

August 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you so much for supporting and understanding the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University. During the COVID-19 pandemic, where everything has become unpredictable and unsettled, your students and you may feel mental and financial burdens.

This spring, the entrance ceremony, to which you and the new students had been looking forward, was cancelled. As the current situation continues, most of the students have been restricted from coming to the campuses, and they have been taking online lectures at home.

Thus, the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science have been supporting students in relation to various factors involved in the outbreak of COVID-19, and we are concerned about the health of students and faculty members with a top priority to prevent infection. “Parent/Guardian Gatherings” are usually held in June. However, this letter is to inform with you the philosophy of the Faculty and the Graduate School of Science at this time. Once we have compiled all of the latest news, we will inform you.

We would like to share our efforts toward student support and the parents/guardians gathering. Please see the attached files.

#### 1. The Efforts of Support regarding School Life

We have been supporting and keeping students mentally and emotionally healthy to mitigate some of the stress from this abnormal situation (face-to-face lectures, interacting with classmates and upperclassmen etc.) through online-support from fellow students, scholarships and the emergency support.

Regarding the implementation of online learning, we have lent mobile routers and opened classrooms, in which measures have been taken to prevent infection, to students who do not have internet access at home.

#### 2. Campus Safety

On the campuses, we have placed disinfectants for hands, sterilized places people touch, ventilated rooms and laboratories periodically, held online seminars, and prevent “Three Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, close-contact settings)”. Off campus, we are making sure that students and faculty members are conscious of preventing infections by checking their health in the morning and evening. Moreover, we monitor/check those who are not in good health as necessary.

In addition, everyone is keeping records of their coming and going from buildings. Thus, if infection occurs, we are able to identify it quickly. We have prepared various ways to avoid the spread of infections when students return to the campuses.

As COVID-19 cases continue, you may be concerned about your child/children being in Japan. However, please know that we will keep supporting students with a focus on studying safely and expanding their potential. We hope that all students will be satisfied learning in the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University after they graduate. We appreciate your support and understanding.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us at [sci-contact@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:sci-contact@grp.tohoku.ac.jp)

Yours sincerely,

Masahiro Terada

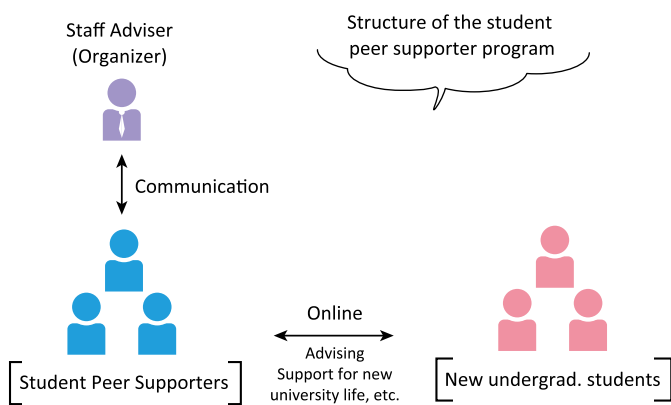
Dean of the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science

Tohoku University

# For Student Introduction of Various Support and Efforts

## 01 / Advice from Tohoku University Students Peer Supporters

Upperclassmen who are undergraduate and graduate students in the Faculty and Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University, acting as “Student Peer Supporters”, have been advising and providing mentorship regarding studies, extracurricular activities, lives etc. for new students for safely spending their school lives online.



## 02 / Arrangement of Responsible Advisers

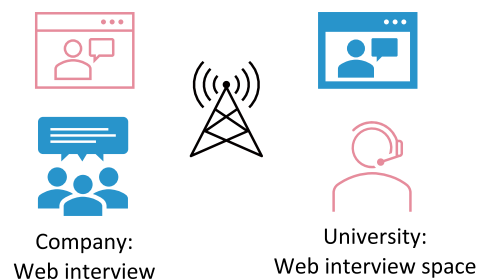
As the COVID-19 outbreak continues, we have arranged for professors to be “responsible advisers” with the duty to contact first- and second-year students, who are not assigned to the departments/laboratories with the priority of protecting their health.

## 03 / Online Studies

Students are currently involved in online studies where they are watching lectures and looking at materials on the special sites. We have been trying to encourage communication between students and professors using real-time lectures.

## 04 / Support for Job-hunting

We have been supporting new ways of searching for employment with companies and providing students with rooms for online interviews, which they easily use for recruitment activities as companies change their ways of presenting information about themselves and conducting interviews.



## 05 / Financial Support for Students

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, we have been supporting students, who were restricted for taking part-time work, to help alleviate some of the financial anxieties from their student lives.

- 1 Tohoku University Emergency Support Package
- 2 Subsidizing of Students Peer Support
- 3 Employment of students for supporting video recording and editing, etc. for online classes

# The Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University Parents/Guardians Gathering 2019

**Saturday, June 1, 2020 10:30–12:30**

**Place: Science Complex C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, The Faculty of Science, Tohoku University**  
**Host: The Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science/AOBARIGAKUSHINKOKAI/The Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science Alumni**

## ● Part 1: Introduction of Activities of the Faculty of Science and Graduate School of Science, and A Special Lecture 10:30–11:30

**[Participants: Parents/Guardians etc. About 100]**

1. Greetings from the Host and Introduction of Activities  
「Things of the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science are aiming for」  
Dean of Faculty of Science and Graduate School of Science, Head of Faculty of Science and Graduate School of Science Alumni, Professor Masanori Terada
2. Introduction  
「Highlights from learning about the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science Supporting for learning at the Faculty of Science and the Graduate School of Science by Aoba Society of School of Science」  
Chairman of AOBARIGAKUSHINKOKAI, Tohoku University Emeritus Professor Kimio Hanawa
3. Special Lecture  
「Challenging the mysteries of forming a giant black hole  
～The history of the universe, tracing to make use of the advanced observation～」  
Department of Astronomy, Graduate School of Science, Professor Masayuki Akiyama



## ● Part 2 : Gathering 11:30–12:30

**[Participants: Parents/Guardians etc. About 100]**

Exchanging opinions between professors, graduate students, and guardians freely. We have prepared a panel of about 30 professors and graduate students.



## ● Special planning: Consultations for job seeking and student-life counters 11:30–13:00

**[Participants: Parents/Guardians etc. About 30]**

We have opened 2 counters and set specialized staff at each counter. We answered various queries regarding student support, such as recruitments, supporting careers, the exchange abroad programs, scholarships, the tuition waivers, the dormitories, etc.



## ● Free admission to the Tohoku University Museum (The Faculty of Science, The Museum of Natural History) 10:00–16:00

**[Participants: Parents/Guardians etc. About 50]**

