

Afterword

This pamphlet, “Studies for Inclusive Society” Vol.4, compiles content from the keynote address and panel discussion held at the kickoff meeting for the MEXT-Supported Program for the Strategic Research Foundation at Private Universities “Translational Studies for Inclusive Society”.

Since 2000, Ritsumeikan University has been developing a synthetic approach to research and practice in the field of human services in cooperation with regional communities. For example, the University’s Institute of Human Sciences (IHS) has developed various projects funded by MEXT (the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) focusing on “Human-centered Environment Design for Human Services” and “Construction of Human Services Science-Human Environment Research for Human Services.” These initiatives are aimed at improving the well-being of various segments of society such as the elderly, people with mental or physical disabilities, and caregivers.

Based on these activities and research results accumulated at our University, we have also started a new project to create advanced frameworks for “Translational Studies for Inclusive Society” through cooperation among scholars, professionals, and other stakeholders. We hope that this pamphlet compiling discussions from this project’s kickoff meeting will inspire new research and social practices aimed at the realization of an inclusive society in line with this country’s historical and social context.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Shinobu Namba, Shiro Katayama, and Junko Ogino from the Ritsumeikan University Research Office at Kinugasa campus for their hard work as this project’s administrative support team.

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MEXT-Supported Program for the Strategic Research Foundation at Private Universities

“Translational Studies for Inclusive Society”