

Keio University Education and Research Development Projects

The Keio University Global Fellowship (Study Abroad Grant for Privately Financed Students, AY 2015–AY 2024)

The Keio University Global Fellowship (Study Abroad Grant for Privately Financed Students) was launched in 2015. In the 10 years since its inception, a total of 27 students have been selected to study abroad and 14 of them have earned degrees (Table 1).

After receiving their degrees, they have engaged in a wide range of activities. Some have become faculty members teaching and conducting research at Keio University, others are working on innovative projects and making scientific advancements, and others have gone on to careers at leading global companies.

There are currently 11 students who are studying abroad and making steady progress in their research towards their degrees (Table 2).

Table 1. List of Degrees Earned (as of June 1, 2025)

Year	Study Abroad Destination		Degree
AY 2016	King's College London	U.K.	Doctor of Philosophy in English
AY 2016	Illinois Institute of Technology	U.S.A.	Doctor of Philosophy in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
AY 2017	University of Sussex	U.K.	Master of Science in Development Economics
AY 2017	University of Wisconsin-Madison	U.S.A.	Master of Science in Economics
AY 2017	Université Toulouse	France	Doctorat en Philosophie
AY 2017	University of California Los Angeles	U.S.A.	Doctor of Philosophy in Bioengineering
AY 2018	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	U.S.A.	Master of Science in Public Health
AY 2018	University of York	U.K.	Doctor of Philosophy in English
AY 2019	University of Waterloo	Canada	Doctor of Philosophy in Physics
AY 2019	Queen Mary University of London	U.K.	Doctor of Philosophy in English
AY 2019	University of Colorado, Boulder	U.S.A.	Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science
AY 2020	The University of Texas, Austin	U.S.A.	Master of Science in Computer Science
AY 2021	Columbia University	U.S.A.	Master of Arts
AY 2023	University of California, Berkeley	U.S.A.	Master of Development Engineering

Table 2. List of Study Abroad Destinations (institutions)

	Destinations (institutions)
1	Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg
2	Northwestern University
3	RWTH Aachen University
4	Johns Hopkins University
5	University of California, Berkeley
6	University of Wisconsin–Madison
7	University of Maryland
8	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
9	University of California, San Diego
10	Stanford University (Pre-doctoral Research Fellow)
11	University of Oxford

Initiatives for the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games (AY 2016–AY 2021)

AY 2016

- MOU Signing Ceremony with Team GB for Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Training Camp
The British Olympic Association (BOA), Japan Olympic Committee (JOC), Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and Keio University held a signing ceremony to conclude a cooperative agreement for the 2020 Olympic Games. BOA Chairman Sebastian Coe, JOC President Tsunekazu Takeda, Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi, Kawasaki Mayor Norihiko Fukuda, and then Keio University President Atsushi Seike attended the ceremony. Over 20 media outlets covered this agreement where the parties expressed their commitment to making the Tokyo Games a success. (March 21, 2017)

<https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/news/2017/Mar/27/48-20197/>

AY 2017

- PR Strategy (Developing a Branding System)
Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and Keio University created a branding system (joint logo, etc.) to jointly promote and build momentum toward the British national team training camps. In November 2017, they hosted a proposal competition and selected the company that also designed Keio's 150th anniversary logo to be the contractor. They created the following logo.



The GO GB joint logo which was used by Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and Keio University



Campus banners and other elements incorporating the logo (inside the Hiyoshi Campus Kyoseikan Collaboration Complex)

● Setting Up a Headquarters for the Training Camps (the Communication Plaza in the Kyoseikan Collaboration Complex)

Organizers began preparations on the Communication Plaza located on the second floor of Hiyoshi campus's Kyoseikan Collaboration Complex which had been agreed upon as the headquarters for the project. Because of this project's potential to facilitate Keio University's own educational and research activities, the base was designed to be a space that would be adaptable to its various intended uses. Examples of such activities for the Communication Plaza include events for student volunteer teams, a collaborative space for activities with Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and the BOA, and a meeting place for Keio University to share findings on its educational, research, and medical care initiatives. The plaza is an open and spacious room accented with floor-to-ceiling windows that offers a welcoming environment for meetings between BOA and BPA staff members and athletes, as well as Keio staff, students, and faculty members.

AY 2018

● MOU Signing Ceremony with ParalympicsGB for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games

The British Paralympic Association and Keio University signed a cooperative agreement to hold training camps for the ParalympicsGB team before the 2020 Paralympic Games. In addition to cooperating on the training camps, ParalympicsGB, Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and Keio University also agreed to facilitate cultural and academic exchanges within their communities. Many esteemed guests attended the signing

ceremony at Hiyoshi Campus, including athletes of the British Paralympic judo team who also spent time speaking with Keio students (May 24, 2018). <https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/news/2018/May/28/48-44213/>

- **PR Initiatives**

Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, and Keio University jointly launched the “GO GB 2020” website in support of the British national teams. The site, which was made available in both English and Japanese, covered which events the British national teams would be competing in, as well as which facilities they would be using during the training camps, highlighting the appeal of the three hosts on both a national and international stage. The goal of this website was to share information useful for supporting the British national teams (Team GB and ParalympicsGB), including event updates and other related content, through the end of the Games.

