

## Preface

### Quo Vadis, Aino University

— Message from the New President —

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and Tsuyoshi NAKAMURA<sup>3)</sup>

In April 2015, Masatoshi Takeda was appointed to the President of Aino University, together with Kazuhei Kurosawa, one of his long-time friends, to the Dean of Aino University, respectively. Aino University was established in 2004, and directed by three previous presidents; Kiyohisa Takahashi (2004–2009), Hitoshi Mohri (2009–2013), and Nakaaki Ohsawa (2013–2014) for eleven years. I am honored to serve as the 4th President of Aino University succeeding these prominent predecessors of Aino University (Figure 1).



The first ; Kiyohisa Takahashi (April 1, 2004–March 31, 2010), the second ; Hitoshi Mohri (April 1, 2010–March 31, 2014), the third ; Nakaaki Ohsawa (April 1, 2014–March 31, 2015), and the fourth ; Masatoshi Takeda (April 1, 2015–)

Figure 1 Four Presidents of Aino University (2004–present)

### Personal Relationship with Aino Hospital and Dr. Akio Koyama

I believe there is a good reason for me to accept my job as the President of Aino University, considering the long relationship between Psychiatry Department, Osaka University Medical School, and Aino University, particularly on personal level with Dr. Akio Koyama, the founder of Aino Hospital and Aino University. I visited Aino Hospital for the first time in 1979 when I was in graduate course of Psychiatry Department, Osaka University Medical School, then chaired by the late Professor Tsuyoshi Nishimura. Accepting the request from Dr. Akio Koyama, then the superintendent of Aino Hospital, Professor Nishimura asked me to work as a visiting psychiatrist for Aino Hospital half a day per week during my graduate student period. I enjoyed my job and still have a good

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President<sup>1)</sup>, Dean<sup>2)</sup>, and Executive Officer<sup>3)</sup> of Aino University

memory of energetic and respectful Dr. Akio Koyama and his colleagues of Aino Hospital in those days almost 35 years ago, including Okawa, Tsutsumi, Miyoshi, Higashimura and others, who were psychiatrists sent by the late Professor Hisamitsu Mitsuda of Osaka Medical College.

In those days Aino Hospital Foundation lead by Dr. Akio Koyama was actively supporting academic symposia and conferences on various topics in neuropsychiatry. Prof. Koho Miyoshi, then psychiatry professor of Kyoto University, organized the Third International Conference on slow virus infection in CNS disorders in 1981. Prof. Nishimura was invited to present his work in the symposium held in Aino Hall in 1981, and the proceeding of the conference was compiled in the monograph “Neuropsychiatric Disorders in the Elderly (1983),” in which one of my first English paper was included (1).

Six monographs are sitting in my office of Aino University. Two monographs were compiled as the outcome of the First International Conference organized by Aino Hospital Foundation in Kyoto in September 1977, in which prominent professors Roth, Pichot, Matussek, Huber, Wiek, and Ketty were invited as the distinguished guests (2, 3). The third monograph was published as the proceedings of the Second International Conference held in Osaka in October 1979, in which current issues on psychiatric nursing were the topics (4). The topics of third International Conference was focused on neuropsychiatric disorders in the elderly as mentioned (5). The Fourth International Conference was organized under the chair of Toshiaki Sakai and Takayuki Tsuboi in Kobe in November 1983 on the topics of genetic aspects of human behavior (6). The proceedings of the Fifth International Conference, Osaka in October 1985 was published in 1988 (7). (Figure 2)

I succeeded the position of chairman professor of Psychiatry Department, Osaka University Medical School, in 1996 after retirement of Nishimura. Since then Dr. Akio Koyama kindly sent his eldest son, Hideo Koyama, to my office every year on regular basis to get to know each other by exchanging personal as well as working information about Aino Hospital and Aino Educational Foundation, one of the most successful foundations which ran three universities and many other educational institutions including junior colleges, senior high schools, and specialized training schools throughout Japan.

