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Research Internship Program

Message

Kumamoto University, one of Japan's leading research universities, promotes world-leading research. The International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology (IROAST) was established in April 2016 with the aim of strengthening the University's international research capabilities in the fields of science and engineering.

IROAST has two major missions: one is to foster talented and internationally active young researchers who will be leading the future of the University; the other is to promote international collaborative research with overseas top-class universities and research institutions. For the development of young researchers, we operate a tenure-track system and send them to overseas universities and research institutions for long periods of time in order to build an international network. As for international joint research, we invite leading researchers



from overseas universities and research institutes as distinguished professors to promote collaborative research and to provide research guidance for graduate students. These efforts have produced excellent results.

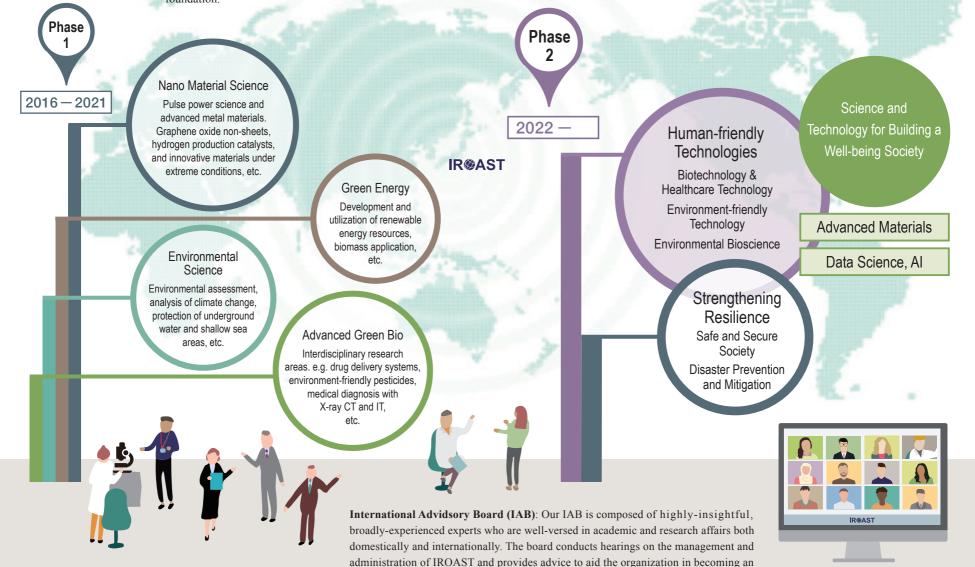
The first phase of IROAST was completed in March 2022, and the second phase began in April of the same year. In the second phase, we aim to become an international co-creation research center that produces world-class innovations for realizing a well-being focused society, based on experience obtained in the first phase. To this end, we would like to further promote interdisciplinary fusion research that transcends departmental boundaries, not only within the framework of science and engineering, but also by collaborating with medical and pharmaceutical sciences and social and cultural sciences.

This brochure summarizes previous activities of IROAST. If you are interested in our activities and collaborative research, please contact us. We look forward to new partnerships.

Kazuki TAKASHIMA, Director, IROAST

Overview

We had designated the four areas listed below as the priority research areas for **Phase 1**, a period of six years beginning from 2016. Our goals during this phase were to enhance our international competitiveness in terms of research by developing distinctive, leading-edge research projects, and to foster creative young researchers to serve as the driving force for international research based on our internationally superior research foundation. During **Phase 2**, beginning from 2022, we further develop and enhance our projects as an international research hub for the natural sciences, and engage in international research activities focused on the science and technology needed to build a society that provides safety, security, and well-being, with the goal of realizing Society 5.0, which will support the next generation of natural sciences.



internationally recognized research institution.

Three Missions

01

The cultivation of talented young researchers to lead the future

Under our tenure-track system, we recognize and foster talented young researchers through an international open call for participants. During the tenure-track period, participants serve as Principal Investigators (PI) by personally leading international joint research projects, establish international joint research networks with overseas researchers and researchers in different fields, and enhance their skills in research and educational activities by participating in joint research projects with postdoctoral researchers and providing research guidance to graduate students. We are also working to foster young researchers with a high level of international competence via our Program for Young Faculty Members for International Joint Research, through which we send young researchers overseas, as well as by aiding participants in submitting academic papers in English and offering internship programs to provide research guidance

to graduate students and young researchers from overseas.

