



SOPHIA SCHOOL CORPORATION

SOPHIA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Introduction

Sali Augustine
Chancellor of Sophia School Corporation



I would first like to report that I have been entrusted with the chancellorship of Sophia School Corporation as of May 1, 2023, and as Chancellor, I would like to express my sincere gratitude once again for your understanding and support towards the educational and research activities of Sophia School Corporation and our affiliated schools.

As we gaze out to the world, while the military invasion of Ukraine by Russia that has been going on since February 24, 2022 remains fierce, there are still no signs of it abating. In order to provide support to those who have been forced to leave their homeland for their own safety, Sophia University has accepted eight Ukrainian students. We are eagerly awaiting the day when these students can return to Ukraine as soon as possible, and we will continue to support their education and daily life during the period they have been forced to flee their country.

Meanwhile, with the end of the COVID-19 pandemic since 2020 in sight, more face-to-face classes and events are being held at schools established by Sophia School Corporation, and our past daily routines are finally returning to normal. At Sophia University Yotsuya Campus, in addition to a new main gate and Main Street being built, student relaxation areas have been created in Buildings No.1 and No.9. Building No.15, an environmentally friendly wooden structure, has also been completed, among other improvements to support a rich learning environment on campus. These activities for environmental improvement are being carried out in collaboration with the Sustainability Promotion Office, in which students also participate as student staff. In March 2023, as a new awareness-raising opportunity, 32 students from the four junior and senior high schools of Sophia School Corporation gathered at Sophia University Yotsuya Campus, discussed the SDGs with student staff of the Sustainability Promotion Office, and held the “SDGs Idea Contest” to introduce solutions to various issues. This provided a valuable opportunity for students from different schools and grades to interact and learn together at Sophia School Corporation that shares the same educational spirit.

In addition, Sophia University joined Laudato Si' University and established the Island Sustainability Institute and the Sophia Institute for Human Security, launching its research activities as a Laudato Si' University. Laudato Si' University is a global inter-university partnership that aims to take action on the guidelines and challenges set forth in Pope Francis' environmental encyclical letter, Laudato Si', and is playing a significant role in resolving social issues.

Furthermore, as a significant move for the entire School Corporation, we have formulated a new

medium- to long-term plan. Starting in AY2019, Sophia School Corporation has been implementing various initiatives and reforms under the 5-year medium- to long-term plan, “Grand Layout 2.1” (hereafter, “GL2.1”). However, in light of rapid changes in social conditions, including measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic, it has decided to bring forward the conclusion of GL2.1 by one year. In AY2022, the final year of GL2.1, we conducted a review of our efforts to date. We also held discussions in a “faculty member participatory approach” to launch a new medium- to long-term plan starting in AY2023, and announced our long-term plan called "Grand Layout 3.0 - towards 2030" (hereafter, “GL3.0”), covering the applicable period of eight years starting in AY2023. Under GL3.0, we have established two fundamental principles as the shared founding philosophy of Sophia School Corporation: “Fostering individuals who live ‘For Others, With Others’” and “Realizing education, research, and social contribution based on ‘Sophia-Bringing the World Together’.” Under department-wide policies, each school formulates its own plans to achieve these principles. They also lay out specific goals to be achieved through this GL3.0 as “Commitment Toward 2030.”

As 2023 marks a significant milestone with Sophia University’s 110th anniversary, we will establish opportunities for dialogue among faculty and staff under this new goal. In collaboration with external experts and stakeholders, the entire institute will also promote the plan with the goal of “MAGIS” (meaning “to a greater degree” in Latin).

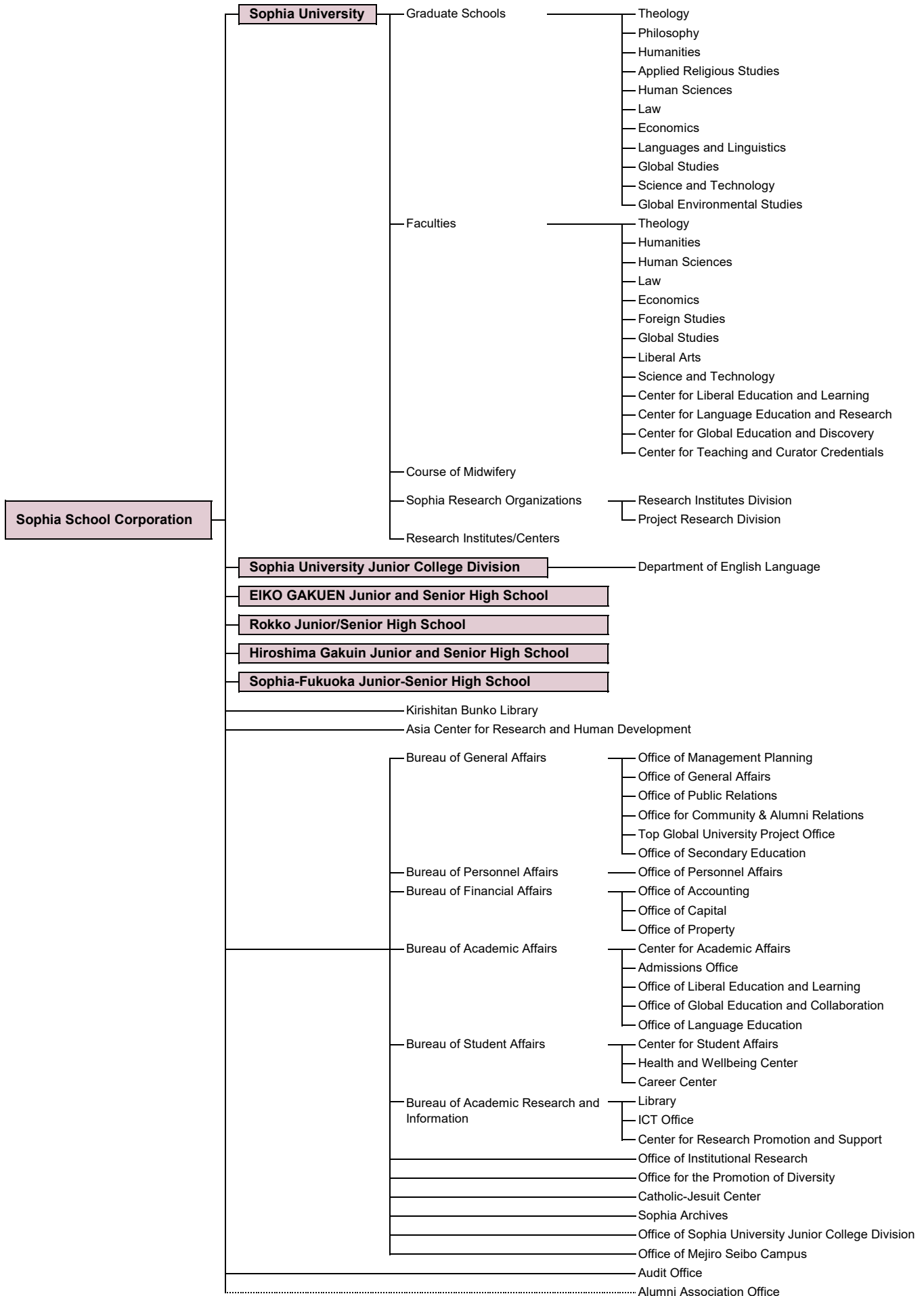
I humbly request and deeply appreciate your continued warm support and cooperation. Thank you very much in advance.

The educational spirit shared by Sophia University’s schools
“Men and Women for Others, with Others”

With this educational spirit, we are developing education, research, contributions to our society, and contributions to international society based on Christian humanism.

The name “Sophia” comes from the phrase “Sophia’s Seat” in the traditional Catholic prayer “Our Lady of Good Counsel,” and it means “Supreme Wisdom.”

Organigram



Main business companies operated by Sophia School Corporation

- Sophia Campus Support Co., Ltd.
- Sophia Global Education and Discovery Co.,Ltd. (Based in Thailand)

Status of Schools and Facilities

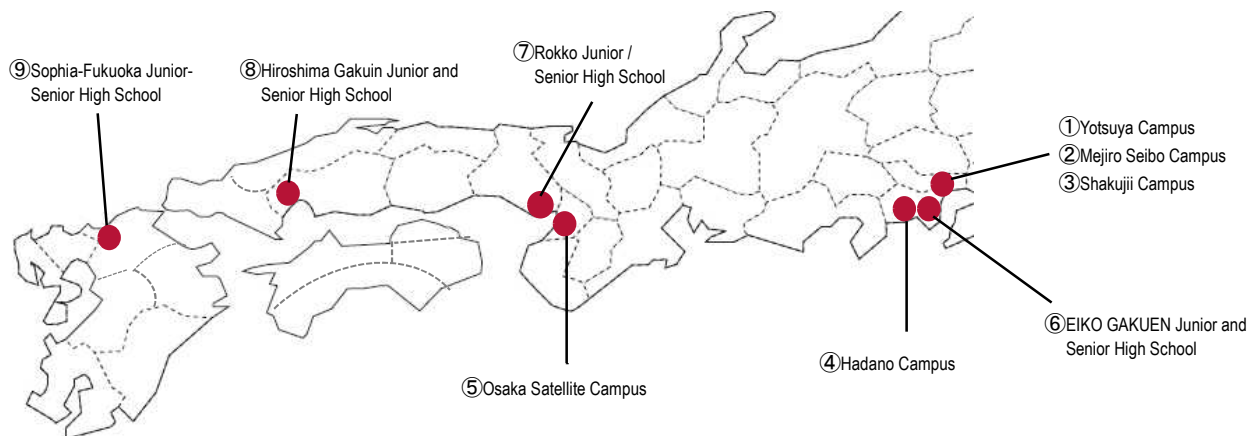
■ Status of Schools and Facilities

As of March 31, 2023

Schools		Campuses
Sophia University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty of Theology, Humanities, Human Sciences, Law, Economics, Foreign Studies, Global Studies, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology Graduate School of Philosophy, Humanities, Practical Studies of Religion, Human Sciences, Law, Economics, Languages and Linguistics, Global Studies, Science and Technology, Global Environmental Studies 	①Yotsuya
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Nursing, Faculty of Human Sciences Course of Midwifery 	②Mejiro Seibo
	Graduate School of Theology	③Shakujii
	(Sports grounds)	④Hadano
	(Institute of Grief Care: offers Human Resource Developing Course, etc.)	⑤Osaka
Sophia University Junior College Division	Department of English Language	④Hadano
EIKO GAKUEN Junior and Senior High School		⑥
Rokko Junior/Senior High School		⑦
Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School		⑧
Sophia-Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School		⑨

■ Location

- ①Yotsuya Campus
7-1 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-8554
- ②Mejiro Seibo Campus
4-16-11 Shimo-Ochiai, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 161-8550
- ③Shakujii Campus
4-32-11 Kamishakujii, Nerima-ku, Tokyo, 177-0044
- ④Hadano Campus
999 Sannoudai, Kamiozuki, Hadano-shi, Kanagawa, 257-0005
- ⑤Osaka Satellite Campus
3-12-8 Toyosaki, Kita-ku, Osaka 531-0072
- ⑥EIKO GAKUEN Junior and Senior High School
4-1-1 Tamanawa, Kamakura-shi, Kanagawa 247-0071
- ⑦Rokko Junior / Senior High School
2-4-1 Shinohara, Obanoyama-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 657-0015
- ⑧Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School
1-630 Furueue, Nishi-ku, Hiroshima 733-0875
- ⑨Sophia-Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School
1-10-10 Terukuni, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 810-0032



The current state of the "Grand Layout 2.1," a medium- to long-term plan, and the "Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan" implementation report

The Grand Layout 2.1 (GL2.1) medium- to long-term plan, which we have been working on since fiscal 2019, will end in fiscal 2022, its fourth year, in response to rapid changes in social conditions, including our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be replaced by a new medium- to long-term plan starting in fiscal 2023. At each of the special review committees, the members audited the current state of the GL2.1 and Action Plan (AP), which entered their final year, and the implementation of the Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan.

