

Programs for Japanese Universities' Activities to Contribute to Regions ~ From an Actual Case in Kagoshima

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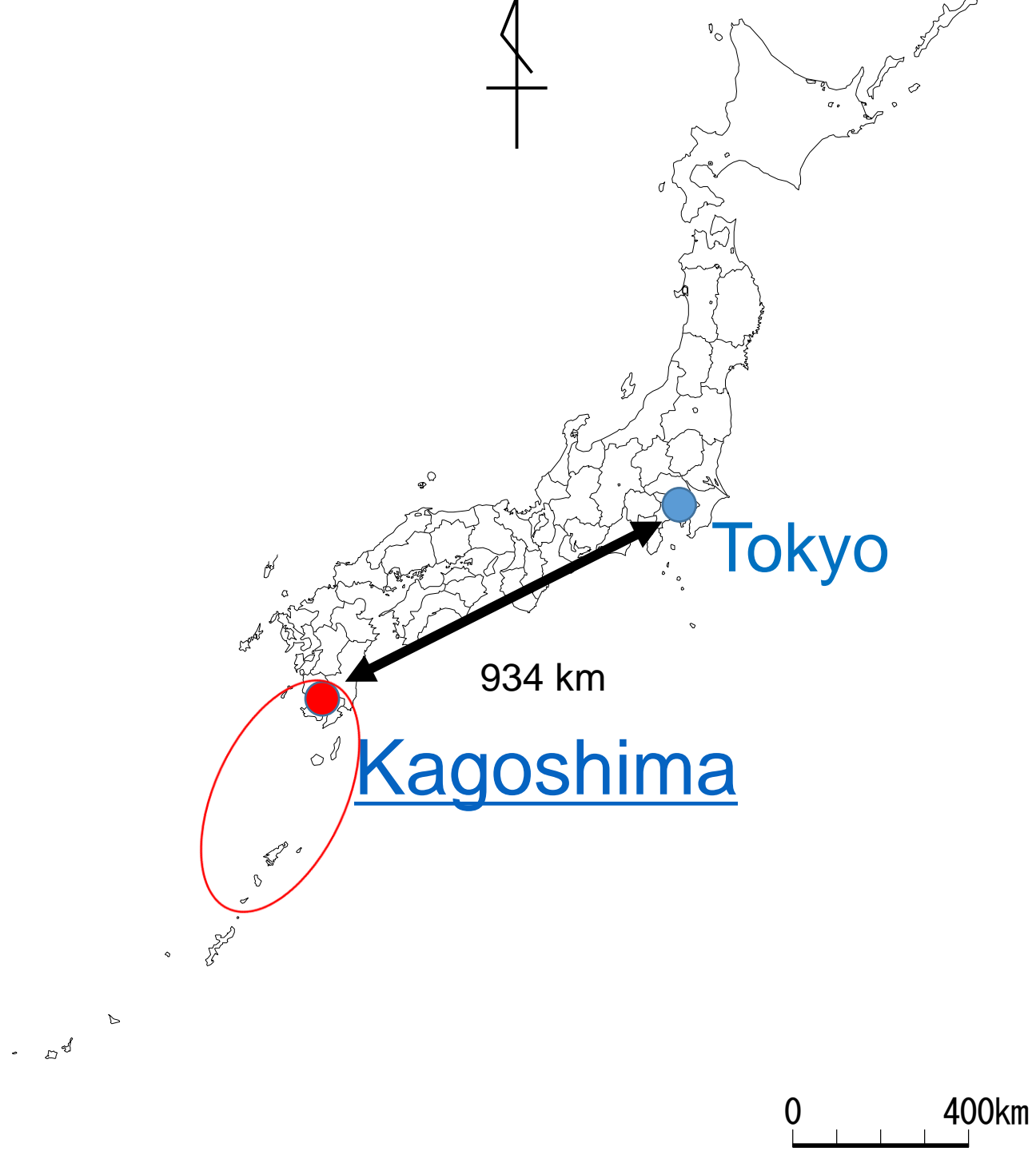
The Number of Prefectures

86

The Number of State Universities

(For reference) 92 public universities and 605 private universities

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A Map of Japan

Kagoshima



About kagoshima

Beautiful natural landscape and a huge array of hot springs formed by the volcanic mountain.

