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**Kyoto University, Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics
The Symposium Commemorating Opening of the Kyoto University,
International Research Unit of Advanced Future Studies**

Date August 6th 2015 (Thu) 18 : 00 – 18 : 18

Venue COOP-INN Kyoto 202

Speaker Misao Sasaki (the Director, Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics,
Kyoto University)

Greetings from Misao Sasaki, the director



Good evening, I'm Misao Sasaki. In the past, I was not actively involved in Advanced Future Studies, but in the last six months I have listened to many of Professor Masatoshi Murase's talks and now I am a big fan.

Thanks to him, I had the opportunity to talk today. "Improve the cross-talk between scientific fields" is the idea behind Advanced Future Studies. It was born from a few conversations between people in internal research institutes/centers, and we were able to successfully advance the project by adopting what Professor Murase told us. The project involves four graduate schools out of 15 and the majority of the research institutes/centers. Each research institute has its own unique aspect and they are completely different from each other. For example, at the Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences (RIMS), they study pure mathematics. There are various other institutes including Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics (YITP), Kyoto Institute of Economic Research (KIER), Kokoro Research Center, the Center for Ecological Research and Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute.

The fields covered by this program are broad, and the technical terms used in each institute vary. Therefore, I'd like to start the project by filling in the gaps in the language. I appreciate the kindness of President Juichi Yamagiwa for providing us with both time and funds. I'd like to make the best use of them to bring people closer over the course of the first two to three years. I

believe that this way, we will gradually be able to create some new ideas.

Advanced Future Studies is a part of an organization called the Kyoto University Research Coordination Alliance. Both organizations aim to investigate and probe into frontiers such as the creation of new, untrodden fields. An organization called the “Research coordination platform” manages all the units in the Kyoto University Research Coordination Alliance. Mr. Naoto Oshiman, the foundation leader, once told us that he would be taking responsibility for the activities of the alliance. To put it in his words, he said “If we can make one or two things relatively successful I would not mind even if everything else failed”. Once again, he says, he will be responsible for our failures.

We will have to step into the new world with this kind of determination. As President Juichi Yamagiwa also told us earlier, this is a tradition of Kyoto University. I will be brave and try to forge ahead. I ask for the cooperation of not only those working for Kyoto University but also people here in all of the various organizations and departments. With all of you, I hope to create a paradigm shift. Forgetting about modesty for a moment, I’d like to say that I hope this shift has an influence over not just Kyoto, but across Japan and the rest of the world. Thank you.