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Cover: Detail from “Waves and Plovers,” from Kōrin gafu (Kōrin’s Picture Album).
National Institute of Japanese Literature collection.
The National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU), founded in 2004, was incorporated as an umbrella organization for Japan’s major research institutes in the humanities. It promotes shared use of resources among researchers and collaborative research by six institutes, each with its own research fields: the National Museum of Japanese History for history, archaeology, and folklore; the National Institute of Japanese Literature for Japanese literature and archival research; the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics for Japanese language and linguistics; the International Research Center for Japanese Studies for cultural research on Japan; the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature for global environmental studies from the human point of view; and the National Museum of Ethnology for ethnology and cultural anthropology.

NIHU encourages the six research institutes to connect and collaborate on interdisciplinary research topics. This function provided the basis for rescue of valuable cultural assets and other responses to the emergency resulting from the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011. Starting in 2012, as part of its involvement in joint research, NIHU initiated projects contributing to reconstruction in the wake of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami and to the study of post-disaster society and human culture.

While encouraging the sharing of databases and their open access to the public, NIHU is also collaborating with fifteen universities and four research institutes on three area studies programs; two of those programs, on the Islamic region and on contemporary China, are in their second phase, and a third, on contemporary India, is in its first phase. In addition, a project to survey and research Japan-related documents and artifacts held overseas is going forward in cooperation with three Japanese universities and four overseas institutions with which we have agreements. The NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies, which was established as part of our efforts to support research on Japan overseas, is now in its third year.

While continuing our fundamental commitment to joint use and collaborative research involving individual researchers at research institutions in Japan and overseas as well as specialized research areas, we at NIHU seek to deepen our links with universities and research institutions and further strengthen our functional capabilities. We strive to promote research that contributes to the intellectual enrichment of our society and to the advancement of human culture.

KINDA Akihiro
President
National Institutes for the Humanities
April 2013
Japan’s four Inter-University Research Institute Corporations make available—to researchers at public and private universities and research institutes in Japan and overseas—large-scale facilities and repositories of materials and information that would be difficult for individual institutes to maintain. Serving as “centers of excellence” (COEs) in their respective areas of scholarly research, they are in a position to facilitate effective collaborative research.

The National Institutes for the Humanities is one of these corporations. Founded on April 1, 2004, NIHU was initially made up of five inter-university research institutes in the humanities: the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Institute of Japanese Literature, the International Research Center for Japanese Studies, the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, and the National Museum of Ethnology. On October 1, 2009, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics became the sixth institute to join NIHU. While conducting basic research to fulfill their respective founding purposes, these institutes interact in a complementary fashion, transcending the frameworks of previous scholarship. They make up a comprehensive inter-university research complex in which study in the humanities is informed by the perspective of study of the natural environment.

NIHU is dedicated to the advancement of basic research on culture and its extensions in time and space, including empirical study drawing on vast repositories of cultural materials and theoretical study integrating the perspectives of the humanities and social sciences. It also aims to be a global center for comprehensive scholarly research in the humanities, endeavoring to open up new research fields, including collaboration with various fields of the natural sciences.

The six member institutes, each serving as a center for nationwide research exchange, are kept accessible to the researcher community. They actively cooperate and collaborate with universities and research organizations and take initiatives in facilitating multifaceted joint research projects and shared use of research results.

Some of the NIHU institutes—the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Museum of Ethnology, and the National Institute of Japanese Literature—are equipped with museum functions and exhibit facilities. Taking advantage of their distinctive functions, they exhibit research data and achievements in a coordinated manner. The NIHU institutes also issue printed publications and use their information technology capabilities to make the information they generate available in and outside Japan, thereby contributing to the broader advancement of scholarship.

As we have entered the twenty-first century, the workings of nature and man are interacting with each other with great rapidity on a global scale, and many difficult problems have arisen as a result. In the face of these serious challenges, NIHU reaffirms the importance of humanities research, which is fundamental to all areas of learning.

### History

Establishment of Institutions

- **National Museum of Japanese History**
  - April 14, 1981
- **National Institute of Japanese Literature**
  - May 1, 1972
- **International Research Center for Japanese Studies**
  - May 21, 1987
- **Research Institute for Humanity and Nature**
  - April 1, 2001
- **National Museum of Ethnology**
  - June 7, 1974
- **National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics**
  - December 20, 1948

Establishment as Inter-University Research Institute Corporation

- National Institutes for the Humanities
  - April 1, 2004

The National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics was incorporated into NIHU

- October 1, 2009
Organizational Chart

Executive Directors

KINDA Akihiro  President
NAKAWO Masayoshi  Executive Director
ONO Masatoshi  Executive Director
KURIKI Shigeo  Executive Director/Head, Office of Administration
ISHIGAMI Eiichi  Executive Director (part-time)
HIROWATARI Seigo  Auditor (part-time)
KOMAGATA Kiyonobu  Auditor (part-time)

Directors-General of the Research Institutes

HIRAKAWA Minami  Director-General, National Museum of Japanese History
IMANISHI Yuichiro  Director-General, National Institute of Japanese Literature
KAGEYAMA Taro  Director-General, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics
KOMATSU Kazuhiro  Director-General, International Research Center for Japanese Studies
YASUNARI Tetsuzo  Director-General, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
SUDO Ken’ichi  Director-General, National Museum of Ethnology
Promotion of Research in the Humanities

The most pressing tasks in the twenty-first century are the coexistence of all peoples in the world and the survival of humankind on this planet. The humanities continues to hold the keys for addressing these difficult challenges. NIHU promotes the development of new fields of study in the humanities and research activities aimed at development of advanced and international research. It coordinates inter-institutional research and resource sharing in Japan and overseas.