See the following websites for the GL2.1 text and the Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan:

【GL2.1】 https://www.sophia-sc.jp/info/grand_layout/layout2_1.html 【Operating Plan】 <https://www.sophia-sc.jp/info/gakuin.html>

GL2.1 Plan	Current state of AP in GL2.1 (Fiscal 2022)	Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan implementation report
A. Future Plans of Sophia University		
1. Academic Planning (Committee No.1 for academic plan)	Although it was before the initial completion year, the goal was generally achieved. With the opening of the Center for Liberal Education and Learning, a new curriculum that organically links liberal arts courses and specialized courses was launched and considered for the second phase of the curriculum. In the graduate school, new cross-disciplinary courses were established to promote academic and research exchange between different majors.	The impact of COVID-19 has subsided, and the Center for Liberal Education and Learning has launched a new educational system, reformed the entrance examination system (introduction of The Common Test for University Admissions), and in various areas, including the promotion of international exchange and collaboration such as COIL, projects were implemented and goals were achieved in line with the Operating Plan.
2. Plans for research and academic exchange (Committee No.2 for academic plan)	Progress-level and achievement-level KPIs were rated almost the same (degree) as the previous year. This may be related to the fact that, even if the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is decreasing, some constraints (e.g., fewer face-to-face events, reduced visits by overseas travelers, etc.) still remain.	While the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is gradually decreasing, there are still some restrictions, such as the reduction of face-to-face events, that remain in place. However, since we are seeing a gradual recovery in the number of research grants received and the number of extramural collaborative/contract research projects, we will once again assess how to effectively implement various measures and take action according to the status in order to address the challenges we face.
3. Plans for student life support (Committee No.1 for physical plan)	We made efforts to enhance the student counseling system to help students lead healthy student lives both mentally and physically by establishing the Sophia Wellness Center and opening a Student Information Service. Also, study tours and training programs were implemented with infection prevention measures in place, creating opportunities for learning and growth through extracurricular activities.	With the opening of the Sophia Wellness Center in April, we were able to enhance our student counseling system by establishing a Student Information Service in the Autumn Semester, which can be accessed in both Japanese and English. Also, face-to-face activities resumed, and various extracurricular support and educational programs were developed.
B. Future plans for Sophia University Junior College Division		
(Committee for Sophia University Junior College Division)	Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the University has struggled to recruit students due to a combination of factors. The results of the 2023 admissions (conducted in fiscal 2022) were unprecedentedly low in terms of the number of applicants compared to the available capacity, resulting in an under-enrollment situation. The Junior College has announced that it will stop taking new students for the 2025 academic year, although it will still be responsible for offering education and career support to students who enroll in the final 2024 entrance exam, to be held in 2023.	In fiscal 2022, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, classes were conducted primarily face-to-face, with infection prevention measures in place. However, students with underlying health conditions or special circumstances were allowed to participate online. The fiscal 2023 entrance exam was largely under capacity as in the previous year, as a consequence of a complicated mix of events.

GL2.1 Plan	Current state of AP in GL2.1 (Fiscal 2022)	Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan implementation report
C. Future plans for adult and continuing education		
(Committee for Continuing Education)	<p>[Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan Implementation Report]</p> <p>We sense a very strong demand from the industrial sector for the requirement for students to learn “liberal arts” which will lead to and demonstrate international competitiveness and creativity. The implementation of courses and collaboration with member companies are on the right track and receiving high praise and satisfaction from both course participants and the companies that dispatched them. We will continue to improve the content and quality of courses offered in line with the increase in the number of members and create systems for communication and networking, such as alumni networking systems.</p>	
D. Future plans for the four schools under the Secondary Education Division		
(Committee for Secondary Education)	<p>[Eiko Gakuen Junior and Senior High School]</p> <p>In fiscal 2022, although the number of infected students increased compared to the previous two years, there was no social demand to close the school year, and school events were held as scheduled, with appropriate infection control measures in place. Various promotional activities for junior high school entrance examinations are also being conducted face-to-face. However, exchange projects with overseas educational institutions could not be held besides online, and this will be an issue for fiscal 2023 and beyond.</p>	<p>Plans that were not affected by the infection, such as the implementation of the new curriculum guidelines and the introduction of ICT equipment, were carried out as planned. Educational programs that required people to travel to and from other countries were postponed in their planning and implementation.</p>
	<p>[Rokko Junior/Senior High School]</p> <p>We made sure that classes, club activities, and school events could be held as close to normal as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are currently in the process of promoting and reforming issues such as international exchange, ICT education, enhancement of inquiry-based learning, entrance examinations, and measures for underperforming students, starting from where we can.</p>	<p>Although we had grade closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Tateyama Camp for third-year junior high school students was postponed, school and grade events such as the Sports Festival, School Festival, and the Long Distance Walking Competition could proceed in a mostly normal manner. Additionally, reforms aimed at respecting students' human rights have been progressing through lectures and training sessions.</p>
	<p>[Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School]</p> <p>Despite certain constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school is striving to tackle each challenge with an eye toward the future, and to practice vibrant educational activities.</p>	<p>An improved understanding of the COVID-19 infection has made it easier to judge whether or not to engage in activities. Major events such as the Sports Festival, School Festival, marathon, school excursions, and overseas training programs could be held in a way similar to the past.</p>
	<p>[Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School]</p> <p>Aiming to respond to globalization, the school was able to conduct international exchange programs within Japan amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, with regard to the improvement and maintenance of the learning environment, a construction committee was formed and considered for the renovation of a special building.</p>	<p>Despite the impact of COVID-19, the school was able to conduct a Department of English Studies program with Professor Tamotsu Fujita of Sophia University as a supervisor and advisor, and hold a study tour to Cambodia for the first time in three years. We hope to establish a form of cooperation with Sophia University for the third-year junior high school SFO students next year. We aim to resume exchange programs with our sister schools overseas and the Australia study tour next year. We would like to begin the renovation of the special building as soon as possible.</p>

GL2.1 Plan	Current state of AP in GL2.1 (Fiscal 2022)	Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan implementation report
E. Plans to reinforce the foundations of Sophia School Corporation		
1. Promote understanding and permeation of Jesuit and Catholic education	<p>During the GL2.1 period, we had the opportunity to reflect on the origins of the Sophia School Corporation with a visit from Pope Francis, the visit of Arturo Sosai, current Superior General of the Society of Jesus, the publication of the “Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus (UAPs),” and the “Year of St. Ignatius.” Each of these messages provided significant guidance for the activities of the Catholic Jesuit Center, which works together with Jesuits in the apostolate of education, and laid the foundation for our future endeavors.</p> <p>Also, in its third year of operation, the Sophia Archives has become more organizationally sound, with a dedicated administrative director assigned to it. As for the content of its activities, it has been confirmed that its three core pillars are (1) collection of materials, (2) making the materials available to the public and contributing to society, and (3) providing support for education and research.</p>	<p>In general, the Catholic Jesuit Center was able to accomplish effective activities in collaboration with Jesuits, both face-to-face and online, including the commemoration of the “Year of St. Ignatius” and the renewal of its official website.</p> <p>As for the collection of materials, in fiscal 2022, the transfer of materials due to the closure of the Sophia School of Social Welfare was completed. As part of its efforts for public disclosure of materials and contribution to society, the Center conducted special exhibitions in Building No. 6 and online, as well as provided class support for history major classes and accepted trainees as museum curators. In addition, visits and material research were conducted at the Archives of the Society of Jesus (ARSI), the Japan Province of the Archives of the Society of Jesus, and the S.J. House Archives.</p>
2. University-wide plans (Committee for governance)	<p>While there are still challenges to be addressed, we were able to stabilize the operational foundation of the School Corporation and the University by strengthening the planning functions, speeding up decision-making, establishing a PDCA cycle system, thoroughly implementing risk management, and collaborating with alumni and the local community.</p>	<p>In light of the various reforms and achievements under GL 2.1, as well as the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to formulate a medium- to long-term plan. Regarding stakeholder collaboration, as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has diminished, we would like to renew our efforts to generate opportunities for two-way communication and to create effective points of contact.</p>
3. Organizational and personnel plans (Committee for personnel plan)	<p>With a 20 to 30-year perspective, we will consider specific measures focusing on "selection" and "concentration" of business in cooperation with the academic departments to sustain sound management of the organization. To foster a sense of belonging among faculty and improve their performance, we are putting into practice specific measures for improvement by fostering a human resource development mindset among managers and making them aware of the results of their efforts.</p>	<p>In order to sustain the sound management of Sophia School Corporation, we confirmed the direction with the Academic Execution Division regarding the number of faculty and staff, how the organization should be restructured, and the reduction of personnel costs for the next 10 years. Concrete measures will be continuously reviewed and implemented based on a medium- to long-term forecast. The staff administrative structure was concretely put into practice based on the action plan considered by the organization's management structure review task force. The second phase of the project to promote workstyle reform was undertaken with the aim of achieving a sense of belonging among faculty members and improving their productivity.</p>

GL2.1 Plan	Current state of AP in GL2.1 (Fiscal 2022)	Fiscal 2022 Operating Plan implementation report
4. Financial plans (Committee for financial plan)	Each action plan for stabilizing our financial base was generally achieved as planned even after the COVID-19 pandemic. Going forward, we will continue to take steps to stabilize our financial base by promoting cost reductions and other measures.	Despite the continued challenging financial situation due to the asset management environment and the soaring cost of energy, asset management income was generally in line with the budgeted income, while various measures were taken to maintain financial soundness, including a review of tuition fees and a uniform 5% reduction in the operating budget for fiscal 2023.
5. Plans for facilities and equipment (Committee No.2 for physical plan)	Renovations to Buildings No.3, No.4, No.8, and No.9, as well as the renovation of Main Street in the east and west directions, the new S-TERRASSE in Building No.1, and the renewal of the main gate, have significantly improved the educational and research environment, enhanced the aesthetics of the campus, and expanded student amenity spaces.	The development of the east-west axis of Main Street in the exterior maintenance plan has been completed. The work has begun on the development of the area from the center of Main Street to the front of the library and the courtyard of Building No.9. The Sanadabori Ground maintenance plan will be redesigned as a result of coordination with the relevant competent authorities, which necessitated a review of the building layout. As for the plans for the maintenance and preservation of facilities, the construction work scheduled for implementation in fiscal 2022 was completed almost as planned.
6. ICT Plan (Committee No.2 for physical plan)	Many issues have been implemented according to the original plan. There are several items that remain to be implemented, but they were temporarily halted due to changes in circumstances during the planning process (such as Wi-Fi infrastructure and BYOD for work-related activities). It is extremely difficult to plan for the future because ICT-related projects are highly influenced by changes in the social environment and rapidly evolving trends. The important thing is to maintain composure when assessing the direction of trends and to envision future plans while being conscious of what is valuable and important for the University.	Most of the projects planned for implementation in fiscal year 2022 have been successfully implemented. Due to workload and plan immaturity, certain projects (e.g., renewal of wired DHCP servers) have been delayed even though the implementation plans were discussed with the introducing suppliers. These projects have been included in the FY2023 budget, and we aim to steadily implement them from the next fiscal year onward.

