science. In 1997 Rekihaku adopted a special inter-university researcher system, under which it accepts and trains graduate students of various universities in such fields as history, archaeology, and folklore.
The National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) was established in May 1972 to study, collect, organize, and preserve literary texts and related documents. Since that time, it has been engaged in research, collection, and preservation of Japanese literary works and related documents located in and outside Japan with the cooperation of researchers from universities and other institutions in Japan and overseas. NIJL makes the documents, artifacts, and information it has collected available to scholars and general users through online databases and copying services as well as at the Institute.

Encouraging use of the vast amount of bibliographical information it has gathered and studied, NIJL pursues the systematic development of studies of literature through basic, comprehensive, and applied research. It plans and implements joint research projects under the categories of “basic research,” “specific research,” and “international collaborative research.” In joint research, the Institute collaborates with researchers from universities and other institutes in Japan and engages actively in international exchange at both the institutional and individual levels. NIJL promotes social outreach through exhibitions, lectures, workshops, and the like, providing public access to Japanese literature and related cultural resources.

In March 2008, NIJL moved from Tokyo’s Shinagawa ward to the suburb of Tachikawa. The larger reading-room space, exhibition gallery, and other facilities in the new location have allowed it to further enhance its role as an inter-university research institute.

Based on its surveys and research on documents and research exchange with domestic and foreign institutions, NIJL conducts the following types of collaborative research in the effort to achieve the further development of both basic and international research on Japanese literature and related topics.

**Basic Research**

Joint projects to enhance basic research on historical documents
- Archival Study of Local Records in Early Modern Japan
- The Formation of Libraries and Enjoyment of Literature in Early Modern Times

**Specific Research**

Joint projects dealing with important topics
- Comprehensive Research of Japanese Illustrated Books in the USA
- Early Modern Japanese Expression and Intellect Across Borders: Comprehensive Research Through Literature, Performing Arts, and Images
- Comprehensive Research of *Utawase* Documents in the Possession of the Yōmei Bunko
- Comprehensive Research of the Kuze Family Document
- Comprehensive Research on Fujiwara no Michinaga: Focusing on Development of Heian era Culture
- Philological Research on the Works of Kamo no Chōmei, Centering on the Daifukukōji Text of “Hōjōki (The Ten-Foot-Square Hut)”
- Research on the Introduction and Acceptance of Song Editions in Japan

**International Collaborative Research**

Joint projects conducted in collaboration with overseas researchers
- Research on Old Japanese Books in Leiden, Holland Collected by Blomhoff, Fisscher, and Siebold

**Resource Sharing**

**Survey and Acquisition**

In close collaboration with some 180 researchers throughout the country, NIJL visits owners (organizations and individuals) of original texts (manuscripts, imprints, etc.) to conduct bibliographic and other research. It reproduces such texts on micro negative film or in digital format when permission is obtained to do so. Since 2005 NIJL has been engaged in collaborative investigations based on agreements concluded with other universities and institutions.
Access to Documents
The NIJL library provides reading and copying services. Users in distant locations may make use of its reproduction and other services through the inter-library loan system. Individuals not attached to a university or other organization may make requests for duplication directly by post or fax.

Database Access
NIJL makes scholarly information contained in twenty-six databases publicly available, such as the "Database of Articles on Japanese Literature" and the "Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books."

Social Outreach
Exhibitions
To provide public access to the results of collaborative research projects NIJL holds a number of exhibitions each year.

Research Exhibition
"200 Years of Early Modern Waka Gatherings: The Literary Affairs of Court Nobles as Seen in the Kuze Family Documents" Held May 23 through June 24, 2011. As part of the results of the specific research project “Comprehensive Research of the Kuze Family Document,” the exhibition presented historical materials related to early modern court society and literature (mainly waka poetry), centering around classical books and documents in the NIJL collection as well as in the collection of Professor KUSAKA Yukio of Ryukoku University.

Special Exhibition
"Yōmei Collection of Konoe Family: Thousand-Year Tradition of Waka Culture in Heian Era" Held October 8 through December 4, 2011. As part of the results of the specific research project "Comprehensive Research of Utaawase Documents in the Possession of the Yōmei Bunko," various materials collected by the Yōmei Bunko Foundation are on display.

