

August 6th, 2021

To all NAIST students

In this time as we approach the summer holidays, it is a good opportunity to look back on your achievements over the last semester. I would like to praise both our NAIST students who keep striving forward and the athletes performing in the Tokyo Olympics during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, the number of new coronavirus infection cases in Japan increasing rapidly once again and there are reports of 'infection explosions' of unprecedented scales from around the country. With the nearby Osaka prefecture issuing a state of emergency, NAIST has raised its level for limiting activities at NAIST to level 2.

We would like to ask you consider preventative measures and your actions to protect the people around you the highly infectious virus variants. Even during the summer holidays, we ask that you avoid travel across prefectures and eating and drinking with people you rarely meet and gathering in large groups to watch the Olympics, etc.

There is news that gives us hope, like how the spread of infection among older citizens and medical professionals has greatly slowed due to the continued vaccinations being offered. Even as we can now see a possible end to the pandemic, I hope everyone will continue to persevere as we enter into the homestretch.

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