



## Tokyo University of Foreign Studies Opening of the Office for International Academic Strategy

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On September 1, 2005, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) opened the Office for International Academic Strategy (OFIAS-TUFS). OFIAS is one of the model projects of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) which has been promoting the globalization of Japan's universities. OFIAS will be responsible for developing TUFS's international strategies. In that context, OFIAS will undertake the operations of overseas bases, liaisons with overseas organizations, and the establishment of human networks on a global scale. OFIAS will also work to accommodate researchers from overseas to promote exchanges of scholars as well as students, and contribute to the creation of a multilingual and multicultural campus. OFIAS will also be involved in the organization and support of international support activities conducted by TUFS. Through such activities, OFIAS will develop personnel who can contribute to the field of global academics in a variety of fields.

TUFS is a unique university whose education and research activities cover languages, cultures and societies of virtually all areas of the globe. It is no overstatement to claim that all aspects of TUFS's research and educational activities are international. In particular, TUFS boasts a large stable of outstanding researchers in the field of Asian and African studies and in the field of Japanese language education. With these staff members, TUFS has long been co-operating with universities and research institutes outside Japan. TUFS currently maintains exchange programs with some 75 organizations in 35 countries worldwide involving countless researchers and students.

As part of our grand design, TUFS declares to serve as:

- 1.a base of higher learning related to the world's languages, cultures, and societies.**
- 2.an academic and cutting-edge research base for the world's languages, cultures, and societies.**
- 3.a global base for Japanese language education.**

Today, not only universities, but all of Japan is opening up to the outside world. We are convinced that TUFS, where dozens of languages are daily used, represents a model for research, education, and organizational administration in today's rapidly progressing multilingual and multicultural environment.

OFIAS will build on the foundation of TUFS's tradition and status. By undertaking international activities with greater strategy and organization, and by developing personnel capable of leading globalization, we will strive to make TUFS a university that interfaces and interacts with the 21st century global society.

# Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

## TUFS International Strategy

Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) is a unique institution that is involved in the research and education on languages, cultures, and societies of virtually all areas of the world. In particular, TUFS is active in researching such regions as Asia and Africa. Moreover, as a university that places emphasis on Japanese language education and research, TUFS actively develops and maintains ties with foreign organizations.

In line with its academic status, TUFS has founded the Office for International Academic Strategy (OFIAS). In order to interact with the global community, from a long-term perspective, OFIAS will implement the following seven international strategies.

### **Strategy 1: Establishment and operation of overseas research bases**

OFIAS will set up overseas research bases in key regions. In addition to conducting research activities by the TUFS researchers, these bases will be open to joint-research projects by non-TUFS members as well.

- *Implementation of priority research projects at overseas research bases, among others Beirut*

Research will be conducted in the high-priority field of Middle East and Islamic research and education through overseas bases, including Beirut.

- *Joint research at overseas bases*

Overseas research bases, among others Beirut, will function as branches of the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa, a TUFS's nation-wide co-operative research institute, for joint researches by Japanese and foreign researchers.

- *Research activities at the London base*

OFIAS will conduct researches and hold workshops at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, the counterpart of the Centre for Documentation and Area-Transcultural Studies, TUFS, a core documentation centre in the Asian-Pacific region with emphasis on the various Asian and African languages.

### **Strategy 2: Formation of an international consortia**

OFIAS will develop closer ties with various overseas organizations to share in research and education at global standards.

- *Formation of a consortium for Asian and African research and education*

The consortium will promote exchanges and joint researches in the field of studies of languages, cultures, and societies in Asia and Africa.

- *Formation of a Japanese language education and research network*

OFIAS will build a network linking Japanese language education organizations overseas to aid in their development of education programs, by providing professional advice.

- *Formation of a research and education network to promote peace and prevent conflict*

OFIAS will support the education of globally qualified specialists in collaboration with various foreign organizations and programs.

- *Formation of a mechanism to jointly share historical resources*

OFIAS will contribute to maintaining the system of sharing research resources on Asian and African languages and history, jointly with overseas organizations on the basis of mutual agreement.

### **Strategy 3: Implementation of International activities through the TUFS Global Community**

OFIAS will form a network with the ever-increasing worldwide pool of TUFS graduates, students, researchers and educators from Japan and around the world. The network will be used to develop a cooperative system for conducting international activities.

- *Creation of the world-wide TUFS community*

The graduates and former students of TUFS all over the world will be organized as TUFS Associates under the TUFS Ambassadors. The latter will operate TUFS branches which will serve as contact offices for research and education.

- *TUFS research fellows*

A network of foreign scholars who carried out researches at TUFS will be formed for supporting overseas research activities of the carried out researches.