Unique history and culture, and abundant foodstuff.

Mild climate, kind and warm hearts.

Kagoshima is the southern gateway to Japan.



MENU

A 10-minute Introduction to the Call of Travel to Kagoshima

Kagoshima University

Kagoshima University

“Kagoshima University, situated in the southern tip of the Japanese Archipelago, is a gateway to the East Asian region, and is endowed with a nature-rich environment consisting of oceans, volcanos, and islets.”

- Kagoshima University originated from a school made by a feudal clan. (Hangaku Zoshikan, Clan School for Fostering Future Leaders, established by the Kagoshima Clan in 1773) On entering the Meiji Era, the school was transformed several times, such as to the Seventh High School Zoshikan. In 1949, the school was newly established as “Kagoshima University under the new educational system.”
- 9,000 undergraduates (at nine faculties)
- 2,000 post-graduates (at 10 advance study courses)
- 2,500 scholars, teachers, and administrative staff
- The university has graduated about 100,000 students.



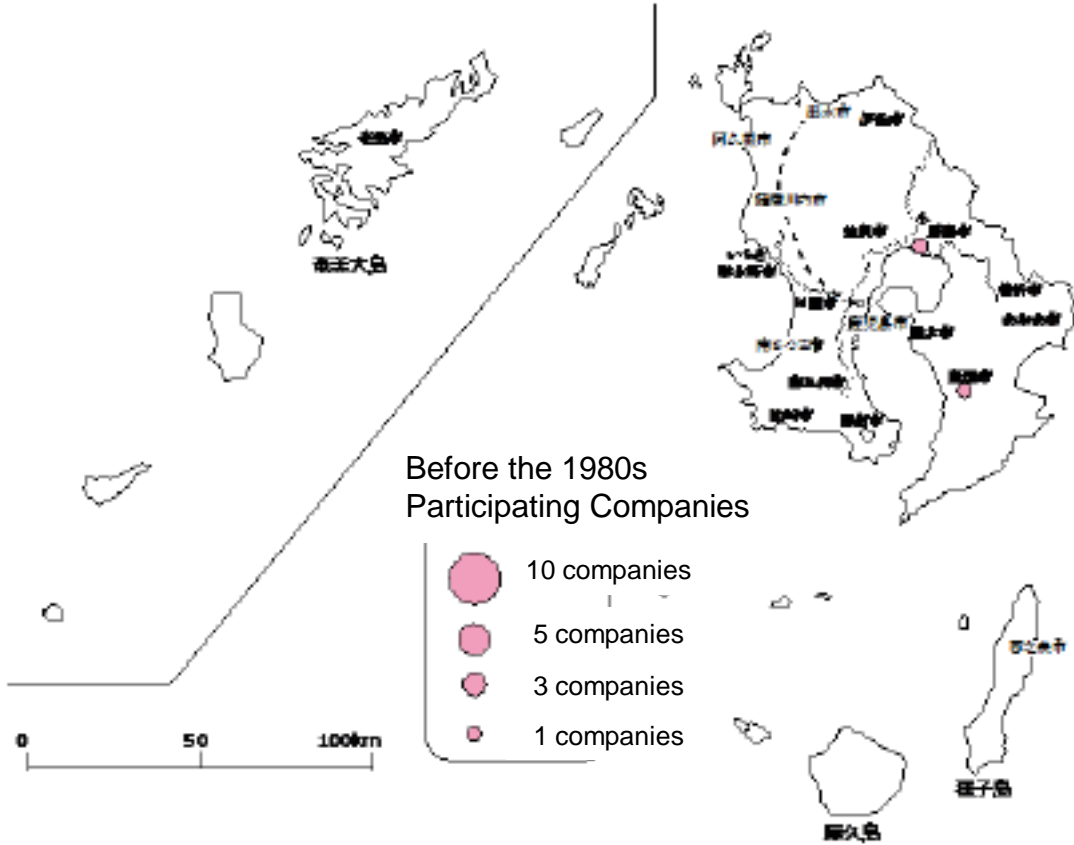
Five Themes Chosen from Research and Practice

