

Research

Create world-class research in a competitive environment.

[Vision]

In the research programs at Kwansai Gakuin University, individual faculty members conduct independent advanced research in their respective fields, with the aims of creating new knowledge, contributing to society, passing on the latest knowledge to students and raising the quality of education. Establishing and revitalizing the environment and structures which promote and support these wide-ranging individual research endeavors is of primary importance.

Meanwhile, we need to nurture world-class research in specific fields, and establish our “research brand” as a university, in order to promote the high level of our research capabilities as an institution and make our presence known in the public research sphere. There are two types of research that could achieve this aim. The first is research that survives a competitive process of attrition from among the “core research domains,” and the other is research that is systematically nurtured in strategically selected fields and concentrations. By investing university funds and reinforcing personnel support in accordance with research outcomes, we will create world-class research to represent Kwansai Gakuin University.

The revitalization of individual research and the creation of world top-class research will both require new resources. In light of current circumstances, in which the institution depends on student fees for almost 80% of its revenue¹¹, and taking into account the generous level of individual research funding compared with other universities, the necessary funds will be secured from external sources in principle, via measures such as *kakenhi* (Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research), government subsidies, joint research with the private sector and privately commissioned research. To achieve this, we will pursue industry-government-academia collaboration, and promote the acquisition of external funding through partnerships between Kwansai Gakuin and industry or government sources in our core research domains. We will also reinforce our support systems. In addition, we will consider the development of a competitive environment in which Kwansai Gakuin University would establish its own objective evaluation criteria, and allocate the university’s internal funding with preference to researchers with high evaluations and to junior researchers.

¹¹ This figure was 78% in the KG Campus Record No. 91 (2016 academic year budget), and the same 78% in the 2015 academic year financial report.