Sophia School Corporation

■ Ignatian Year



The Jesuits designated Ignatian Year (May 20, 2021-July 31, 2022) to mark five hundred years since the conversion of Ignatius de Loyola, one of the founders of the Jesuits, who was wounded at the Battle of Pamplona and was recuperating. Ignatian Year was an opportunity for Jesuits worldwide and all Ignatian families to experience conversion through the life, spirituality, and spiritual heritage of St. Ignatius in order to “see all things new in Christ.”

The Catholic Jesuit Center, which is associated with the mission of the Jesuits, organized several activities to commemorate the Ignatian Year. These

activities included the holding of the “St. Ignatius Memorial Mass” (July 31), the launch of the “St. Ignatius Channel” on Catholic Jesuit Center’s official YouTube channel, the publication of the “St. Ignatius’ ‘Life’ and ‘Spirituality’” booklet, the holding of memorial exhibitions “Following the Footprints of St. Ignatius (1st floor, Building No.2)” and “The Spiritual Legacy of St. Ignatius” (1st floor, Building No.6), and a memorial symposium “A New Look at Christ: Ignatius de Loyola’s Conversion and Its Contemporary Significance (Lecturer: Professor José García de Castro Valdés, Comenius University)” (October 9, sponsored by the Faculty of Theology). In addition to holding meditation sessions for students and participating in the IAJU/AJCU-AP “Ignatian Year Video Competition,” commemorative items such as prayer cards, bookmarks, and tote bags were produced.

■ International "SOPHIA IGNATIAN YEAR SYMPOSIUM" held

The Sophia Ignatian Year Symposium, an international symposium to commemorate Ignatian Year, was held on the theme of SDGs on July 5 in collaboration with Jesuit universities in East Asia and Southeast Asia. Participants included representatives of The Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities in Asia Pacific (AJCU-AP), Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines), Fu Jen Catholic University (Taiwan), Sanata Dharma University (Indonesia), Sogang University (Korea), and Sophia University. The team consisted of presidents, vice presidents, etc., and students from the five universities, who gave presentations and exchanged views and opinions in English. The symposium was held at Sophia University’s Yotsuya Campus, in Building No.10 Auditorium, with overseas participants and those who could not attend the venue joining in via online public viewing.

The Symposium consisted of two sessions. In the first session, initiatives were introduced by representatives from AJCU-AP and each university, moderated by Professor Tetsuo Morishita, Vice President for Global Academic Affairs. The second session, moderated by Professor Takeshi Ito of the Faculty of Liberal Arts, featured a student session where student teams from each university presented their respective activities. During the latter half of the Symposium, there was a lively discussion that included the sharing of challenges associated with SDGs promotion activities on campuses and a Q&A session with universities that are conducting unique activities.

After the three-hour Symposium, the participants exchanged contact information and promised to continue to share the status of their activities with each other.

■ A delegation of six representatives from the Archdiocese of Cologne visited the University

On September 30, a delegation of six representatives from the Archdiocese of Cologne visited Sophia University and held an exchange with officials.

The Archdiocese of Cologne has been providing enormous support, both material and spiritual, to the Archdiocese of Tokyo for over 60 years since establishing a friendly relationship in 1954. Sophia University also received substantial assistance in establishing the Faculty of Law in 1957 and the Faculty of Science and Technology in 1962. Moreover, in April 2015, the University established the “Cologne Office” as its sixth overseas base located in the building of the Catholic University Community of Cologne (Katholische Hochschulgemeinde Köln:KHG), belonging to the Archdiocese of Cologne, to provide support for students studying in Germany.

The delegation, led by Vicar General Guido Assmann, met with various members of the University, including Chancellor Tsutomu Sakuma and President Yoshiaki Terumichi. After the meeting, they visited the Christian Library and went on to the Catholic Jesuit Center, where they met with

international students receiving the "Frings-Heffner-Maisner-Werke Cardinal Scholarship." This Scholarship was established by Sophia University using donations from the Archdiocese of Cologne in partnership with the Catholic Church Aid in Myanmar and is being promoted by the Archdiocese of Cologne. It accepts Catholic students recommended by the Bishops of Myanmar as international students and supports their studies and daily life.

On October 4, a contingent of the delegation visited the Sophia-Arrupe International Residence, where Trustee for General Affairs Fr. Sali Augustine, who guided the group, expressed his gratitude for the student support.



■ The Sophia Symposium “The Hydraulic City of the Angkor Empire and Construction of Angkor Wat” held

The Sophia Asia Center for Research and Human Development, which has contributed to the cultural revival and peacebuilding in Cambodia through the restoration of the Western Causeway of Angkor Wat and human resource development, celebrated the 25th anniversary of its founding. On November 5, the Center held the Sophia Symposium to commemorate the anniversary at the International Conference Hall on the 17th floor of Building No.2 as part of the International Symposium on the Hydraulic City, "The Hydraulic City of the Angkor Empire and Construction of Angkor Wat."

The speakers included Dr. Yoshiaki Ishizawa, former President of Sophia University and Director of the Center, as well as researchers from Australia, France, Cambodia, and Japan. The participants numbered about 100 individuals, including online and on-site participants from Japan and abroad, who were ordinary citizens and experts interested in the Angkor archaeological site. The region of Angkor, which was the capital of the Angkor Empire, is a large fan-shaped area. On the upper part of the slope, reservoirs were built and the city functioned as a “hydraulic city” where people cultivated the land a

second time (double cropping) in the dry season in November. This Symposium examined the historical facts of the economy and society of the time when Angkor Wat was constructed under the proposition of a “hydraulic city.” The first international symposium on the hydraulic city was held at Sophia University in 2000, and this event marks the second of its kind. Research teams from the École française d’Extrême-

Orient, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), the APSARA National Authority (the Cambodian government’s organization for the preservation and development of the Angkor region), JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), and Sophia University presented their research findings based on on-site investigations.

■ Initiatives for Responsible Investment (ESG Investment)

In order to contribute to the resolution of issues that threaten "human dignity" - poverty, environment, education, and ethics - through academic research and social contribution, Sophia University is committed to ESG investments that take into consideration environmental (E), social (S), and governance (G) issues in its asset management

practices, and we aim to contribute to the resolution of global environmental and social issues, leading to the creation of a sustainable international society.

Below we present some of the responsible investment initiatives we have implemented in fiscal 2022.

① Participation in “Advance,” a new collaborative engagement initiative established by the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

Advance is a stewardship initiative where institutional investors work together to take action on human rights and social issues. Investors use their collective influence with companies and other decision makers to drive positive outcomes for workers, communities, and society, within the ESG framework. In its responsible investment, Sophia University has identified "respect for human rights" as

an important theme consistent with its founding principles. We will continue to promote dialogue with the investment institutions we employ to improve human rights risks with the companies in which we invest, thereby contributing to the formation of a sustainable society.



② Investment in “JICA Peacebuilding Bonds”

We have made investments in the "Peacebuilding Bonds (Social Bonds)" issued by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Global conflicts, including the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, are on the rise, and there are growing challenges to be resolved. The funds raised through these Bonds will be used for new and ongoing JICA loan assistance projects that provide humanitarian assistance to countries and regions being affected (or

which have been affected) by conflicts and civil wars, post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation, prevention of outbreak and recurrence of conflicts, promotion of peace, and other assistance.



Photo courtesy of (photographer’s name) / JICA

③ Investment in a domestic renewable energy fund

We have invested in a domestic renewable energy fund that contributes to Japan's carbon neutrality. This fund aims to resolve the challenges of expanding renewable energy by investing in power generation projects that “produce” renewable energy power, and then providing shareholders with the

opportunity to “use” renewable energy power on their own or at their affiliated companies.



■ Four-school joint SDGs Idea Contest held

On March 21, 2023, we held an SDGs Idea Contest for students of four Sophia School Corporation junior and senior high schools. The purpose of this contest was to create an opportunity for students to share and present their ideas about the SDGs, an international challenge, and to provide a forum for the growth of the next generation who will be responsible for the future of society. It was also the first attempt to bring together like-minded junior and senior high school students from four Sophia School Corporation schools at Sophia University. The contest's jury was chaired by Trustee for General Affairs Fr. Sali Augustine, Director of the Sustainability Promotion Office. He stated in his opening remarks, "This opportunity for students who have never met each other before to meet and work collaboratively on issues is the very embodiment of UAPs (Universal Apostolic Preferences)."

The theme of the conference that was announced that day was "Boost the number of colleagues who create a sustainable society together! Ideas for

Future Learning through Teamwork," and the students thought about how to get many people interested in the SDGs. Eight five-person groups were formed of four junior and senior high school students across school and grade levels and one student staff member from the Sustainability Promotion Office, and worked on multiple workshops to generate ideas for learning.

At the presentations, a series of original ideas were presented from the students' perspectives. Some used the local Hakata Station as the stage and others were inspired by theme parks. The first prize was awarded to a study on a sustainability-themed board game called “The Humanity Game.”

Through this contest, students enjoyed interacting with each other, tackling his or her own challenges, and making it a meaningful time that will lead to the future. The contest received positive feedback from the judges and participating students, and closed on a high note.



■ Tetsuya Nakatsuma appointed Principal of Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School

With the retirement of Principal Akira Miyoshi, who served as principal of Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School for three terms spanning a period of nine years, Tetsuya Nakatsuma, being selected and nominated by the President Nomination Committee of Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School, was appointed as successor and as the 12th person to become principal of the school (effective April 1, 2022), at the Sophia School Corporation Board of Trustee meeting held on May

26, 2021. After graduating from Sophia University, Principal Nakatsuma joined Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School in 1985 as a Japanese language teacher. He has served as a homeroom teacher, grade level coordinator, member of the academic affairs department, student guidance department, and vice principal. He has also been involved in coaching the soccer team for many years. Since assuming the position of principal, he still attends as many soccer team sessions as possible.

■ Iwao Funabashi appointed Principal of Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School

With the retirement of Principal Hideo Oishi, who served as principal of Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School for ten years, Iwao Funabashi, being selected and nominated by the President Nomination Committee of Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School, was appointed as successor and as the 21st person to become principal of the school (effective April 1, 2022), at the Sophia School Corporation Board of Trustee meeting held on July 28, 2021. Principal Funabashi graduated from Sophia

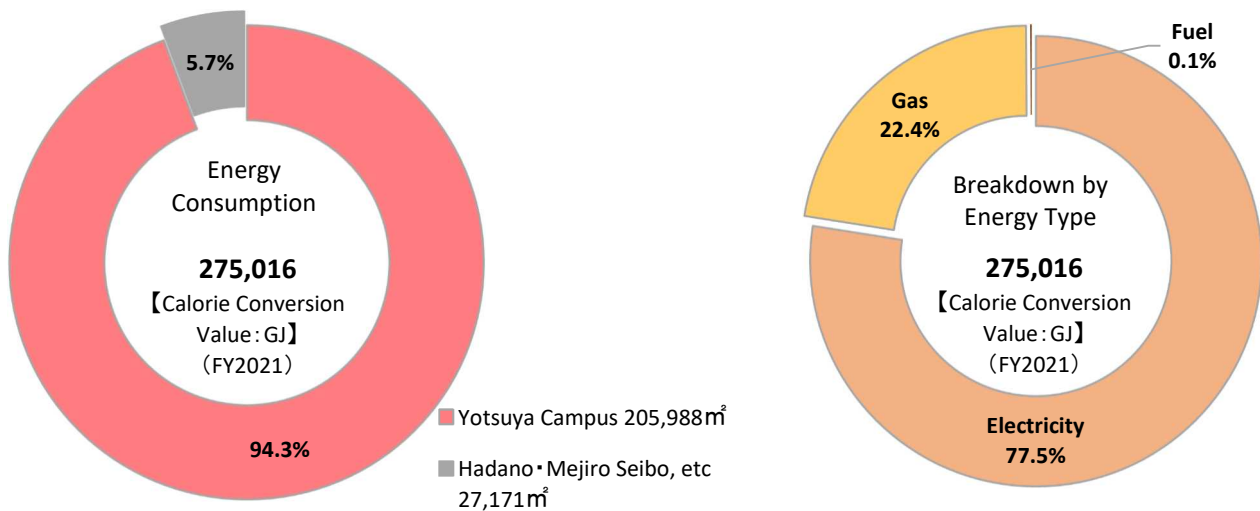
University and joined Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School in April 1985 as an English teacher. After serving as a grade level coordinator, head of the college guidance department, head of the student guidance department, and the head of the English department, he assumed the position of vice principal in 2015. In 2001, he also completed a one-year training program at Fordham University in the United States. In extracurricular activities, he has been an advisor to the soccer team for over 20 years.