The Permeation of Collaboration between Industry and Academia in Regions

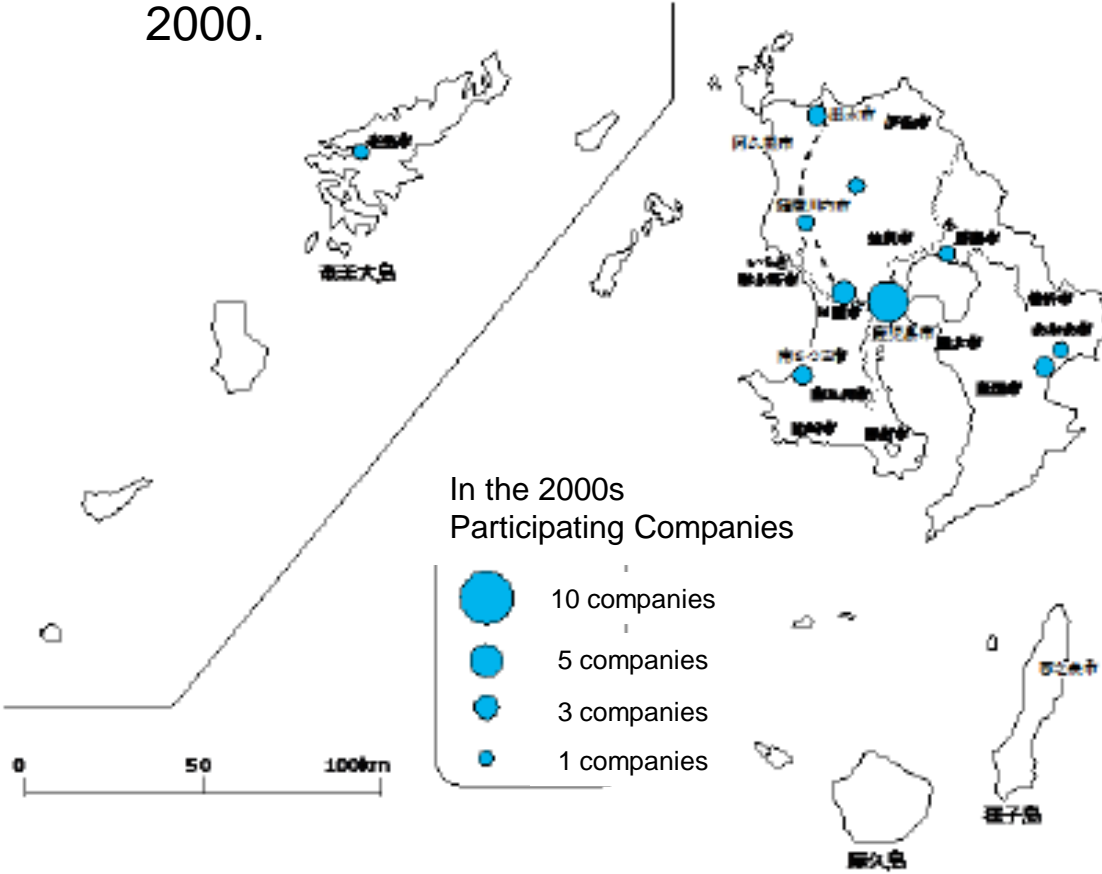
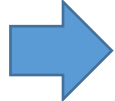
Theme 1

Geographical Conditions of Companies Participating in Industry-Academia Collaboration