I. Inter-Institutional Research

Bringing together the research results and resources accumulated by its six constituent institutes, NIHU plans and implements inter-institutional research that promotes the opening up of new perspectives and the further advancement of research. Under the second medium-term plan (FY 2010–2015), this program focuses on two themes: Comprehensive Research on Human Cultural Resources and Historical Synthesis of the Multilayered Relationship of Nature and Culture in Asia. Prompted by its rescue activities following the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, NIHU has also supported the Humanities Research on Catastrophic Disasters project since 2012.

Second Medium-Term Period (FY 2010–2015)
Inter-Institutional Research Themes

Comprehensive Research on Human Cultural Resources

Research under this theme studies the history of humankind from the viewpoint of the development and use of diverse resources. Studies will examine anew the practices, institutions, and relevant concepts/values of various eras and different parts of the world in terms of their relationship to the use of resources. Research is conducted in the three areas of documentary resources, daily life artifacts, and visual resources.

Historical Synthesis of the Multilayered Relationship of Nature and Culture in Asia

The Asian region of which Japan is a part is the home of diverse cultures shaped over the centuries of its history. Culture emerges out of the relationship of human beings to nature. Research under this theme is undertaken in three areas representing the challenges humans face as they seek to partake of the bounty of nature while protecting themselves against danger and disaster:

I. Perceptions and Ideas about Nature from the Viewpoint of Language
II. Incorporation of Nature into Culture
III. Governance of Commons and the Protection and Use of Nature

Humanities Research on Catastrophic Disasters

NIHU activities following the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake have been based on considerations of how our institutes could best help with local reconstruction and support of the stricken area from the perspective of humanities research. For NIHU, the disaster confirms the importance of having a comprehensive grasp of regional history, literature, folkways, language, the environment, and information about other particular features of a geographic area, creating links among all these different fields of research. This challenge is also vital to building communities that are prepared to deal with disaster. Our activities center on three areas: research on local culture, the environment and reconstruction/recovery; large-scale disasters and cooperation with and utilization of museums; and large-scale disasters and preservation and use of documents.

In 2011 and 2012 Forums were held on Oki island, Shimane prefecture. Photo shows the Takuhi shrine on the island.

II. Inter-Institutional Exhibitions

NIHU holds exhibitions to make the achievements of research conducted by its institutes open to the public. The National Museum of Japanese History and the National Museum of Ethnology maintain permanent exhibitions and mount special exhibitions as well. NIHU sponsors the hold-

Old books rescued from the tsunami disaster in the town of Futaba, near the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.
ing of inter-institutional exhibitions through collaboration among two or more of its institutes. As a means of reporting on NIHU’s support in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, two exhibitions were held.

“The Transmitting Memories: Tsunami Disaster and Cultural Heritage”
September 27–November 27, 2012, National Museum of Ethnology
January 30–March 15, 2013, National Institute of Japanese Literature

NIHU participated on the Committee for Salvaging Cultural Properties Affected by the 2011 Earthquake off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku and Related Disasters based at the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, and the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Institute of Japanese Literature, and the National Museum of Ethnology were active in the rescue of folk artifacts and official documents. The exhibit introduces the rescue and reconstruction-related activities of the institutes and shows the efforts that were made to pass on to future generations the memory of the Great East Japan Earthquake through the reconstruction process in the disaster area.

“Great East Japan Earthquake and Kesennuma Daily Life Culture”

Displays report on National Museum of Japanese History activities in the city of Kesennuma, Miyagi prefecture in rescuing cultural properties.

III. Resource Sharing

As part of its second medium-term inter-institutional collaborative humanities research programs, NIHU is engaged in developing and managing research resource sharing systems to promote sharing in academia of information resources accumulated by the six NIHU institutes and area studies centers. The program is implemented by the Committee of Resource Sharing Project.

The research resource sharing system is currently made up of two systems: the “nihuINT” (NIHU Integrated Retrieval System), which cross-searches more than 100 databases of the six NIHU institutes and area studies centers (123 databases as of February 2013) and NDL (National Diet Library) Search (14 databases as of February 2013), and the time-space analysis system (GT-Map/GT-Time) for analyzing era/period information and geographic location and place-name information. Since 2010, NIHU has provided the GT-Map/GT-Time system to members of the academic community as free software.

IV. International Collaborative Research on Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Overseas

In 2010, NIHU embarked on an international collaborative research project to survey and study Japan-related documents and artifacts located in other countries. The aim of the project is to clarify the significance of Japanese culture in world history and promote international research on the subject. NIHU established the Committee for Survey and Research of Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Overseas, and in collaboration with the Historiographical Institute and the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo and the Institute for Research in Humanities at Kyoto University, it is engaged in comprehensive survey and research of diverse materials held overseas. A network of international research is being created through links to institutions overseas. During the second medium-term phase, the following two projects are currently under way.

Study of the Siebold Family Collection and Other Materials Collected in Japan and Taken Overseas in the Nineteenth Century

As a model of survey and research on Japan-related documents and artifacts overseas, NIHU, establishing links with owner institutions, pursues a program to create detailed catalogs of the materials surveyed complete with digital images and make them available as shared databases. Among the standard Japan-related collections overseas from the late nineteenth century are those of Philipp Franz von Siebold’s first trip to Japan; those of his contemporaries, the traders Jan Cock Blomhoff and Johannes Gerhard Frederik van Overmeet Fischer; those of Siebold’s return trip to Japan in 1859; and those of his two sons Alexander and Heinrich. The survey was conducted at the State Museum of Ethnology, Munich, the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, the Berlin State Library, the residence of the Brandenstein family, and other locations. Surveys are also under way in the United States at the Morse Collection in the Peabody Essex Museum and the Japanese collection of Yale University Library, and in the United Kingdom at the Japan collection of the National Museum Wales. NIHU has concluded agreements with the State Museum of Ethnology, Munich, the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Brandenstein family, and the National Museum Wales on resource and information sharing.
VI. Area Studies

In order to cultivate comprehensive understanding of areas of academic and social importance to Japan, NIHU promotes area studies by jointly establishing research centers at related universities. Its Islamic Area Studies program was begun in 2006, Contemporary Chinese Area Studies program in 2007, and Contemporary India Area Studies in 2010. NIHU recruits young scholars for its Center for Area Studies and assigns them to work with scholars at area studies centers in various parts of Japan. The asterisked items in the list below are hub research centers.