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02

The establishment of strong international joint research networks and promotion of international joint research

In collaboration with research organizations in the natural sciences at the university, we promote international joint research with world-class universities and research institutions. We hire the world's leading researchers as distinguished professors, and grant internationally renowned researchers the title of visiting professor or visiting associate professor, and we contribute to the promotion and development of the university's research activities from an international perspective by engaging in joint research, holding international seminars, and providing intensive lectures for graduate students. In addition, with the aim of establishing academic, cutting-edge international joint research networks, we also promote joint research by aiding IROAST tenure-track faculty members, other Kumamoto University faculty members, distinguished professors and visiting professors in forming research units.



03

The development of leading, cutting-edge research projects through interdisciplinary integration

Research units led by young researchers are attracting the attention of researchers in other fields due to research into the development of wearable sensors for monitoring cardiac functions as well as the multifaceted application of imagery in collaboration with universities and medical institutions in Singapore. In addition, in collaboration with researchers from Australia and South Korea, we advanced research into functional nano materials for efficient treatment of tumors. and published the co-authored findings in top-level international journals. Furthermore, joint research conducted by researchers affiliated with both organizations is now underway, including holding joint seminars with the International Research Center for Medical Sciences (IRCMS). We have also begun collaborations with the humanities and social sciences.



Researchers (as of January 1, 2023)



Dr. Prafulla Bahadur MALLA

International Research Organization

for Advanced Science and Technology

Director



Dr. Kazuki TAKASHIMA International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology

Distinguished Professors



Dr. U Rajendra ACHARYA Senior faculty member, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore



Dr. László PUSZTAI Scientific Advisor. Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Hungary

Tenure-track Associate Professors



Dr. Gaochuang CAI International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Hiroki MATSUO International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Kei TODA Professor. Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Dmitri Aleks MOLODOV Professor Institute of Physical Metallurgy and Metal Physics. RWTH Aachen University, Germany



Dr. Yufeng ZHENG Department of Materials Science and Engineering,College of Engineering, Peking University, China



Dr. Takumi HIGAKI Professor. Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Takahiro HOSONO Professor. Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Kei ISHIDA Associate Professor, Center for Water Cycle, Marine Environment and Disaster Management





Dr. Shin-Ichi OHIRA Professor, Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Mitsuru SASAKI Associate Professor. Institute of Industrial Nanomaterials



Dr. Makiko KOBAYASHI Professor, Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Yuta NAKASHIMA Associate Professor, Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Atsushi SAINOKI Associate Professor, Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Keitaro TAKAHASHI Professor. Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology



Dr. Masahiko FURUTANI

Dr. Zhongyue ZHANG

International Research Organization

International Research Organization

for Advanced Science and Technology

for Advanced Science and Technology

Postdoctoral Researchers

Dr. Reetu Rani International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology

Dr. Jonas Karl N. AGUTAYA

International Research Organization

for Advanced Science and Technology

International Joint Research Faculty Members

Visiting Professors / Visiting Associate Professors (as of January 1, 2023)

Visiting Professors 1) Dr. José E. ANDRADE Professor California Institute of Technology (Caltech), USA Dr. Suttichai ASSABUMRUNGRAT Professor Center of Excellence in Catalysis and Catalytic Reaction Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand (3) Dr. Josep-Lluís BARONA-VILAR Professor Institute of History of Medicine and Science López Piñero (IHMC), University of Valencia, Spain (4) Dr. Jorge Norberto BELTRAMINI Professor Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia 5) Dr. Pouyan BOUKANY Associate Professor Delft University of Technology, Netherlands Dr. Olivier BOUTIN Professor Deputy Director M2P2, Director Master Chemical Engineering, M2P2 Laboratory, Aix Marseille University, France Dr. Paul BOWEN Professor School of Metallurgy and Materials, University of Birmingham, UK 8 Dr. Pierre BREUL

Professor Polytech Clermont-Ferrand/ Institute Pascal/ University of Clermont Auvergne, France

(9) Dr. Maria Jose COCERO

Professor Chemical Engineering & Environmental Technology, The University of Valladolid, Spain