■ Status of Sophia School Corporation's Environmental Impact (Higher Education Division)

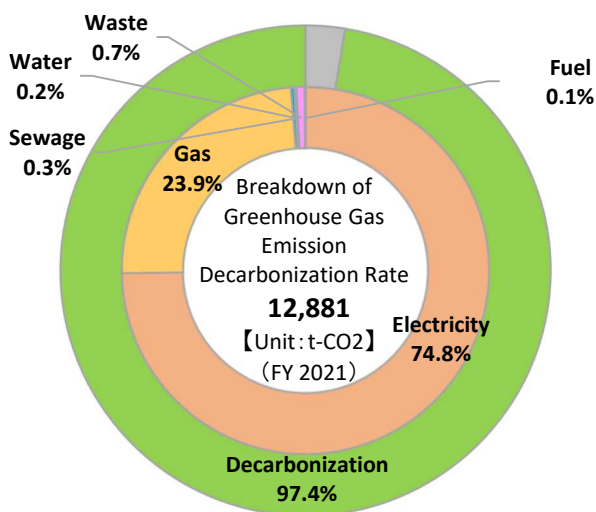
1. Energy Consumption and CO2 Emissions

The Higher Education Division of Sophia School Corporation has three main campuses: Yotsuya Campus, Mejiro Seibo Campus, and Hadano Campus. The Yotsuya Campus is where all Sophia University facilities and graduate students receive their education and conduct research activities. The Mejiro Seibo Campus is used by some students of the Department of Nursing of Sophia University's Faculty of Human Sciences, and the Hadano Campus is where Sophia University's Junior College is located.

Of the energy consumed by Sophia School Corporation*1, Yotsuya Campus accounts for 94.3%. (Figure 1) By energy type, electricity accounts for about 77.5%, and city gas (LNG)*2 for about 22.4%. Fuel, such as heavy oil, is mainly used to heat the Hadano Campus, but their share is extremely small. (Figure 2)



The CO2 emissions generated by Sophia School Corporation are not only from energy use but also from the use of water and sewage and the processing of waste. The amount of CO2 emissions associated with the use of energy, water, wastewater, and waste disposal was estimated from the amount used in fiscal 2021. The amount of CO2 emitted by Sophia School Corporation in fiscal 2021 was 12,881 tons, with 74.8% of emissions associated with electricity use and 23.9% associated with city gas (LNG). (Figure 3)



From fiscal 2020 to 2021, Sophia School Corporation switched the power utilized at its main campuses to 100% renewable energy. In addition, in fiscal 2021, city gas has been replaced with carbon-free LNG at the Yotsuya and Mejiro-Seibo campuses*3. As a result, Sophia School Corporation has been able to virtually eliminate carbon dioxide emissions associated with the use of electricity and city gas, with the exception of some facilities*4, resulting in a significant (97.4%) reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.

On the other hand, energy use this year has exceeded the amount used before the COVID-19 pandemic, partly because face-to-face classes have resumed since April. Reducing wasteful electricity use is considered an important issue for minimizing environmental impact. In addition, since power that is essentially 100% renewable energy may result in higher unit electricity prices due to future increases in environmental values, etc., it is considered necessary to promote energy conservation from a cost perspective as well.

Because the total annual energy consumption of Sophia School Corporation exceeds the standard specified in the "Law Concerning the Rational Use of Energy" (Energy Conservation Act), it is a specified business operator under the Act, which means that it has a responsibility to advance energy conservation in particular. Every year, Sophia School Corporation reports to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) on the quantity consumed and its plans for cutting back on energy consumption.

Furthermore, based on the Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures, Sophia School Corporation is obliged to report greenhouse gas emissions annually to the Ministry of the Environment and to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions based on the Metropolitan Government's Ordinance on Environment for Protection of Resident Health and Safety (Tokyo Metropolitan Nature Conservation Ordinance).

※1 Energy consumption in FY2021

※2 liquefied natural gas

※3 LNG is considered to produce no CO₂ when used, as CO₂ credits offset the greenhouse gases produced in the process from mining to combustion of natural gas.

※4 Student dormitories, etc.

2. Waste Processing and Emissions

Waste processing is classified according to its properties, type, and discharging entity, and is regulated by various laws and ordinances for the prevention of environmental pollution and effective use of resources.

(Table 1: Applicable Main Laws and Regulations, Figure 4: Responsibility for Disposal of Waste Materials)

Sophia School Corporation is responsible for the collection, transportation, and disposal of all industrial waste it generates. For this reason, Sophia School Corporation outsources the collection, transportation, and disposal of waste materials to a business operator licensed under the relevant laws and regulations.

Table 1 Main laws and regulations that apply

Classification	Main laws and regulations that apply
Waste in solid form	The Waste Disposal and Cleaning Act (Waste Disposal Act) Law for Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources Individual Items Recycling Law Home Appliance Recycling Law Small Home Appliance Recycling Law, etc. Act on Special Measures concerning Promotion of Proper Treatment of PCB Wastes
Waste in liquid form (including wastewater)	The Waste Disposal and Cleaning Act (Waste Disposal Act) Water Pollution Control Act Sewerage Act
Waste in gaseous form	Air Pollution Control Act Law Concerning the Promotion of the Measures to Cope with Global Warming Act on Rational Use and Proper Management of Fluorocarbons
Others	Soil Contamination Countermeasures Act

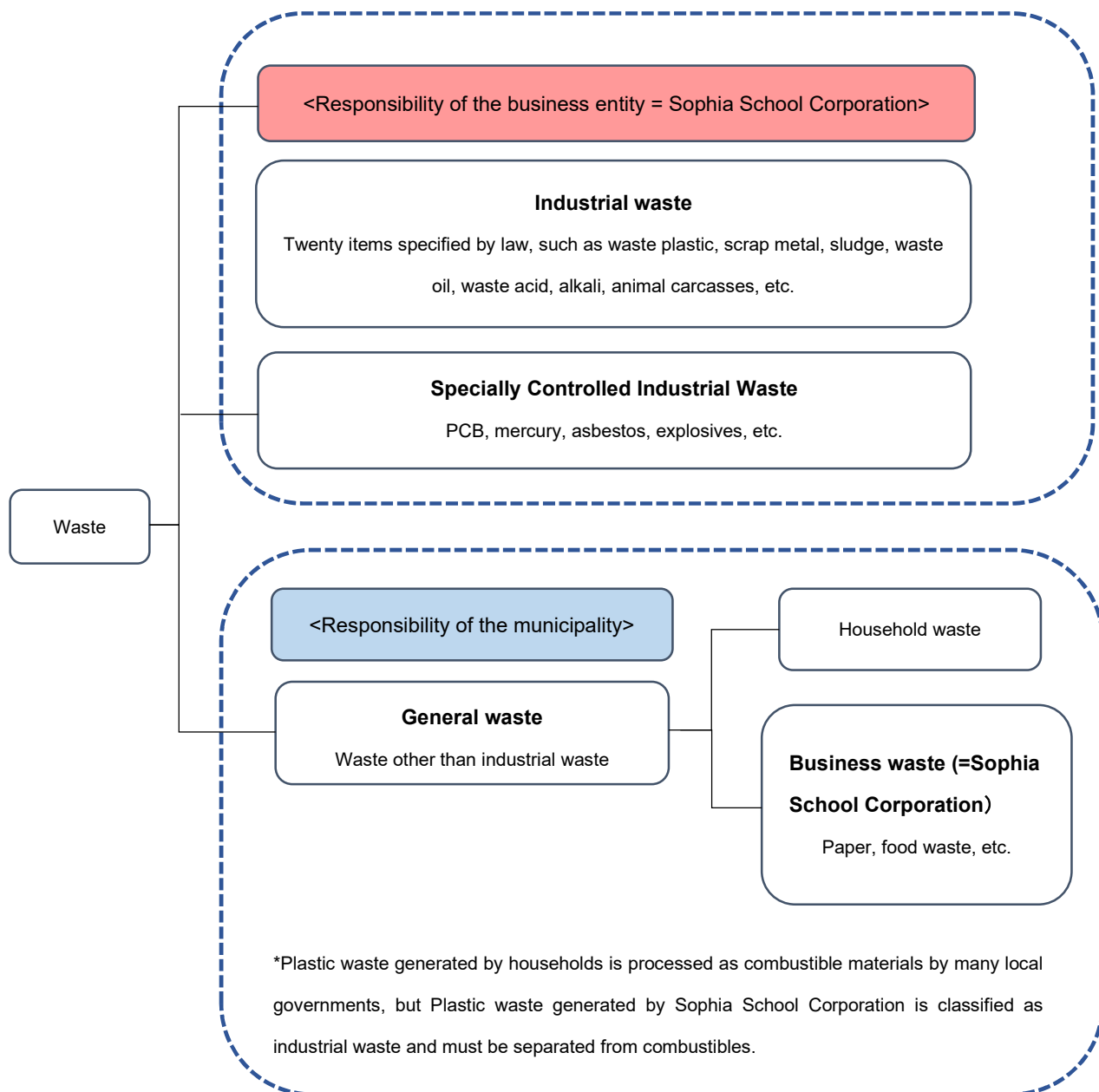


Figure 4 Responsibility for Disposal of Waste Materials

In addition, by using digitalized industrial waste management sheet (manifest), data is shared among the three parties of "waste generators," "collection and transportation companies," and "disposal companies" to improve communication efficiency, while keeping track of the type and amount of waste, and the flow from discharge to collection and transportation, and to final disposal.

The Yotsuya Campus generated about 6 million tons of waste per year before the pre-COVID-19 pandemic, and Figure 5 shows the change in waste generation from FY 2017 to FY 2021. (Figure 5 Trends in the amount of waste generated)

Although the waste emissions trend is difficult to predict due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the reuse rate of combustible materials has dramatically improved since FY2020 due to our efforts to reuse paper, and the rate of noncombustible materials has also remained high. (Figure6 Trends in waste reutilization rates)

In accordance with the spirit of the Small Home Appliance Recycling Law, Sophia School Corporation has begun to reuse and recycle computer equipment since FY2022. Recycling of paper, plastic bottles, cans, and

bottles is also promoted.

The proper separation of waste, reduction of emissions, and promotion of recycling will reduce environmental pollution caused by waste as well as greenhouse gas emissions from waste incineration. Sophia School Corporation must be aware of and address the 12th goal of the SDGs, “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.”

