

Preface

Integrating education and advanced research

AINO GAKUIN is an organization of schools dedicated to education and research in fields of medicine, comprising a university (with four departments in one faculty), a junior college, a special medical school, a high school and a research laboratory with hospital facilities.

Japan has advanced as a nation, coming to number among the leading world economies, and has been a leading force in technological development. At the same time, we are one of the world's rapidly ageing societies.

The declining birthrate and the growing proportion of elderly people in Japan today highlight a growing need for research and education in medical care. These social realities have led to the foundation of Aino's new university and our other schools for the benefit of the local community.

Medical care has become a highly competitive field, and we need to ask ourselves what course Aino Gakuin should take to ensure a continuing development in coming years. My own answer is the creation of an "AINO Brand," which strives for unique and innovative academic accomplishments guided by lofty ideals quite beyond those of other organizations.

As a faculty member of our university, I would like to make this proposal for Research and Development at AINO: *Integrate education and higher research*. In my own field of Clinical Engineering, for example, it is imperative that we collaborate in the use, maintenance and management of the most recent medical machinery available.

Specifically, I suggest the following policy for our education and research:

- (1) Integrate improvement in practical skills with logical thinking and a firm knowledge of theory.
- (2) Integrate experimental methods with subjective and objective measurements.
- (3) Integrate education and research.

A close relationship between education and research works to the benefit of both. Quality education brings highly qualified young citizens into our society and is, as well, prerequisite to good research. And research, for its part, can be raised to higher levels by teachers with a competent knowledge of their field and a dedication to their students' education.

AINO University sends off into society many talented graduates with a solid education in medical fields and an expertise in advanced technology. This is a characteristic of the AINO GAKUIN schools, and a valuable advantage we have. Let us maintain our efforts to grasp the real needs facing the medical profession, to carry out research and education to meet

those needs, and to do so in collaboration with our highly experienced elder colleagues.

I would like to suggest here a “Brand Symbol” for AINO GAKUIN, ten features of our endeavor:

innovation, ideas, identity, information, individuality, initiative, intention, imagination, interdisciplinarity, integration.

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