10 Dr. Patrice DELMAS Associate Professor Department of Computer Science, The University of Auckland, New Zealand



 Dr. Martin DIENWIEBEL Heisenberg-Professor

Applied Nanotribology, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT), Germany

12) Dr. Martino DI SERIO

Professor University of Naples Federico II, Italy

(13) Dr. Derek ELSWORTH

Professor Department of Energy and Mineral Engineering and of Geosciences, The Pennsylvania State University, USA



14) Dr. Carolina ESCOBAR

Professor Department of Environmental Sciences University of Castilla La Mancha, Spain

15) Dr. Amir A. FARAJIAN

Professor Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Wright State University, USA



16) Dr. Mohammad FARD

Professor School of Engineering, RMIT University, Australia

(17) Dr. Bruno FAVERY

INRAE senior scientist (DR2) UMR 1355-7254, INRAE-Université Côte d'Azur-CNRS, Institut Sophia Agrobiotech (ISA), France



18 Dr. Etsuko FUJITA

Senior Chemist Chemistry Division. Brookhaven National Laboratory, USA

(19) Dr. Tomonari FURUKAWA

Professor Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, University of Virginia, USA

20 Dr. Hamid GHANDEHARI

Professor Director of Utah Center for Nanomedicine, Professor of Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Bioengineering, University of Utah, USA

21) Dr. Jens HARTMANN

Professor

Institute for Geology, Universität Hamburg, Germany

(22) Dr. Ryushiro KASAHARA

Professor Department of Life Science, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, China

(23) Dr. Ick Chan KWONv

Principal Research Scientist Biomedical Research Institute, Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Korea

(24) Dr. Youn-Woo LEE

Professor School of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Seoul National University, Korea

(25) Dr. Pavel LEJČEK

Professor

Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Czech Republic University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague, Czech Republic

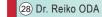
26 Dr. Bo LIU Professor

Department of Plant B iology, 2167 Life Sciences, University of Calofprnia Davis, USA



• 27 Dr. Viren Ivor MENEZES

Professor Department of Aerospace Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India



Research Director CBMN (UMR5248), CNRS-University of Bordeaux, France



(29) Dr. Shie-Ming PENG Distinguished Research Professor National Taiwan University, Taiwan

30 Dr. Christian RENTENBERGER Associate Professor Faculty of Physics, University of Vienna, Austria



31 Dr. Stelios RIGOPOULOS

Reader in Thermofluids Department of Mechanical Engineering, Imperial College London, UK



32 Dr. Parasuraman SELVAM

Professor Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, India



33) Dr. Shirley SHEN

Principal Research Scientist Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia



34) Dr. Amir SI LARBI

Professor ENISE, University of Lyon, France

35 Dr. Konstantinos Daniel TSAVDARIDIS Full professor

School of Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering, City, University of London, UK



36 Dr. Gioacchino (Cino) VIGGIANI Professor Solid Mechanics and Civil Engineering, Université Grenoble Alpes, France

(37) Dr. Thomas WAITZ

Associate University Professor Faculty of Physics, University of Vienna, Austria



(38) Dr. Andrew WHITTLE Professor

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

(39) Dr. Zhenghe XU

Dean College of Engineering, Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen, China

(40) Dr. Firuz ZARE

Professor Power and Energy Group, The University of Queensland, Australia

Visiting Associate Professors



(41) Dr. Tomoyasu MANI Assistant Professor Department of Chemistry, University of Connecticut, USA

(42) Dr. Agus Pulung SASMITO Associate Professor McGill University, Canada

(43) Dr. Daniel P. ZITTERBART **Assistant Scientist** Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, USA

Research Topics

case 01

Bioimaging analysis of stomatal movement

The stomata on plant leaf and stem surfaces are

essential to plant survival as they are responsible for

gaseous exchange and transpiration. The stomatal

apertures open and close in response to environmental

cues. We are aiming for a better understanding of the

cell biological basis of stomatal movement using

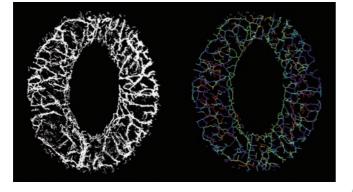
advanced bioimaging and image analysis techniques.