Islamic Area Studies
Institute of Islamic Area Studies, Organization for Islamic Area Studies, Waseda University*
Major theme: “Islamic Civilization and Knowledge”
Director: SAKURAI Keiko

Department of Islamic Area Studies, Center for Evolving Humanities, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, University of Tokyo
Major theme: “Thought and Politics in Islamic Areas: Comparison and Relations”
Director: OHTOSHI Tetsuya

Center for Islamic Studies, Sophia University
Major theme: “Modern Experiences of Muslims and Their Networks”
Director: KISAICHI Masatoshi

Center for Islamic Area Studies, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University
Major theme: “International Organizations/Institutions in the Islamic World”
Director: KOSUGI Yasuhiro

Documentation Center for Islamic Area Studies, Toyo Bunko (Oriental Library)
Major theme: “Creating a System for Collection and Study of Source Materials for Islamic Area Studies”
Director: MIURA Toru

Contemporary Chinese Area Studies
Waseda Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies, Organization for Asian Studies, Waseda University*
Major theme: “China Becoming a ‘Superpower’”
Director: AMAKO Satoshi

V. International Collaboration and Cooperation in Research

NIHU works to build connections for cooperation with institutions in other countries for humanities research, invites scholars from other countries to study in Japan, helps arrange for Japanese scholars to study abroad, and supports the holding of international research symposiums. In 2012, it supported the holding of the ICOM-CECA Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting organized by the National Museum of Japanese History and the International Symposium on Signed and Spoken Linguistics: (1) Description, Documentation, and Conservation organized by the National Museum of Ethnology. NIHU has tie-ups with the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) of the United Kingdom, the École Pratique des Hautes Études of France, and the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden University in the Netherlands. Under its agreement with the AHRC, two graduate students are to come to Japan in 2013 to study at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature and the National Museum of Ethnology.

Survey and Study of Modern and Contemporary Immigration by Japanese
Under this project, China teams A and B published a research volume on the Japan To-day supplement to the Bunsetei shunjū (a magazine representing private-sector propaganda of the Sino-Japanese war period), and organized the “Documents Related to the Japan-China Institute: Memoirs of Takahashi Kunpei.” American continent team A studied documents in North America, Latin America, and Hawai’i. American continent team B compiled a database of Japanese-language newspapers published in South America and other areas and made it public. The oral documents team conducted oral history surveys mainly in Hawai’i. The Korea team produced catalogs of the Moriya Eifu papers and of Japan-related documents in the collection of libraries in Korea. The Taiwan team compiled a report of its cataloging of new documents there.
NIHU holds lectures and symposiums in order to make the scholarly achievements in humanities research available as widely as possible. Information about these events appears in the NIHU journal Ningen bunka (Human Culture), of which 18 numbers have been published so far. From No. 14 onward, the content has been made available on the NIHU website.

20th Public Lecture and Symposium
“Commons and the Co-Creation of Well-being”
January 25, 2013, Yurakucho Asahi Hall, Tokyo

NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies
The NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies recognizes the achievements of outstanding Japanese studies by scholars from overseas. At a time when the presence of Japanese studies has lost some of its former momentum in other countries, and with the support of YKK Corporation, the prize was established in 2011 in order to encourage and promote Japanese studies overseas. It is presented to researchers for outstanding achievement in scholarship on literature, language, history, folklore/ethnology, culture, the environment or other fields relating to Japan. The 2nd NIHU Prize was presented to Augustin Berque (Profesor, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France).

Intellectual Property
The Intellectual Properties Administration Office at NIHU maintains and manages intellectual properties including writings and inventions resulting from research activities in such a way as to make them available and useful to society. It also handles clerical work involving permissions for perusal, loan, and use of research materials in the collections of the six institutes.
Founded for the purpose of collecting and preserving historical, archaeological, and folklore documents and artifacts and exhibiting them to the public as well as conducting research and surveys in the fields of history, archaeology, and folklore studies, the National Museum of Japanese History (Rekihaku) celebrates its 30th anniversary in March 2013. Rekihaku is an institute that engages in the interlinked functions of collecting, organizing, preserving, and investigating scholarly documents, artifacts, and information. It is also a museum that can publicize such material to greatest effect through exhibitions and other dissemination activities. Proud of its “museum-based research integration” approach, Rekihaku pursues research by organically linking resources, investigation, and display, and opening up its activities both domestically and internationally.

As an inter-university research facility, Rekihaku also helps foster an environment in which researchers in Japan and abroad can collaborate in making use of its multiple functions while supporting and training scholars as the bearers of the next generation of research activity.

Research

Research projects at Rekihaku are organized on common themes with the participation of scholars of different fields from universities and research institutes in Japan and overseas. The projects consist of collaborative research of three types: “Basic research” is interdisciplinary research conducted under broad themes. Seven basic research projects are in progress. “Scientific research” is advanced digitization of documents and artifacts in the institute collection and building of new methodological foundations for historical research. Thirteen scientific research projects are currently being conducted. While the above two types are the core of collaborative research, the third type, “development-style research,” is devoted to the development of new research themes and training of researchers. Two development-style projects are in progress. In addition, four projects are under way aimed at more effective use of the documents and artifacts in the Rekihaku collection. Seven exhibition projects are also under way, with the purpose of building the permanent exhibition, special exhibitions, and feature exhibitions.

Resource Sharing

Collection Activities

Rekihaku is engaged in the planned and continuous collection of authentic documents, reproductions, audio and visual materials, and related items. As of May 2012 it had 227,697 items in its collection (including 5 national treasures, 85 important cultural assets, and 27 art treasures). It has a library of some 314,962 titles.

