



International Christian University (Tokyo, Japan) Inaugurates New President

International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan is pleased to announce that Dr. Junko Hibiya was sworn in as its president on 6 April 2012. Professor Hibiya replaces Dr. Norihiko Suzuki, who served as ICU's president for the past eight years.

Dr. Hibiya received a Bachelor of Arts degree in French Studies and a Master of Arts degree in Linguistics from Sophia University. She then completed a doctorate in Linguistics at the University of Pennsylvania in 1988. While at ICU, Professor Hibiya built a highly respected academic reputation, publishing widely in both Japanese and English.

Prior to coming to ICU in 2002, she taught Japan Studies in Dartmouth College's Asian Studies Program. After joining ICU's faculty, she continued teaching Japanese sociolinguistics in Columbia University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences' program for East Asian Languages and Cultures.

In her administrative work at ICU, Dr. Hibiya served as Director of Japanese Language Programs, Chair of the Division of Languages, Director of Academic Reform, and for the past four years, Vice President for Academic Affairs. As evidence of her leadership, ICU successfully completed academic reforms in the undergraduate College of Liberal Arts and the Graduate School during her tenure as Director of Academic Reform and VPAA.

Overall, Professor Hibiya's experience in both academic and administrative areas at ICU and in the wider Japanese and international community have prepared her well for the job of leading ICU into its next stages.

While the challenges confronting institutions of higher learning in Japan are complex, we believe that Dr. Hibiya will provide leadership and wisdom that will allow ICU to meet and surmount these challenges.