Toshiko Yuasa Laboratory Ceremony
2009 05 21 in KEK

Ochanomizu University
and
Dr. Toshiko Yuasa

Thanks to KEK and CNRS

Ochanomizu University
President
Sawako Hanyu
1) Ochanomizu University
As a base for nurturing women researchers.

- Established in 1875 as Tokyo Women’s Normal School, the first national higher educational institute for women.
- Fostered many pioneering women scientists
- Produced prominent women scientists including Dr. Toshiko Yuasa
- Long-standing Tradition of Pioneering Research Accomplishments by Ochanomizu Alumnae
The First Female Doctor of Science in Japan

Kono YASUI (1880-1971)

Born in Kagawa Prefecture

1898 - Entered Women’s Higher Normal School (Science Course).

1911 - Delivered a thesis in “Annals of Botany” (England). It was the first thesis on science that a Japanese female researcher delivered abroad.

1919 - Became Professor of Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School

1927 – Received Doctorate of Science, becoming the first woman doctor in Japan.

Quote
“I am satisfied as long as my works last through history.”
The First Woman to Enter an Imperial University

**Chica KURODA** (1884-1968)

- Born in Saga Prefecture
- 1902 - Entered Women’s Higher Normal School (Science Course).
- 1913 - Entered Tohoku Imperial University (Faculty of Science). She was the first woman that entered an Imperial University.
- 1918 - Became Professor of Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School.
- 1929 - Awarded Doctorate of Science degree.
- 1953 – Granted a patent by research in quercetin.

**Quote**

“Natural objects are honest. If you work hard on it, results always come back to you.”
The First Female Doctor of Agriculture in Japan: “Doctor of Tea”

Michiyo TSUJIMURA (1888-1969)

Born in Saitama Prefecture

1909 – Entered Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School (Science Course) and was taught by Professor Kono YASUI.

1913 – Graduated Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School and became a teacher of Yokohama Women’s Higher School.

1922 - Started research on vitamins at Tokyo Imperial University, Faculty of Medicine

1923 - Entered Rikagaku Institute. Discovered that green tea contains vitamin C.

1932 – Received Doctorate of Agriculture degree, becoming the first Doctor of Agriculture as a woman

1949 - Became Professor of Ochanomizu University

1950 - Became the first Dean of the Faculty of Home Economics of Ochanomizu University
The First International Female Physicist

Toshiko YUASA (1909-1980)

Born in Tokyo
1927 – Entered Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School (Science Course).
1940 - Studied in France with French government scholarship.
1943 - Awarded French Doctorate of Science degree.
1945 - Became Professor of Tokyo Women’s Higher Normal School.

Quote
“The roots of the sciences come from the broad, abundant feeling of love.”

Professor Yuasa and students at a lunch meeting (in 1948)
2) Toshiko YUASA
“The roots of the sciences come from the broad, abundant feeling of love.”

- **Dr. Yuasa’s family background**
  
  Mother - Talented in Japanese traditional arts
  Father – A scientist and an inventor

- **Dr. Yuasa’s childhood**
  Enrolled in the girls’ high school affiliated with Tokyo Women’s Normal School. Good at Japanese literature and essay writing.

- **Enrolled in Tokyo Women’s Normal School and majored in science.**
"Being a physicist is my calling"

Studying at Tokyo Women’s Normal School

- Enrolled in Tokyo Women’s Normal School in 1927.
- Majored in science
- Studied math, physics, and biology
- Fascinated with the profound order of nature
- Decided to be a physicist as her vocation

Measuring atomic spectrum of antimony at Tokyo University of Literature and Science in 1933
Encounter with Julie-Curie’s research paper on artificial radioactivity
Studying at Tokyo University of Literature and Science

- Enrolled in Tokyo University of Literature and Science as the first female student majoring in physics
- Wrote a graduation thesis entitled “atomic and molecular spectroscopy” in 1931
- Started to work as a lecturer at Tokyo Woman’s Christian University.
- Continued to work on her research at Tokyo University of Literature and Science.
- Encountered Dr. Julia-Curie’s research paper about artificial radioactivity
- Decided to go to France.
3) Living in France

Freedom of Soul

- Headed to France on January 26, 1940
- Interested in issues of war and peace
- Faced difficulties, but felt a freedom
- Made a great deal of effort to foster women researchers in Japan.

At the roof of College de France
(Around 1941)
Homecoming
Serving for Women in Science
Anchoring in Japan (1945-1949)

• Teach at Tokyo “École Normale Supérieure” for women (Ochanomizu Univ.)

• Research at Nishina Laboratory of RIKEN

• Aimed at founding an advanced women’s university

• Established Ochanomizu University

around 1948
Ochanomizu University is located in the central part of Tokyo.

- **Student Body**  Undergraduate: 2,166  Graduate: 1,073
- **3 Faculties**  Letters and Education, Science, Human Life and Environmental Sciences
- **1 Graduate School**  Humanities and Sciences
- **Ratio of Women in Staff**  (as of May 2009)
  - President, Trustee, Vice-presidents  33%
  - Professors, Associate Professors, Lecturers  45%
  - All faculty members (including Assistant Professors)  48%
  - Administrative staff  35%
- **Ratio of Experienced Workers in Doctoral Program**  (in 2009)
  - Master Course  13%  Doctoral Course  51%
Philosophy of Education & Research

To exist as “a place where the earnest dreams will come true” for all women motivated to study

Objective of Education & Research

As a women’s university, to nurture women to be “leaders” in the global community
Fostering leaders through high-quality education as opinion leaders

International perspectives in responding to the rapid globalization (and to the accelerated progresses to an information-oriented society)

Interdisciplinary approach for flexible research skills compatible in a wide scope of fields and themes

Gender equality through realizing “work-life balance”
High-quality education as opinion leaders

Realization of “work-life balance”

Ochanomizu Model for the 21st Century
- Offering advanced liberal arts education integrated with both the humanities and sciences
- Fostering female leaders
- Fostering initiative female researchers
- Aid for girls’ education in developing countries

Dealing with rapid globalization and development of highly information-oriented society

Flexible research skills for studies in various fields and themes

Publicizing the “Model of fostering female leaders” to the world
Dr. Yuasa’s ever-lasting philosophy
Liberal arts Education and Advanced Professional Education

“A genuine scientific mind leads to nature of the universe including art, literature and religion.”

Tombeau de Mme Curie à Sceaux
Dr. Yuasa prayed for her soul laying white roses and carnations on her grave.
(November 1, 1940)
Characteristics of Ochanomizu University

* Liberal Arts Education for the 21 century

* Constructing a base of support for female researchers

* Fostering young researchers
Reference

• Ochanomizu University
  [http://ocha.ac.jp/](http://ocha.ac.jp/)

• Ochanomizu University Digital Archives

• Hommage à Toshiko Yuasa (CNRS)
Thank you for your attention.

Sawako Hanyu
President
Ochanomizu University
2009.5.21