Inter-Institutional Exhibitions
"Painting the City: Kyoto and Edo, Part II: Famous Scenes and Genre Paintings of Edo”
To be held March 27 through May 6, 2012. Drawing partly on a collaborative NIJL research project with NIHU on "Research on Paintings and Topographical Descriptions of Medieval and Early Modern Cities: Kyoto and Edo," the exhibition traces the development of and changes in the ways of looking at Edo over the period from before the founding of the city of Edo to modern times.

International Conference on Japanese Literature
An International Conference on Japanese Literature is held every year to deepen scholarly exchange among Japanese literature specialists in and outside Japan and to foster the development of research on Japanese literature.

“Memories of Location: Text and Space” Held November 26 and 27, 2011.

Lecture Series
A series of lectures aimed at promoting appreciation of Japanese literature is held annually on selected topics or about major classical literary works. The lecturer for FY 2011 is NAWA Osamu, the director of a Yōmei Bunko.

Lectures on Japanese Classics
These lectures serve as training for librarians in Japan and overseas on basic knowledge and handling of works of Japanese classical literature. The lecturers are scholars and librarians from NIJL and librarians from the National Diet Library. FY 2011 lectures will be held in January 2012.

Archives College
NIJL hosts long- and short-term courses to train and support the work of archivists who supervise the preservation and use of historic documents. Lecturers are mainly scholars from NIJL. The long-term course is held annually in summer over eight weeks at NIJL. Short-term courses for FY 2011 will be held at the Otaru University of Commerce and the Otaru City Museum of Literature from November 7 to 18.

Satellite Lecture
NIJL scholars give public lectures on Japanese literature and related fields at locations in central Tokyo. The theme of the lecture for FY 2011 is “Japanese Performing Arts of the Medieval and Early Modern Periods.”

Children’s Visit Day
In cooperation with the city of Tachikawa, where NIJL is located, the Institute co-hosts a “Children’s Visit Day” program for elementary school students from the city and vicinity. Talks on literature, karuta games, and other events are held to encourage children’s interest in Japanese literature and books.

Graduate School Education
NIJL is the home of the Department of Japanese Literature of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, a consortium institution in which eighteen Japanese inter-university research institutes participate. The department, established in FY 2003, offers graduate education in a doctoral degree program in Japanese literature from the cultural sciences perspective. Since 1998, NIJL has accepted and provided supervision to graduate students recommended by universities under the special inter-university researchers system.
Founded in December 1948, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL) is the premier international center for research on Japanese language and linguistics as well as on Japanese-language education. It is devoted to deepening our understanding and insight into human culture through the study of language. It also seeks to contribute to the development of the Japanese language and its role in daily life, and to the promotion of Japanese-language education for speakers of other languages.

NINJAL conducts large-scale theoretical and empirical research projects in collaboration with universities and research organizations in Japan and overseas with the aim of illuminating all aspects of the Japanese language as one of the many languages of the world. One of its important missions is to make accessible to the public the outcome of joint research as well as information on research publications, thereby promoting their application in such fields as Japanese-language education and natural language processing. NINJAL also seeks to be an international core research center for Japanese linguistics.

Research

More than thirty collaborative research projects, classified into several types according to their nature and scale, are currently being carried out with active cooperation by leading researchers in and outside Japan. They are organized by the four research departments and the Center for JSL Research and Information under the research theme of each department and center.

Department of Language Change and Variation

With a view to clarifying the geographical and social variation of Japanese in the present and past, as well as the mechanism of its historical development, the Department of Language Change and Variation is engaged in collaborative research focused on the nationwide distribution of dialects, the endangered dialects of Amami, Ryūkyū, and Hachijō, the dynamics of contemporary Japanese, and the process of the formation of linguistic variants.

Department of Corpus Studies

Data and theory are both indispensable for scientific research. Creation of a vision for new data is necessary for the design of high-quality resources, and unbiased data is vital for the construction of new theories.

In the Department of Corpus Studies, three basic research projects are currently in progress: research on corpus annotation for existing corpora, design of a diachronic Japanese corpus, and research on the foundations of Japanese corpus linguistics.

Department of Crosslinguistic Studies

The Department of Crosslinguistic Studies investigates the nature and characteristics of the Japanese language in comparison with other languages of the world, with particular attention to approximately forty languages of the Western Hemisphere, Oceania, Asia, Africa, and Europe.

In the marketplace of linguistic ideas, we seek to leverage research on Japanese to make a contribution to general linguistics, and to introduce Japanese linguistics to the world.

