



*SOKA
UNIVERSITY
GRAND DESIGN
2015-20*

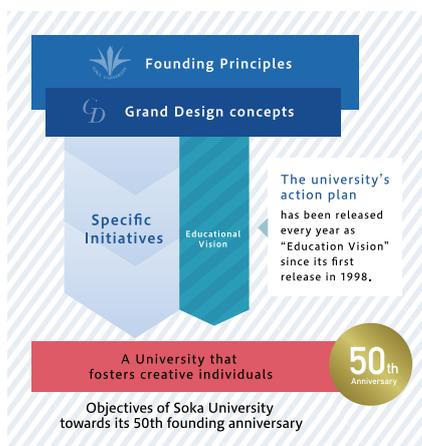


Grand Design Initiative towards the 50th Anniversary of Soka University's Founding

The Soka University Grand Design Initiative announced in 2010 represents the comprehensive vision of Soka University and sets forth specific initiatives towards its 50th anniversary. The Initiative proposes strategic goals and plans to guide the University's development as a competitive and leading-edge university in the context of the declining birth rate in Japan and growing diversity of the Japanese society.

The Initiative pursues the following objectives as its pillars:

- to foster creative individuals who will contribute to society based on the University's three founding principles
- to create academic and research programs to foster such capable individuals
- to develop a broad and robust environment to support the education and research system.



Soka University's aspirations towards its 50th anniversary can be stated in one phrase: A University that fosters creative individuals based on its founding principles.

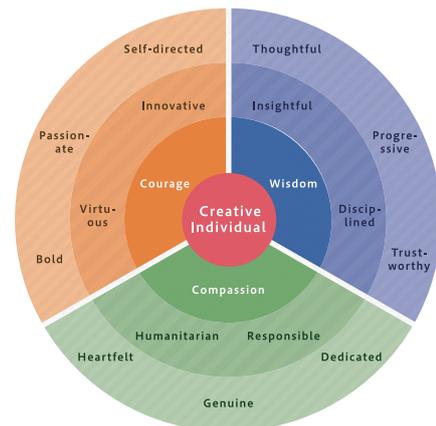
The Founding Principles of Soka University

1. Be the highest seat of learning for humanistic education
2. Be the cradle of a new culture
3. Be a fortress for the peace for humankind

A cornerstone of a private university is its founding principles. Soka University will foster creative individuals who contribute to society based on the University's founding principles.

Creative Individuals

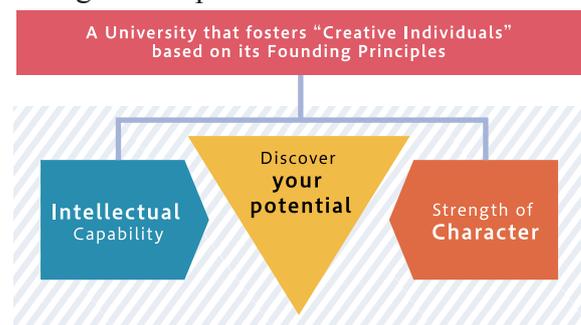
Since its founding in 1971, Soka University has consistently developed innovations with the aim of putting its founding principles into practice. The phrase "Creative Individuals" sums up the kind of student that the university aims to foster. The figure below illustrates how such "creative individuals" can be defined.



A University that Fosters "Creative Individuals"

The fundamental competencies of creative individuals are "intellectual capability" and "strength of character." "Intellectual capability" means having the skills to analyze, integrate, and create based on reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. "Strength of character" means having capacity to put belief into practice and to collaborate with others. Through developing "intellectual capability" and "strength of character," students can discover their own potential.

Soka University here declares that the power that each individual student possesses is Individual Potential. Moreover, the University upholds its motto "Discover Your Potential" to continue to strive to fulfill these students' individual potential and to foster "creative individuals." "Creative individuals" are the ones who exert themselves to consistently develop their own "intellectual capability" and "strength of character," and the University dedicates itself to fostering such capable individuals.





Soka University Grand Design Initiative 2015-2020

Since the announcement of the Soka University Grand Design Initiative in 2010, Soka University has steadily advanced in its efforts towards achieving specific goals as set forth in the Initiative. Concurrently globalization of universities has been prioritized as a national policy for Japanese higher education. In alignment with this national policy, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology launched a series of competitive funds and projects to advance globalization, including Go Global Japan Project (2012) and Top Global Universities Project (2014). Soka University responded to this national policy for Japanese higher education by expediting the attainment of its goals for internationalization and expanding the scope of its goals.

