



# UoA News

※Students' grade years are those at the time of the award.

## Donations to UoA Student Support Fund Now Being Accepted

### 「会津大学学生生活支援寄附金」 ご支援のお願い



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Students from all over the country are studying at the UoA, but many of them are driven into a situation where they have to face a harsh living life due to insufficient financial support and other challenges.

In order to support those students, we established the UoA Student Life Support Association in February 2018 and started accepting donations.

The amount of a single contribution is set at 2,000 yen for individuals and 10,000 yen for corporations. Your understanding and donations will be greatly appreciated.

## PC Koshien 2019 held

The 17th Annual All-Japan High School Computing Contest "PC Koshien 2019" was held at the University of Aizu over the weekend of November 9-10, 2019. This year's qualifying round saw 1,850 individuals from 738 teams apply. From among those teams, the top 80 individuals from 37 teams competed in this year's main competition.

This year's Programming Division Finals had 58 contestants from 29 teams. Team "KMB86" from Senior High School at Komaba, University of Tsukuba won this year's Grand Prize.

Eight teams of 22 contestants participated in the Mobile Division.

The app "COINs!" by the National Institute of Technology Suzuka College was awarded this year's Grand Prize for its excellence in idea.



## UoA team places at 2019 ACM-ICPC Asia Kuala Lumpur and Yokohama Regional Contests!



On November 8~10 and November 16~18, the ACM-ICPC Asia Regional Contests were held in Yokohama and Kuala Lumpur respectively. UoA Team UKUNICHIA competed in both, earning 4th place in Yokohama and 2th in Kuala Lumpur.

These good results are expected to advance to the world competition held in 2020.

## Exchange Meeting with Aizu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Club held



The UoA held its annual exchange meeting with Aizu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Club (ACCIWC) on October 28, 2019.

The exchange meeting has been held since FY2012 aiming to deepen ACCIWC members' understanding of research and other activities conducted at the UoA while promoting mutual friendship among the ACCIWC members, female UoA faculty members and faculty members' wives. Twenty ACCIWC members participated in the meeting this year. During the meeting, Professor Ian Wilson, the Director of CLR, introduced his research on "Experimental Phonetics of Aizu Dialects" and Professor Hirohide Demura, the Director of Aizu Research Center for Space Informatics, introduced "Hayabusa 2 and UoA initiatives."

## UoA PhD student wins the IEEE VTS Tokyo Chapter 2019's Young Researcher Encouragement Award.



Hoang LE, second year PhD student supervised by Professor Anh T. Pham at the Computer Communications Laboratory (CCL), won the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS) Tokyo Chapter 2019 Young Researcher's Encouragement Award. The award ceremony was held on Sep. 26, 2019 during the IEEE 90th Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC2019-Fall) in Honolulu, Hawaii, the USA. Hoang won the Young Researcher Encouragement Award for his paper entitled "Throughput Analysis of Incremental Redundancy Hybrid ARQ for FSO-based Satellite Systems" presented at the 90th IEEE VTC2019-Fall. This paper deals with one of the most important issues of error-control protocol design in the R&D of the FSO-based satellite systems for disaster control and management, which is currently carried out at CCL in the collaboration with researchers at Hanoi University of Science and Technology (Vietnam) and Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST).

## AY 2019 Autumn Degree Conferment Ceremony held

On September 18, 2019, The Degree Conferment Ceremony of Autumn AY2019 was held. 35 individuals, including 14 from the Undergraduate School of Computer Science and Engineering, 13 from the Computer Science and Engineering Master's Program, and 8 from the Doctoral Program received degrees. Also, after this ceremony, a graduation party held by the association was held.



## AY2019 Fall Entrance Ceremony held

On October 1, 2019, the University of Aizu Fall Entrance Ceremony was held.

In the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, 7 students entered from three countries and regions; Vietnam, India, and Hong Kong. 28 students from Six countries and regions; China, Taiwan, Burkina Faso, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, and Slovakia were admitted to master's program, while nine students from Six countries and regions; China, Japan, Russia, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Vietnam were admitted to the doctoral program.