Center for JSL Research and Information

In light of the wide range of current issues surrounding the teaching and learning of Japanese as a second (foreign) language (JSL), the Center for JSL Research and Information aims to gather information on JSL research being done inside and outside Japan and disseminate it online for global use, together with the outcomes of empirical studies carried out at NINJAL on non-native speaker communicative abilities in Japanese.

Resource Sharing

To promote advanced collaborative research, the Center for Research Resources provides a vast amount of source material, data, and bibliographical information on Japanese linguistics and Japanese language education to scholars at universities and research institutes in Japan and throughout the world. The two yearbooks of research bibliography, Kokugo nenkan and Nihongo kyōiku nenkan, formerly published in book form, are now unified and available online as the Bibliographic Database of Japanese Language Research. The Center is also in charge of issuing NINJAL publica-
Collaborating with the Department of Corpus Studies and other departments, the Center for Corpus Development undertakes the design and development of various language resources. The Balanced Corpus of Contemporary Written Japanese (BCCWJ; 100 million words) was completed in 2011 and is now publicly available. UniDic, an electronic dictionary for unified morphological and/or speech analyses, has been publicly available since 2007. It covers more than 200 thousand words and is continually being expanded.

The Center also manages resources that have been developed in the past, such as the Corpus of Spontaneous Japanese (CSJ), the Taiyō corpus, and the Bunrui goihyō (Japanese thesaurus).

In the coming years, the Center will concentrate its efforts on the design and construction of an ultra large-scale corpus and a diachronic corpus of Japanese language.

The Research Library at NINJAL collects and stores mainly research materials and linguistic resources concerning Japanese language studies and the Japanese language, as well as related fields such as Japanese language education, linguistics, and natural language processing.

This is the only library in Japan specializing in Japanese language and linguistics.

The outcomes of academic research should be broadly shared not only with specialists but also with the general public for practical use in various social contexts. The following three are specially highlighted here for their urgency and social relevance.

Research on Endangered Dialects in Japan

In 2009, UNESCO published a red book of the endangered languages in the world including eight languages/dialects spoken in Japan. Completing in-depth and comprehensive investigations of such irreplaceable dialects before they disappear and preserving them in digitized form is of utmost importance.

This project is expected to contribute to global research on endangered languages as well as to help activate the local communities where those dialects are spoken.

Expansion of Japanese Corpora

Until recently, Japan was behind other countries in the construction and utilization of large linguistic corpora. NINJAL is addressing this situation not only by expanding its existing corpus of contemporary Japanese but also by supporting development of a diachronous corpus including Old Japanese, partly in collaboration with the University of Oxford. The corpora, when completed, will contribute immensely to the invigoration of Japanese corpus linguistics on the global level, as well as to a broader use of language resources by both native and non-native speakers in a variety of fields such as Japanese-language education, mass media, and information processing.

Japanese-language Education in Multicultural Communities

The recent increase in the number of foreign students and foreign residents in Japan has given rise to diverse needs for the teaching and learning of Japanese as a foreign language. Accordingly, multiple approaches to the content and methods of JSL teaching urgently need to be explored. This program pursues the extensive empirical study of learners’ communicative abilities in Japanese and aims thereby to present material that will be useful and effective in the improvement of JSL education as well as in resolving social problems arising from intercultural conflict.

NINJAL serves the public by presenting its ongoing research through a variety of programs, some designed for specialists, some for general audiences, and some for young people. The major programs are listed below.

For Specialists

- The NINJAL International Symposium
- The NINJAL Colloquium
- The NINJAL Salon
- The NINJAL Collaborative Research Project Meetings and Symposia

For Young Researchers

- The NINJAL Tutorial

For the General Public

- The NINJAL Forum
- The NINJAL Seminar
- The NINJAL Career Exploration Program (for junior-high and high-school students)
- The NINJAL Junior Program (for elementary-school students)

NINJAL collaborates with the Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of Language and Society in its graduate studies program.

Interview with a dialect speaker.
Founded in May 1987, the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (widely known as “Nichibunken”) is devoted to international, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive research on Japanese culture and research cooperation and support for Japanese studies scholars around the world. In addition to research on the distinctiveness of Japanese culture, Nichibunken emphasizes the perspectives of comparative studies and cultural exchange. Its researchers are involved in diverse interdisciplinary team research projects on Japanese culture that bring together specialists from a wide range of fields from within and outside Japan. Nichibunken shares research information with scholars and research institutions engaged in the study of Japanese culture all around the world, and it undertakes a wide variety of international research collaborative activities, such as sponsoring the participation of its faculty in scholarly meetings held overseas.

