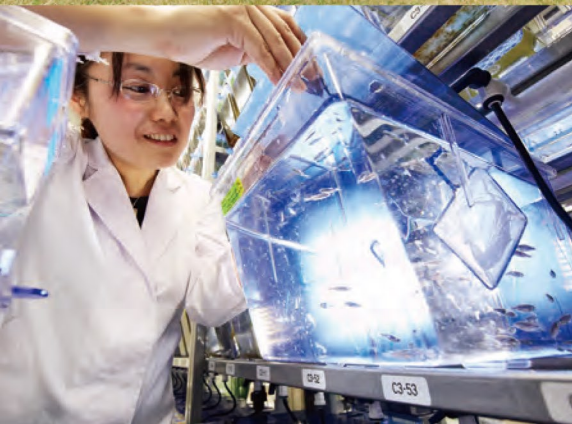


OKINAWA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GRADUATE UNIVERSITY





Bold Vision

The Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST) is pioneering a new university model in Japan that is truly international and interdisciplinary. The campus is located in Okinawa, Japan, but the official language is English, the common language of science. OIST recruits the best minds internationally – at least 50 percent of faculty and students come from outside Japan. Researchers come from around the world, creating a culturally and intellectually diverse campus.



No Departments

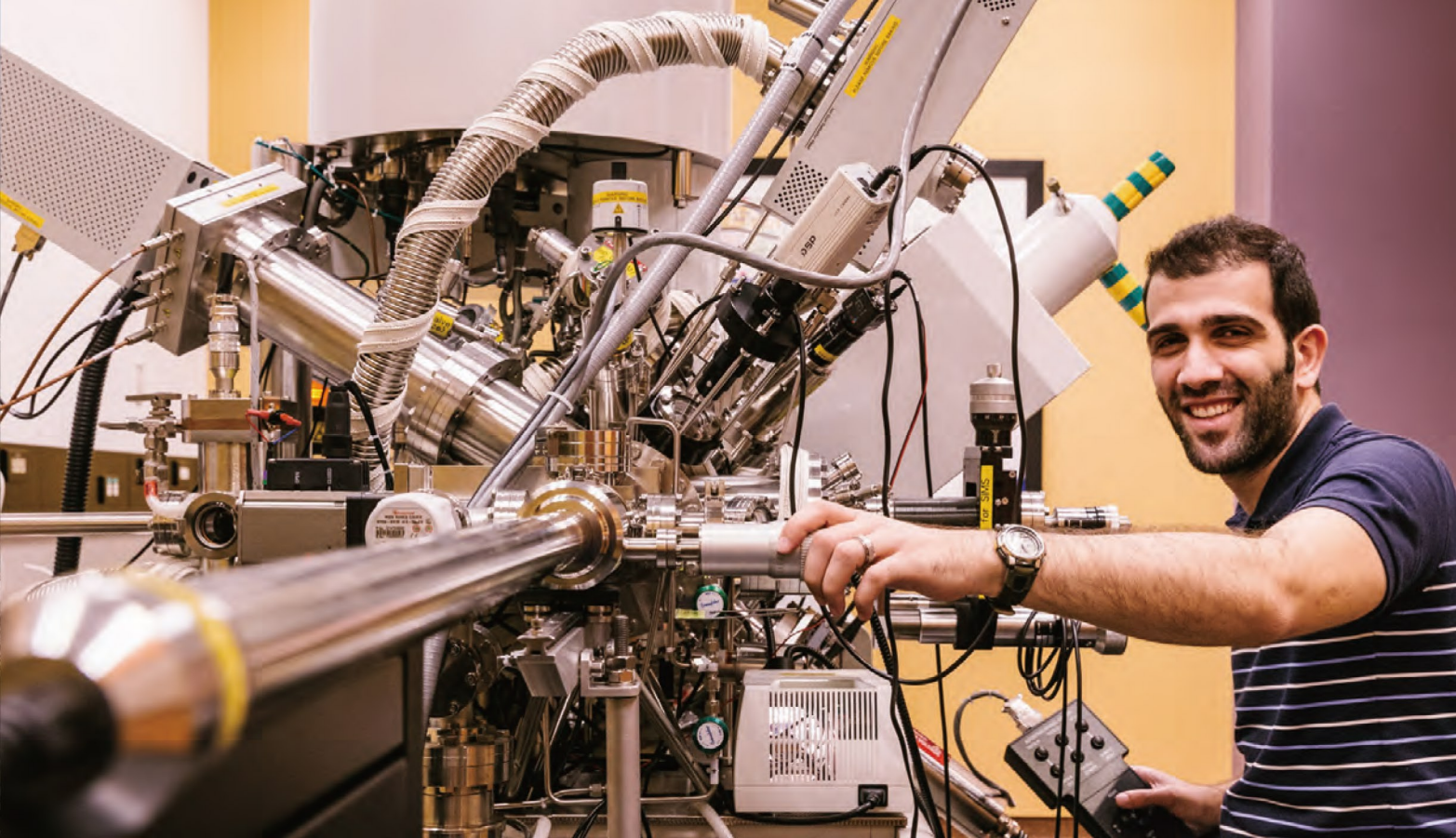
The challenges facing humankind today require unconventional solutions, and that means new approaches to science. OIST is breaking down traditional barriers between disciplines. There are no academic departments.

