

Congratulatory Remarks for Graduating Students
March 24th, 2023

(Congratulations on your graduation today. Due to an unavoidable prior engagement, Mr. Kobayashi, President of the Foundation for Nara Institute of Science and Technology, is unable to attend today. The Administrative Director, Mr. Masuda will present the president's comments on his behalf.)

I would like to offer a few words as greetings for the Nara Institute of Science and Technology 2022 school year conferment ceremony.

To those of you who received your degrees today, congratulations on your successful completion of your program at the Graduate School of Science and Technology despite being faced with the unknown challenges of Coronavirus. I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to students' families and to President Shiozaki and all the faculty and staff who have guided them.

The Great Learning, a Confucian Classic text says "If you renew yourself for one day, you can renew yourself daily, and continue to do so." This means it is important to continue learning new things every day with a renewed spirit, so that you can grow and have a positive impact on those around you.

Japan has been stuck in a period of stagnation for a long time, unable to create innovative products and services because it has been unable to move on from its past successes, afraid of change and stuck in its traditional ways of doing things.

We cannot expect growth if we keep repeating the same today as yesterday. We must always be aware of problems, seek to improve the current situation, and be willing to take on new challenges

Today's society is full of complex, diverse, and difficult problems, but I believe that the cutting-edge knowledge, creativity, and research skills that you have accumulated at NAIST are fully applicable worldwide. I hope that you will remember to "renew yourself daily" and continue to devote yourselves to the development of society and the improvement of people's lives, and that you will open up a wonderful future for yourselves.

Finally, I would like to offer my congratulations and best wishes for the health and happiness of everyone attending today, and for the continued growth and success of NAIST.

KOBAYASHI Tetsuya
President of the Foundation for Nara Institute of Science and Technology
March 24, 2023