Professor Takumi HIGAKI

Stomatal movement Bioimaging Bioimage analysis





case 02



Associate Professor Ruda LEE

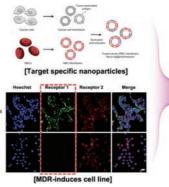
Research Keywords

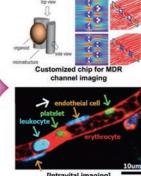
Nanomedicine Drug Delivery System (DDS) Theranostics

Theranostic nanoplatforms for disease treatment

Theranostics is a rapidly developing field that combines the unique opportunities offered by nanotechnology with precision medicine to provide significantly improved treatment efficacy with reduced off-target effects. This is accomplished through the specific delivery of therapy to diseased areas. By imaging, the diseased tissue, diagnosing conditions, and detecting inflamed cancer cells at an earlier stage, while simultaneously being able to treat the disease.







[Intravital imaging]

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 international goals and 169 targets for the period from 2016 to 2030 established with the aim of addressing globally-shared social challenges and realizing a sustainable world. IROAST researchers engage in interdisciplinary research that transcends the barriers between fields of study as well as original research projects related to energy, environmental issues, materials, resources, safety, and security. Their results are capable of contributing to solving the global issues indicated by the SDGs. IROAST is committed to contributing to the establishment of a society that provides safety, security, and well-being by broadly reapplying our vast stock of knowledge gained through research activities in ways that benefit society.



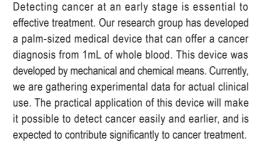
case 03

Palm-sized medical device achieving cancer diagnosis from 1 mL whole blood



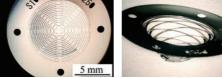
Associate Professor Yuta NAKASHIMA

Cancer diagnosis Cancer detection Biomicrodevice Palm-sized device Biomedical engineering













Professor Takahiro HOSONO

Environmental changes Natural disasters Earth system sciences







Environmental dynamics analysis on a regional scale

Earth environmental changes are critical concerns in today's world. Natural disasters such as flooding that are linked to these environmental changes are increasingly occurring. To tackle these issues and mitigate the damage to society, it is essential to accurately understand the causes and mechanisms of the systems that generate these problems. Our laboratory investigates a variety of issues involved based on aspects of earth system sciences by introducing multidisciplinary approaches.

安全な水とトイレ を世界中に	15 陸の豊かさも 守ろう
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IROAST Research Clusters



Turkey China Japan

(8) Study of first-generation objects in the universe with radio telescopes Cluster coordinator

Dr. Keitaro TAKAHASHI

(9) Separation, Synthesis, and Detection by Means of Ionic Solutes Handling Cluster coordinator

Dr. Shin-Ichi OHIRA China USA Janan

- (10) Advanced Biomedical Evaluation System Cluster coordinator Dr. Makiko KOBAYASHI
- (1) Environmentally Promising Processes for Medical and Skincare Nanomaterials
 - Cluster coordinator Dr. Mitsuru SASAKI

France Canada Mexico

(12) Environmental Diagnosis on Earth Surface Systems Cluster coordinator Dr. Takahiro HOSONO

Germany Italy Japan

(13) Novel Cancer Medical Technology Using Liquid Biopsy Cluster coordinator Dr. Yuta NAKASHIMA Janar



(14) Development of Nano and Supramolecular Materials Cluster coordinator Dr. Shinya HAYAMI Korea Japan

- (15) Plant Cell and Developmental Biology Cluster coordinator Dr. Shinichiro SAWA Snain France Japan
- (16) Nano-Organics and Nano-Hybrids Cluster coordinator Dr. Makoto TAKAFUJI France Spain China
- (17) Nano-medicine and Drug Delivery System
 - Australia India USA Netherlands Janan

USA

New Zealand

Japan

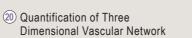
Japan

Janan

(18) Nano-medicine and Theranostics

Cluster coordinator Dr. Takuro NIIDOME

(19) Multiscale Modeling of Soil and Rock Materials Using X-ray CT Cluster coordinator Dr. Jun OTANI