Dissemination of Information

Publication of Research Reports


Database Access

Rekihaku provides various databases (45 as of May 2012), including one designed for both specialist and public access to the documents and artifacts in its collection, databases of bibliographic information in many fields and of the outcomes of collaborative research, and a database of the full text of historical records.

Exhibitions

Permanent Exhibition

Rekihaku’s permanent exhibition presents selected themes...
The displays are divided into six galleries. Galleries 1 through 3 trace history from primeval and ancient times through the medieval and early modern periods, Gallery 4 introduces folk life, Gallery 5 the modern period (late 19th century to 1920s), and Gallery 6 the contemporary period (1930s to 1970s).

One of the rooms of Gallery 3 presents a special exhibition called “Early Modern Japan in the Rekihaku Collections” featuring items from the Rekihaku collection.

### Special Exhibitions

Rekihaku holds special exhibitions several times a year to publicize the results of collaborative research and show the artifacts in its collection.

### Botanical Garden of Everyday Life

The Botanical Garden of Everyday Life, which opened in 1995, cultivates plants that have constituted an important part of everyday life in Japan. Arranged under the themes of “eating,” “weaving/papermaking,” “dyeing,” “curing,” “tool making,” and “coating/burning,” plants are exhibited here to show the history of people’s daily lives. Special exhibitions featuring traditional plants of the season are held a few times every year. Special observation lectures are held once a month.

### Social Outreach

Rekihaku assures that its activities benefit society by making the results of collaborative research available to the public not only through exhibitions but other programs as well.

### Rekihaku Forums and Lectures

Forums and lectures are held as a means of presenting to the public the results of research undertaken at Rekihaku.

### Educational Projects for Children

Rekihaku conducts educational projects for families with young children, including “Exploration of Rekihaku,” presenting explanations of exhibits along with a tour of “behind-the-scenes” areas of the museum and the “Rekihaku Worksheets for Children” that can be answered while touring the galleries.

### Training Workshops for Specialists

Since 1993, Rekihaku has been cosponsoring, with the Agency for Cultural Affairs, workshops that provide additional training for specialists from other history and folklore-related institutions.

### Introducing Rekihaku

Active efforts are made to introduce and explain Rekihaku through publication of the history-oriented magazine *Rekihaku* and maintenance of the Rekihaku website (http://www.rekihaku.ac.jp) as well as through distribution of press releases relating to special exhibitions and events and through displays at inter-university-sponsored symposiums.

### Academic Exchange

Rekihaku is engaged in scholarly exchange with universities, research institutes, and museums in Japan and overseas. As of 2011, it had established 13 scholarly exchange agreements with other institutions.

### Graduate School Education

The Department of Japanese History of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University of Advanced Studies (Sōkendai) was established in 1999. Its graduate program takes the form of individual classes, basic practice, and intensive courses for the training of researchers and writing of their doctoral dissertations.

In 1997 Rekihaku adopted a special inter-university researcher system, under which it accepts and trains graduate students of various universities in history, archaeology, folklore, and related fields.
National Institute of Japanese Literature

The National Institute of Japanese Literature (Kokubunken) was established to study, collect, organize, and preserve literary texts and related documents. With the cooperation of researchers in universities and other institutions, for over forty years it has surveyed Japanese literary works and related documents held in Japan and other countries, and recorded and stored them on microfilm and other media. The Institute also makes the documents and other information it has collected available to scholars and general users through its reading room facilities as well as through online databases and copying services.

Kokubunken seeks to promote systematic and comprehensive research on literature by utilizing the vast amount of material it has surveyed and collected. It plans and implements collaborative research projects in the three categories of “basic research,” “specific research,” and “international collaborative research.” Through these projects, the Institute collaborates with researchers at universities and other institutions in Japan and actively engages in international exchange at both the institutional and individual levels.

The Institute connects with society through its program of public exhibitions, lectures, and workshops, thereby promoting increased access to Japanese literature and related cultural resources.

Research

Through its Collaborative Research Committee formed with the participation of members from outside the Institute, Kokubunken conducts the following collaborative research projects aimed at promoting basic research on literature in long-term perspective and the development of new trends in research.

Basic Research
Joint research to develop basic research on historical and other documents is being conducted under the following topics:
- The “capital” and “provinces” in Japanese classical literature
- The formation of libraries and enjoyment of literature in early modern times
- Development of preservation and access systems for private archives

Specific Research
Joint research dealing with important topics is under way on the following topics, including those selected through public invitation.
- Comprehensive research on Fujiwara no Michinaga
- Research on the introduction and acceptance of Song dynasty editions in Japan
- Illustration of literature of narrative arts and its enjoyment
- Historical description and literature
- Formats of classical Japanese books

International Collaborative Research
Joint projects conducted in collaboration with overseas researchers
- Style in Japanese literature

Resource Sharing

Survey and Acquisition
In close collaboration with some 180 researchers throughout Japan who are attached to universities and other institutions, Kokubunken staff visit owners (organizations and individuals) of original texts (handwritten copies, imprints, etc.) to conduct bibliographic and other research.

The Institute reproduces such texts on micro-negative film or in digital format when permission is obtained to do so. Since 2005, it has been engaged in collaborative investigations based on agreements concluded with other universities and institutions.

Access to Documents
The Kokubunken Library provides reading and copying services. Users in distant locations may make use of its reproduction and other services through the inter-library loan system. Inquiries about the Institute’s collection are accepted by telephone or by regular mail.
Database Access
Kokubunken provides access to scholarly information through databases that have become indispensable to scholars, including the “Database of Articles on Japanese Literature” and the “Union Catalogue of Classical Japanese Books.”

Social Outreach
To provide public access to the results of research at the Institute, Kokubunken holds exhibitions, lectures, symposiums, and seminars.