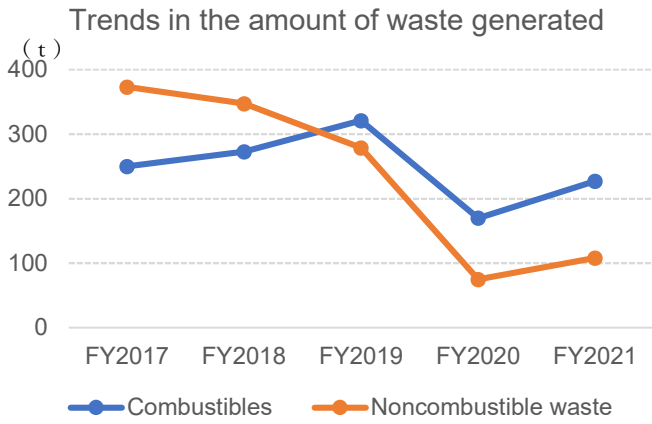


Figure 5

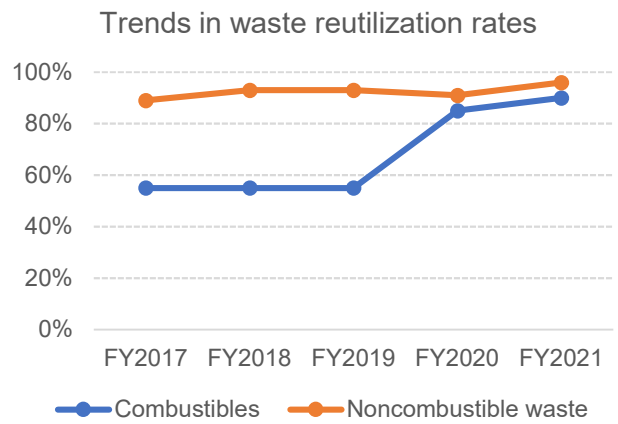


Figure 6

Sophia University

■ Acceptance of students from Ukraine commences

Sophia University, in cooperation with Pathways Japan (PJ) and Japan International Christian University Foundation (JICUF), has decided to accept displaced students from Ukraine who have fled Russia's military invasion of Ukraine and wish to continue their studies in Japan. Ten students are currently studying as non-degree students. The first group of eight students started in July 2022 from the summer session, and the second group of two students started from the Autumn Semester in September. In accepting students, we assist with their travel to Japan, provide financial support such

as living expenses, housing costs, and tuition waiver, as well as assistance for living in Japan. The 10 students have been accepted as non-degree students until the Spring Semester of 2023, and if they choose to carry on with their studies at the university, we will conduct a transfer/entrance examination so that they can continue their studies as full-time students.

By accepting these evacuees from Ukraine, Sophia University hopes to fulfill its role in society as an institution of higher education by embodying its educational spirit of "For Others, With Others."

■ Development of new Liberal Education and Learning

In April 2022, a new educational system, "Liberal Education and Learning," was launched. The new system aims to cultivate "autonomous learners" by reorganizing the university-wide general education system and significantly revising the curriculum at the undergraduate level to promote organic linkage among General Studies courses, Language courses, and Specialized courses of the undergraduate departments. In particular, the points addressed in FY2022 include the launch of new university-wide Compulsory courses and the establishment of an autonomous management system through the new "Center for Liberal Education and Learning" organization.

The five new Compulsory courses common to the entire university include "Thinking and Expression" and "Introduction to Data Science," pilot courses offered in FY2021; "Christian Anthropology" and "Embodied Wisdom," a renewal of the existing identity courses; and "Considering Issues,

Perspectives and Standpoints," a course that examines social issues from various academic perspectives and standpoints.

The Center for Liberal Education and Learning is responsible for the university-wide promotion of liberal education and learning as well as the management of the university-wide general curriculum in the new education system. It consists of six areas: "Christian Anthropology," "Embodied Wisdom," "Thinking and Expression," "Data Science," and "Developing Knowledge," which are responsible for curriculum and learning support in each area, and "Educational Development," which examines new ways of learning. In each area, faculty members in related fields selected from within the university, as well as those who actually teach classes, discuss curriculum structure, linkage with departmental courses, the educational content of required courses, learning support services, and other issues.

■ COIL (Collaborative International Online Learning) Symposium held

On December 15, the COIL International Symposium "Collaborative Online International Learning Program to Identify Issues Related to Human Security and Multicultural Coexistence" was jointly held with Ochanomizu University and the University of Shizuoka at Sophia University's Yotsuya Campus (the three universities jointly applied for and received a grant from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in FY2018 for the "Project for Strengthening University Global Development Capabilities - Support for Formation of Inter-University Exchange in the U.S. and Other Countries Using COIL-Based Education.") Approximately 90 people, including educators interested in COIL, participated in this symposium, which reviewed the five-year period of the subsidized project, either online or in person. The day began with opening remarks by Yoshiaki Terumichi, President of Sophia University, and Eiji Watanabe, Counselor for International Affairs, Higher Education Bureau, MEXT, followed by a two-part program.

In the first part of the session, Takashi Irohara, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Sophia University, who is responsible for the project, reported on the results of efforts to contribute to (1) a COIL-based mobility program, (2) a domestic circulation program for accepting international students, (3) promotion of COIL introduction into classroom courses, and (4) eliminating educational gaps across borders through collaboration with Jesuit Worldwide Learning. He also reflected on expanding global learning through these four multi-tiered learning programs. As for future prospects, he concluded that the three universities will continue to implement and develop COIL respectively after the program ends, based on the common understanding that COIL "improves the

freedom of learning and education and provides diverse international learning opportunities," and that they will continue to collaborate with the network of faculty members at the three universities which is an asset. In addition, faculty members from the three universities introduced various COIL case studies, and, in a panel discussion held among the students who had participated in the program, learning outcomes based on student experiences were shared.

In the second part, the vice presidents of the three universities (Takashi Irohara, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Sophia University; Masako Ishii-Kuntz, Vice President, Ochanomizu University; and Hisao Tomizawa, Vice President for International Exchange, University of Shizuoka) held a panel discussion on the achievements and future prospects of collaboration and the current status and potential of online education, and a message was sent to other universities interested in COIL. The symposium concluded with a summary of the project from Ochanomizu University Vice President Masako Ishii-Kuntz, and closing remarks from University of Shizuoka Vice President Hisao Tomizawa.



■ Symposium discusses universities and education in the era of continuous learning

On December 15, a symposium commemorating the opening of the Center for Liberal Education and Learning, "Liberal Education in the Era of Continuous Learning," was held both in person and online. The symposium commemorated the launch of a new educational system, "Liberal Education and Learning," and the opening of the Center for Liberal Education and Learning, aiming to connect the symposium with the wide-ranging discussions on recent university reforms by reviewing the university's efforts. Professor Shunya Yoshimi of the University of Tokyo's Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies was invited as the keynote speaker.

Professor Yoshimi presented a paper entitled "Where are Universities Headed - Rethinking the Future of Universities as a Theory of Time" in which he discussed the issue from the perspective of securing time for faculty and students, and explained the importance of education for working adults in response to the multiple stages of life and the necessity of multifaceted education and research as

a way of learning today. From the Center for Liberal Education and Learning, Director Juro Otsuka gave a presentation titled, "Practicing New Liberal Arts Education by Reviewing University-Wide General Subjects." This was followed by a panel discussion among President Yoshiaki Terumichi, Professor Yoshimi, the Center Director Otsuka, Professor Kyoko Shibano, Director of the Center's "Thinking and Expression" domain, and Associate Professor Ryoko Takemura of the Center's "Embodied Wisdom" domain. A lively discussion ensued on the university's approach to liberal education and learning, and the role of universities and education in the age of continuous learning.

More than 120 participants, including not only faculty, staff, and students from the university, but also high school students, parents, media, and personnel from other universities, high schools, and other educational institutions, participated in the discussion both in person and online.

■ University students support high school students' exploratory learning in a new university-wide course

The Center for Liberal Education and Learning has launched a new university-wide general course, "Creating Inquiry-Based Learning: Research Skills," in the "Developing Knowledge" domain. Students will collaborate with high school students who are pursuing inquiry-based learning in this course and acquire research techniques for it.

This course is offered in collaboration with Sophia Global Education and Discovery Co., Ltd., (hereinafter referred to as Sophia GED, headquartered in Bangkok), an overseas education business company affiliated with Sophia Academy. Sophia University students and students from the company's online inquiry learning program for high school students, "Sekai Inquiry Club," which has

been implemented since 2020, will participate in a total of four joint classes during the class period.

Sophia University participants will first learn the significance of inquiry as well as basic analytical techniques, and acquire knowledge and skills that will be useful in their future research and careers. Then, through teaching and supporting high school students in joint classes, they will learn about facilitation, leadership, and a sense of collaboration with others. Through their interactions with high school students, Sophia University students will reconsider the significance of their university studies and look for opportunities to think more independently and proactively about their own future studies.

■ International Paralympic Committee (IPC) President visits the University

On August 25, Andrew Parsons, President of the IPC and Mike Peters, CEO of the IPC, visited Sophia University while in Japan to commemorate the first anniversary of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, and interacted with members of Go Beyond, the Sophia Olympic and Paralympic Student Project.

First, Honoka Jinno (who graduated from the Department of English Studies in the Faculty of Foreign Languages in 2021), the first co-chair of the project, spoke passionately about how she started the student project after participating in a field trip to the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games and how President Parsons' speech at the opening ceremony encouraged her to do so. She then introduced the three principles that have been important to her since the beginning of her activities: "Go Beyond Limits – Challenge Your Limits," "Go Beyond Borders - Crossing the Invisible Boundaries between Ourselves and Others," and "Go Beyond 2020 – Beyond the Tokyo Games."

Next, Mashiro Saito (fourth year, Faculty of Global Studies), Koki Nobuoka (fourth year, Sociology, Faculty of Human Sciences), and Haruka Kirihara (third year, Sociology, Faculty of Human Sciences) described the specific activities. They explained that they have been working to enhance Olympic and

Paralympic opportunities through such activities as para-sports experiences and lectures by athletes, and that they collaborated with companies and local governments to conduct on-site classes to promote understanding of diversity.

In response to the students' presentations, Chairman Parsons said, "I would like to commend all of you for taking action on behalf of others. I was impressed by the fact that you initiated these actions on your own, rather than being urged by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the national government, or the organizing committee. Sophia University's support for the students' activities is also outstanding." He reiterated IPC's idea that "difference is power," and encouraged the students to "keep the passion alive."



■ Aiming to realize a symbiotic society: Introducing Universal Manners Test Level 3 for all new students

From the 2022 academic year, "Universal Manners Certificate Level 3 e-Learning" was implemented for approximately 3,000 new students. This is a certification test provided by Mirairo Corporation, and we created an on-demand format course for Sophia University and offered it to new students. The course covers the basic ways of dealing with and talking to the elderly and people with disabilities, and to consider their own behavior in situations where they interact with others. Nearly 90% of all new students completed the course and obtained Level 3. According to the results of the survey, the satisfaction rate was high at 98%, with many students responding that they were able to learn new things and gain new perspectives. Many students responded, "It's wonderful to learn that the University provides a program with a certification of this kind." One said, "I

learned that there are many people in the world who are in need of help that I am unaware of. I would like to live my daily life with awareness so that I can support such people." As a first step toward the realization of a symbiotic society, the new students were able to gain a great deal of insight.

