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NEWS RELEASE

Tsukuba International Academy for Sport Studies

## The University of Tsukuba TIAS Sport for Tomorrow (SFT) – SFT Sport Academy Formation Support Project –

**The culmination of a seven-year effort toward developing the future of international sport**

Tsukuba International Academy for Sport Studies (TIAS), is a part of the Sport for Tomorrow program by which the Japanese government is promoting the sports and Olympic/Paralympic movement, primarily through the Japan Sports Agency. The seven years of efforts made by TIAS from fiscal 2014 through 2020 are now culminating in a report it is publishing on the results produced and future prospects.

With its foundation in Olympic and Paralympic education, TIAS has been engaging in education and research on cutting-edge knowledge in areas including sports management development and sports as a means of furthering peace. Having established a graduate school program aimed at developing sports human resources with an international perspective, we have enjoyed an increase in applicants every year, and now receive applications from candidates in more than 50 countries on all five major continents. The program offers a master's degree in the field of Sport and Olympic Studies, and has been completed by a total of 95 participants from 42 countries, including members of the Organizing Committees of the Rio de Janeiro and Pyeongchang Olympic and Paralympic Games. In addition, through a business partnership with the International Academy of Sports Science and Technology (AISTS), established primarily by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), we have received support including lectures by working professionals of the IOC and International Sports Federation (IF), as well as internship support and other arrangements. In addition to comprehensive learning of specialized knowledge, this provides students with opportunities to acquire practical know-how. Program alumni are currently actively engaged in work with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), IF, the Organizing Committees of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in various countries, athletics federations, sports-related companies, as well as government and educational institutions.

### ■ Overview of the Project Report

The newly published report includes a compilation of projects including our current operational management system, our partnership with AISTS, the TIAS/AISTS near-term program, the content of our sports/Olympic studies academic program and messages from alumni, research results, partnerships with IOC/IPC and IF-related domestic and overseas institutions, disseminating information both domestically and overseas (public relations activities), as well as COVID-19 infection prevention response, education, research and network-building.

The Project Report can be accessed with the following link. I hope you will take a moment to read it.

SFT Sport Academy Formation Support Project Report (Japanese and English versions)

<http://tias.tsukuba.ac.jp/news/general-project-report>

University of Tsukuba Senior Researcher Takuya Tsukamoto and Associate Professor Yoshio Takahashi have also published research papers providing academic perspectives on the factors affecting TIAS student satisfaction levels and the degree of need for career formation. Please read these papers in conjunction with the report.

[https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/sposun/31/1/31\\_1\\_93/\\_pdf/-char/ja](https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/sposun/31/1/31_1_93/_pdf/-char/ja)

### ■ General comment by TIAS Academy Chairman Hisashi Sanada

"Over the past seven years, we have engaged in activities with the purpose of fostering future international sports human resources in order to promote the Olympic and Paralympic movement under the philosophy of 'Olympism' put forward by Jigoro Kano. We are truly grateful to all of the companies that have been involved in assisting us, and would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude. I think that international sports human resources will be a legacy of the Tokyo 2020 Games. In light of the crucial importance of this, and of the results the program is producing, TIAS has been administering it as 'TIAS2.0,' an educational program based in a cyclical model, since October 2020."



**Prof. Hisashi Sanada**

PhD (Humanities), Professor of Physical Education, University of Tsukuba. Engaged in research on sport anthropology and on Jigoro Kano, he has served as TIAS Chairman since 2014, educating 20 graduate students from around the world each year. He is a participant in the Organizing Committee of the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, and contributes to Olympic and Paralympic education as a member of the Organizing Committee's Culture and Education Committee. He has also engaged in promoting the Olympic movement since 2019 as a member of the IOC Olympic Studies Center Research Grant Selection Committee.