In addition to advancing globalization, the national policy that emerged after the launch of Soka University's Grand Design Initiative in 2010 proposed a fundamental reform in articulation between high schools and universities (university admissions reform) and qualitative change in education at the university level, which represents dramatic changes in Japanese higher education.

The Soka University Grand Design Initiative targets 12 years, from 2009 to 2020, dividing this period into three phases for the implementation of specific campus initiatives. Following the implementation of these initiatives, the University conducted a review of the first six years (2009-2014) and then revise the Grand Design Initiative accordingly, accommodating the various changes occurring at the University.

Under the auspices of the Soka University General Strategy Council, a number of committees were established in February 2015 to formulate mid-term strategies for strengthening the Grand Design Initiative with a focus on Education Strategy, Research Strategy, Globalization Strategy, Student Support Strategy, PR Planning & Stakeholder Plan, Administration Plan, and Campus & Finance Plan. The Soka University Grand Design Initiative 2015-2020 was officially announced on November 18, 2015, the date of the 85th anniversary of the publication of The System of Value-Creating Pedagogy authored by Tsunesaburo Makiguchi, the father of Soka education philosophy.

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for the dedicated contributions of the faculty, staff, and students to the development of Soka University. I am resolved to advance university-wide initiatives to successfully meet new challenges.

November 18, 2015

Yoshihisa Baba
President
Soka University

Soka University Grand Design initiative of each item

The Grand Design is an initiative of training “intellectual ability” and “strength of character” based on “Creative Individuals” dividing into 4 strategies (Education, Research, Student Support, and International), to shape and actualize the initiatives. Likewise, through the propulsion of the strategies, we will construct a financial foundation, and support the improvement of strengthening and installing of governance. Then, by the year 2020, dividing into 3 stages, the organization of strategies and plans is the chart below.