<Related article><https://findsophia.jp/find-sophia/4862/>



■ Women's Golf Club Team wins Kanto Women's University Spring C-League Intercollegiate Tournament

The women's team of the University's Athletic Association Golf Club won the 2022 Kanto Student Golf Federation Spring C-League Tournament held at Suginosato Country Club from May 7 to May 8, and was promoted to the B-League for the first time in 35 years after being promoted to the C-League in the 2019 Fall League Tournament.

The team had won the Fall C-League competition in 2020, but was not promoted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, when no promotion or demotion was made. The Spring and Fall titles were not won in 2021.

In the Spring C-League inter-league tournament, under the rules of stroke play of 18 holes per day for a total of 36 holes over two days, they played against Aoyama Gakuin University, Gakushuin University,

Dokkyo University, Sacred Heart University, and Tokai University, winning by 31 shots over Gakushuin University, which came in second. In addition, Jurika Nakamura (fourth year, Department of Management) was named the best player for the fourth consecutive season after shooting 139 strokes (66, 73).



■ Diversity Symposium held

Sophia University and Doshisha University were selected for the "Initiative for Realization of Diversity Research Environment (Survey and Analysis)," a project subsidized by MEXT for human resource development in FY2021" to analyze issues faced by private universities in Japan and to build a model to solve them based on a survey of advanced overseas cases. In FY2022, the final year of the project, we co-hosted two symposiums with Doshisha University to actively disseminate the results of the project.

The December 17 symposium, "The Present and Future of Female Researchers," featured an interim report on the project and an exchange of opinions on the current status and future of women's activities by welcoming female leaders from companies and private universities, with more than 150 participants from both inside and outside the University.

The March 8 symposium, "Models for Promoting

Diversity at Private Universities Learning from Advanced Overseas Examples," introduced good practices for Japanese private universities from surveys conducted in the U.S., Germany, and Thailand, as well as models for promoting diversity at both universities. In addition to keynote speeches on initiatives at European universities, the presidents of four private universities (Komazawa, Ritsumeikan, Doshisha, and Sophia), held a lively discussion on how to promote diversity while taking advantage of the variety found at private universities. Approximately 240 people attended the symposium, and many expressed an interest in the final outcome report.

The project plans to reflect the results of these symposiums and present them as a model for diversity promotion, including support for female researchers, in the future.



March 8 Symposium President's Round-Table Discussion

©Doshisha University



Professor Deguchi presenting a research report at Mahidol

University, Thailand ©Doshisha University

■ Sophia University establishes Institute for Island Sustainability and Institute for Human Security

In July 2022, Sophia University established two new research institutes, the Island Sustainability Institute and the Institute for Human Security.

The Island Sustainability Institute was established on July 1, 2022 to conduct research and related activities that support the sustainability of island communities by leveraging Sophia University's interdisciplinary expertise and forming partnerships with island communities, partner universities, and research institutions in Japan and abroad in

collaboration with international partners.

The Institute for Research on Human Security aims to contribute to the realization of "human security" through social science research, and was established as a time-limited research unit in December 2017 upon its selection for the "Private University Research Branding Project" by MEXT, and was transferred to an attached institute in July 2022 with the ORION Fund.

■ Sophia University and Sado City, Niigata Prefecture, sign Comprehensive Collaborative Agreement for conservation of natural environment and promotion of SDGs

On September 1, Sophia University signed a Comprehensive Collaborative Agreement with Sado City, Niigata Prefecture, for the purpose of conserving the natural environment on a regional scale, promoting SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), and fostering human resources and promoting international exchange. On the same day, President Yoshiaki Terumichi and others visited the main office of Sado City Hall for the signing ceremony, and together with Sado City Mayor Ryugo Watanabe, they agreed to work together to revitalize the region by utilizing their mutual knowledge and aiming for a prosperous society in the future.

Upon signing this agreement, President Terumichi said, "We hope that this collaborative project with Sado City will serve as a model case for a pioneering effort in the islands and island countries. We will make every effort to play a leading role in education and research activities. The exchange between Sado City and Sophia University began when Professor Huang Guangwei of the Sophia Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies conducted fieldwork in

Sado City. Together with Sado City, which is promoting efforts to balance environmental conservation, such as the protection of the crested ibis, and the revitalization of economic activity through the registration of the Sado Gold Mine site as a World Heritage site, and is developing measures for sustainable development based on its own unique approach, Professor Huang and his team members plan to lead the joint project in the areas of sustainability, including water conservation, population issues, and energy issues, which the University has long been involved in.



■ The Fifth Japan-Mexico Rectors' Summit

On October 6-7, the Fifth Japan-Mexico Rectors' Summit was held at Sophia University's Yotsuya Campus, with Sophia University as the Japanese host institution. The summit has been held every two years since 2011, hosted by a university in each country in turn, with the purpose of bringing together the presidents of Japanese and Mexican universities to strengthen ties of friendship and to develop new partnerships and collaborations. The bilateral rectors' summits are used as a networking opportunity to find potential partners for collaboration as well as to have discussions on the themes and presentations of the results of education and research collaboration.

About 30 participants from 18 universities and

institutions in Mexico and about 60 participants from 24 universities and institutions in Japan gathered for four sessions under the theme of "Universities and Global Risks" ((1) Environmental Issues, Climate Change and a Sustainable Society, (2) Social Divide and Disparity, (3) Future Prospects for International Exchange between Japan and Mexico, and (4) Joint Research between Japan and Mexico), and a lively exchange of views was held on the social role of universities in dealing with various global risks, with each university introducing its own initiatives. At the closing ceremony, President Yoshiaki Terumichi read out the joint declaration, which was the outcome of the two-day meeting and included a pledge to

contribute as universities to solving or alleviating the critical issues surrounding both countries and to build close cooperative relationships in all areas of industry, academia, and government, which was approved and signed by the participants.

In terms of operations, as well as providing

environmentally friendly drinking water, goods and souvenirs, we also provided and recycled program pamphlets and other electronic data, and used recyclable lunchbox containers with the help of student staff from the Sustainability Promotion Office.



■ Symposium commemorating the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Journalism held

On December 18, a symposium entitled "Thinking about Journalism Now" was held in Room 6-101 to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Journalism in the Faculty of Humanities. Junichi Hamada, former President of the University of Tokyo, gave a keynote speech titled, "The Origin of Journalism," which was followed by an introduction by Professor Yumasa Suzuki of the Department of Journalism on its history, contrasting the early curriculum with that of the postwar era and now.

The second half of the session was a panel

discussion on "Challenges and Prospects for Journalism Education in Japan." Professor Yoshihiro Oto served as moderator, and panelists Mineko Okamoto, Director of the Asahi Shimbun's Sendai General Bureau; Jiro Ishimaru, CEO of Asia Press International Osaka; Takeshi Nishioka, Vice President of TBS Group University; and Peter Landers, Tokyo Bureau Chief of The Wall Street Journal, engaged in a lively discussion.

In addition to current students, the symposium was attended by many graduates of the Department, media representatives, and journalists.

■ "A Dynamic Africa: The Path to Collaboration from Kansai" Symposium held

On September 18, a symposium entitled "A Dynamic Africa: The Path to Collaboration from Kansai" was held at the Osaka Satellite Campus.

The symposium was organized on the occasion of the 8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) to explore the role Japan should play in Africa's development and international collaboration from the perspectives of industry, government, and academia based in the Kansai region.

His Excellency Tsutomu Himeno, Government Representative and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Kansai, gave a keynote speech on Japan's role in cooperative development with African regions and international cooperation.

President Yoshiaki Terumichi spoke about "Achievements of Exchange with Africa and Future Possibilities," including the important role of Japanese universities in fostering leaders to promote exchange in business and education, how they were the only private university to participate in the Presidents' Meeting, a side event of TICAD 8, and his thoughts on the university's practical program, "Learning from Africa."

In the panel discussion, lecturer Eri Yamazaki, Center for Global Education and Discovery, reported on the current situation and analysis of Africa based

on the latest information from TICAD 8, and Professor Atsuko Nagai (Faculty of Humanities), Vice President for Student and General Affairs, reported on the cultural and historical characteristics of the African region and the importance of regional understanding including cultural customs. In addition, Mr. Tada of the Corporate Citizenship Activities Planning Section, CSR and Corporate Citizenship Activities Office, Panasonic Holdings Corporation, introduced actual examples of co-creation activities as a Kansai company that was among the first to engage in collaborative projects in Africa.

In addition to corporate representatives involved in African business and development support organizations, the event was attended by many participants, including graduates of the University and high school students.



■ Sophia University's official website renewed

Sophia University's official website was renewed for the first time in five years, and the new site was launched on December 19. The concept is "Inspire Learning." The site is designed to inspire students to realize their own potential and what they want to learn, and to create an image of learning in which they can venture out into the unknown, stimulated by a diverse range of people. The website will feature a variety of content based on the three keywords of Self-Discovery, Diversity, and Commitment. The major difference from the previous format is that it is divided into three sites: the "Official Site," the "Admissions Information Site," and the "Web Piloti Site," with information arranged and disseminated in a comprehensible manner according to visitors' purposes.

The "Official Site" is targeted at students who are not yet familiar with Sophia University. The site not only provides an overview of the University and

information on education and research, but also offers timely news and feature articles to help students visualize what it is like to study and develop at Sophia University.

The "Admission Information Site" is designed for those who intend to enroll in Sophia University and provides easy access to necessary information such as entrance examination, open campus, and requests for information materials.

The "Web Piloti Site" is mainly aimed at Sophia University students, faculty, staff, and guarantors, and provides a variety of up-to-date and detailed information by category with clear messages.

Each website is designed to be accessed from mobile devices, which are the mainstream these days, with the aim of enhancing the University's brand through a unified look and feel.

<Sophia University website> <https://www.sophia.ac.jp>

■ Sophia Wellness Center established

In April 2022, a new Sophia Wellness Center was established in the Office of Student Affairs. The Center integrates and expands the functions of the former Health Center, the former Counseling Center, and the Student Center for Students with Disabilities and Student Counseling, incorporating four divisions: "Health Support," "Counseling Services," "Student Counseling," and "Support for Students with Disabilities," with professionals such as doctors, health counselors, advisors, and administrative staff with experience in various departments on campus working together to build a system to support students.