For example, marine biologists work, eat and play alongside physicists and neuroscientists. Graduate students take classes and work in labs outside their primary fields before deciding on thesis projects. Even the physical spaces are designed to encourage collaboration across disciplines. For example, professors of mathematics, ecology and chemistry all have offices right next to each other, not segregated in different buildings. A bustling café with communal tables provides space for stimulating conversations between OIST members with different backgrounds.

World-Class Research

Some of the best scientists in the world are coming to OIST to conduct research in a variety of fields, such as neuroscience, biology, physics, chemistry, marine science, genetics, mathematics, and material sciences. Professors are fully funded so they can focus on their work, rather than hunting down grants. Researchers routinely collaborate with labs across campus, Japan, and globally. OIST brings more than 1,000 scientists to Okinawa every year for workshops, conferences, and guest research positions, further increasing crosspollination of ideas. OIST might be in the middle of the beautiful East China Sea, but it is extremely well-connected.





Customized Education

OIST Graduate University, which started admitting students in 2012, offers an interdisciplinary, five-year Ph.D. program in science and technology. Students work with different research units – including at least one completely outside their fields – before selecting thesis topics, broadening their technical knowledge. A small ratio of professors to students (approximately 1:3) allows students unparalleled access to professors and state-of-the-art research equipment.



