

Distinguished Education and Research

Pursuing regional development through the COC+ project to establish the university as a center for regional learning and regeneration

(Promotion of local settlement and development of young people in the area against the background of an aging society and shrinking population)
Implementation period: 2015 (started) - 2019.

We launched the COC project following the subsidy reforms implemented by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, to develop the University as a core base for regional learning and reinvigoration. In collaboration with local government and business, we are creating and pioneering highly attractive employment opportunities for our students. By carrying out the necessary curriculum reforms for training human resources, we are focusing on accumulating and retaining human talent in the region, since it is people who are the principal driver of regional revitalization. With the help of Akita Prefecture and local commercial and industrial groups, our aim is to increase students' local employment rate by 10% over the next five years.



Akita Monodukuri Open College



Information exchange meeting between the University and a regional company

Strategic International Collaborative Research Program. Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)

Research on the Integration System of Spatial Environment Analyses and Advanced Metal Recovery to Ensure Sustainable Resource Development
(Period of Implementation: Adopted 2014 - 2019)

This program is conducted in Serbia at a copper resource area struggling with environmental pollution. Participants in the program conduct far-reaching environmental assessment including restoration system research development. The aim of this program is to find balance between resource development and the protecting the environment, which is indispensable to sustainable resource development. Research is conducted using advanced remote sensing data and surface data to create a three dimensional environment evaluation and analysis, which is integrated with metal recovery technology.



Undergoing environmental research in Serbia.

Future Professional Medical Training Plan for Cancer (Period of implementation: 2017-2021)

In 2017 the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) invited applications for a "Training Plan for Specialist Cancer Medical Care Staff (Cancer Professionals)" as various new needs increasingly arise. Akita University has decided to participate in a training plan managed by the Tokyo Medical and Dental University, which is a continuation of its previous training plan. Keio University, the International University of Health and Welfare, St. Marianna University School of Medicine, Tokyo Medical University, Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Sciences and Hirosaki University will also take part in this plan. In total, eight universities are involved. The rate of population aging in Akita is the fastest in the country, and the prefecture also has the worst mortality rate for cancer. This project is an opportunity to aim for further improvement in the cancer medical care environment, especially in terms of the development of human resources. We have achieved our goal of standardization and uniformity in our "cancer pro" business. However, cancer therapy is continually evolving and advancing, and there is increasing demand for the practical application of individually tailored "cancer genomics" and "precision medicine" solutions. This project is positioned as a collaborative initiative with core cancer hospitals and medical organizations in the prefecture: through this so we intend to ensure that our graduates can play a leading role and make an active contribution to the prefecture. Specifically, we will establish "oncology departments" which will practice comprehensive cancer treatment in core cancer hospitals in the prefecture.

Akita itself does not have many examples of rare types of cancer since the population of the prefecture is relatively low. However, with the joint cooperation of all eight universities, we will set up a register of rare cancers and hold board meetings to establish a framework whereby we can collate the results of the different treatments and use these results as a reference for the future.