From the Autumn Semester, in addition to the existing mental and physical health counseling, "Student Information Service" has been opened as a primary contact point for students who do not know where to turn for help. The first priority is to provide

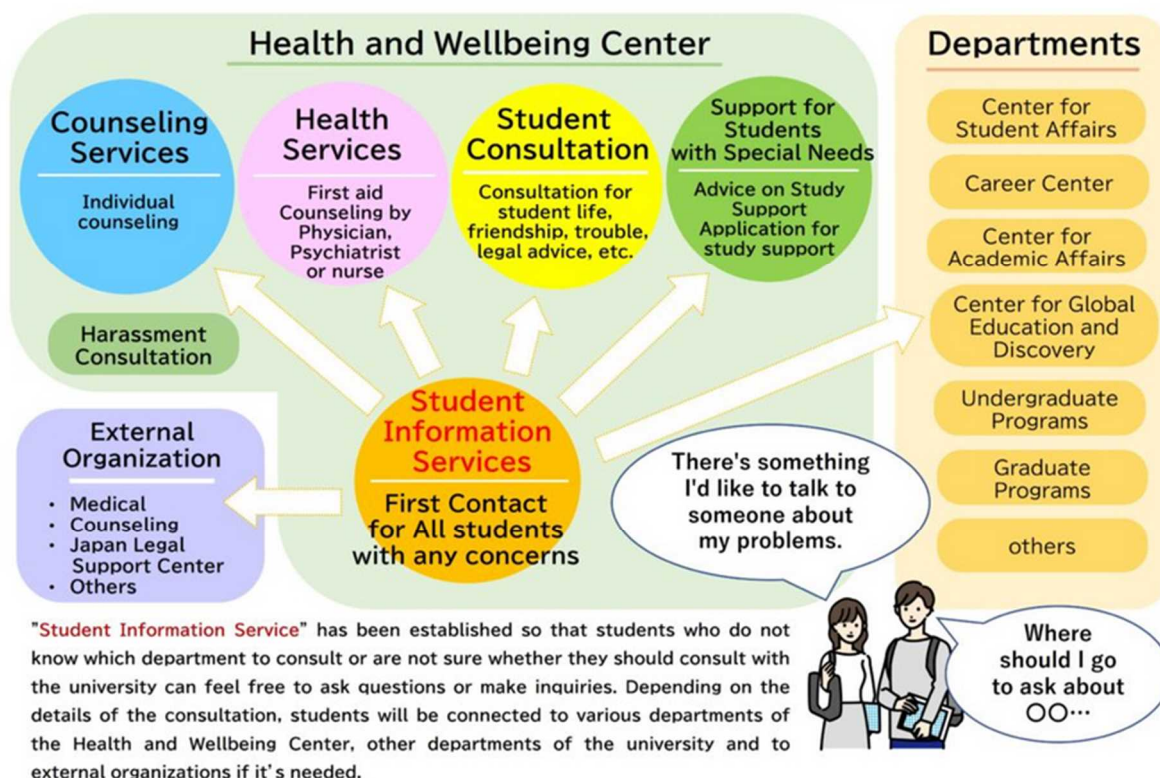
easy access to consultation, and depending on the nature of the question or consultation, the Center will connect the student to a student counselor, doctor, or advisor in the Center. The Center also supports students who have problems or questions by collaborating with various departments on campus and, in some cases, with external counseling organizations.

In September, an FD lecture on reasonable accommodation in light of the revision of the Law for the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities was held (jointly with the FD Committee) to deepen the understanding of the University's faculty on support for students with disabilities. For students, we are also engaged in awareness-raising activities and specialized consultations, such as holding a seminar on measures against consumer troubles (in January)

and free legal consultations (in March).

We will continue to create a safe and secure campus by providing an environment where students

can feel free to seek advice so that they can lead fulfilling student lives in good mental and physical health.



■ Building No.15 and campus environment improvement (exterior redevelopment)

Construction of Yotsuya Campus Building No.15, a three-story, wooden, fire-resistant structure that began in spring 2021 with the aim of realizing the SDGs and reducing environmental impact, was completed in June 2022.

Classrooms on the second and third floors have been in service since the fall, for courses such as the "Professional Studies" for working adults.

The exterior of the building is designed with a lattice of intersecting timbers of different thicknesses, expressing "diversity," "interaction with others," "truth," and "tradition," which are linked to Sophia University's founding principles. The wood is made from Japanese cedar grown in Tama, Tokyo, for local production and local consumption.

In addition, the Yotsuya Campus Learning Environment Improvement Project (exterior

redevelopment) was completed for the east-west Main Streets, the plaza in front of Building No.1, and the area from the center of Main Street to the south and in front of the library.

The Main Street leading from the newly redesigned main gate has been replaced with interlocking pavement that is both aesthetically pleasing and environmentally friendly. A large emblem of the university has been placed in relief on the central surface of the Main Street.

In front of Building No.1, an "S-TERRASSE" with tiered seats has been created and a bust of Father Hermann Hoffmann, the University's first president, has been relocated in the center of this terrace.

The rooftop of Building No.9 Active Commons (Garden No.9) has been redeveloped as a plaza space with good visibility, centered on a lawn.

Sophia University Junior College Division

■ Education quality assurance during and after the COVID-19 crisis

For AY2022, we have decided to conduct courses primarily face-to-face in classrooms on campus, while continuing to implement the infection prevention measures that have been in place up to this point. Each class will be conducted at 60% classroom capacity, and all courses, with the exception of Compulsory Courses, will be limited to a certain number of students to ensure that all possible measures are taken. However, if a student is unable to attend a face-to-face class held in a classroom on campus due to one of the following three reasons, they may participate online (Zoom) from outside the campus given they make an application.

(1) The student is an international student living abroad and has difficulty entering Japan. (2) The student himself/herself has underlying medical conditions, and has a high risk of developing severe symptoms if infected with COVID-19. (3) The student has a family member with an underlying medical

condition or an elderly person living with them at the address where he/she commutes to school, and there is a high risk of contracting severe symptoms if the person living with him/her is infected.

As we explore a return to face-to-face classes in preparation for the “With COVID-19” and “Post COVID-19” era, we are considering engaging in two-way communication with students who are unable to attend courses in person. As a result of the effective utilization of the on-campus PC and AV environment developed in FY2020, we have been able to keep up the promise of academic excellence even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to avoid crowding, three school buses were kept in service to shuttle students to and from school, and took thorough measures to prevent infection by conducting regular disinfection of classrooms, buses, and other areas.

* At the Sophia School Corporation Board of Directors meeting held on March 22, 2023, it was decided to suspend the student recruitment for the Sophia University Junior College Division from AY2025 onward, with the last recruitment in AY2024 (for the entrance examination for students entering in April 2024).

EIKO Gakuen Junior and Senior High School

■ AY2022 Annual Report (Summary)

We were able to complete this school year without any grade closures resulting from the spread of COVID-19 throughout the year.

School events, which were carried out with considerable restrictions last year, could be held while keeping close to their original form, although there were a few limitations compared to the pre-COVID-19 period.

At the May School Festival, we were able to accept visitors from the general public other than parents and guardians after receiving advance registration to limit entry to 3,000 people per day. Compared to last year, when only parents and guardians were allowed to attend, we felt that our usual lively atmosphere had returned.

As in previous years, the October Sports Festival was held as a one-day event for the entire school year, with all grades participating together in the morning and afternoon. It was the first time in three years that the six grades were united in the Sports Festival. There were competitions in which third-year high school students and first-year junior high school students participated together as a team, and it was a fulfilling day with many funny moments that only a

unified junior and senior high school can provide.

In terms of PR activities, we have shifted from last year's online-centered projects to actually having visitors come to the Ofuna Campus this year to experience the rich natural surroundings and excellent facilities. In particular, the Open School held in October attracted approximately 3,500 visitors and provided a great opportunity for students and faculty to interact with each other.

In addition, for the first time in three years, we were able to resume various overnight events that had been held prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the pilgrimage to Nagasaki and the school trip to Okinawa, allowing students to broaden their experiences.



Sports Festival



Pilgrimage to Nagasaki



At the graduation ceremony for the 71st class on March 1

■ Topics

① Awards for student activities

In August, our high school team won the WRO (World Robot Olympiad), a national contest to qualify for an international robot-building contest, and in November, they represented Japan in the main competition held in Dortmund, Germany, where they placed sixth out of a total of 70 teams.

In March, the National Science Koshien Competition was held, and our high school team, representing Kanagawa Prefecture, won the overall

championship for the second time in five years, and will represent Japan in the World Science Olympiad to be held in the United States in May 2023.

In December, our English Club team won the national championship at the PDA High School Students' National Improvised English Debate Tournament 2022, and in January, the team passed the preliminaries, qualified for the online world tournament, and placed third in the finals.

② Community Service Activities Committee received the 2022 (3rd) Commemorative Award for the visit of Pope Francis to the school

The Community Service Activities Committee, a longtime student activity of the school that has been involved in community service, has been selected to receive the 2022 (3rd) Commemorative Award for the Visit of Pope Francis to the School. The award ceremony was held on February 15, 2023 at Sophia University's Yotsuya Campus and was attended by the committee's representative, Kenshin Isomura, a second-year high school student.

Reasons for the commendation include the fact that high school students donate their time each week as study volunteers to assist elementary school pupils with their schoolwork at a nearby children's home, and that they visit the home once a month to play with the children and clean up the area. The committee's activities do not stop there, as its members also visit hospitals for former leprosy patients and conduct various fundraising activities.



World Robot Olympiad (WRO) National Award Ceremony



The National Science Koshien Competition Awards

Rokko Junior/Senior High School

■ AY2022 Annual Report (Summary)

This year, as in the previous year and the year before, we were forced to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has not yet been contained. However, classes and school events such as the Sports Festival, School Festival, and Long Distance Walking Competition, as well as the Maejima Camp for first-year junior high school students in July, the Hokkaido Ski Camp for second-year junior high school students in February, and the study trip to New York in March, were all able to take place in a near-normal manner.

There was a limited period of grade closure for some grades in each semester but the activities of the school year were carried out without major disruption, including periodic examinations. The June Sports Festival was a half-day program in the daytime with parents and guardians in the audience. It was a refreshing Sports Festival with an engrossing atmosphere in the general march and games.

The high school study tour used to be a three-night stay in Okinawa in February for first-year high school students, but the destination was changed to Kyushu and the timing was postponed to June for second-year high school students. In consideration of infection control, we divided the students into two groups: one group went to Nagasaki, Minamata, Aso, and Fukuoka, and the other group spent the middle two days in Beppu, for an SDGs inquiry-based study program with international students from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. The SDG-themed exchange program, which included fieldwork at Beppu Kannawa Onsen in English, was very well received.

The School Festival was conducted in a manner that was very similar to usual, inviting guests to either the morning or the afternoon session. The presence of an audience made the event more rewarding for

the students. We were also able to host the Long Distance Walking Competition for the first time in three years since 2019, and most students completed the 26-kilometer or so course in less than five hours.

One event that could not be held during the school year was the Toyama/Tateyama Camp for third-year junior high school students. Half of the first-year high school students who were not able to go last year went early in the summer vacation, but we found out that the students were infected with COVID-19 at the clinic in Tateyama (Murodo), and we had to postpone the camp for the third-year junior high school students that was scheduled afterward, considering the difficulty of dealing with the outbreak on the mountain.

Also, during the March spring break, we were able to conduct the New York training program, which we had not been able to conduct since 2020. Two teachers led 18 first- and second-year high school students to visit welfare facilities and the site of the 9/11 attacks while interacting with students from sister schools Fordham High School and St. Peter's High School, and to visit Cristo Rey High School, where immigrant children attend, and the workplace of Rokko Gakuin graduate. The students were able to experience a fulfilling program.

Lectures were given in June by Ippei Torii, an activist for foreign workers living in Japan; in October by Kaoru Iokibe, a political scientist and a University of Tokyo professor at the Hakuyukai Alumni Lecture, and by Mr. Mukadi, a seminary student from the Democratic Republic of Congo, as a Christmas message; in August at a faculty and staff training session and in November for first- and second-year high school students by LGBT activist Nao Fujiwara; and, on the January Day to Consider Life, by Father

Galalda, a priest who continues to work with death row inmates as a chaplain. Consistently, the themes appeared to be the significance of respecting human rights and being aware of how valuable life is, and the need to build a society where everyone can live

peacefully without losing their humanity. It is the same within Rokko Gakuin, and we will continue to make it our school's task to protect life and human rights and to create a safe environment for everyone for the benefit of our students.

■ Topics

The 75th Long Distance Walking Competition

The 75th Long Distance Walking Competition was held on November 17. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we decided not to hold the event outside the school, and were forced to limit it to a short run inside. However, this year, thanks to a combination of relaxed infection control measures and the understanding of the local community, over 900 students from first-year junior high school to second-year high school were able to take the Mukogawa riverbed course.