I would like to add another memorable episode with Dr. Akio Koyama and Aino University. Psychiatry Department of Osaka University Medical School organized the 13th



Aino Foundation organized International Conferences every two years 1979–1988, the proceedings of the conference were published in six monographs.

Figure 2 Monographs published by Aino Foundation (1979–1988)

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Congress of International Psychogeriatric Association at Osaka International Convention Center in October 2007, which was one of the most challenging task for our department. We were expected to increase the number of participants from local colleagues. We spent lots of time and energy to prepare the Congress. To promote the 13th Congress of International Psychogeriatric Association, we made several campaign tours to leading institutions and pharmaceutical companies all over Japan with Sandy and Fern Finkel from Chicago in 2006 and 2007. In March 2007, we paid our visit to Aino Hospital to meet Dr. Akio Koyama asking for his support to the congress. As the chair of the organizing committee, I proposed my unique request to Aino University to send students to the Congress as volunteers for guiding participants inside the conference building because I thought it would be a good experience for the students to be involved with international congress as well as being interacted with foreign guests as guides. Even though our proposal to Aino University was rather novel in those days, Dr. Akio Koyama was promptly agreed with our proposal and Aino University kindly sent 100 students to participate into the congress as volunteer guides in the venue of Osaka International Conference Center, which made the 13<sup>th</sup> IPA Congress a big success with more than 2000 participants (Figure 3).



In preparation of the 13th Congress of International Psychogeriatric Association in October 2007, Sandy Finkel and myself visited Aino Hospital requesting the support for the congress.

a) M. Takeda, Sandy Finkel, and Akio Koyama. b) Nakaaki Ohsawa, Akio Koyama (sitting), Hidetaka Iida, Hideo Koyama, Sandy Finkel, M. Takeda, and Eun Sasaki (back row), c) Akio Koyama, M. Takeda, and Hideo Koyama, d) Sandy Finkel, and Akio Koyama

Figure 3 Visit to Aino Hospital in March 2007

Based on the above mentioned long relationship, I was offered the position of the President of Aino University in April 2015 when I was to retire by age from Osaka University. I consulted with Kiyohisa Takahashi, the founding president of Aino University, for his opinion about my new position. Takahashi was quite positive with the proposal and he strongly recommended me to take the responsibility and kindly added his comments that he was so happy to have me as the successor of Aino University. His supporting comments made me to take the offer from Aino University by Hideo Koyama, the President of Aino Educational Foundation.

After the start of my new job at Aino University on April 1 2015, I have experienced many unexpected things due to difference in the system, rules, customs, and many things between national and private universities. Generally speaking, however, I am enjoying my new responsibility here and I am gradually getting used to the new working place which will enable me to dedicate myself to the development of Aino University.

#### **What should be added to Aino University**

I believe that the university should be the educational and research institution regardless of public or private in funding, large or small in size, high or poor in students quality. Aino University has been successful in producing large number of board qualified nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and medical engineers for eleven years, but I believe it is time for Aino to develop its research activity as the university.

Research activity is objectively measured by scientific papers produced in the institution. As popularly worded "publish or perish," all research activity is recognized in academia and public only when the research product is published in scientific papers. Even though significant research endeavor is carried out, it can never be recognized as the research outcome without publication. Any research activity is recognized for the first time when the results are published as scientific papers. I wish Aino University is recognized as the institution for research and education, and I believe the research activity of Aino University could be significantly promoted in this stage.

I had a chance to talk with Chizuka Ide, acting chief editor of *Aino Journal*, who asked me for my contribution to the coming issue of the journal. I learned that Ide was the professor of anatomy in Kobe University Medical School and Kyoto University Medical School as leading researcher in the field of regeneration of injured spinal cord. After retirement by age from Kyoto University, he moved to Aino University to serve as the director of Institute for Regenerative Medicine, the director of University Central Library, and the editor of *Aino Journal*, which indicates Ide functions as promoting force of academic activities in Aino University.

