

FY2021 IROAST Symposium Notes

Kumamoto University, through ever sharper world-class, cutting-edge research that reflects its character and strength, aims to lead the way in strengthening the functions of the university as a whole while developing next-generation areas of research.

By transcending departmental borders to bring outstanding human resources together from around Japan and the world, the International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology (IROAST) not only promotes international joint research and interdisciplinary research but also trains leaders capable of advancing cutting-edge research systematically in order to further promote world-class research at Kumamoto University.

To achieve these objectives, we invite applications as follows.

1. Purpose

The program aims to support proposals that strengthen research capabilities in science and technology at Kumamoto University by inviting world-class visiting faculty from world-leading universities and research institutes for international symposiums.

2. Amount of award / Number of awards

- 1) Amount of award: Maximum 2,000,000 yen
- 2) Number of awards: one or two

*Please note that the amount of award and other details of this support program may change according to the FY2021 budget situation.

3. Applicable research areas

The theme of the symposium should be in one of the IROAST's major research areas.

- 1) **Nano Material Science** covers a wide area including the development of organic functional materials such as graphene oxide nano-sheets, catalysts and metal materials. It also includes the development of innovative materials under extreme conditions.
- 2) **Green Energy** includes the development and utilization of renewable resources such as geo-thermal, water, and bio-mass.
- 3) **Environmental Science** covers a wide area including the protection and evaluation of hydrospheric and atmospheric environments, analysis of climate change, and the protection of underground water and shallow sea areas.
- 4) **Advanced Green Bio** covers a wide area for interdisciplinary life sciences relating to chemical biology, molecular biology, medicine, pharmacy, agriculture (such as the development of drug delivery systems), micro-CT applications, informatics applications, and so on.
- 5) **Other research areas** that are expected to become new major research areas for IROAST in the next phase, such as machine learning, big data, and AI.

4. Eligibility (Requirements)

- 1) The symposium must be sponsored by IROAST.
- 2) The organizer(s) must be full-time faculty members (including project faculty members) of science and technology fields at Kumamoto University.
- 3) More than 20 total participants including an IROAST Visiting Professor or Distinguished

Professor, and Kumamoto University faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students must participate the symposium. *Participants outside the university are desirable.

4) The symposium must be conducted in English.

5. Limitation on application

You cannot apply for this IROAST symposium support program and for the university-wide “Kumamoto University International Conferences Promotion Program” (熊本大学国際研究集会推進事業) for the same symposium at the same time.

6. Date and venue

1) Date: between April 1, 2021 and February 28, 2022

2) Venue: should be held at Kumamoto University in principle

For measures against the COVID-19, participants may join the symposium using online system.

*If you wish the venue to be outside the university, describe the reason in the application form.

7. Support budget

1) The budget is used only for travel expenses for invitee(s) and material costs, excluding honorariums.

2) The budget cannot be carried forward to the following year.

3) The budget cannot be used with another budget at the same time for the same expense item.

However, if you clearly separate the use of one from another, explain it in the application form. The IROAST Secretariat will determine its necessity.

8. Requirements after acceptance

1) Clearly state that the symposium is sponsored by IROAST in the program, poster, abstract book and on the IROAST website.

2) Make an abstract book and submit it to the IROAST Secretariat.

9. Application Procedure

Submit the following documents by the deadline below.

- Application form (Form 1)
- Other materials (References such as a former similar symposium’s program, abstract book, information on the number of participants and participants from overseas)

1) Deadline for submission

Tuesday, December 18, 2020

*In case of no suitable application, we may call for additional applications.

2) Where to submit

IROAST Secretariat

(International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology Section,
Administrative Office for Science and Technology)

10. Selection

After the IROAST director and vice director screen the application, the IROAST Secretariat will notify the applicant of the result by the end of March, 2021.

***Screening Criteria**

- Meeting of requirements
- Promoting research activities in the Science and Technology fields of Kumamoto University
- Having secured sufficient personnel (staff) for the symposium
- In case of many applications, new applicants are given priority over those who have been adopted for this support program before.
- Other, such as matching IROAST activity purposes

11. Report

The organizer is required to submit a report within one month of the symposium (Form 2).

*Assistance may be requested with compiling materials on the program status when compiling performance reports.

12. Organizer Responsibilities

The organizers are responsible for the following:

- Supervise the entire seminar planning, make preparations including venue arrangement, and run the symposium on the day.
- Prepare a PR poster and program and submit them to the IROAST Secretariat
- Arrange the travel itinerary of the speaker
- Submit a report (within one month of the symposium)
- Agree to upload the seminar report to the IROAST website

13. Roles of the IROAST Secretariat

- Promote the symposium (through IROAST website and university-wide email)
- Control and reimburse expenses for trips and purchases
- Others necessary for sponsoring the symposium

Who to contact for more information: International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology (IROAST) Section, Administrative Division of Science and Technology

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