Exhibitions
Kokubunken presents exhibits to make available the results of institute programs and collaborative research. Starting in 2013 it will maintain a permanent exhibition showing how works of classical literature have been read and passed down over the centuries, as well as present special exhibitions at appropriate times.

2013 Special Exhibition
“Reconstruction: Shibusawa Seien (Eiichi) Memorial Room”
September 26 to October 24, 2013
Marking the completion of a database of documents and materials housed in the Shibusawa Seien (Eiichi) Memorial Room that was to have been installed in a museum for Japanese business history envisioned by Shibusawa Eiichi’s son Shibusawa Keizō (the museum did not materialize), a comparative research project will analyze historical materials in the memorial room and in the Shibusawa Memorial Museum, and an exhibition featuring a reconstruction of the memorial room will be held.

International Conference on Japanese Literature
The conference is held every year in the autumn to promote scholarly exchange among specialists on Japanese literature in Japan and overseas and to foster the development of research on Japanese literature.

Kokubunken Forums
In order to promote research exchange, Kokubunken professorial staff members present their research results at forums held about ten times throughout the year.

Lectures on Japanese Classics
Held with the cooperation of the National Diet Library, these lectures serve as training for librarians in Japan and from overseas on basic knowledge and handling of works of Japanese classical literature.

Archives College
Kokubunken hosts long- and short-term courses to train and support the work of archivists who supervise the preservation and use of historic documents. Lecturers are mainly scholars from Kokubunken. The long-term course is held annually for eight weeks between July and September at the Institute. A short-term course will be held in November 2013 in the city of Tōno, Iwate prefecture.

Classical Literature Day (Koten no Hi)
November 1 has been designated “Classical Literature Day” by the government. A special lecture will be held in the first part of November.

Graduate School Education
Kokubunken is the parent institute of the Department of Japanese Literature of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sōkendai). Based on the personnel and research environments of 18 inter-university research institutes, Sōkendai offers graduate-level courses and also engages in research. The Department of Japanese Literature offers multifaceted guidance for graduate students reconsidering traditional Japanese literature research in a comprehensive manner from the viewpoint of cultural science.

Under the special inter-university researchers system, Kokubunken accepts and provides supervision to graduate students recommended by universities.

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Under the special inter-university researchers system, Kokubunken accepts and provides supervision to graduate students recommended by universities.
National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics

Founded as an international hub for research on Japanese language, linguistics, and Japanese-language education for non-native speakers, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL) is devoted to deepening understanding and insight into human culture through the study of language. Its principal mission is to contribute to the development of the Japanese language and its role in daily life and to the promotion of Japanese-language education for speakers of other languages. To fulfill this mission, it conducts large-scale theoretical and empirical research projects with universities and research organizations inside and outside of Japan with the aim of illuminating all aspects of the Japanese language as one of the many languages of the world.

One of its other important missions is to make widely accessible to the public the outcome of joint research as well as information on research publications, thereby promoting their application in such fields as natural-language processing.

Research

NINJAL works in collaboration with universities and research institutes in Japan and overseas to undertake research projects on an overarching nationwide or international scale that could not be attempted by individual universities alone. These projects are based on the purpose of the Institute as a whole, which is to engage in the comprehensive study of Japanese from the perspective of the languages of the world. Research themes aimed at fulfilling this purpose are planned and a number of collaborative studies carried out under each theme.

Department of Linguistic Theory and Structure
The Department pursues theoretical, empirical, and experimental studies on contemporary Japanese, with main focus on its grammar/syntax, phonetics/phonology, lexicon/morphology, semantics/pragmatics/discourse, and characters/orthography.

Department of Language Change and Variation
With a view to clarifying the geographical and social, as well as historical, variations of Japanese, collaborative studies are under way focused on nationwide surveys of dialects, especially dialects in danger of becoming extinct, and on the dynamics of contemporary Japanese.

Department of Corpus Studies
Basic research is being done for the building and utilization of Japanese-language corpora (large-scale language resources that are systematically compiled to accurately reflect language usage that can be electronically searched).

Department of Crosslinguistic Studies
Aiming to clarify the nature and characteristics of the Japanese language through comparison with other languages of the world, researchers both in Japan and overseas participate in typological research.

Center for JSL Research and Information
Dealing with various issues involved in the teaching and learning of Japanese language as a second language, the Center conducts empirical research on language learners’ communication in Japanese, gathers information from wide sources, and disseminates it to those interested in Japanese-language education.

International Research Cooperation
In addition to invitation of overseas scholars for research in Japan, NINJAL carries out international activities through tie-ups with the University of Oxford (U.K.) and the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (Germany) as well as through holding of international symposiums.

Resource Sharing

Center for Research Resources
To facilitate joint use by researchers in Japan and overseas, NINJAL builds and makes available online various databases such as the Bibliographic Database of Japanese Language Research. It also publishes in print and online the NINJAL Project Review and NINJAL Research Papers.

Center for Corpus Development
In line with the Kotonoha Project (kotonoha means “words” in classical Japanese) for organizing Japanese-language resources, NINJAL develops various language resources in electronic form and makes them publicly available. The Kotonoha Project has been expanded to incorporate a hist-
historical corpus of Japanese language of past eras and is moving ahead with the building of a huge ten-billion word-scale corpus.

Research Library
Japan’s only library devoted exclusively to the Japanese language, the NINJAL Library collects and stores mainly research materials and linguistic resources concerning Japanese-language research and the Japanese language, as well as Japanese-language education, general linguistics, and other related subjects, and makes them available for joint use.

Social Outreach

Social Interaction through Special Research Projects

■ Research on Endangered Dialects in Japan
In 2009, UNESCO published a red book of the endangered languages of the world including eight languages/dialects spoken in Japan. Projects to undertake intensive recording of these dialects and analyze them linguistically will not only help preserve Japan’s language heritage and activate interest in dialects in local communities but also contribute to the research on endangered languages that is going on worldwide.