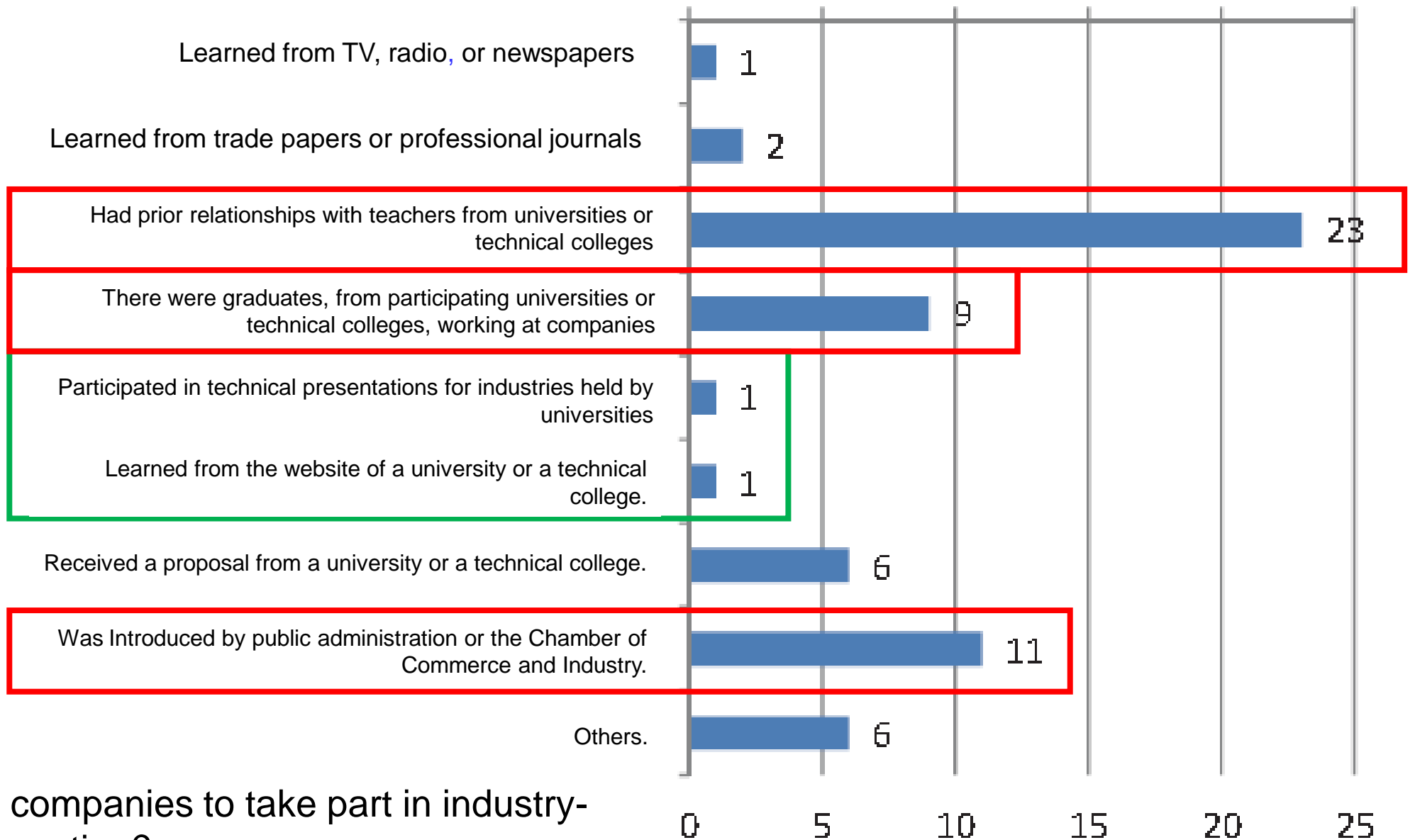
It is confirmed that the number of participating companies has increased since 2000.



Before the 1980s



From 2000 to 2009



What prompted companies to take part in industry-academia collaboration?

Expansion and Accomplishments of Coordinators

Theme 2

Expansion and Accomplishments of Coordinators



[Appeal]

- Mainly, universities and research institutions have appointed coordinators, who play active roles.
- A nationwide organization of coordinators has been established as well.
- Corporate needs for coordinators tend to be strong in regions.

←A scene in Kagoshima from a meeting of coordinators
↓From the website of the industry-university-government cooperation