### **Strategy 4: Contribution to international cooperation and outreach activities**

Building upon TUFS's research outputs and achievements, OFIAS will provide multilingual support for international cooperation and outreach activities.

- *Support for the restoration of linguistic and cultural heritages*

OFIAS will expand activities as a hub of historical resources to aid in the restoration and recovery of linguistic and cultural heritages such as those in Afghanistan and Aceh, Indonesia.

- *Support for multilingual and multicultural coexistence in regional societies*

OFIAS will contribute to Japan's efforts to foster globalization in regional societies by providing educational programs and societal information based on TUFS's background of multilingual and multicultural studies.

- *Enhancement of peace-building and conflict-prevention programs*

Graduate school programs will be used to train personnel who can contribute to peace and societies around the globe.

- *International cooperative internships*

OFIAS will offer internships in related curriculums to train specialists in the field of international academic administration.

### **Strategy 5: Promotion of an internationally linked education system**

In order to educate students who can cope with diverse challenges of globalization, OFIAS will promote educational and study programs for sending students overseas. At the same time, efforts will be made to attract students from around the world.

- *Expansion of exchanges with partner universities*  
OFIAS will expand ties with overseas universities through official channels to promote bilateral exchanges.
- *Expansion of overseas internship programs*  
The overseas internship programs will be made more varied to give participants greater opportunities for gaining experience in foreign countries.
- *Multi-lingual classes*  
More seminar classes will be offered in English and other languages to give students greater exposure to other languages and cultures on an everyday basis.
- *Betterment of the curricular system*  
Semester courses will be introduced more extensively to enable students to study abroad.
- *Advancement of Japanese language education via e-learning*  
High quality Japanese education will be provided to overseas institutions and supplemented by intern instructors sent by TUFS.
- *Simultaneous online classes*  
Using the Internet, classes will be held simultaneously at various points around the globe. Bilateral educational exchanges will be promoted with affiliated educational organizations.
- *Establishment of multilingual and multicultural education courses*  
In response to globalization within Japan, courses will be developed to train students to work in multilingual and multicultural environments.
- *Enhancement of programs for foreign students*  
To accommodate the educational needs of foreign students, programs will be developed in English, Japanese, and other languages.

### **Strategy 6: Creation of the multilingual, multicultural Universal Campus 21 (UC21)**

The existing multilingual and multicultural nature of the campus will be further enhanced to create a universal campus that is representative of the world.

- *Multilingual support for researchers*  
Multilingual manuals in English, French, Arabic and so on will be developed to assist aiding foreign researchers. Multilingual research assistants will also provide support.
- *Establishment of support systems for international research*  
OFIAS will be staffed with academic administrators and people experienced in global businesses. OFIAS will provide support in such ways as accommodating foreign academics, organizing international research forums, and operating local bases. By doing so, OFIAS will reduce the burden on scholars and promote research internationally.

### **Strategy 7: Development of human resources for international academia businesses**

Through the aid of non-academic specialists and on-the-job training, TUFS will develop a variety of human resources for the international academia from PDs, student interns, and clerical workers.

- *Placement of international business managers*  
External specialists with extensive experience and knowledge will be brought in as international business managers for organizing and smoothly implementing international operations.
- *Development of liaison officers*  
Graduates and former students with sophisticated linguistic skills and extensive business experience in various worldwide regions will be trained as interns under the international business managers. They will be groomed as highly educated specialists that are needed by research & educational organizations, public organizations, international agencies, NGOs and others both inside and out of Japan.
- *Staff development with focus on international abilities*  
Study programs aimed at clerical workers in Japan and overseas will be implemented. At the same time, practical training sessions will be conducted with affiliated organizations and overseas bases to enhance the abilities of staff.

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#### **OFIAS's advisors**

An advisory committee composed of noted experts outside of TUFS was established to obtain advice and evaluations on research and education.

AKASHI, Yasushi  
Representative of the Government of Japan for Peace Building, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction in Sri Lanka  
[Member of the Management Council of TUFS]

FUJITA, Hidenori  
Professor, The Graduate School Division of Education, International Christian University  
[Member of the Management Council of TUFS]

HAYMAN, Lesley  
Acting Director, British Council Japan  
Education Attache of British Embassy

INOUE, Masayuki  
Director-General for International Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

KOMANO, Kinichi  
Ex-Ambassador in charge of Afghanistan Assistance Coordination and NGO

ONO, Takushi  
Correspondent for the Asahi Shimbun  
Visiting Lecturer, Faculty of Policy Studies, Chuo University

TAMBO, Norihito  
President, University of the Air  
(Alphabetical Order)

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- Mr. Fry, Dire

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