

Key Initiatives by Kagawa University

Center of Community Program and Project on Regional Vitalization in Setouchi Area Center of Community (COC)

Kagawa University's COC Program, in cooperation with local governments, deals with the problem-solving missions (encouraging settlement; promoting tourism, shopping districts and isolated islands; and activating communities) being promoted by Kagawa Prefecture and local governments amid worsening population decline and population aging. This program proactively implements community practice activities by students and a community invigoration plan that leverages the viewpoints of students. Also, it is preparing curricula for human resource training aimed at the region through cooperative projects with local governments.

Note: The Program for Developing Universities as Center of Regional Communities (COC program) is a university education promotion project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. By partnering with local governments and supporting universities that advance university-wide education, research and local contributions aimed at the region, it aims to strengthen the university's function as a core entity in the regional community that aggregates various human resources that contribute to problem solving, and also aggregates information and technology.



Rare Sugar, the Miracle Sugar Created at Kagawa University



Promoting research on rare sugar

Kagawa University established the world's first mass production technique for rare sugar and speeded its industrialization. In particular, D-psicose, which is thought to be effective in preventing and improving lifestyle diseases, has been brought to market in a large number of products and has become a topic of conversation. In the academic year 2013, Kagawa University entered an agreement with Kagawa prefecture relating to rare sugar research and an endowed chair was created. Through its partnership with Kagawa prefecture, the university aims to speed up and expand its research in rare sugar related fields and to form an international center for research on rare sugar.

The University Supports Study Abroad

Kagawa University Next Programs (Global Education Program)

The Kagawa University Next Programs started in the 2013 academic year as independent-learning, voluntary-participation special training programs offered in addition to and beyond the framework of learning within the faculty (degree program) the student belongs to. The Global Education Program (English course and Chinese course), which is one of those programs, aims to develop human resources that can contribute to solving problems of globalizing local society by giving students language abilities that can be used internationally and by deepening their specialized knowledge and skills from an international standpoint. Students attend lectures on class subjects related to the program to improve their language ability, take interactive lessons from native speakers and engage in independent learning using Internet systems. Students who have achieved a certain level of language study spend a year studying abroad. When students study abroad, the university supports them with scholarships and the like.



Training Food Safety Specialists Who Can Play an Active Role Globally

Selected for the International Priority Graduate Programs Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students

The Graduate School of Agriculture's Career Development Program on Food Safety in Japan for International Students was selected for the International Priority Graduate Programs Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students. In this program, from the standpoint of securing "food safety in Japan," excellent students are selected from universities in Southeast Asia and elsewhere that have exchange with Kagawa University, they are given the opportunity to systematically and practically acquire the necessary abilities for achieving food safety in cooperation with consortium companies, and they are developed into talented international workers who correctly understand Japanese and Japanese culture and who can become corporate managers with business sense. The goal after they complete the course is for them to get jobs at Japanese companies expanding overseas and in the future become ambassadors to overseas plants. The program will last five years beginning in October 2014.

Get together, Relax and Then Learn.

A New Place for Socializing Is Born

OLIVE SQUARE Opens in the Renovated Library and University Hall

In May 2014, to support invigoration through socializing between students and faculty and human resource development that responds to globalization, a facility complete with a multipurpose hall, a faculty socializing lounge, a learning lounge and an English Lounge was opened and named OLIVE SQUARE. In the Library, we created the Learning Commons as a space that can be used to write reports using computers and to hold discussions involving small numbers of people, and we went on to outfit spaces such as a group work area where students can socialize and independently learn more easily than in conventional university settings. And we created a new cafeteria in the University Hall as requested by many students.



Redevelopment and Improvements to Create a Regional Medical Center

A New Ward Opens at a University Hospital

University Hospital, which marked its 30th anniversary in 2013, is renovating and making improvements to further improve its functionality. As a first step in that process, the South Ward began operations in the summer of 2014. In addition to enhancing the medical functions of its Emergency Medical Center, Cardiovascular Center and Intensive Care Unit, as a Key Disaster Hospital it is working to enhance and strengthen its disaster preparedness functions as part of its central role in the community.