- **Seminar Series for the Team GB Training Camps**

The British Olympic Association (BOA) and Keio University hosted a joint seminar on “Sustaining Performance” in the Fujiwara Hiroshi Hall at the Kyoseikan Collaboration Complex on Hiyoshi Campus. Following the lecture, a Q&A session was held with the three speakers, including Brendan Purcell, Director of Performance at British Rowing. The session saw active participation from approximately 140 attendees, including students, faculty and staff, members of the Athletic Association, and Keio alumni. This seminar was the first in a series of six to be hosted in rotation with Yokohama City and Kawasaki City in the run-up to the 2020 Olympic Games (October 19, 2018).

<https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/news/2018/Oct/24/48-49006/>
(Japanese only)



Joint seminar with the BOA

AY 2019

- **Hosting Test Camps for the BOA and BPA**

In the 2019 academic year, Keio hosted test camps for Team GB athletes and staff for track and field, artistic swimming, marathon swimming, swimming, gymnastics, trampoline, judo, and taekwondo. Likewise, Keio hosted test camps for BPA athletes competing in judo, rowing, and archery. Some teams came to Japan on multiple occasions to ensure that they were thoroughly prepared. Furthermore, staff members of both the BOA and BPA visited several times to examine the facilities and equipment as well as to meet and discuss matters relating to the operation and coordination of the training camps. Students, primarily those of the Athletic Association and members of the Keio 2020 project, provided support for the test camps and interacted with the BOA and BPA athletes.



Meeting between members of the British track and field team and Keio students



The British gymnastics team practicing in the Mamushidani Gymnasium

- **PR Initiatives**

Keio University, Yokohama City, and Kawasaki City continued to host the “GO GB 2020” website which they originally launched in 2018 to show support for the British national teams. In the 2019 academic year, Keio posted bilingual updates about the test camps and articles on people involved with the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics. Likewise, Keio reorganized the Olympic and Paralympic page on the Keio University website to make it easier to navigate by topic.

During the test camps, Keio University hung banners and other visuals around Hiyoshi Campus featuring the Keio and GO GB logos to welcome the teams and to ensure that Keio’s role as the host for the camps was clearly visible in international media coverage and on social media posts by athletes and others.

During the BOA test camp in July 2019, the BBC, Sky Sports, the Daily Telegraph, and other British media outlets covered the teams' stay. A member of the Keio Gymnastics and Trampoline Team was interviewed by Sky Sports.



A banner with the GO GB logo in the Judo Gymnasium

AY 2020

Following the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, various events that would have been held in 2020 had to be deferred as the pre-Games training camps of the British national teams that were scheduled to take place on Hiyoshi Campus were pushed back to the summer of 2021.

- **PR Initiatives**

Keio University, Yokohama City, and Kawasaki City continued to host the “GO GB 2020” website which they originally launched in 2018 to show support for the British national teams. This was done on the assumption that the Games would take place in the summer of 2021. In the 2020 academic year, the website was used primarily to share information centered on messages from the British Olympic Association (BOA) and the British Paralympic Association (BPA) regarding the postponement of the

Games. This site was accessed nearly 50,000 times from January 2019 to October 2020, of which 87.4% of visits were from Japan and 12.6% from overseas.

AY 2021

- **Hosting Team GB and ParalympicsGB for Pre-Games Olympic Training Camps**

In the run-up to the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, Keio University hosted training camps at the Commemorative Hall and Kyoseikan Collaboration Complex on its Hiyoshi Campus for the Olympic and Paralympic delegations from the United Kingdom. Their respective training camps took place from July 8 to August 7 and from August 13 to September 2, 2021. During the camps, despite the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Keio University supported the British athletes and staff both directly and indirectly by encouraging them through indoor decorations and other means, fostering closer relationships with the community.

In addition, Keio provided attentive support to the teams during the pre-Games camps and other situations. This included deploying staff on-site who had previously established strong rapport with the British teams to coordinate facilities and run logistics both before and throughout the training camps. Both the Olympic and Paralympic teams, which took home multiple medals at Tokyo 2020, offered their heartfelt thanks to Keio University, bringing the camps to a successful close.

- PR Initiatives

The “GO GB 2020” website that Keio University launched together with the city governments of Yokohama and Kawasaki was kept active from its creation in 2018 until after the Olympic Games ended in February 2022. In the 2021 academic year, the website primarily focused on providing information on the training camps, including updates on infection control measures to help ensure their safe and successful operation. After Tokyo 2020 and the training camps ended, the website was used to display thank you messages from the British Olympic Committee (BOA), British Paralympic Association (BPA), as well as photos of interactions that took place between the athletes and Keio students.