～産学官で未来をひらく～
産学官連携活動に携わる方々の全国的なネットワーク構築・連携促進を行います！

登録者一覧へ

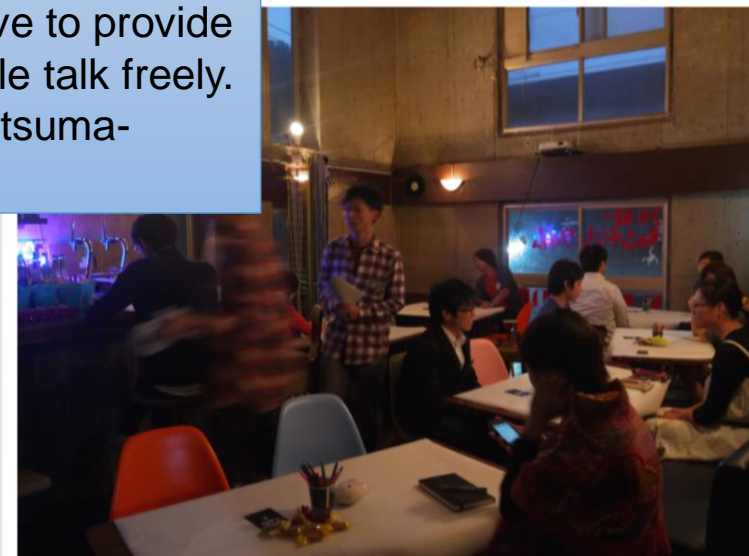
A promotional banner with a blue background. On the left, there is a silhouette of two people standing. In the center, there is white text: "～産学官で未来をひらく～" and "産学官連携活動に携わる方々の全国的なネットワーク構築・連携促進を行います！". Below the text is a white button with the text "登録者一覧へ". On the right side of the banner, there is a photograph of four children lying on their stomachs on the grass, laughing joyfully.

University Students and Their Contribution to Society

Theme 3

University Students in Kagoshima

Young people voluntarily launching an initiative to provide a place where people talk freely. (Kagoshima and Satsuma-Kawauchi cities)

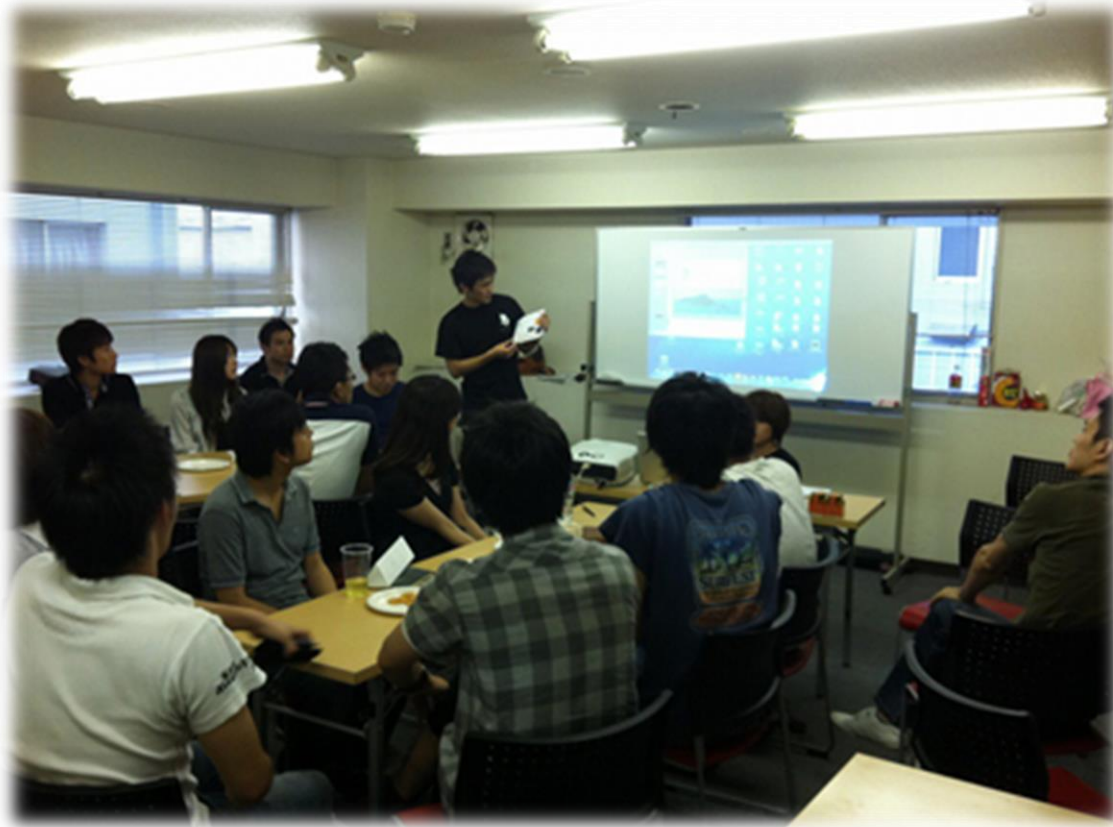


A student circle taking action to revitalize the region in Minami-Satsuma City. (Minami-Satsuma City, Kagoshima Prefecture)



University students involved in a social business (A scene from a meeting in Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture)

University Students in Tokyo and “Kagoshima”



University students and young people taking part in a regional revitalization program for Minami-Satsuma City, Kagoshima Prefecture, held in Tokyo. (The photo was offered by Mr. Bumpei Sasaki)

A possible rise in Students' interest in getting involved in social activities

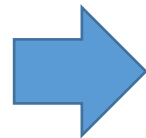
The University Itself Getting “Socialized”

Theme 4

The University Organization Getting “Socialized”

The university that puts importance on relationships with the community has improved its functions of contributing to society.