### Aizu IT Autumn Forum 2019 - Space x ICT - held



Aizu IT Autumn Forum 2019 was held on October 25, 2019.

During the morning sessions, Professor Kei Kuramoto of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the Hokkaido University School of Science as well as University of Aizu Professor Hirohide Demura of the School of Computer Science and Engineering and the Director of Aizu Research Center for Space Informatics each provided a lecture. During the afternoon sessions, external lecturers and our faculty members presented their pioneering initiatives in four fields of study.

At 5:00 p.m., the event venue was moved to off campus where the lightning talks sessions were held and our students presented their research for a short period of time.

### CAIST Symposium 2019 held



The third CAIST Symposium was held on October 25, 2019. A keynote speech was provided by Mr. Makoto Ibuka, the Chairman of TAMA - TLO Co., Ltd.

Further, research activities and their achievements were presented by the leaders of each research cluster (ARC-BME/Robot/Space/HPC) in CAIST.

### Professor Tsuneo Tsukahara Becomes Senior Member of Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan



University of Aizu Professor Tsuneo Tsukahara was given a senior membership of the Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan (IEE) on October 9, 2019.

The IEE awards senior membership to the members proactively involved in the activities of the society in recognition of their outstanding contributions.

### Minister of State for Promotion of Overcoming Population Decline and Vitalizing Local Economy in Japan Seigo Kitamura Visits UoA



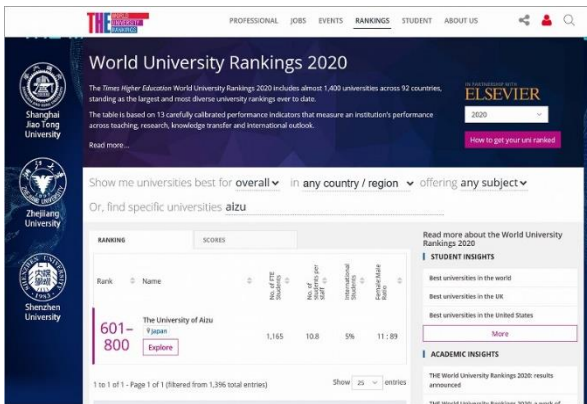
Seigo Kitamura, the Minister of State for the Promotion of Overcoming Population Decline and Vitalizing Local Economy in Japan and Minister of State for Regulatory Reform, visited the UoA on October 2, 2019. He observed the status of revitalization initiatives such as university-academia collaboration and robotic technology development and visited the Laboratory for Leading-edge ICT in Aizu (LICTiA).

## The UoA ranked in "THE World University Rankings 2020"

On September 12, 2019, The UoA was ranked in between 601st and 800th of "THE World University Rankings 2020" published by the British educational journal "Times Higher Education" 3 years in a row. The UoA was ranked 16th amongst the 110 Japanese universities that were ranked.

## Computer Science Summer Camp UoA2019 held

Computer Science Summer Camp UoA2019 was held from August 19 to August 22, 2019. This year is the 23th edition of the summer camp, and a total of 64 junior and senior high school students from all over Japan participated. Each student went to one of three courses (puzzle/game programming, Java programming, 3DCG) and enjoyed learning programming under their UoA student instructors.



## Professor Toshiaki Miyazaki Wins Best Paper Award at International Conference AdHoc-Now 2019



The University of Aizu's Professor Toshiaki Miyazaki and his co-authors won the Best Paper Award for a paper presented at the 18th International Conference on Ad Hoc Networks and Wireless (AdHoc-Now 2019) held in Luxembourg from the 1st to the 3rd of October 2019.

Professor Miyazaki presented a paper titled "Resilient Information Management for Information Sharing in Disaster-affected Areas Lacking Internet Access" which introduces the Resilient Information Management System (RIM) developed as a Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP) over five years.

## UoA and AIZUK Joint Team Participate in Rescue League of RoboCup Japan Open 2019 in Nagaoka



REL/UoA, a joint team of the UoA and AIZUK Co., Ltd. participated in the Rescue League of the RoboCup Japan Open 2019 held in Nagaoka City from the 14th to the 18th of August 2019.