Research

Nichibunken’s research activities fit into a conceptual matrix composed of five research spheres that form the overall framework for the comprehensive study of Japanese culture. Each sphere is subdivided into several categories, or “research foci,” that specify the orientation of research projects. (See accompanying diagram.)

Team Research

The primary emphasis of research at Nichibunken is team research on Japanese culture. The advancement of research on Japanese culture calls for forums where scholars can not only steadily accumulate the results of work in their respective fields but also expand and enhance their knowledge by working together across disciplinary lines.

Exchange with researchers from overseas whose intellectual traditions differ from Japan’s is vital in Nichibunken’s collaborative endeavors. As the internationalization of our society progresses, Nichibunken responds to the demands of the times through internationalization of the study of Japanese culture from multiple angles.

In FY (fiscal and academic year) 2010, eight team research projects entered their final year and were completed, including “Private and Public in Modern Japan: Comparative Perspectives.”

In FY 2011, team research projects will be undertaken on sixteen topics.

Research Cooperation

Researchers from Abroad

As an international Japanese culture research center open to the world, Nichibunken accepts researchers from around the world. By May 1, 2011, it had received a total of 531 researchers from forty-three countries. Scholarly exchange among visiting overseas researchers, Nichibunken scholars, and other specialists working in Japan forms the basis for promoting Japanese studies in the world.

Research Meetings Held in Japan

The Nichibunken Forum, which is open to the public, holds monthly lectures on topics related to Japanese culture. The Forum provides visiting scholars with a venue for presenting their research findings and exchanging ideas. Seminars, lectures, and symposia are also held on themes proposed by Nichibunken scholars based in their own fields of study and on interdisciplinary themes developed collaboratively by overseas researchers and Nichibunken scholars. The Nichibunken Evening Seminar, held in English, meets about ten times a year; these seminars feature presentations by overseas scholars and encourage international exchange.
International Symposia Overseas

Annually since FY 1995, Nichibunken has held an international symposium overseas to extend its research activities and research cooperation beyond the borders of Japan. The overseas symposium for FY 2011 was held May 27-29, 2011, at Fudan University (China) on the theme "Jiangnan Culture and Japan: A Rediscovery of Resources and Human Exchange."

Overseas Meetings on Japanese Studies

Since FY 1999, Nichibunken has sent scholars overseas to hold study meetings with local specialists in Japanese studies on themes in line with local research trends. It also offers support services such as research consulting. As part of its ongoing efforts to promote international cooperation, Nichibunken holds overseas meetings that provide opportunities for collaboration with promising young local scholars; these occasions serve also as a chance for Center scholars to learn about how Japanese studies is being pursued overseas. In FY 2010, such meetings were held at the Academia Sinica, Taiwan.

Research Exchange Symposia

In order to further strengthen networks with overseas Japan specialists and encourage close and stable exchange, since FY 2006 Nichibunken has been holding Research Exchange Symposia. In FY 2010, it held such symposia at Nichibunken, inviting scholars from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

International Research Symposia

Since 1988, Nichibunken has held occasional international research symposia that provide a site for debate about the advancement of Japanese studies.

Resource Sharing

Library

The Nichibunken library collects a wide range of materials relating to all aspects of Japanese studies and makes them available to researchers. It provides access to information of various sorts, not only printed media. Users unaffiliated with Nichibunken may read materials at the library for the purpose of research, but must submit an application prior to their visit. Interested persons may locate books and other materials in the library’s collection via online public access catalog (OPAC) search. From outside Nichibunken, researchers may use the interlibrary loan system to apply for such services as document copying and loan of books and other materials.

Resource Collection

One of the priorities of Nichibunken’s acquisition policy is to obtain a comprehensive collection of books about Japan and translations of Japanese works originating in Japan and overseas. Nichibunken also collects glass plate photographs and colored photographs from the late Edo and Meiji periods, old maps, audio and visual materials, materials related to medical history and the history of science, materials on Sino-Japanese relations, and other items regarded as important for interdisciplinary or comparative research on Japanese culture.

Public Database Access

Nichibunken has been developing an array of databases, starting with Japanese-studies materials in its collection and research outcomes and extending to Japan-related materials held by other organizations. It now provides public online access to fifty databases. In FY 2010 it created “Images of Strange Phenomena and Yōkai (Monstrous Beings).”

