

Enhancing “Research Integrity” through the University Legal Functions

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九州大学

Kyushu University



Kyushu University's International Initiatives

Kyushu University, commonly known as Kyudai, is one of Japan's former Imperial Universities along with University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, Osaka University, Tohoku University, Hokkaido University and Nagoya University, and is considered one of the country's most prestigious and challenging universities. Kyushu University has an action plan that prioritizes world-class research and the creation of innovation, aiming to contribute to international society through the development of global talent to advance society.

Number of international students

2007

2023

1,171



2,659

all students 18,658

(graduate students 6,951 are included)

Exchange Agreements with Universities Overseas

Inter-University Academic Cooperation Agreements

Inter-Faculty Academic Cooperation Agreements

151

43 Countries

242 (2023)

Student Exchange Agreements

38 Countries

189

University-Industry Overseas Collaboration (including research organization)

48 Countries

Top 10 (Numbers)

- USA
- China
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- France
- Korea
- UK
- Australia
- Vietnam
- German



Number of Departments

Undergraduate Schools 12

Graduate Schools 19

+ Others 12 Hospital, Research Labs and Centers
including professional law school and business school (MBA course)

Faculty Members

2,133

(Members with Foreign Nationality 336 are included)

Staff Members 5,817



Enhancing "Research Integrity" at Kyushu University

KU's Policy on enhancing RI

"Securing of research ethics and Strengthening of compliance systems"

(Board of Directors, KU; Jan.2022)

- Securing of Research Ethics**
→ education on research ethics (online training)
- Reinforcement of compliance system**
→ Establish a structure based on university legal function and RMS

Online Training at KU (already implemented)
 e.g. research ethics, proper use of research funds, harassment, discrimination on the basis of disability, export control, trade secret, information security, a chemical substance control, international contracts, deemed export, genetic modification experiments, animal experiments, radiation hazard prevention

Enhancing Research Integrity

For individual researchers:
Raising awareness of RI

Organizational management:
Establishment of the system

(A) Organization of relevant university regulations and management systems

☞ Development of a portal site that compiles university regulations and systems that contribute to enhancing research integrity

(B) Sharing information on researchers to address enhancing research integrity at the university

☞ As necessary, new RMS will be associated with changes in the social environment as appropriate

☞ Establishment of an information management system to enable the university to centrally overview and confirm information that is managed by each department and division (each RMS) individually . <under consideration>

(A) Add "Research Integrity" page on the university's top page.



category

As a member of Kyushu University
 When research results or information are obtained from a company
 When collaborating with industry and academia
 When conducting experimental education research
 Misconduct of Research

example of a matter

Compliance and ethics
 Harassment prevention
 Second jobs
 Promotion of proper research activities

tools

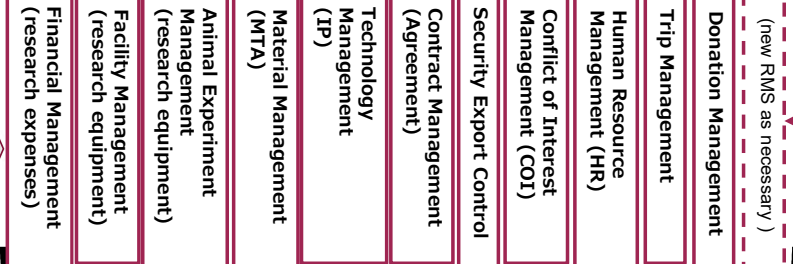
university regulations
 overview of each of the matters (e.g., handbook,video)
 training e-learning
 application forms

(B) Sharing of information on researchers that are siloed in various administrative divisions or departments in the university

example of existing RMS >

Information on researchers needed to enhance Research Integrity

- Professional and research career
- Secondary job's organization and position
- External research funding
- Support other than research funding (e.g. permission to use research facilities free of charge)
- ... etc.



information management system

<under consideration>

To promote **international activities** as appropriate in accordance with social conditions in the world, **we should establish a risk management system (RMS) to address "new risks."**

- Compliance with GDPR (EU General Data Protection Regulation)
- Compliance with Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (U.S. FCPA, U.K. UKBA)
- Research Data Management
- Export Control Laws of the U.S.A. and China - Extraterritorial Application
- Response to sanctions against Russia and Belarus etc.

In each of the university's risk management systems, all necessary information has been collected.



Why research integrity?

Why the research integrity must be actively address by now?

👉 **International transactions** has been an increasing emphasis in recent years.

main issues (e.g.)

- Global Research Collaboration

It involves complex data sets, interdisciplinary teams, and collaboration across institutions and countries. This complexity makes it more challenging to monitor for integrity issues, increasing the need for robust systems that can uphold high standards across diverse research settings.

- Data Sharing and Cross-Border Data regulations

It involves the exchange of large datasets between countries and institutions. Different countries have varying regulations around data privacy, data protection, and the ethical treatment of data (e.g., the EU's GDPR or the U.S.'s HIPAA). Unified such policies are necessary. Research integrity practices must ensure that data shared internationally is handled ethically, that privacy is protected, and that data is not manipulated or misused. Strengthening international policies on data sharing, transparency, and access will help safeguard research integrity in these cross-border contexts.

- Funding and Conflicts of Interest

International research funding is growing, with many projects funded by multiple countries or international organizations. This raises concerns about conflicts of interest, particularly when funding comes from countries or corporations with specific agendas.

- Cultural Differences in Ethical Standards

Different countries have different cultural and legal understandings of what constitutes ethical research.

