

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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I bring you warmest greetings and congratulations from the President of Harvard University on this celebratory occasion of your 150th anniversary. We are deeply honored to pay tribute to Keio University and to acknowledge the historic and deeply-rooted relationship between our two universities, spanning more than a century.

In 1890, Keio's founder – Fukuzawa Yukichi – requested that then President of Harvard, Charles Eliot, nominate several American professors to help establish Keio's first university departments. Keio's distinguished departments of Economics, Law and Literature were the result of this cooperation between our two universities. Keio's School of Medicine has enjoyed longstanding research links with the Harvard Medical School and its affiliated teaching hospitals. Dozens of Keio alumni currently work as doctors in Harvard-affiliated research centers and hospitals in the Boston area. Keio's Graduate School of Business Administration grew out of connections with the Harvard Business School. Relations between our universities are not only institutional, but personal. Several presidents of Keio have paid official visits to Harvard, from President Koizumi's 1936 visit on the occasion of Harvard's 300th anniversary to President Anzai's visit during the installation of Harvard's President Drew Faust just last year.

The Harvard-Yenching Institute, which I direct, has hosted an active faculty exchange program between our universities for nearly 50 years. More than a dozen Keio faculty, including several who later served as deans and vice-presidents in your university, spent time at Harvard on this program. And a number of Harvard faculty have also visited Keio as part of the Harvard-Yenching exchange.

Keio University and Harvard University have enjoyed a remarkably close and mutually beneficial relationship since the earliest years of your university. We look forward to strengthening those ties even further in the centuries ahead.