

A Closing Address for the Welcome Party

Masayoshi Shibata

If I don't drink, I can only speak broken English.

If I drink, I can speak smooth English.

But now I drank too much, so I may speak perfect English.

Ladies and Gentlemen, especially our precious guests from across the sea,
Good Evening.

I am Masayoshi Shibata, the chair of the preparatory committee of commemorating the 150th anniversary of Kanazawa University.

I hope you have enjoyed the dinner and conversation very much in a free and friendly atmosphere, which is the spirit of our university.

As our president Nakamura said at the opening address, Kanazawa University began as a Vaccination Center of Kaga Domain in 1862. It was 150 years ago that a doctor of Kaga Domain, Masayasu Kurokawa and his followers launched a project of curing people suffering from smallpox by protective vaccination.

In light of horror to this disease, smallpox, at that time, we are now very proud of celebrating them as the ancestors of our university.

We have found 3 key concepts in their courage and sense of mission to save the people. The first is “precursor”, which means developing outstanding human resources. The second is “coexistence”, through which we can live with every other human and natural life. And the third is “creation” of new science and technology, by which we can open up a new world of human beings.

We believe these 3 concepts have led the past of our university, and will lead the future of our university. In this regard, we have expressed, in our home page, the significance of our commemorating events as follows.

“Searching the old origin of our river, finally arriving at the spring of truth, we, mere the drops of water, are going to sail across the sea of creation once

again”.

We will be very glad if you share our image that we will sail over the boundless ocean of the future from now on.

Thank you very much.