Nichibunken lecture meetings may be viewed online in real-time via Internet broadcasting. Public access to an archive of lectures recorded since 1997 is also available online; as of April 1, 2011, there were 180 lectures in this database.

Social Outreach

In order to make known the results of research at Nichibunken and promote understanding of Japanese studies, the Center presents public lectures given by its faculty members and overseas researchers. It convenes a lecture meeting in Tokyo under the general theme of “Reconsidering Japanese Culture,” featuring Nichibunken faculty members and visiting scholars it has invited to Japan from overseas.

When international workshops and symposia are held at Nichibunken, the Center often offers public lectures. Once a year, ordinarily in October or November, Nichibunken opens itself for a Nichibunken Open Day with the purpose of introducing its research activities to society. Visitors attend lectures and seminars, see displays of valuable books and documents, and tour the library and other facilities.

Graduate School Education

Nichibunken faculty members engage in education at the doctoral level, serving as the Department of Japanese Studies of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies. The department, established in FY 1992, promotes interdisciplinary and comprehensive Japanese studies education from an international perspective. Regularly enrolled students come from abroad as well as from Japan. Under the special inter-university researchers system, the department also accepts and trains graduate students recommended by other universities.
The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) was founded in April 2001 to promote “integrated cooperative research toward the solution of global environmental problems” and to create the field of global environmental studies. The year 2011 marks the opening of the RIHN’s second decade. RIHN’s challenge is not just to link knowledge of complex natural processes with that of the lifestyle and culture of different regional communities, but to build holistic knowledge frameworks that allow for qualitative leaps in the human ability to solve environmental problems. RIHN is developing the transdisciplinary field of Environmental Humanities of the Earth System, to describe this merging of cognitive and design sciences.

RIHN research projects are organized through five research Domains: Circulation, Diversity, Resources, Ecohistory and Ecosophy. The Center for Coordination, Promotion, and Communication (CCPC) is responsible for a wide spectrum of cross-project, cross-domain investigations, research, and supports that concern the entire institute.

As it enters its second decade, RIHN seeks greater integration within and between “Domain-based” research projects and has developed a new set of initiatives, the Futurability Initiatives, in order to accomplish this task. The Initiatives are organized by the Core Research Hub of the CCPC, which will allow academic researchers to identify and develop key ideas, topics and fields of study arising within and between past and present research projects. The Initiatives are therefore dedicated to consilience and intended to enhance design-oriented, problem-solving approaches to contemporary environmental issues.

Research

At RIHN, researchers participate in research projects on the basis of fixed-term appointments and projects progress through several stages. At each stage the validity of research plan, the feasibility of implementation, and the significance of results are evaluated in a system designed to assure the quality and autonomy of the research. The first stage is Incubation Studies (IS) whose themes are chosen through open solicitation from both inside and outside the Institute, and new ideas and aims (research seeds) are discovered at this stage. Those studies that are judged to have reached the planning phase move to the stage of Feasibility Study (FS). Their achievements are subject to assessment by the Project Evaluation Committee, which is composed of outside scholars (including non-Japanese) and specialists outside academia. If judged appropriate by the Committee, the projects advance to the stage of Full Research (FR) after approval of the Board of Advisors. The full-research projects go through a transitional Pre-Research (PR) period of one year and then are carried out for three to five years.

In FY 2011, “Initiative-based” FSs, nurtured intensively and efficiently at the CCPC’s Core Research Hub with a view to meeting the direction of the Futurability Initiatives, were screened by the Project Evaluation Committee and then launched as Initiative-based research projects.

Resource Sharing

Sharing of Intellectual Resources

By FY 2010, fourteen FRs had been completed, and their outcomes have been disseminated and utilized in various ways. More than 1,000 researchers from Japan and overseas have participated in fourteen FRs and one PR. They came from many disciplines ranging from the natural sciences to humanities and social sciences, with affiliations at national, public, and private universities as well as at public and private research institutes.

Sharing of Field Resources

RIHN research projects take place not only in Japan but throughout the world, mainly in Asia. They are undertaken in close collaboration with local researchers and staff. In carrying our collaborative projects overseas, a memorandum or research cooperation agreement is signed with local organizations concerned, followed by joint surveys and analysis, sharing of results, exchange of human resources, and the like. Making the most of its networks and joint research experiences, RIHN organizes the sharing of information concerning particular
regions and the environment in collaboration with relevant research organizations in Japan.