■ Expansion of Japanese Corpora
The Balanced Corpus of Contemporary Written Japanese (BCCWJ), a 100-million-word corpus on a scale equal to the major English-language corpora, was made publicly available in August 2011. The corpus allows easy access to information on usage and orthography of Japanese words useful not only to Japanese-language specialists but Japanese-language teachers, learners of Japanese as a second language, members of the mass media, etc.

■ Japanese-language Education in Multicultural Communities
The recent increase in the number of foreign students and foreign residents in Japan has given rise to diverse needs for learning Japanese as a foreign language and calls for diverse approaches in terms of content and methods. This program pursues an extensive empirical study of communication ability in Japanese as a second language and makes available the results as a means for improving the content and methods of the teaching and learning of Japanese for resolving social problems arising from intercultural conflict.

NINJAL Programs
In order to make public the results of outstanding research undertaken at the Institute for the betterment of society, NINJAL holds programs for general audiences as well as symposiums, seminars, and workshops for specialists.

■ NINJAL Forums
NINJAL works to disseminate the results of the research done at the Institute among the general public and promote links with society at large through public lectures. The content is published online.

■ NINJAL Career Exploration Program
(for junior high and high school students)
Study meetings introduce the enjoyment and wonder of learning through the study of language, Japanese language, and Japanese-language education.

■ NINJAL Junior Program
(for elementary school students)
Workshops and other events are held to give children a chance to think about the fascinating aspects of Japanese, using familiar topics from daily life.

Graduate School Education

Since 2005, NINJAL has conducted a graduate studies program in collaboration with Hitotsubashi University. Designed to provide specialized knowledge on Japanese-language teaching, Japanese language, and Japanese culture, this degree-granting program trains Japanese and resident non-Japanese graduate students as specialists in the Japanese language and as Japanese-language teachers.

NINJAL also offers a tutorial program aimed at training of next-generation researchers by providing young researchers, mainly graduate students, with the results of recent scholarship and latest research methods.
The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) was founded to pursue international, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive research on Japanese culture and to provide research cooperation and support for Japanese studies scholars around the world.

In addition to research on the distinctiveness of Japanese culture, Nichibunken emphasizes the perspectives of comparative studies and cultural exchange. Its researchers are involved in diverse interdisciplinary collaborative research projects on Japanese culture that bring together specialists from a wide range of fields from within and outside Japan. It engages in international research collaboration of various kinds such as sharing research information with scholars and research institutions all around the world and sponsoring the participation of its faculty at scholarly meetings held overseas.

### Team Research

The primary emphasis of research at Nichibunken is team research on Japanese culture. The advancement of research on Japanese culture not only calls on scholars to steadily accumulate the results of work in their respective fields but also requires forums where they can expand and enhance their knowledge by working together across disciplinary lines.

The emphasis on exchange with researchers from overseas whose intellectual traditions differ from Japan’s is aimed at the multifaceted internationalization of the study of Japanese culture. The objective, therefore, is not only exchange of the outcomes of research but achievement of results based on the creativity that is generated by collaboration in the research process. Nineteen team research projects were conducted in FY 2012.

### International Research Symposiums

As interest in Japanese culture and society has heightened in countries around the world, the theoretical approaches and research methods of scholars have greatly diversified. Nichibunken holds international research symposiums—mainly on the themes of the team research projects going on at the Center—and provides forums for international debate about the advancement of Japanese studies.

### Research Meetings Held in Japan

The Nichibunken Forum, which is open to the public, is held monthly, with visiting scholars from abroad presenting their research findings and exchanging ideas with Japanese researchers. Seminars, lectures, and symposiums are also held on themes proposed by Nichibunken scholars based on their own fields of study and on interdisciplinary themes developed collaboratively by overseas researchers and Nichibunken scholars. The Nichibunken Evening Seminars, held in English, and the Nichibunken Thursday Seminars, both of which meet ten times a year, comprise presentations by overseas scholars and Nichibunken faculty, respectively.
Public Database Access

Nichibunken develops databases of the materials in its collection and the outcomes of research by its faculty as well as Japan-related materials held by other organizations. It now provides public online access to 52 databases. Its newest database, opened in 2012, features “Heian-Period Diaries.” Nichibunken lectures may be viewed online in real time via Internet broadcasting. Public access to an archive of 207 lectures recorded since 1997 is now available.

Social Outreach

As a research institute that strives to be open to society, Nichibunken makes the results of its research and research collaboration activities widely available to the public through the following means:

Publications

The results of research conducted at Nichibunken are published in the biannual Nihon kenkyū (in Japanese) and the annual Japan Review (in English), as well as individual titles in its Nichibunken Japanese Studies Series (in Japanese) and Nichibunken Monographs (in English), and reports of its research cooperation activities, symposiums, and other projects.

Public Lectures

Three or four times a year, Nichibunken faculty present reports of their research in the Nichibunken auditorium. Other public lectures are also offered in the auditorium for the purpose of promoting Japanese studies.

Public Symposium Lectures

As part of the program of international research conferences held at Nichibunken, and in order to publicize the activities of the Center and contribute to wider public appreciation of Japanese studies, lectures open to the public are presented.

Graduate School Education

The Department of Japanese Studies of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sōkendai) is located at Nichibunken. The department promotes interdisciplinary and comprehensive Japanese studies education and research from an international perspective. Students from abroad as well as from Japan enroll in the department’s doctoral program. Under the special inter-university researchers system, the department also accepts and trains graduate students recommended by other universities.
Activities of the NIHU Institutes

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature

総合地球環境学研究所

The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) was founded in April 2001 to promote “integrated cooperative research toward the solution of global environmental problems” and to create the field of global environmental studies.