I myself have experience of serving as editor-in-chief of scientific English journals. I have launched *Psychogeriatrics* as the English official journal of Japanese Psychogeriatric Society in 2000. I also served as the editor-in-chief of *Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences* which was the English official journal of Japanese Society of Psychiatry and

Neurology in 2008. After my service as the editor-in-chief, I easily recognize a huge responsibility to function as the chief editor of English journals, I would like to thank all of labor paid by Ide for Aino Journal. I believe *Aino Journal* is an important organ of Aino University and I am happy to contribute my article as the new president of the university.

Current state of university education in JapanJapanese society is now super-aged with more than 25% elderly population with less children. The number of university students has been significantly decreasing due to a low birthrate in Japan. As shown in Table 1, there are 13,043 kindergartens (1,583,610), 21,131 elementary schools (6,676,920), 10,628 junior high schools (3,536,182), 4,981 senior high schools (3,319,640), 359 junior colleges (138,260), 782 universities (2,868,872), 3,216 specialized training schools (660,078), and 1,330 other schools (122,890) in Japan (as of 2013 fiscal year; number of enrollments in ()). (Table 1)

There are about 1.2 million high school graduates in 2013, and 680 thousand students(100

Table 1 Educational Institutions in Japan (2013)

	number of institutions	number of enrollments	number of staff
<b>kindergarten</b>	<b>13,043</b>	<b>1,583,610</b>	<b>111,111</b>
national	49	5,785	360
municipal	4,817	274,164	23,793
private	8,177	1,303,661	86,958
<b>elementary school</b>	<b>21,131</b>	<b>6,676,920</b>	<b>417,553</b>
national	74	42,093	1,843
municipal	20,836	6,556,527	410,928
private	221	78,300	4,782
<b>junior high school</b>	<b>10,628</b>	<b>3,536,182</b>	<b>254,235</b>
national	73	31,437	1,629
municipal	9,784	3,255,326	237,568
private	771	249,419	15,038
<b>senior high school</b>	<b>4,981</b>	<b>3,319,640</b>	<b>235,062</b>
national	15	8,585	575
nmunicipal	3,646	2,287,673	174,716
private	1,320	1,023,382	59,771
<b>junior college</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>138,260</b>	<b>8,631</b>
national	—	—	—
municipal	19	7,649	544
private	340	130,611	8,087
<b>university</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>2,868,872</b>	<b>178,669</b>
national	86	614,783	63,218
municipal	90	146,160	12,871
private	606	2,107,929	102,580
<b>specialized training school</b>	<b>3,216</b>	<b>660,078</b>	<b>40,380</b>
national	10	480	101
municipal	196	26,483	2,824
private	3,010	633,115	37,455
<b>other schools</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>122,890</b>	<b>8,845</b>
national	—	—	—
municipal	9	796	51
private	1,321	122,094	8,794

thousand in National, 33 thousand in public, and 541 thousand in private universities) were enrolled into universities, including two-year junior colleges. There are 782 universities and junior colleges in Japan, including 86 national, 77 municipal, and 595 private universities. University enrollment rate was about 57 percent.

**Training of co-medical professionals in Japan**

There are 1,344,388 nurses in Japan (as of year 2013). The number of nurses per 10<sup>3</sup> capita is 10.5 which is comparable with those in Western countries; 15.4 (Denmark), 11.3 (Germany), 11.1 (Sweden), 10.9 (USA), 9.4 (France), 9.3 (Canada), and 8.2 (UK). There are 776 institutions educating nurses in total, including 242 universities, which give the educational curriculum so that the graduates of which are eligible to sit for the national board qualification exam for nurses.

There are 129,931 physiotherapists in Japan. They are graduates from 249 institutions (95 universities, 6 junior colleges, and 148 specialized training school for physiotherapists), which produces 11,440 graduates as a candidate to qualified physiotherapists each year in total. There are 53,080 occupational therapists working as of 2010. They are the graduate of 185 training institutions including 70 universities. There are 59 institutions which produce the graduate eligible to sit for the national board exam for medical engineers including 25 universities. In year 2015, 2,370 were successfully passed the national board exam for medical engineers with passing rate of 83.2%.