**Facilities and Equipment for Sharing Information**

Performing scientific diagnoses of environmental conditions and sharing information with stakeholders and citizens in order to broaden their understanding is vital to the solution of global environmental issues. RIHN is engaged in development of high-precision tools for stable isotope analysis and DNA analysis as well as basic and easy-to-operate equipment of various kinds in order to obtain all sorts of environment-related information from specimens. Through the organization and integration of data gathered using such state-of-the-art devices and its dissemination for the uses of society, RIHN encourages stakeholders to participate in developing the transdisciplinary field of Environmental Humanities of the Earth System.

**Social Outreach**

**RIHN Forums**

To address and discuss the wide range of issues concerning the global environment, the Institute holds an annual RIHN Forum. On July 3, 2011, the tenth RIHN Forum took place at the Kyoto International Conference Center on the topic “Reflections on the Water around Us.”

**RIHN Public Seminars**

To introduce to the public its research achievements as well as information about on-going developments in environmental issues in an easy-to-understand manner, RIHN holds seminars on a regular basis at the Institute and other venues in the city of Kyoto. Each seminar is followed by fruitful discussion between participants and seminar leaders. Starting in FY 2004, a total of forty-two RIHN Public Seminars had been held by the end of FY 2010. Six more will take place in FY 2011.

**RIHN Area Seminars**

RIHN Area Seminars are held in collaboration with universities and research institutes in Japan. Each area or region has its own environmental problems but some of these problems are shared by other areas of the world. Here at the seminars, local universities, research organizations, and government agencies explore the roots of the problems facing both Japan and other countries and think together how to solve them.

**Publications**

**The Humanity & Nature Newsletter**

Published every other month, this newsletter provides the researcher community with the latest information on the views and activities of RIHN and what studies have been undertaken by whom at RIHN. The newsletter serves as one of tools of communication with researchers in Japan and overseas who are involved with RIHN.

“Chikyūken Sōsho” Series

Books in this series introduce in scholarly yet easy-to-understand language the content of research projects at RIHN (also known as Chikyūken) and the significance of their achievements. They are widely available at bookstores. Published in March 2011 is Uotsukirin no chikyū-kankyōgaku: Oyashio Obitsukukai o hagukumu Amūrugawa (Global Environmental Studies on the Fish-Breeding Forest: Oyashio and Okhotsk’s Primary Production Fed by the Amur River), by SHIRAIWA Takayuki.

**The RIHN Encyclopedia of Global Environmental Studies**

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of its founding, RIHN compiled the achievements of its past research into a 650-page volume published in October 2010 under the title Chikyū kankyōgaku jiten (The RIHN Encyclopedia of Global Environmental Studies). Not simply presenting commentaries on various global environmental topics but focusing on how to deal with them from now on, the volume was edited as source for critical and proactive thinking on the issues. The text is written in easily readable language, without relying on technical jargon, making it accessible to high school students and general readers.

**Graduate School Education**

In FY 2010 RIHN signed an agreement with Nagoya University and began to participate in the research training of graduate school students at the Nagoya University Graduate School of Environmental Studies under a cooperative system for training young researchers in global environmental studies. RIHN has collaborated with the same university in research projects since 2004. RIHN also brings in graduate school students from universities and provides research guidance to them in global-environment-related fields such as anthropology, botany, ecology, geography, and agriculture. The Institute actively employs young post-doctoral researchers as project researchers and provides them with opportunities to take part not only in research projects but also in planning and management of projects, thus encouraging the training of researchers.
The National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku) conducts surveys and research in the fields of anthropology and ethnology. Through such study it provides information about various peoples, societies, and cultures, thereby raising awareness and deepening understanding of the world’s peoples. Minpaku was established in June 1974 as an inter-university research institute and opened its museum to the public in 1977.

Core Research Projects

Core research projects are large-scale interdisciplinary undertakings that deal with fundamental issues common to the humanities and social sciences. Taking advantage of the great breadth and depth of its anthropological and ethnological resources, Minpaku pursues cross-disciplinary and pioneering themes to advance learning about humankind and meet the needs of society. In the course of such research, it seeks to raise the level of collaboration through internationalization and enhance institutional cooperation with research organizations in Japan and abroad.

Two core research projects based on the second medium-term plan (2010-2015) are now being conducted: “Anthropological Studies of Inclusion and Autonomy in the Human World” and “Anthropological Studies of Materiality.” They are expected to contribute to advancements in anthropology, ethnology, and related fields, and to suggest new possibilities for reorganization of the humanities and social sciences and creation of new areas of research.

