

# IROAST Strategic Research Internship Program

(online and in-person) in 2024

## Guidelines for First Call

April 24, 2024

IROAST is proud to announce its initial call for a research internship program (online and in-person) that will provide hands-on research opportunities for highly motivated graduate students who have an interest in advanced scientific research.

### <Guidelines for the IROAST Research Internship Program 2024>

International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology (IROAST) was established in 2016 as the center of excellence of Kumamoto University for the purpose of promoting science and technology.

IROAST has a strong interest in developing global collaborations and makes fostering young scientists the highest priority. IROAST plans to provide hands-on research opportunities for young researchers who have an interest and motivation in advanced science and technology.

#### **【Eligibility】**

- 1) Be affiliated with research institutes in Asia, Europe, America or Oceania, which the IROAST has strategically designated as priority regions.
- 2) Candidates must fulfill one of the following conditions.
  1. Graduate students in science and technology from overseas universities. Preference will be given to applicants aiming to enter a Ph.D. course in Kumamoto University's Graduate School of Science and Technology.
  2. Young postdoctoral researchers planning to participate in joint research.
- 3) Candidates must receive in advance acceptance from their host researchers.

#### **【Financial aid】**

IROAST provides participants with financial aid for travel expenses and accommodations for the duration of the IROAST Research Internship Program following with Kumamoto University Travel Expenses Regulations. The total amount provided is up to 300,000 yen (for a participant from Asia) or up to 400,000 yen (for a participant from Europe, America, and Oceania) in principle. Adjustments may be made depending on the length of stay, travel distance, changes caused by a natural disaster, etc. There is no participation fee for the program.

- 1) Travel expenses: One direct roundtrip travel between the participant's residence and Kumamoto. (IROAST will request the participant to arrange the most reasonable travel means.)

- 2) Accommodation: All or a part of the accommodation cost during the program will be provided.
- 3) 1) and 2) above will be paid to the participants via bank transfer sometime **after** they finish the in-person program.

### 【Duration】

2 to 8 weeks between June 1st, 2024, and February 28th, 2025 (excluding online pre-/post-internship.)

- The duration and contents of the internship will be decided through discussions between the host researcher and the prospective participant.
- In case of difficulty in coming to Japan due to some reasons, online-only internship may be also possible, so please consult IROAST through your host researcher.

### 【Application Period】

By August 30th, 2024

\*For IROAST budgetary reasons, however, the application period may be closed before the deadline.

### 【Application Procedure】

(1) Applicants should choose an IROAST host researcher with whom they desire to work from the list below.

(Please replace [at] with @)

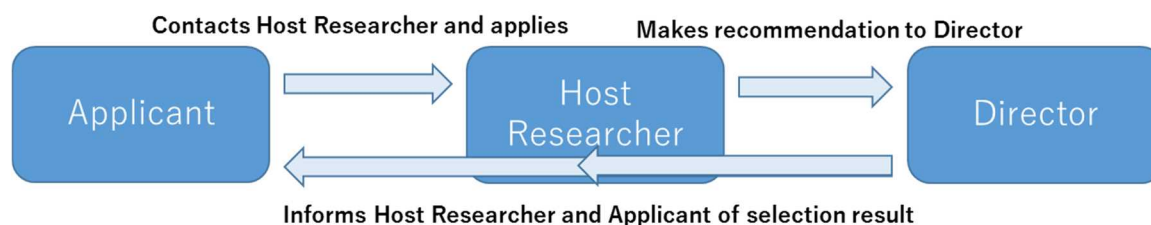
IROAST Host Researcher	Research Activities and Laboratory	E-mail
Kazuki Takashima	<b>Fracture and Fatigue, Mechanical Properties, Materials Evaluation</b> <a href="https://iroast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/staff/kazuki-takashima/">https://iroast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/staff/kazuki-takashima/</a>	takashik[at]gpo.kumamoto-u.ac.jp
Kei Toda	<b>Analytical chemistry, Atmospheric chemistry, Environmental chemistry</b> <a href="http://www.sci.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/~todakei/en/research.html">http://www.sci.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/~todakei/en/research.html</a>	todakei[at]kumamoto-u.ac.jp
Gaochuang Cai	<b>Structural design and retrofitting, Dynamics and vibrations of structures, Resilience of structural systems subject to strong earthquakes, Digital pattern recognition technologies, Sustainable high-performance structures and materials, Finite element method and Discrete element method, AI technologies for civil engineering.</b> <a href="https://iroast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/staff/gaochuang-cai/">https://iroast.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/staff/gaochuang-cai/</a>	cai[at]kumamoto-u.ac.jp
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Others	<b>Those who are approved by the Director of IROAST as host researchers. (Research Cluster Coordinators, Host faculty of IROAST visiting (associate) professors)</b>	

(2) Discuss the objectives and contents of the internship with the desired IROAST host researcher.

(3) Send all application documents below as a PDF to your selected IROAST host researcher via e-mail. The host researcher will send you a response once they have received a complete set of application materials.

- Application form: Please use the application form template provided by IROAST.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV): Please use the CV template provided by IROAST.
- A letter of recommendation from your supervisor or professor at your university or organization. There is no specific format for this.



## **【Selection Result】**

Successful participants will be selected through a comprehensive assessment of all submitted application materials. All participants will receive an e-mail notification of the assessment result from the IROAST within three weeks after the IROAST receives their application from their host professors. If no reply is received **within 7 days of receiving an affirmative notification** for whatever reason, IROAST will cancel its approval for the IROAST Research Internship Program.

## **【Compliance Matters】**

- The program is not to give transfer credits to student participants.
- Participants must submit a daily or weekly report to his/her host researcher.
- After the program, participants must submit a final report on his/her research project to the director of IROAST through their host professors.
- The director of IROAST will issue a certificate of completion for those who have completed the program and have successfully submitted a final report and all daily reports.
- Participants must not disclose or divulge any information to any third party on research that they could come to know while participating in this program.
- The director of IROAST may request that the participants attend a “Research Ethics Course” provided by Kumamoto University.
- If participants intend to connect information technology equipment (including their own private devices) to the university network, they must comply with the university’s information security policy. The director of IROAST may request that participants perform “e-Learning Training” provided by Kumamoto University.
- Participants must fill out and submit an “Affirmation of Compliance with Copyright Laws” to use software at Kumamoto University.
- Beyond what is specified in these *compliance matters*, participants must comply with all regulations of the university and abide by all instructions of the host researchers within reason.
- If a participant is judged to be inappropriate as an internship researcher, the university shall cancel his/her program and not permit subsequent acceptance of the participant.
- Participants must obtain appropriate health and travel insurance covering the duration of the program on their own.
- Participants must return home promptly after completing the in-person internship program. If you wish to stay in Japan after the program, Kumamoto University will not provide travel expenses for your return trip. In such case, the participant must obtain a status of residence appropriate for such stay.

## **【Contact】**

Administration Office

International Research Organization for Advanced Science and Technology (IROAST)

Kumamoto University

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