RIHN undertakes not just to link knowledge of complex natural processes with that of the lifestyle and culture of different regional communities, but to build holistic knowledge frameworks that allow for qualitative leaps in the human ability to solve environmental problems. Through a merging of the cognitive and design sciences, RIHN is developing a transdisciplinary field called Environmental Humanics of the Earth System.

As RIHN enters its second decade, it seeks greater integration within and between “domain-based” research projects and has developed what it calls the Futurability Initiatives in order to accomplish this task. The initiatives are therefore dedicated to consilience between fields of knowledge and intended to enhance design-oriented, problem-solving approaches to contemporary environmental issues.

Research

At RIHN, researchers participate in research projects on the basis of fixed-term appointments, and the projects progress through several stages. At each stage the validity of the research plan, feasibility of its implementation, and significance of results are evaluated in a system designed to assure the quality and autonomy of the research. At the Incubation Study (IS) stage potential project themes are openly solicited from both inside and outside the Institute, allowing new ideas and aims (research seeds) to be discovered. Studies that are judged to have reached the planning phase then move to the Feasibility Study (FS) stage. The achievements of these studies are subject to assessment by the Project Evaluation Committee, an external review committee composed of Japanese and international specialists. If judged appropriate by the Committee and approved by the Board of Advisors, projects pass through a transitional period of Pre-Research (PR) before advancing to the Full Research (FR) stage, which lasts from three to five years.

Resource Sharing

Exchange of Intellectual Resources

By FY 2011, 19 research projects had been completed, and their outcomes disseminated for utilization in various forums and other contexts. These projects have engaged more than 1,000 Japanese and international experts in disciplines ranging across the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. RIHN projects have involved many forms of formal collaboration with national, public, and private universities, research institutes, NGOs, ministries and other government offices, journalists, and others involved in the study of and solutions to contemporary social-environmental problems.

Field Resource Exchange

RIHN research projects take place in Japan and around the world, with a special emphasis on Asia. They are undertaken in close collaboration with local researchers and experts. In conducting collaborative projects overseas, a memorandum or research cooperation agreement is signed with appropriate local organizations, followed often by exchange of persons, joint surveys and analysis, sharing of research results, and the like. Making the most of its networks and experience with joint research, RIHN organizes exchange of information on local environments with relevant research organizations in Japan.

Facilities and Equipment for Information Exchange

Performing scientific diagnoses of environmental conditions and sharing information with stakeholders and citizens is vital to improving understanding of potential solutions to global environmental issues. RIHN maintains a world-class laboratory for analysis of stable isotopes and DNA, as well
as the equipment necessary for basic environmental fieldwork and analysis. Through the organization and integration of data gathered using state-of-the-art technology and the dissemination of information for broad use in society, RIHN encourages stakeholders to participate in developing the transdisciplinary field Environmental Humanics of the Earth System.

Social Outreach

RIHN International Symposium
Each year RIHN holds an international symposium describing the key findings of concluded RIHN research projects. On October 24-26, 2012, a range of project members and invited international specialists gathered at RIHN for the seventh International Symposium on “Complexification and Simplification: Ecosystems, Human Health and Lifestyle in Asia.”

RIHN Forum
An annual RIHN Forum, usually held at the Kyoto International Conference Center, is open to the general public. Since 2004 the proceedings have been published as books intended for a general audience. On July 8, 2012, the eleventh RIHN Forum took place at the Kyoto International Conference Center on the topic “Creating Connections.”

RIHN Public Seminars
In order to introduce its research achievements to the public and to enhance public understanding of on-going developments in environmental issues in an easy-to-understand manner, RIHN holds public seminars on a regular basis at the Institute and other venues in the city of Kyoto. On June 22, 2012, the 47th RIHN Public Seminar took place at RIHN on the topic “Environmental Destruction in Southeast Asia and the Future of Our Food.”

Publications

■ Humanity & Nature Newsletter
Published every other month, this newsletter provides the researcher community with the latest information on the views and activities at RIHN. The newsletter serves as one medium of communication with researchers in Japan and overseas involved with RIHN.

■ RIHN Book Series: Global Environmental Studies
RIHN partners with Springer Publishers to publish the Global Environmental Studies book series. Titles in the series reflect the full span of RIHN scholarship and international research collaboration. The first title, Island Futures, was published in 2011, the second, The Dilemma of Boundaries, in 2012, and several more volumes are now in preparation.

■ RIHN Encyclopedia of Global Environmental Studies
To celebrate the tenth anniversary of its founding, RIHN compiled the achievements of its past research into a 650-page volume published in October 2010 under the title Chikyū kankyōgaku jiten (RIHN Encyclopedia of Global Environmental Studies). Beyond presenting commentary on critical global environmental problems, entries in the encyclopedia focus on how such problems should be addressed in the future. The volume is intended as a source for critical and proactive thinking on the contemporary environment. The text is written in readable language, without relying on technical jargon, making it accessible for a general audience.

Graduate School Education

In FY 2010, building on more than eight years of research collaboration with Nagoya University, RIHN signed an agreement to participate in the training of graduate students at the university’s Graduate School of Environmental Studies. RIHN also brings in graduate school students from other universities and provides research guidance to them in global-environment-related fields such as anthropology, botany, ecology, geography, and agriculture. The Institute actively employs young post-doctoral researchers as project researchers and provides them with opportunities to take part in RIHN research projects and also in planning and management of new projects as well as the normal operation of the Institute as a whole.
The National Museum of Ethnology (Minpaku) conducts surveys and research in the fields of anthropology and ethnology. Through such study it maintains exhibitions of artifacts and provides information about various peoples, societies, and cultures, thereby raising awareness and deepening understanding of the world’s peoples.

**Research**

**Research Organization**

Minpaku’s research organization consists of three departments—Social Research, Cultural Research, and Advanced Studies in Anthropology—along with the Center for Research Development, the Research Center for Cultural Resources, and the Center for International Academic Exchange.