Inter-University Collaborative Research Projects

Specialists at Minpaku join with non-Minpaku colleagues to deal with specific themes in anthropology, ethnology, and related fields. Of the forty-three Inter-University Collaborative Research Projects undertaken in FY 2010, eighteen were led by Minpaku researchers, five by visiting research fellows and research associates, seventeen by non-Minpaku researchers selected through public solicitation, and three by young researchers.

Research Organization

Minpaku’s research organization comprises three departments, Social Research, Cultural Research, and Advanced Studies in Anthropology, and two research centers. The Center for Research Development designs research strategies based on the latest trends in anthropology, ethnology, and related academic fields. The Research Center for Cultural Resources facilitates the systematic management of cultural resources and the digitization and shared use of these resources, and the center also conducts basic and developmental research to put its resources to use for the good of society. In addition it is involved in planning and coordination to promote the implementation of research projects.

Making the most of ties formed over past years with researchers and research organizations abroad, Minpaku will formulate a strategic plan at the Center for International Academic Exchange in FY 2011 for joint projects with overseas specialists and organizations to bolster further strategic and organizational collaboration and cooperation.

Publications

Minpaku publishes the Bulletin of the National Museum of Ethnology (in Japanese, with English abstracts), Senri Ethnological Studies (SES), Senri Ethnological Reports (SER), Annual Report of the National Museum of Ethnology (in Japanese, with English abstracts), and Minpaku Tsūshin (a quarterly magazine highlighting the activities of the Museum and its researchers, in Japanese). It also encourages publication through commercial publishers both in and outside Japan, and in FY 2010 four titles were released through such channels.

Dissemination of Research Results

Minpaku implements programs for the purpose of making research results known to the public for the benefit of society. In FY 2010 Minpaku held a total of eleven international study meetings, including the international symposium “Whaling Cultures of the World: Past, Present, and Future” and the research forum “International Forum on Business and Anthropology (IFBA): Business and Sacred Space.”

As of May 2011, Minpaku has in its collection 276,307 artifacts, 70,456 audio and visual materials, 630,938 books, 16,416 journals and magazines, 385 “human relations area files” (HRAFs), and 7,141 original texts.

Resource Sharing

Items housed at Minpaku are available for use in research projects inside and outside Minpaku and for university educational purposes, and on loan to other museums. The Minpaku Collections Help Desk accepts inquiries about access to items in its collection.

The Minpaku-compiled Daigaku no tame no Minpaku katsuyō manyuaru (Guide to Educational Resources at Minpaku: For University Students and Their Teachers) recommends that Minpaku’s research outcomes, exhibits, collected materials, and facilities be utilized in university education.
Minpaku Library

The library accepts requests from university libraries, etc., for reproduction or loan of documents and other materials. It also loans out books to general users. The library is open on Saturdays as well as weekdays.

Databases

Besides catalogues of its collections including artifacts, audio and visual materials, and books and periodicals, Minpaku provides public access to databases such as “Korean Daily Commodities Collection.”

Exhibitions

Main Exhibitions

The regional exhibitions (the world divided into nine regions) and cross-cultural exhibitions (music and language) are permanent displays in the main building at Minpaku. Since 2008, in order to more vividly convey the lives of people living in our era of global change, Minpaku has been renovating its permanent exhibitions. Following the renovation of exhibitions on Africa, West Asia, music, and language, as well as the galleries for collaborative use, Minpaku undertook the renewal of its exhibitions on Oceania and the Americas in FY 2010. In FY 2011, it renewed the European exhibitions and “Information Zone.” Topical exhibitions, designed to introduce contemporary issues and latest research topics, are also presented as part of the main exhibitions.

Special Exhibitions

Special exhibitions are large-scale public exhibits designed to introduce the latest research achievements on specific topics in a systematic and comprehensive manner. They are held several times every year in the special exhibition gallery.

“Devotion to the Arts of Living: Daily Life Among the Aynu of the Kurile, Sakhalin and Hokkaido Islands: Objects from the Late 19th–Early 20th Century Collections of Ethnological Museums in Germany and Japan” October 6–December 6, 2011

This special exhibition shows the rich and diverse lifestyles of the Aynu (Ainu) people from the end of the nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries, displaying mainly their tools and implements of daily life collected in the Kurile, Sakhalin, and Hokkaido islands.