- Export Control and Intellectual Property Protection

Many countries have strict export control laws to protect sensitive information, especially in fields like defense, biotechnology, or AI. Strengthening research integrity in international transactions involves ensuring compliance with these regulations to avoid intellectual property theft, misuse, or unauthorized transfers of technology.

- Ethical guidelines for Emerging Global Research Issues

It should be established ethical guidelines for emerging and unaddressed research field, with consideration of their potential global impact.

KU is promoting centralized management of these issues through legal function.



University Legal Affairs Functions (preventive legal affairs, Litigation legal affairs, strategic legal affairs)

The Role and Function of QILO for promoting KU's **International transactions**

International Agreements

Drafting, Review and Negotiation of all international agreements

Able to risk-catching (with risk-analysis)

- Joint Research Agreement
- Agreement on Contract Research and Projects
- IP Licensing Agreement
- IP Transfer Agreement
- NDA
- MOU
- Academic Exchange Agreement
- Student Exchange Agreement
- Joint Degree Agreement
- Double Degree Agreement
- Physician-led Research Agreement
- MTA
- Employment and Cross-appointment Agreement
- Data Trasferring Agreement
- etc.

Export Control

Compliance with Laws, Government Policies, International Environment

- Export of Goods
- Transfer of Technology
- Evaluation of counterparts (Due Diligence)
- Admission of international students
- Employment of international researcher
- Policy establishment and review in light of related laws
- etc.



Research Integrity

Directly connected to Board of Directors

Manage all risks associated with **international transactions (activities)** on campus in a unified manner through legal affairs, including contract support, and security management.

- ☞ **For risk-catching and risk-analysis**
 - Gathering and analyzing information on legal matters in Japan and overseas
 - Know-how related to cases handled > storage in a database.
- ☞ **Centralized management of thousands of data items**

QILO in university headquarters (Shiiki Hall; ITO Campus)



Risk-catching through Agreements and E-C

International Agreements

Export Control

Legal Matters:
Int.> Over 70%
(Domestic> less 30%)

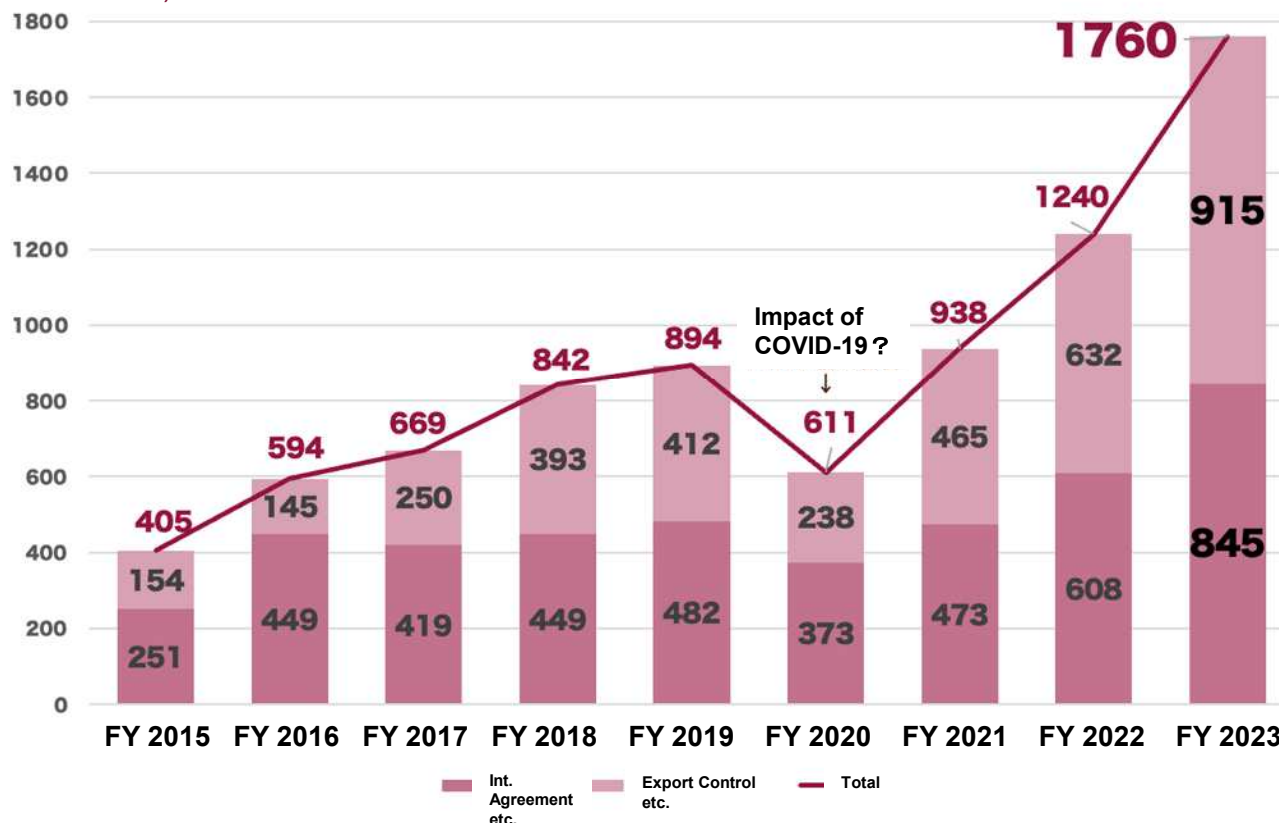
Most of them are
Agreements.



Risk-catching
and risk-analysis

(number of cases)

142% increase over the previous year



Export of Goods:
Around 55%

Transfer of Tech
and others:
Around 45%



Risk-catching
and risk-analysis