Sustainable Okinawa

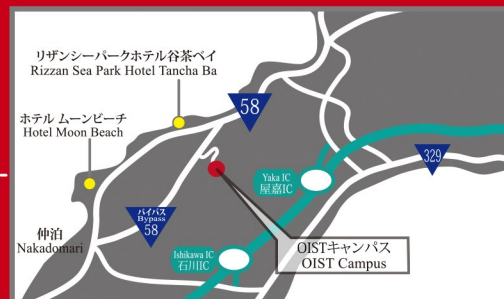
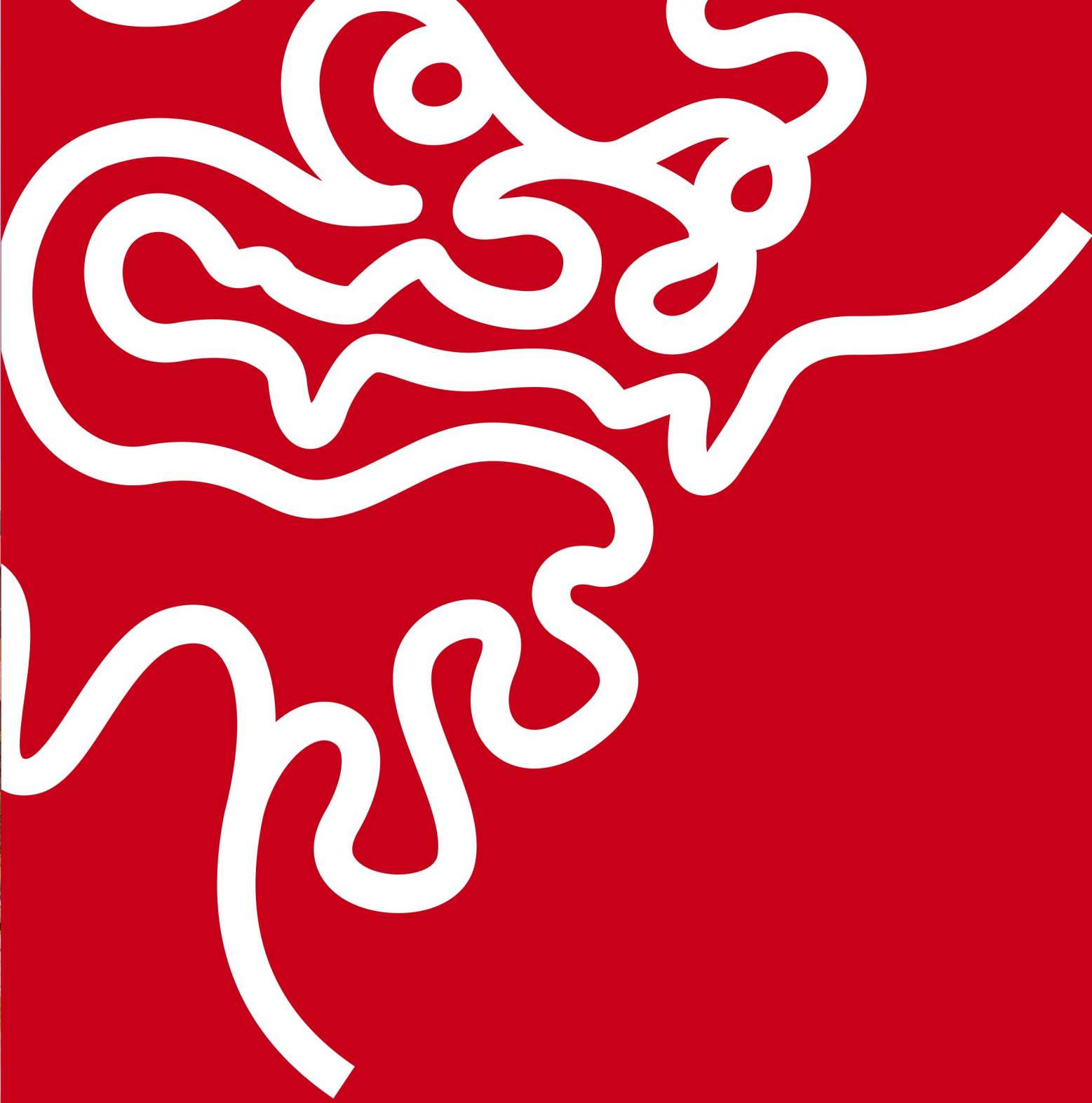
One of OIST's core missions is to help develop a sustainable Okinawan economy. OIST seeks to collaborate with industry to grow promising ideas born in its labs into successful businesses. OIST will anchor Okinawa's budding innovation hub by attracting and fostering science and technology partnerships, in addition to supporting startups and other local initiatives.

OIST members make Okinawa their home, significantly contributing to the local economy by renting homes, buying cars, eating in restaurants and shopping at local stores. OIST visitors stay in hotels, shop for souvenirs and tour local attractions, supporting the island's tourism industry.



Okinawa's University

OIST has an open door policy – come on over anytime. The campus belongs to the people of Okinawa. The university hosts numerous cultural events throughout the year on campus that are free, featuring first-class musicians, singers, artists, and dancers. During the annual Science Festival more than 5,000 visitors enjoy lectures, lab tours, and hands-on scientific activities.



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