Social Outreach

Minpaku holds lecture meetings to help inform the general public about its role as an academic research institute and better understand the different cultures of the world through the findings of anthropological and ethnological research. In FY 2010, among other public lecture meetings, it sponsored a talk on “Marriage matters around the world: Examining Practices in Senegal, China and France” in October in Tokyo.

International Cooperation

In FY 2010 Minpaku signed academic exchange agreements with the University of Edinburgh (U.K.), Antananarivo University (Madagascar), the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (Peru), and the Russian Museum of Ethnography (Russia). Based on the agreement with the National University of San Marcos (Peru), Minpaku conducted a joint excavation at the Pacopampa site in northern Peru and presented a report at the National University of San Marcos and the Japan Society for Studies of Ancient America. With the Lake Biwa Museum, Minpaku jointly runs “An Intensive Course on Museology,” a four-month group training session commissioned by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). There, foreign participants receive training in ways to better contribute to the advancement of the cultures of their home countries.

Promotion and Publishing

Minpaku publishes the periodicals Minpaku Anthropology Newsletter (semiannual, in English) and Gekkan Minpaku (Minpaku Monthly), as well as the Guide to the National Museum of Ethnology and other exhibition guidebooks and catalogues.

Seminars and “Weekend Salon”

Minpaku Seminars, which introduce the latest results of Minpaku research, take place on the third Saturday of every month. The “Minpaku Weekend Salon: A Chat with a Researcher,” in which researchers converse with visitors at exhibition galleries about their newest research findings, is held every Sunday. Valuable, rarely shown films related to anthropology and ethnology—“Minpaku Film Shows”—are shown with commentary provided by an instructor. Performances are also staged to introduce music and performing arts of peoples around the world; in FY 2010 nine such performances were held, including “The Power to Move You: Osaka Naniwa Taiko Drums.”

Promotion of New Exhibitions

To make widely known to the public its newly established “music exhibitions” and “language exhibitions,” Minpaku held various events, including the research presentations “2010 Summer Minpaku Forum: The Power of Sound” and “2011 Spring Minpaku Forum: Into the World of Language,” as well as a movie showing, seminar, weekend salon, and lecture on language (“Around the World with Languages”).

Learning Kit “Min-pack”

Min-pack is learning packet for school children. Each Min-pack is a suitcase containing such items as clothes, musical instruments, tools and other implements, and school supplies from a particular region in the world. There are currently ten types and twenty packets which are available for loan to schools and other institutions for continuing education.

Graduate School Education

Minpaku researchers engage in education at the doctoral level as the faculty of two departments of the School of Cultural and Social Studies, Graduate University for Advanced Studies, founded in 1989. The Department of Regional Studies and the Department of Comparative Studies offer instruction in anthropology and ethnology. So far, seventy-five persons have received their doctoral degrees after studying at the National Museum of Ethnology. The school also accepts and trains graduate students from other universities through the special Inter-University researchers system.
Appendix I
NIHU Committees

Administrative Council

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>KINDA Akihiro</td>
<td>President, NIHU</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAKAWO Masayoshi</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU</td>
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<td>ONO Masatoshi</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU</td>
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<tr>
<td>KURIKI Shigeo</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU/Head, Office of Administration, NIHU</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISHIGAMI Eiichi</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIRAKAWA Minami</td>
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<td>Director-General, National Institute of Japanese Literature</td>
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<td>SAKAEHARA Towao</td>
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<td>NAGAI Taeko</td>
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<td>FUJII Hiroaki</td>
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<td>FURUSAWA Iwao</td>
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<td>MIYAZAKI Koji</td>
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Academic Senate

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<tr>
<td>KINDA Akihiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAKAWO Masayoshi</td>
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<td>ONO Masatoshi</td>
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<td>Aoyama Hiro-o</td>
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<td>KIBE Nobuko</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATO Yo-ichiro</td>
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<td>NISHIO Teruhide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aoyagi Masanori</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHTSUKA Ryutarou</td>
<td>President, Japan Wildlife Research Center</td>
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<td>Stefan KAISER</td>
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<td>KUBOTA Sachiko</td>
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Research Integration Committee

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<tr>
<td>NAKAWO Masayoshi</td>
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<td>HANEDA Masashi</td>
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### Number of Directors and Staff

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### Part-time Researchers

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<td>Self-generated income</td>
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(Unit: million yen)

### Number of Inter-University Joint Research Projects and Joint Researchers Enrolled (FY2010)

<table>
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<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Museum of Japanese History</td>
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