

Good morning, everyone.

My name is Akira Iwabuchi, president of Iwate University. On behalf of the university staff, I would like to congratulate you on passing the Iwate University examination, and welcome to our university. You are the members of our university from today.

It is our great pleasure to hold the spring enrollment ceremony for 335 students in the graduate schools, of which 30 students in the doctoral course and 305 in the masters course. Here we have 37 students who came from abroad and 12 from companies or institutions. Thank you for choosing Iwate University from many universities. I am sure that you will be satisfied with the experience you will get during your tenure in our university.

You are maybe surprised because I start the opening remarks in English. The reason for this is quite clear. As you know, we are now making a glocal university. You already know the word *Glocal*. English is the global communication language, so we hope you can use English to carry out researches. For overseas student, Japanese is, of course, also important to communicate with us.

As you know, we have worked on the reconstruction of the damaged areas using all of the university's power after the serious damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster on March 11, 2011. In order to apply our experience with the reconstruction activity to new education and research programs, we changed the masters course in the graduate school two years ago, and we had our first graduates two weeks ago.

The aim for the new masters course is reconstruction, innovation and globalization. Here, I just talked about the disaster prevention course in the department of regional recovery as an example. The damage from the disaster brought a serious decrease of activity in the area. There are three points for reconstruction policy, namely promoting safety, creating jobs and caring for mental health and human community. We held an international meeting on disaster prevention and risk management last year. It shows that the reconstruction from the disaster is not only a local problem for us, but also a global

problem. This is truly the glocal issue, and the cooperation of natural science and engineering, social science, and humanity is needed for creating the optimal solution. We can cooperate easily because Iwate University is a comprehensive university and the new graduate school brings us many new opportunities.

I expect you to contribute to the cooperation by working hard.

As you know, the economic activity of local areas, away from Tokyo, is gradually reducing due to decreasing population in Japan. Local areas need innovation created by universities in order to rebuild. We are responsible for offering both the new technology and the human resources for innovation. Therefore, you, especially those belonging to the doctor course, should do research work for innovation. You should investigate deeply what you are interested in and obtain a clear solution with hard work. However, innovation does not always occur by going the conventional direction. Here I recommend that you work to change your point of view, and take time for yourself, even during busy times. Visit and discuss with people in different academic fields, who perhaps may give you good hints to apply to your research work. As a result, your human network is built up, which will be the most valuable thing for you in the future.

You already know about SDGs, sustainable development goals. It is the global target we should achieve with people over the world together by 2030. There are 17 items to preserve the global environment and to improve the standard of life in developing countries. Nevertheless, SDGs also relate to our life-style. I want you to consider the relation between SDGs and your own research topic when you carry on your research work. Going abroad is required for you to understand the differences with the Japanese situation. We are worried about the decrease in population in Japan, but on the contrary, the global explosion of population is of note. Therefore, the outcome of your research will certainly contribute the achievement of SDGs even though your research is maybe specific to one pure science or applied science in some scientific field.

You decided to enter our graduate school for pursuit of your own dream. Some of you want to be qualified for some advanced licenses. We can give you specific knowledge and many various experiences in your study period. This year is the 70-year anniversary of Iwate University. Each activity of yours will contribute to raise the university's presence in Japan and in the world.

Finally, I would like to conclude my speech by saying that I hope you will become a true Glocal person with local and global viewpoints. The mission of making a glocal university is to cultivate the students as glocal persons.

Enjoy your life at Iwate University.

Thank you.

On April 5, 2019

Akira Iwabuchi

President of Iwate University

## 平成 31 年度 国立大学法人岩手大学 大学院入学式 学長告辞

大学院新入生の皆さん、入学おめでとうございます。

英語でのスピーチに驚いていると思いますが、岩手大学は「グローバル（グローバル＋ローカル）」な大学を目指しており、英語はグローバルな言語ですので、皆さんには研究を進めるうえで英語を使いこなしてもらいたいという期待から、英語でスピーチしています。当然、留学生の皆さんにとっては、日本語でのコミュニケーションも重要です。

ご存知のように、2011年に発生した東日本大震災の後、私たちは全力で被災地の復興に取り組んできました。この経験を教育研究に活かすために、2年前、大学院修士課程を改組し、2週間前の大学院修了式で、第一期修了生を送り出しました。

皆さんが入学する大学院のコンセプトは、復興、イノベーション、グローバル化です。震災は地域の活力を大きく低下させました。復興では、安全確保、雇用確保、心のケア及びコミュニティの再生があります。昨年、我々は、防災・危機管理研究の国際会議を開催しましたが、災害からの復興は、特定の地域に限られた課題ではなく、グローバルに共通する課題であることを示しました。これはまさにグローバルです。最適解を求めるためには、自然科学と人文社会科学の連携が必要です。岩手大学は総合大学であり、異なる分野間の連携が比較的容易です。皆さんが分野を横断して研究に取り組むことを期待します。

現在、地方の活力は、人口減少とともに衰退傾向にあります。地方の再生には大学発のイノベーションが必要ですから、我々は、新たなテクノロジーと人材を提供する責任があります。そのため、特に博士課程の皆さんは、イノベーションにつながる研究が必要です。皆さんは、興味あるものをさらに深化させたいと思うでしょうし、一生懸命研究して明快な結論を得たいと思うでしょう。しかし、ストレートに研究を進めることが、必ずしもイノベーションを起こすとは限りません。忙しい中にも自由な時間を持ち、視点を変えてみましょう。違う研究分野の人と交流し、議論してください。研究に新たなヒントを与えてくれるでしょう。また、人的ネットワークが拡がり、それは皆さんにとって、最も価値を持つことになるでしょう。

皆さんも、既にSDGsを知っていることでしょう。SDGsは2030年までに達成を目指す国際的な目標で、17の目標（Goals）があります。これらは、発展途上国だけではなく先進国も取り組むものです。皆さんが研究を進めるときに、研究テーマとSDGsの関係を意識して下さい。また、日本との違いを知るために、外国に行くことを勧めます。日本では人口減少が課題ですが、世界全体では人口増加による様々な問題が指摘されています。皆さんが研究に取り組むことは、科学技術の進展につながると同時に、研究成果はSDGsの達成に貢献すると考えます。

皆さんは夢を追求して大学院に入学したことと思います。資格を取得したいと思っている人もいるでしょう。我々は様々な知識と経験を提供できます。今年は岩手大学創立70周年にあたりますが、皆さんの活動が、日本あるいは世界において、岩手大学の存在感を高めると思います。

皆さん、これから始まる学生生活を楽しんでください。そして、是非グローバルな人間になってください。

以上で学長告辞といたします。

平成31年4月5日 岩手大学長 岩淵 明