

**[Program Overview]**  
**Distinguished Visiting Scholar Program (DVSP)**

July 1, 2021 (v 1.1)

**Overview:** This program will be sponsored and administered by the Faculty Affairs Office (FAO). The program's objective is to encourage and advance international collaboration in science and technology. The program will be emphasizing novel and innovative approaches in research by inviting top-tier faculty to spend their sabbatical time at OIST, furthering academic exchange by conducting joint research with OIST research units.

**Candidature description:** A Visiting Scholar is usually a professor on sabbatical leave from an academic research institute. The Visitor Scholar participates in research or other scholarly projects complementing OIST research.

**Duration:** 3 months to 12 months

**Benefits provided by OIST:**

- A round-trip airfare between the home institution and OIST
- On-campus housing
- Daily allowance (negotiable)
- Discretionary research budget (depending on the budget available)
- Office space
- Access to OIST's IT system, library, and research facilities

**Application documents:**

- Cover letter and CV
- List of publications – highlighting most relevant and impactful papers
- Research plan including:
  - details of the research project and how it will complement OIST research.
  - brief explanation how the candidate will benefit from this program at OIST.
  - potential host units
- **If applicable, sabbatical proposal from home institution\***

**Selection:**

A selection committee composed of three OIST faculty, appointed by the DFA, will review applications and interview applicants. Careful consideration is given to avoid conflict of interest.

**Selection process:**

1. The applications will be screened by the Faculty Affairs Office to eliminate incomplete packages.
2. Complete applications will be distributed to the selection committee and evaluated using the following criteria:
  - Quality and innovation of the proposed research project
  - Research excellence
  - Complementarity to OIST research
3. The selected candidates will be interviewed by the committee members **and potential host units.**
4. **The President will review and approve/disapprove the contract.**

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**Program management:** The program will be managed by the FAO. Hosting of individual visitors will be the responsibility of the host unit.

**Program evaluation:** Progress reports are expected every six months and upon departure. If the timing overlaps, one report will be sufficient.