

To whom it may concern

November 26 2015

Tokyo Medical and Dental University

**Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU) becomes the first university in Japan to establish an international joint degree (JD) program, and has concluded an agreement with University of Chile and its associated hospital.**

● Outline

- Thanks to the collaboration of TMDU, University of Chile (UCh) and its affiliated hospital Clínica Las Condes (CLC), a new system of higher medical education programs focused on the globalization of professional medical education has been established.
- The standard course term is five years, with a curriculum that offers the best technology to form highly specialized medical professionals and helps them perform high quality research and obtain an exceptional academic degree.
- The new program makes it possible to train highly specialized medical professionals, namely, professionals who understand the nature of clinical medicine and medical care, and who possesses the talent and mindset of a researcher.

TMDU, which is dedicated to the training of global medical and dental specialists, has established a graduate JD program in cooperation with foreign universities which confer a jointly awarded diploma. Under the auspices of Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, TMDU became the first university in Japan allowed to establish a JD program on June 15, 2015. TMDU has concluded the "Joint Degree Program Establishment Agreement" with University of Chile and its affiliated hospital Clínica Las Condes (Chile) in order to establish a graduate program, which will enroll students starting from April 2016.

## ● About Global Education at TMDU

Based on the university's commitment "to training medical professionals with a rich international quality," TMDU offers learning opportunities not limited to language skills and technical English, but also fosters the intellectual capacities essential for playing an active role as a leader in the international community.

TMDU's efforts in undergraduate education to train leaders are concentrated in an elective program called "Health Science Leadership Program" (HSLP), which started in 2013 and is taught in English. Because the course accepts only a limited number of students, it is possible to use case methods, develop problem-solving and critical skills, as well as creative thinking in order to foster leadership skills.

In graduate education, we have established the "Global Health Leader Training Course (Master's/Doctoral)." In addition to Japanese students, we also welcome excellent students from several Asian countries with the objective of training them as professionals who can play an active role in medical and research institutions in the international community.

TMDU was selected as a "Super Global University" to become a world-class medical university and to promote globalization.

## ● Relationship, Achievements and Actual Status of TMDU and Chile

- A lecture given by a TMDU professor in Chile in 1968 created the occasion for JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) to provide the necessary technology to make early diagnosis of gastric cancer in Chile. TMDU also accepted numerous trainees.
- After 40 years of exchange and achievements, TMDU received a cooperation request from the Chilean Ministry of Health and CLC regarding the issue of increasing mortality rates from colon cancer in Chile. The three parties then established a collaboration agreement in 2010 in order to create a group of medical professionals for detecting colorectal cancer at an early stage in Chile.
- Based on this agreement, in April 2010 we opened a collaborative research center, namely the Latin American Collaborative Research Center (LACRC), at our base in CLC. So far seven faculty members (currently one) have been dispatched to the center to guide the diagnosis and medical treatment of early stage colorectal cancer, thereby reinforcing support for education and research.
- The various initiatives of the center have succeeded in expanding the diagnosis of early colorectal cancer project (Proyecto de Prevención de

Neoplasia Colorrectal: PRENEC) throughout all of South America. In Ecuador and Paraguay, and thanks to international agreements signed by the Ministry of Health of both countries, similar activities have already commenced.

- As for TMDU, from the fiscal year 2010 fourth year Medicine students have been dispatched to LACRC during five months to experience research at UCh and CLC, making the university a place for international training.

## ●Program Outline

Program Name: University of Chile and TMDU Joint Degree Doctoral Program in Medical Sciences with mention of a medical specialty.

Management: Curricula is jointly administrated by faculty members of TMDU, UCh and CLC.

Enrollment Capacity: 3 students

Admission Requirements : Applicant must hold a valid, unrestricted medical license in Japan or Chile to practice medicine, as well as a licensure for either surgical or internal medicine.

Standard Course Term: 5 years.

Thesis Examination: Performed by TMDU, UCh and CLC medical instructors.

Awarded Degree : “Ph.D. in Medicine” (the diploma is jointly awarded by both universities with the signature of the president of both universities on a single diploma).

Additionally: For the Chilean students UCh awards them with a medical specialty title (certification as medical specialist in Chile).

Scholarships : CLC and National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT) offer a scholarship for Chilean students. The university foundation plans to give financial support for Japanese students.

## ●Human Resource Development Goals

- Individuals possessing the required technical skills to be recognized as a clinical expert in the fields of upper gastrointestinal surgery and gastroenterological surgery; including advanced training in colorectal surgery, gastroenterology, endoscopy and advanced use of advanced diagnostic equipment.

- Individuals possessing academic knowledge in the fields of pathology, molecular biology, genetics, epidemiology, public health, clinical research and biostatistics.
- Individuals possessing a high potential to become an independent basic-clinical researcher in the fields of esophageal, stomach and colorectal cancer (gastrointestinal oncology); with the capacity to become a leader of national/international clinical research projects upon completion of course.

### ●Expected Achievements

In order to break into the “Top 100 World Universities Ranking,” TMDU is forging collaborations with foreign universities in order to create high quality and attractive international joint programs. Apart from functional enhancement, our university is intensifying its international competitiveness as an important strategy of promotion.

In Japan, even though the most popular paths within medical sciences are clinical and medical specialists, there is a lack of leaders in medical research. In order to remedy this situation, it is necessary to create an attractive program that can offer sophisticated clinical specialization at the same time providing technical skills and experience with the aim of training medical researchers who can carry out independent investigations.

This program:

- ① Promotes the research and collection of materials about hereditary diseases concentrated in certain regions
- ② Makes it possible to perform public health, epidemiology and genetic studies in countries such as Japan and Chile, where diet and digestive system cancer are similar
- ③ Students of TMDU can enjoy guidance in other fields and various areas based on the broad vision offered by the University of Chile.
- ④ At the same time students obtain all these advantages in research, they are also able to obtain the required abilities and experience to become medical specialists.

### [University of Chile]

- Founded in 1842 (173 anniversaries)
- Number one public university in Chile
- QS World University Rankings 2015/16

Overall score: 209<sup>th</sup>、Medical field: 201<sup>st</sup>–250<sup>th</sup>

(TMDU: Overall score: 391<sup>st</sup>、Medical field: 101<sup>st</sup>–150<sup>th</sup>)

- 14 faculties in 5 campuses

**[Clínica Las Condes (Affiliated hospital of University of Chile)]**

- A leading private hospital in Chile
- Most doctors of CLC also hold a teaching position at UCh
- Within the joint degree program, CLC serves as an adjunct clinical facility outside the university.
- Located just 15 km away from the Faculty of Medicine of UCh (around 15 minutes by car)

**[Joint Degree (JD)]**

JD is an academic program whereby Japanese and foreign universities jointly organize curricula and confer an academic degree on a person completing the curricula under the names of the presidents of the universities concerned.

Thanks to the reform of the “Standards for Establishment of Universities” JD programs are now a reality. Furthermore, in contrast to universities with prescribed programs, the joint signature allows graduates to obtain a degree in coordination with foreign universities.

\* From “A guideline on establishing a program conferring international collaborating degree such as joint degree and double degree between Japanese universities and foreign universities” .