

Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration

Enhance the Kwansei Gakuin brand value in top-notch education and research through strengthening links with the industry and government.

[Vision]

Kwansei Gakuin will pursue further collaboration from multiple perspectives with industry, and national and local governments, in both education and research.

In terms of research activities (joint research, commissioned research and donation-funded research) conducted through industry-government-academia collaboration, the Japan Revitalization Strategy 2016¹⁷ calls for a tripling of corporate investment in universities and other institutions by FY2025, and recommends the development of collaborative structures between organizations, instead of relying on relationships between individual researchers.

Our “core research domains” will collaborate with industry and government agencies to develop support structures by strengthening funding management methods, knowledge management and personnel management—all of which are challenges in inter-organizational collaborations—with an eye towards establishing our research brand. We will place particular emphasis on research in the science and technology fields, further progress collaborations with world-class research institutes and Kansai-area national research and development institutes, and deepen personnel exchanges through the introduction of cross-appointment programs and other measures, in an effort to expand our research endeavors.

On the education front, we are undertaking a range of programs with a variety of external organizations in industry, government and academia: these include international volunteer programs (UN Youth Volunteer, International Social Contribution Activities) in collaboration with the United Nations and other international organizations, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and international NGOs, hands-on learning subjects in collaboration with companies, local governments, and the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), as well as the multidisciplinary United Nations and Foreign Affairs graduate minor, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We will continue to expand and strengthen these networks.

Further, to work towards the cultivation of highly-competent “exceptional professionals,” we will coordinate with business organizations and other enterprises to “tune” the profile of the ideal university graduate, and identify competencies or qualities that are in demand. By deepening our collaborations with companies, we will foster new demand for workers. These initiatives will also lead to the creation of demand for “re-learning” by people already in the workforce, and we will invite KGU graduates who are working in these companies to serve as lecturers. Through these industry-government-academia collaboration initiatives, we will aim to establish our educational brand.

¹⁷ Cabinet Decision of June 2016. With the aim of promoting full-scale industry-academia-government collaboration at an “organization-to-organization” level, it recommends that corporate investments in universities, National R&D Agency, and other institutions be tripled by FY2025, a level that will exceed the OECD average.