**Core Research**

Minpaku pursues crossdisciplinary and pioneering themes to advance scholarship and meet the needs of society. It seeks to promote the advancement of research by enhancing institutional cooperation with research organizations in Japan and overseas and internationalization of collaborative research. Currently seven research projects are under way under the two core research topics of “Anthropological Studies of Inclusion and Autonomy in the Human World” and “Anthropological Studies of Materiality.”

**Collaborative Research**

Each year, scholars at Minpaku team up with outside specialists in pursuing interdisciplinary research projects on specific themes related to anthropology, ethnology, and related fields. About 40 such projects are under way in the course of each fiscal year.

**Individual Research**

Individual researchers at Minpaku are free to plan, propose, and develop their own projects. Their work forms the fundamental structure of research activities at Minpaku.

**Dissemination of Research Results**

- **Publications**
  

- **Research Dissemination Programs**
  
  Minpaku holds international symposiums and other meetings in Japan and overseas in order to make the results of research conducted by its scholars known to the public for the benefit of society.

**Resource Sharing**

Items in the Minpaku museum collection are made available for use in research and university teaching and for loan to other museums. The Minpaku Collections Help Desk accepts inquiries about access to items in its collection. The Minpaku-compiled *Daigaku no tame no Minpaku katsuyō manyuaru* (Guide to Educational Resources at Minpaku: For University Students and Their Teachers) encourages use of Minpaku resources for university education.

**Minpaku Library**

The Minpaku Library collection is open to the public, and may also be accessed through the inter-library loan services of university libraries. Books and other materials in the collection are loaned to general users and support is provided for educational and research activities. The library is open on Saturdays as well as weekdays.

**Databases**

In addition to online catalogues of the artifacts, audio and visual materials, and books and periodicals in its collection, Minpaku maintains online access to such databases as the “Korean Daily Commodities Collection” and “Performing Arts Film.”

**Exhibitions**

- **Main Exhibitions**
  
  The regional exhibitions (the world divided into nine regions) and crosscultural exhibitions (music and language) are permanent displays in the main building at Minpaku. Renova-
tions are currently under way and the galleries for Japanese culture—“Ritual, Festivals and Performing Arts” and “Everyday Life”—were reopened in FY 2012.

Topical exhibitions, designed to introduce contemporary issues and the most recent research topics, are also presented as part of the main exhibitions. In FY 2012, “Transmitting Memories: Tsunami Disaster and Cultural Heritage” was held.

Seminars and “Weekend Salon”
Minpaku Seminars, which introduce the latest results of Minpaku research, take place on the third Saturday of every month. The “Minpaku Weekend Salon: A Chat with a Researcher” is held almost every Sunday.

Film Showings and Research Presentations
In FY 2012, 13 films were shown under this program, which aims to deepen understanding of topics in cultural anthropology and ethnology. Research presentations introducing the music and performing arts of different peoples of the world were held three times in FY 2012.

Promotion of New Exhibitions
A variety of events have been held to explain and make public the attractions of the renovated Main Exhibitions.

Learning Kit “Min-pack”
“Min-packs” are learning packets that are lent out for use in the schools. They contain such items as clothing, musical instruments, tools, school supplies, and other implements from different countries or regions around the world. There are currently thirteen types of packets and a total of twenty-four units available for lending.

Graduate School Education
The Department of Regional Studies and the Department of Comparative Studies of the School of Cultural and Social Studies, Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sōkendai), are located at Minpaku. To date, 56 persons have received their doctoral degrees from these departments by coursework, and 27 have earned doctoral degrees by submission of a thesis only. The departments also accept and train graduate students from other universities through the special Inter-University researchers system.

Social Outreach

Academic Lectures
Minpaku holds lectures in order to promote understanding of other cultures. In FY 2012 it sponsored the public lectures “To Oceania and the Americas: Tracing the Movements of Homo Sapiens” and “What is Japanese Culture? From Folk Performing Arts to Manga.”

International Collaboration
Minpaku has signed academic exchange agreements with institutions in more than ten countries, and its researchers are continually engaged in collaborative projects with outside specialists. It also conducts a group training course on museology commissioned by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), helping to train people so that they can acquire practical museum-management skills, thereby contributing to the advancement of culture in other countries.

Promotion and Publishing
Minpaku publishes the periodicals Gekkan Minpaku (Minpaku Monthly, in Japanese) and Minpaku Anthropology News-letter (semiannual, in English), the Guide to the National Museum of Ethnology (in Japanese), special-exhibition guidebooks and catalogues, and other materials to promote the research and other activities of the Museum.

Special Exhibitions
Special exhibitions are large-scale public exhibits designed to introduce the latest research achievements on specific topics in a systematic and comprehensive manner. Two such exhibitions will be held in FY 2013: “Zafimaniry Style: Life and Handicrafts in the Mist Forests of Madagascar” (March 14 to June 11, 2013) and “Shibusawa Keizō Memorial Project Attic Museum” (September 19 to December 3, 2013).
### Number of Directors and Staff

(As of May 1, 2012)

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<tr>
<th>Institute</th>
<th>Director-General</th>
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<th>Staff of the Center for Area Studies</th>
<th>Research and Teaching staff</th>
<th>Fixed-term employees</th>
<th>Administrative and Technical staff</th>
<th>Researchers</th>
<th>Visiting fellows</th>
<th>Visiting Japanese Faculty Members</th>
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### Part-time Researchers

(As of May 1, 2012)

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### Budget FY 2012

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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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(Unit: million yen)

### Number of Inter-University Joint Research Projects and Joint Researchers Enrolled (FY 2011)

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## Appendix II

### NIHU Committees

#### Administrative Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINDA Akihiro</td>
<td>President, NIHU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAKAWO Masayoshi</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONO Masatoshi</td>
<td>Executive Director, NIHU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUBOTA Sachiko</td>
<td>Professor, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe University</td>
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#### Academic Senate

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