The website was discontinued at the end of February 2022 and archived through the National Diet Library’s Web Archive Project (WARP).

National Diet Library’s Web Archive Project: <https://warp.ndl.go.jp/waid/32749> (Japanese only)

Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of *An Encouragement of Learning* (AY 2022–AY 2024)

AY 2022

2022 marked the 150th anniversary of the publication of the first edition of *Gakumon no Susume* (*An Encouragement of Learning*). Keio commemorated this occasion by releasing a video series that encouraged current and prospective Keio students—those who will help shape the future—to read Fukuzawa’s timeless and thought-provoking text and to use it as a guide in these uncertain and unpredictable times.



ガクモンノススメ
「学問のすゝめ」150周年プロジェクト

- **Video Series**

Kohei Itoh, the president of Keio University, sat down with Keio alumni from various backgrounds to hear their unique perspectives on how Yukichi Fukuzawa’s teachings remain relevant in today’s unpredictable

world.

First video: *An Encouragement of Learning* and How it Relates to Us Today (Sho Sakurai)

Second video: Sports and *An Encouragement of Learning* (Shuzo Matsuoka, Saki Takakuwa, Ryota Yamagata, Wakaba Hara, Yoshinori Muto)

- **Lectures, Book Fair, Etc.**

Keio hosted multiple lectures and a book fair to commemorate the 150th anniversary of *An Encouragement of Learning*. Keio also participated in the Asahi Education Forum held on November 13, 2022. In one particular session titled “An Encouragement of Business: 150 years of an Encouragement of Learning,” they held presentations on Fukuzawa and his students’ entrepreneurial accomplishments, Keio’s current efforts to promote startup creation and growth, and a panel discussion.

News article on the “An Encouragement of Business: 150 years of An Encouragement of Learning” session at the 2022 Asahi Education Forum

<https://www.keio.ac.jp/ja/news/2022/12/7/27-133975/>

(Japanese only)



AY 2023

- **Video Series**

In the 2023 academic year, the third installment in the video series featured Sayaka Kobayashi, a former “*biri gyaru*” (a “problematic” female student at the bottom of the class ranking) whose journey to academic success inspired both a biographical novel that became a bestseller and a multiple-award-winning movie. In the video, she shared her thoughts on continuing education by reflecting on how she challenged herself to study at Columbia University’s Teachers College. For the fourth video, Shinichi Kitaoka, former president of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) who cites Yukichi Fukuzawa as the figure he admires the most, spoke about his experience as Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations and the message he would like to convey to today’s youth.

Third video: *Flying Colors and An Encouragement of Learning* (Sayaka Kobayashi)

Fourth video: An Encouragement of “Fukuzawa Yukichi” (Shinichi Kitaoka)



- **Lecture**

On April 26, 2023, President Kohei Itoh delivered a lecture at the International House of Japan, titled “150 Years after *Gakumon no Susume*: Living through a Period of Great Change.”

Page commemorating *Gakumon no Susume* (An Encouragement of Learning):

<https://www.keio.ac.jp/ja/gakumon150/> (Japanese only)

AY 2024

- **Video Series**

The 2024 academic year marked the final installment of the video series, which explored the essence of “learning” through conversations with individuals from diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise. In the fifth video of the series, Rika Sueyoshi, founder and representative director of the Ethical Association, and Koki Ozora, then director of the NPO Anata no Ibasho, discussed the origins of their commitment to addressing social issues through nonprofit activities, as well as their current perspectives on the challenges society faces today. The sixth and final installment of the series featured Dr. Aiji Tanaka, president of Waseda University, and Sarasa Suzuki, an announcer with TV Asahi. Together, they explored the founding ideals and histories of both Waseda and Keio, and how a commitment to lifelong learning continues to be embodied in the spirit of both institutions today.

Fifth video: Tackling Social Issues and *An Encouragement of Learning* (Rika Sueyoshi)

Sixth video: Keio and Waseda: Inspired by *An Encouragement of Learning* (Aiji Tanaka, Sarasa Suzuki)



Other Major Activities

AY 2023

- **Open Dialogue Session Held between OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and Keio Students**

The field of generative AI has been making rapid progress in recent years and is garnering much attention for both its positive and negative impacts, such as the potential it holds in university education as well as the associated risks.

ChatGPT is one example of generative AI, released by the company OpenAI. On June 12, 2023, its CEO Sam Altman was invited to hold an event titled “Open Dialogue Session between OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and Keio Students.” The event began with an address from Keio President Kohei Itoh, followed by a dialogue between moderator Professor Kyoko Ohara from the Faculty of Science and Technology and Sam Altman. Afterwards, a Q&A session was held with participating students. Students raised many thoughtful questions about the appropriate use of AI in education, the changes it may bring, and how to address ethical and legal issues such as copyright infringement.



Sam Altman answering a student's questions