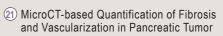


France

Cluster coordinator Dr. Toshifumi MUKUNOKI (25) Nano-materials for Energy Applications and Environmental Protection Cluster coordinator

Dr. Tetsuya KIDA





Cluster coordinator Dr. Toshifumi MUKUNOKI



(22) Advanced Structural Materials Cluster coordinator Dr. Yoji MINE



(23) Microstructure Analysis and Grain Boundary Engineering Cluster coordinator Dr. Sadahiro TSUREKAWA



(24) Structure and Dynamics of Materials Using Quantum Beams and Data-Driven Sciences Cluster coordinator Dr. Ichiro AKAI

France UK Hungary Latvia Japan

10

Cluster coordinator

Dr. Hamid HOSANO



Cluster 01



Associate Professor Kei ISHIDA

Members: Dr. Motoki AMAGASAKI, Japan Dr. Masato KIYAMA, Japan Dr. Ali ERCAN, Turkey Dr. Tongbi TU, China

Research Keywords

Deep learning Hydrology Meteorology

Cluster 02

Professor

Members:

Makiko KOBAYASHI

Dr. Toshitaka YAMAKAWA, Japan

Dr. Rajendra Udyavara ACHARYA, Singapore

Dr. Masayuki TANABE, Japan

Dr. Shu Lih OH, Singapore

Dr. RU San TAN, Singapore





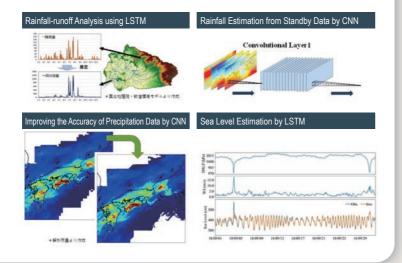
3 すべての人に 健康と福祉を -/w/÷ ・ 産業と技術革新(・ 基盤をつくろう ・ **S**

- Flexible ultrasonic sensor
- Flexible electronic circuit Automatic evaluation of medical ultrasound image



Deep Learning for Hydrology

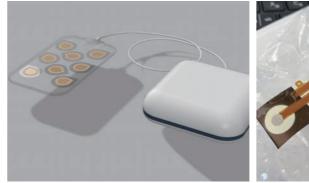
We are working on interdisciplinary collaborative studies involving researchers in hydrology and information science. By sharing skills and knowledge, we are applying the latest deep-learning architectures to various issues in hydrology and meteorology, for which we are also working to develop new deep-learning architectures. Our research will serve to assist in resilient flood management and sustainable water resource management.





Heart disease is one of the main causes of death worldwide. Undiagnosed and untreated heart disease will progress and cause irreversible myocardial damage.

Our unit's team activities are aimed at achieving the early diagnosis of heart disease by processing information obtained by flexible ultrasonic sensors and flexible electronic circuit systems with an automatic diagnostic system using deep-learning algorithms.





All about IROAST

IROAST fosters young researchers who have the potential to perform internationally and to contribute to joint research and exchange with researchers in different fields or departments in Kumamoto University and overseas universities.

(as of January 1, 2023)

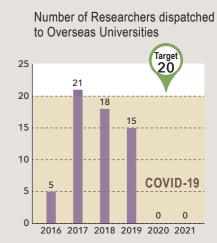
Members

Tenure-track Professors/ Associate Professors	4
Distinguished Professors	4
International Joint Research Faculty Members	10
Postdoctoral Researchers	3
Visiting Professor/ Associate Professor	43

Achievements



3768



Research Achievements

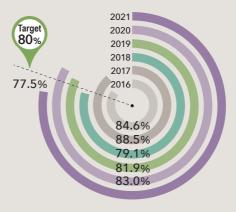
IROAST has exceeded the targets it set when it was first established. Its performance indicators are the highest in this university, and IROAST has achieved results that can strengthen and advance the university's international research competitiveness.



Number of Papers



Rate of Internationally Co-authored Papers







Collaborating Universities, Research Institutes, etc.



