

JIU Celebrates 2018 Spring Matriculation Ceremony



The ceremony was held at the Sport Culture Center on JIU's Togane Campus



Congratulatory speech by Chancellor **Akira Uehara**



Speech by President **Kenji Sugibayashi**



Anju Higuchi makes a pledge on behalf of the new students

Josai International University welcomed about 1,500 new students, including foreign people from 18 countries, in a matriculation ceremony at its Togane Campus in Chiba Prefecture, on April 2.

JIU, a comprehensive university with eight faculties and 10 departments, focuses on international education and is engaged in exchange programs with many universities and schools in Asia, Europe, particularly Eastern Europe, and the Americas. Of its approximately 6,000 students, 1,438 were non-Japanese from 24 countries last year.

In the matriculation ceremony, which took place at the Sports Culture Center, JIU President Kenji Sugibayashi greeted the new students, as well as other students, teachers and special guests, including Togane Mayor Naoharu Shiga.

“JIU has three campuses in Togane, Awa (Chiba Prefecture) and Kioicho (Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward). We have undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as senior wellness. We are very rich in international atmosphere with foreign students making up more than 20 percent,” Sugibayashi said during the ceremony. “I would like you to pay attention to the world events and news and participate actively in local community activities to experience practical learning.”

He also encouraged new Japanese students to participate in exchange programs with overseas schools because studying different cultures is a good experience. Sugibayashi also stressed advancement of high technology and the importance of learning amid the current global environment. “With globalization and rapid advancement of science and technology, existing things

disappear or become completely different things. Science on the human body also advances very rapidly and it may be possible to create humanlike things through technology in the near future. Meanwhile, people's attitude to learn never changes and I believe people can make innovation happen by learning sincerely," he said.

The matriculation ceremony came a little over two weeks after JIU held the graduation ceremony at the same venue on March 15. In the address to graduating students, Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Akira Uehara said, "I believe it is important for you to have proactive attitudes to understand the ever-changing society and have your own viewpoints." Uehara shared his motto, saying, "What I will be tomorrow is the result of what I think and do today," encouraging the graduating students to try their best to do jobs in front of their eyes, listen to others' opinions, express their own opinions and create their own mottos.