- A function of performing industry-academia collaboration.
- A function of managing and utilizing intellectual properties
- A function of educating and supporting entrepreneurs
- A function of providing life-long learning
- A function of coordinating international activities
- A function of fostering human resources for industries



Base of Venue (Intellect)
= Center of Community, COC

Will realize an influential innovation through collaboration between industry and academia
= Center of Innovation

Actual Case “Shochu* and the University”

* Alcoholic beverage distilled from barley, potatoes, etc.



Photo by S.Nakatake

- The Education and Research Center for Fermentation Studies (ERCFS) of Kagoshima University provides a higher education and conducts advanced research about “shochu,” a specialty of Southern Kyushu
- The ERCFS was originally started as a “course on the study of shochu,” an endowed course by industries in Kagoshima Prefecture and the local community.

←

A variety of branded shochu products from Kagoshima University

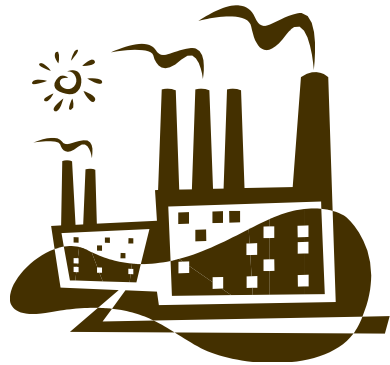
The products include “Tenshochu,” flying in heaven, made with the yeast that students isolated, and “Sinshu no Kifu,” a pioneering culture, distilled from the base of the yeast that went to space on the last flight of space shuttle Endeavor. The Faculty of Education cooperated in designing the bottle label and calligraphic title for “Sinshu no Kifu.”

Realities of the Community and the Local Government Administration

Theme 5

Realities of the Community and the Local Government Administration

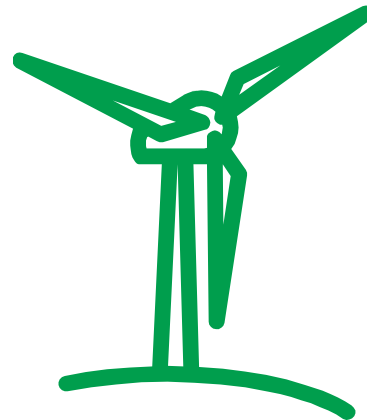
The community and the local government administration face challenges including a declining and aging population and promotion of industries.



The closure of companies that were invited to the region.



An aging population and a declining birth rate



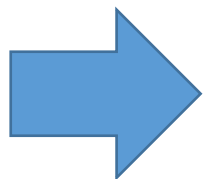
Environment/
Energy/ Disaster prevention



Promotion of agriculture, fisheries, and livestock farming



Tourism promotion and an increase in a population to communicate with



The community and the local government administration have “expectations” of making good use of the university for resolving the challenges.

Specifically, what is taking place in Kagoshima?



Conclusion

- Industry-academia collaboration has spread even to the provinces. People networks among graduates, universities, and companies can play an important part in starting industry-academia collaboration.
- Coordinators have become part of the community and have developed and deepened relationships between coordinators, which can be considered to have influenced the above “people network” to a certain degree.
- A tendency is observed that “students,” a component of a university, are seeking an opportunity to connect with society. Students’ interest in getting involved in social activities is likely to have changed (grown) from what it was in the past.
- University organizations have expanded functions of contributing to society, trying to be “socialized.” Their product development activities in collaboration with industries are also under way. Moreover, some universities are strengthening Center of Community (COC) functions.
- Local communities have faced wide-ranging issues. Local communities and government administration bodies have “expectations” of making good use of universities for resolving these issues.

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The Number of Member Countries in the United Nations (UN)