Tenured Faculty

Duration of Appointment to IROAST	Research Area
Name & Previous Job Title	Current Affiliation& Incumbent Name
Jan. 2017 – Mar. 2021	Green Energy
Dr. Atsushi SAINOKI	Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology,
Associate Professor	Kumamoto University, Associate Professor
Jun. 2016 – May 2021	Advanced Green Bio
Dr. Takashi ISHIDA	Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology,
Assistant Professor	Kumamoto University, Associate Professor
Aug. 2017 – Sep. 2021	Advanced Green Bio
Dr. Takumi HIGAKI	Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology,
Professor	Kumamoto University, Professor
Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2021	Nano Material Science
Dr. Ruda LEE	Institute of Industrial Nanomaterials,
Associate Professor	Kumamoto University, Associate Professor
Jul. 2017 – Jun. 2022	Advanced Green Bio
Dr. Mitsuhiro AIDA	Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology,
Professor	Kumamoto University, Professor

Rate of Top 10% Papers

Field Weighted Citation Index

Target

1.1



International Symposia & Seminars

IROAST provides international symposia to share research results both domestically and internationally. Researchers discuss issues across different fields, leading to the launch of new interdisciplinary research and international collaboration. Though international exchange has been made difficult by COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the symposia have continued online.

The 88th and 89th IROAST Seminars

The seminars were held organized by Prof. Makoto Takafuji (FAST), inviting Prof. Josep Lluís Barona-Vilar of the University of Valencia, Spain (Visiting Professor at IROAST) on November 29 and December 2, 2022.





Prof. Josep Lluís BARONA-VILAR



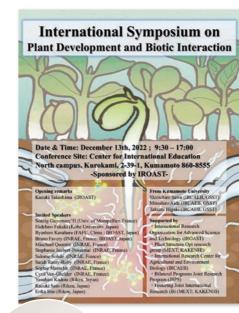
Prof. Makoto TAKAFUJI



*FAST: Faculty of Advanced Science and Technology

The 14th IROAST International Symposium on Plant Development and Biotic Interaction

The symposium, organized by Prof. Shinichiro SAWA (FAST) and Associate Prof. Masahiko FURUTANI (IROAST), was held on December 13, 2022. Approximately 60 researchers, including IROAST Visiting Professors, gathered to exchange the latest information. During the lunch break, graduate students of Kumamoto University gave poster presentations.





Dr. Bruno FAVERY (IROAST Visiting Professor)



Prof. Shinichiro SAWA





Salons and Workshop

Research Internship Program

The IROAST Salon for the Future Cross-Disciplinary Research

From the phase 2, IROAST hold the Salon almost monthly to promote ongoing exchanges among researchers and to develop intra-university joint research. Each salon meeting is planned by an IROAST faculty member, and each IROAST faculty members present their research and exchanges opinions. As several research presentations in different fields are made at each salon meeting, the salons serve as a forum for the exchange of information among researchers across disciplines.



The IROAST Workshop for Research Capability Building

IROAST conducted IROAST held Workshop for faculties and students in the uiversity to aim for polishing their Research skills by inviting expert lectures Outside the university. Intnis workshop, three topics which are necessary to leapfrog as world-leading Researchers was talked in English.

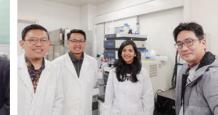


We offer research internships to graduate students and young researchers enrolled in foreign universities and research institutes for short-term assignments, mainly to provide them with research guidance.

Mr. Rahmat HIDAYAT (Politeknik Negeri Lampung, Indonesia)

Internship period: November 25, 2022 - January 31, 2023 (including online internship period) Host faculty: Prof. Shin-Ichi OHIRA (FAST, IROAST International Joint Research Faculty Member)

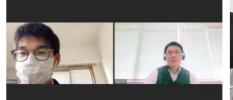




Meeting with Director TAKASHIMA, Prof. OHIRA, and Mr. HIDAYAT

Mr. FADILLAH, Mr. HIDAYAT, Dr. RANI, and Prof. OHIRA

Mr. Yue WEN (Nanjing University of Technology, China) Internship period: January 17, 2022 – February 18, 2022 (online internship only) Host faculty: Assoc. Prof. Gaochuang CAI (IROAST)





Online internship

Entered the Doctoral Course of the Graduate School of Science and Technology in April 2022, and awarded a certificate of completion of internship.



IROAST, Kumamoto University



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IROAST Kumamoto University



IROAST, Kumamoto University





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