	I. Education Strategy	II. Research Strategy	III. Student Support Strategy	IV. Globalization Strategy	VIII. Correspondence Education	V. PR Planning and Stakeholder Strategy	VI. Administration Plan	VII. Campus and Finance Plan
1st stage 2009-2012 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a roadmap for curriculum reforms Establishment of University Studies and Soka Education courses (Soka Program 21) Enhancement of the Soka Core Program and systematization of liberal arts education Establishment of courses developing both language skills and non-language skills utilizing placement tests Establishment of courses that develop writing skills and communication skills Launch of the Global Citizenship Program (GCP) Establishment of the School for Excellence in Educational Development (SEED) Launch of Learning Commons, Student Performance Acceleration Center (SPACE) Launch of the Student Portfolio Establishment of the Social Work major Launch of the Faculty of Nursing Start of the Graduating High School Visiting Program conducted by students Start of campus tours led by students Review of pre-enrolment study program Establishment of courses requiring a junior paper at the end of the 3rd year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formulation of internal application rules for the MEXT-Supported Program for the Strategic Research Foundation at Private Universities University-wide implementation of priority-based allocation of university research funds Implementation of the Research Development Promotion Fund project Implementation of the Next Generation Joint Research project Formulation of the guidelines for FD activities in 2011 and onwards Strengthening the function of the Soka Education Research Institute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of scholarship programs Establishment of the University-wide Career Committee Implementation of the “Determine-Your-Provisional-Career-Path System” Enactment of the Student Life Policy Implementation of the Student Dormitory Advisory System Holding Club Advisors’ meetings Specifying a numerical target for career outcomes rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Study Abroad Courses for students with intermediate English proficiency Implementation of short-term language training programs in English or in other major second foreign languages Deliberation on Provision of the Short-term Japanese Language and Japanese Culture Study Program Enhancement of the Japan Studies Program Launch of the Japan Studies Center Expansion of accredited study abroad programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reforms on correspondence education system Enhancement of e-learning educational contents Utilization of e-learning for learning outside of classes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revamping of the university website Promoting branding initiatives Development of extension programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of the University Education and Research Council Establishment of the Graduate School Education and Research Council Launch of President’s Office meetings Review of the Staff Performance Establishment of risk management system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of the Financial Plan Study Committee Construction of facilities (the Hall of Learning Global Square, and the renovation of Building B, etc.) Establishment and improvement of on-campus information infrastructure Strengthening the function of the library as an information base Construction of the Student Center
2nd stage 2013-20 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of the new Career Curriculum Launch of the Faculty of International Liberal Arts Launch of the Department of Science and Engineering for Sustainable Innovation in the Faculty of Science and Engineering Further development of University Studies and Soka Education courses (SOKA program 21) Review and utilization of the Learning Portfolio Reorganization of graduate schools Establishment of the First-Year Education Promotion Bureau Improvement of the Student Portfolio Development of general education courses nurturing competencies demanded in the 21st century. Expansion of E-learning contents within and outside of campus Development of active learning that generates interest in further learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global dissemination of research finding Implementation of the Faculty Comprehensive Performance Assessment System Development and improvement of a screening system by the Institutional Review Board for Human Research Strengthening measures to prevent fraudulent research activities Obtaining more competitive research funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shuttle bus service between Shinjuku and Soka University 100-yen breakfast service Full implementation of the smoke-free campus policy Full implementation of the Student Attendance Management System Provision of support to commuting students (who live alone or live with their parents) Internationalization of student dormitories Announcement and implementation of the Guidelines on Student Extracurricular Activities 2014 Strengthening communication skills of faculty and staff members Provision of support for the job placement or further schooling of students who intend to return to their hometown after graduation Expansion of support for students’ employability Learning and career support for international students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-arrival Admission System Admission with conditions Expansion of scholarship programs Launch of the English for Study Abroad (ESA) program Launch of the English for Career Development (ECD) program Participation in multilateral inter-university network Holding commemorative events with overseas partner institutions GM: Expansion of inbound and outbound study abroad programs GL: Provision of syllabi in English GL: Development of English-Track (English-medium) programs GA: Project to promote the use of English for university internal documents GC: Launch of the Global Core Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of the Learning Support Services, etc. Establishment of the Soka Core Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch of the Stakeholder Coordination Promotion Bureau Fortifying the department serving for the alumni (Alumni Relations Department) Active dissemination of information Active disclosure of information Active dissemination of faculty research achievements and outcomes Strengthening internal communication Development of the Branding Strategy 2015-2020 Launch of a university branch office in the Tokyo downtown area as a hub to conduct PR activities Enhancement of the supporter’s website including graduates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of the Gender Equality Promotion Center Strengthening compliance Restructuring of the administration system Increase in the ratio of female faculty members (gender equality) Fostering the next generation of female faculty members (gender equality) Strengthening operational management (swifter decision-making/reorganization/streamlining)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of the General Construction Committee Establishment of a new faculty (the Faculty of Nursing building) Construction of new student dormitories Formulation of a mid-to-long term financial plan Achieving current balance surplus Construction of new student dormitories (the New Takiyama Dormitory and a new female dormitory)
3rd stage 2017-2 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reorganization of undergraduate faculties Establishment of an environment for the new development of ICT education Reforms on high school and university articulation and admissions Launch of 5-year combined bachelor’s and master’s degree program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding the Soka Education International Conference Strengthening coordination with the Daisaku Ikeda Research Centers abroad Launch of the Research Promotion Center 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GA: Establishment of overseas offices (including in the Philippines) GA: Internationalization of faculty and staff composition GC: Establish the Graduate School of Peace and Global Civic Education 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further development of the Stakeholder Coordination Promotion Bureau and the Community Coordination Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding the 50th Founding Anniversary Commemorative Event Completion of the Soka University’s 50-Year History Book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the 50th Anniversary Donation Project Maintenance of campus facilities

※Some items are newly added in the Soka University Grand Design Initiatives 2015-2020

A University that fosters “Creative Individuals” based on its Founding Principles

Grand Design Initiatives in Numbers



Number of students achieving an English proficiency level equivalent to a TOEIC score of 730 or higher		
2012	—	Result 217
2014	Target 310	Result 693
2020	Target 1,050	—

Number of Approved Programs for Kakenhi (Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research)		
2009	—	Result 27
2014	—	Result 44
2020	Target 86	—

Number of Scholarship Recipients		
2009	—	Result 728
2014	—	Result 1,633
2020	Target 2,095	—

Rate of Job Placement and Advanced Studies		
2009	—	Result 73.0%
2014	Target 85.0%	Result 86.3%
2020	Target 90.0%	—

Number of International Students (from abroad to Japan)		
2009	—	Result 277
2014	Target 325	Result 401
2020	Target 982	—

Number of Japanese Domestic Students Studying Abroad (from Japan to abroad)		
2009	—	Result 292
2014	Target 790	Result 933
2020	Target 1,020	—