The league is to compete for the basic abilities of robots and robot arms, maneuverability and mobility of robots, dexterity of searching abilities of robot arms. 12 teams from universities, corporations, and other organizations participated in the league this year. REL/UoA made it through to the final, where it placed fourth.

## University of Aizu Robot Test Field Research Center Starts Operation



The University of Aizu Robot Test Field Research Center located in the research building of the Fukushima Robot Test Field in Minamisoma City started operation on September 2, 2019.

Two researchers and administrative staff are stationed in the center, which is the first base of the University of Aizu outside Aizu-Wakamatsu City. The center will engage in initiatives aimed at contributing to the development of the robotics industry and revitalization in Fukushima Prefecture in collaboration with local corporations by conducting research on advanced robot control technologies and providing software components through "Software Library Fukushima" to robotics development projects that are a part of the Fukushima Innovation Coast.

## UoA Professor Shigeo Takahashi and Co-authors Receives Honorable Mention at EuroVis 2019

The 21st EG/VGTC Conference on Visualization (EuroVis 2019) was held in Porto, Portugal from June 3rd to 7th, 2019. The UoA's Professor Shigeo Takahashi, the Director of Information Systems Division and a member of the Computer Graphics Laboratory, received an Honorable Mention as a coauthor of a paper presented at the conference.

Of 59 papers accepted for the conference, one was selected for the Best Paper award and two were selected for an Honorable Mention, one of which being the paper coauthored by Professor Takahashi.

This conference is well known as one of top conferences in the field of visualization. All of the papers accepted for the conference have been published in a special issue of Computer Graphics Forum, an international scientific journal.



## Two More Business Ventures Started by University of Aizu Graduates Certified as "U-AIZU Ventures"

"Novera" and "Aizu Computer Science Laboratory", companies started by University of Aizu graduates utilizing the research achievement and resources of the university, were certified as "U-AIZU Venture" by University Chairperson and President Ryuichi Oka on August 1, 2019. The number of business ventures launched from the university has now reached 23.

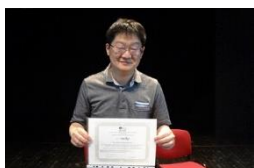


## Professor Keitaro Naruse Wins ACSL Award at 2nd Fukushima Tech Grand Prix



University of Aizu Keitaro Naruse won the ACSL Award for "Aigamozu" presented at the 2nd Fukushima Tech Grand Prix held at Koriyama View Hotel Annex on July 27, 2019. Leave a Nest Co., Ltd. is working to establish an environment for connecting industry with research achievements and technologies owned by researchers of institutions of higher education such as universities in Fukushima Prefecture. The Fukushima Tech Grand Prix is part of this initiative.

## UoA Professor Shigeo Takahashi and Co-authors Win Best Paper Award at Prestigious International Information Visualization Conference



The University of Aizu's Professor Shigeo Takahashi (Director of the Information Systems Division and a member of the Computer Graphics Laboratory) and his co-authors received the Best Paper Award for a paper presented at the 23rd International Conference on Information Visualization (iV2019) held in Paris, France from the 2nd to the 5th of July 2019.

All of the papers accepted for this international conference, which is recognized as one of the leading conferences in the field of information visualization, were published in the IEEE Digital Library.

## "The 4th University of Aizu Robotics Symposium" held

"The 4th University of Aizu Robotics Symposium" was held at the University of Aizu May 24, 2019. On the day, about 100 people participated in the morning program and about 70 people participated in the afternoon program.



## UoA Master student wins the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society Tokyo Chapter 2019 "Student Paper Award"

VU Quang Minh, the first-year master's student supervised by Professor Anh T. Pham at the Computer Communications Laboratory (CCL), wins the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS) Tokyo Chapter 2019 Student Paper Award. The award ceremony was held on April 29, 2019 at Kuala Lumpur during the 2019 IEEE 89th Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC2019-Spring).