As shown in Table 2, there are 778, 242, 183, and 59 institutions for nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and medical engineers, respectively. The qualification to sit for the national board exam for these co-medical professionals are given to the graduates those institutions including universities, junior colleges, and specialized training schools. In recent years, number of universities which trains these co-medical professionals has been increasing in Japan, reaching 242, 97, 70, and 25 for nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and medical engineers, respectively. The graduate from those universities which are equipped with the four-year required training program are granted bachelor’s degree and also the qualification to sit for the national board exams of each category when they graduate from these universities. (Table 2)

Table 2 Number of Institutions Educating Co-medical Professionals in Japan

	number of institutions	number of universities
nurse	776	242
physiotherapist	242	92
occupational therapist	183	70
medical engineer	59	25

**Positioning of Aino University**

Aino University is one of the universities specialized for training co-medical professionals, accepting 240 students each year for nurses (80), physiotherapists (80), occupational

Table 3 Co-medical Professionals Produced by Aino Group (number of graduates who passed the national board qualification as of 2015)

	nurse	physiotherapist	Occupational therapist	Medical engineers
Before University era	1572 (Specialized training school) 2533 (Junior college)	763 (Specialized training school)	568 (Specialized training school)	0
Aino University	700	627	292	29
total	4805 (including assistant nurses during special training school)	1,390	860	29

therapists (40), and medical engineers (40). In addition to undergraduate course for those four different courses, Aino University has launched graduate course of nursing for 6 students for master course.

Aino University has only 11 year history, however, it was originated as specialized training school for nurses in 1968. During 47 year period, Aino group has produced 7,084 co-medical professionals in total, and the number of those graduates are tabulated in Table 3.

#### Feature of Aino University

Aino University is a still young university with small scale of about 1,000 students specializing in education of co-medical professionals. Given the characteristics of such a university, it is expected to clearly state the educational goal of the university. Aino University is specialized in the co-medical professional education. High enough passing rate of the national board examination is of course the most important and it is a plausible indicator to recruit better students into the university. It would be natural for the university to aim for higher passing rate as the first priority, however, we want to raise and educate our students to be capable co-medical professionals with ample qualification, more than enough to pass the examination. We strive to give our students the added value of Aino University. We want to give the graduates of Aino University additional feature that is not worn in graduates from other educational institutions. To do so, we want to equip our students with broad liberal arts and high humanitarian attitudes toward other people. Nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, or medical engineers graduated from Aino University are also persons granted with bachelor's degree, implying the fact that the graduates of Aino University are educated in broad liberal arts in addition to the specialized knowledge and skills in their specialty. We want to put forward to enrich liberal arts to our university students to broaden their perspectives and their view points. As a new President of Aino University, I declare that Aino University will enrich the general education in order to supply the broad cultural background of our students, and also we want to activate the research activities of the university, which should sharpen the cutting edge of their specialized knowledge and skills as the professionals.

### **Enhancement of Liberal Arts**

The words liberal arts might be quite difficult to define in the program of university education. I believe liberal arts should be promoted as widely as possible, which would give our students broader choice of learning as the general education. It would be the ability to determine their own lives on their own choice. In order to determine your own life by your own choice, it is necessary to rely on certain basic knowledge. Basic knowledge is certainly required to give certain decision. For example, when you visit a foreign country, you cannot decide what to do or what to see unless you have certain basic knowledge about the geography or history of the country. The basic knowledge on Western and Japanese history may be essential to become a respected member of global society.

### **Activation of Research Activities**

I mean the research activity is to pile up the new knowledge in addition to the knowledge of the past. In order to implement research activities, I know it requires certain facilities and costs, as a matter of course. As the now President of Aino University, I would like to aim for more research activity because I believe that the real university should pay its efforts to new findings and new knowledge. I sincerely hope that *Aino Journal* would be an indispensable organ of our university which aims for the goal of better education and higher research activity.

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