Although the name of this event is reminiscent of athletic race walking, it is named after a long-distance race in which students run (or walk) at their own pace and deny themselves dauntlessly with a strong will. In the past, the course was approximately 40 km or 60 km on public roads but, due to road use restrictions, the venue had to be changed to a public facility (Greenpia Miki: now Nesta Resort) and then to the riverbed as it is now.

As the event hadn't been held for 3 years, it was the first long-distance experience for all the junior

high school students and it had been a long time since high school students had taken part. We were concerned that there might be an unexpected reaction among the students, but after about a month of practice, the students participated in the event and achieved their respective goals. Although it was mid-November, the day started out somewhat warm and the conditions were rather unfavorable for running. On this occasion, due to riverside construction, the race was slightly shorter than usual, at about 27 km, but the students overcame the heat and almost all of them completed the race without any major disruption.



First simultaneous start in three years



Receiving water and cheers



A splendid win by Mr. Nanjo, a first-year high school student!

Hiroshima Gakuin Junior and Senior High School

■ AY2022 Annual Report (Summary)

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the year saw a gradual return of traditional activities.

Even though we were only able to communicate with the Philippines online and were unable to travel

there, we were still quite delighted to hold summer camps, volunteer activities, and marathons, which had been canceled the year before. Other major events were held as follows:

Sports Festival - All programs were held with no spectators

School Festival - Held with visitor application system

Field trips for each grade - Mountain climbing, cycling, and other outdoor activities

First-year junior high school student camp - Okunojima, Hiroshima, November 7-8

Second-year junior high school student camp - Carillon House, Okayama, July 21-24

Third-year junior high school student streetside fundraising - Hiroshima City, December 17-18

Third-year junior high school trip - Nagasaki, March 23-26

First-year high school student study tour – Nagasaki, June 17-20

Second-year high school student school excursion – Okinawa, March 23-26

Cambodia training trip - Siem Reap and Phnom Penh, December 23-30

U.S. training trip - San Jose and San Francisco, March 21-30

In the Ignation Leadership Program (ILP) classes, which play a major role in promoting Jesuit education, students are now able to engage in experiential learning, and the class teachers and other members devise classes based on the themes of each grade level, aiming for deeper learning. In the second-year high school student course-based ILP, we were also able to conduct fieldwork in Fukushima and Okinawa.

Open school and school information sessions were

arranged with innovative approaches. Entrance examinations were returned to their previous form, including the use of assistants, etc. We believe that our publicity activities have led to an increase in applicants.

Despite the fact that we still need to take measures against COVID-19, both students and academic staff are working to make school life more fulfilling, so that we can all come up with ideas and learn a lot together.



Study trip in the U.S.



Okuno Island

■ Topics

The Softball Club participation in the National Competition

The Hiroshima Gakuin High School Softball Club participated in the National High School Softball Competition held from August 24.

After winning the Hiroshima Prefectural Summer Competition that began in late July, the Club won the West Chugoku Competition in early August, and was able to achieve a long-cherished dream since the founding of the Hiroshima Gakuin Softball Club of participating in the National Competition. This brilliant

achievement by a team of only first- and second-year students was widely covered by the media and attracted attention from all over the country.

At the National Competition, the team regrettably lost its first game, but it was a magnificent performance, showing the concentration and tenacity typical of Hiroshima Gakuin students and the teamwork of the captain and his team.



Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School

■ AY2022 Annual Report (Summary)

Despite the fact that COVID-19 forced some of the numerous events in FY2022 to adjust their substance, as in the previous year, we managed to carry out most of the events without having to cancel them.

The entrance ceremony was held with a limited number of parents and guardians, and for the first time in three years, an orientation camp was held for incoming first-year junior high students. We were very happy to hold this event because it is an opportunity for students who are strangers to each other to develop closer relationships via group activities. Last year, only students, teachers, and staff were able to attend the Sports Festival and School Festival. This year, however, the students were able to present their daily achievements in front of their parents and guardians, even if only a small number of parents were able to attend, which enhanced the students' sense of accomplishment. Although the language training for third-year junior high school

students was held in Japan instead of overseas as in the past, the experience of being immersed in English through a variety of programs with many invited foreign instructors boosted the students' self-confidence. The first- and second-year high school students had been heavily affected by COVID-19 pandemic, but this year, the first-year high school students went to Kagoshima and the second-year students to Tokyo for a study tour, which turned out to be a fulfilling experience. The students must have been extremely happy that they were allowed to remove their masks for the graduation ceremony due to the relaxing of the COVID-19 restrictions, and that they were able to sing the school song and a song for their parents at the end of the ceremony.

Although Covid-19 still had an impact, the year was marked by the resumption of activities that had been suspended and the gradual return of opportunities to embody the spirit of "For Others, With Others."

■ Topics

① Volunteer assistance to homeless people

This year, the volunteer program to support homeless people resumed after a long period of inactivity because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the efforts to assist the homeless people were carried out outside, the danger of infection was minimal, but we started the pilot programs gradually this summer to be on the safe side. Several members of the Bible Study Group participated in the twice-monthly Friday night rounds of the NPO Fukuoka Onigiri-no-Kai (Rice-Ball Party), with which we have been working in cooperation for some time. In the fall, we also participated in a soup kitchen held by the Onigiri-no-Kai during the daytime on holidays, and we are on

track to resume the Pan-no-Kai (Bread Party), previously conducted mainly by high school students, in the next fiscal year and beyond. Then, starting in December, the grade levels were assigned on a weekly basis and applicants participated in the nightly rounds during the winter season. Each session was filled to capacity, with about 25 people participating enthusiastically.



②Cambodia Study Tour

We were able to hold a study tour in Cambodia from March 19 to 28 for the first time in three years. A total of 16 people (13 students, 1 supervisory teacher, and 2 JLMM staff members) started from Phnom Penh and traveled to Kompong Luang Water Village, Battambang, Sisophon, and Siem Reap. Everywhere we visited, we had a great time interacting with children, elementary pupils, high school students, and university students. The exchange started out awkwardly, but we soon warmed up to one another and had a good time. We were impressed once again by the hospitality of the Cambodian people.

Through this tour of Cambodia, we were able to

learn anew the importance of connecting with people. Meeting, listening to, and engaging directly with the locals is an opportunity to interact with them personally. During the COVID-19 pandemic, travel to and from the country was restricted and the school conducted an online tour. However, on this tour to the country, we were able to enjoy the warmth of the Cambodian people, appreciate the beauty of nature, and understand the depth of real problems that cannot be experienced online. The tour reaffirmed the importance of real encounters with the local people in order to practice our school motto, "For Others, With Others."

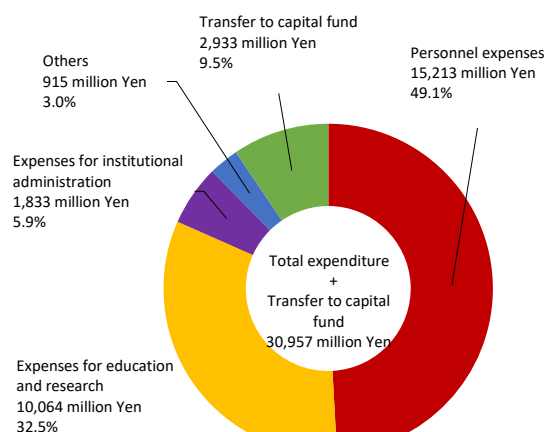
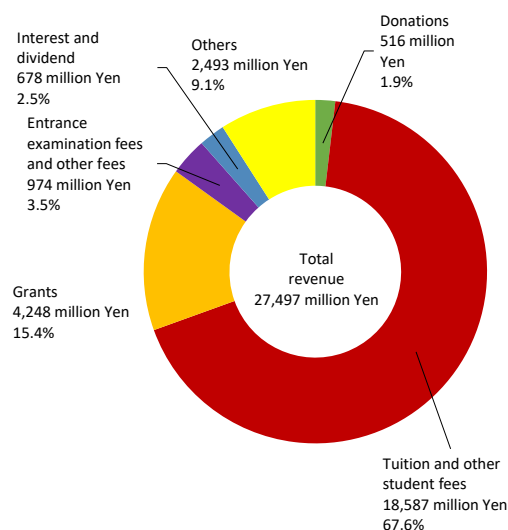


Summary of 2022 financial results

(1) Statement of Revenue and Expenditure

		Item	FY2022 Yen	FY2022 US\$
			(million Yen)	(thousand dollars)
Educational activities	Revenue	Tuition and other student fees	18,587	139,187
		Entrance examination fees and other fees	974	7,294
		Donations	516	3,864
		Grants	4,248	31,811
		Income from business activities	725	5,429
		Miscellaneous	1,081	8,095
		Total	26,131	195,679
	Expenditure	Personnel expenses	15,213	113,921
		Expenses for education and research	10,064	75,363
		Expenses for institutional administration	1,833	13,726
Total		27,109	203,003	
Balance of educational activities			△ 978	△ 7,324
Non-educational activities	Revenue	Interest and dividend	678	5,077
		Others	461	3,452
		Total	1,140	8,537
	Expenditure	Interest on loans	98	734
		Others	0	0
		Total	98	734
Balance of non-educational activities			1,041	7,795
Ordinary balance			63	472
Extraordinary revenue and expenditure	Revenue	Gain on sales of assets	95	711
		Others	131	981
		Total	225	1,685
	Expenditure	Loss on disposal of assets	813	6,088
		Others	4	30
		Total	817	6,118
Extraordinary balance			△ 591	△ 4,426
Reserve fund				
Balance of current year before transfer to capital fund			△ 528	△ 3,954
Transfer to capital fund			△ 2,933	△ 21,963
Balance of current year			△ 3,460	△ 25,910
Balance carried over from previous year			△ 8,123	△ 60,828
Reversal of capital fund			256	1,917
Balance carried forward to next year			△ 11,328	△ 84,829
(Reference)				
Total revenue			27,497	205,908
Total expenditure			28,024	209,855

Conversion rate : USD 1 = JPY 133.54 (TTM rate on March 31, 2023)



Summary

In fiscal 2022, the balance of current year before transfer to Capital fund increased by 101 million yen, while transfer to Capital fund increased by 888 million yen, resulting in a decrease of 787 million yen in the balance of current year. Also, as a result of the reversal of Capital fund of 256 million yen due to the sale of the land for Karuizawa Seminar House, the balance carried forward to next year was -11,328 million yen.

This fiscal year's settlement was characterized by an increase in expenditures associated with changes in the global economic situation (increasing utility expenses due to higher energy prices) and a decrease in revenue (lower interest and dividend due to the deteriorating investment environment).

When looking at the comparison between the budget and the settlement, in terms of the balance of educational activities, tuition and other student fees and income from business activities decreased, while on the expenditure side, personnel expenses and expenses for education and research decreased, resulting in the balance of -978 million yen, which was almost in line with the budget. For non-educational activities, the balance was 1,041 million yen, a decrease of 83 million yen, due to a decline in interest and dividend. Extraordinary balance decreased by 200 million yen to -591 million yen, due to a decrease of 110 million yen in extraordinary expenditures,

(2) Cash Flow Statement

Income

Item	FY2022 Yen (million Yen)	FY2022 US\$ (thousand dollars)
Tuition and other student fees	18,587	139,187
Entrance examination fees and other fees	974	7,294
Donations	571	4,276
Grants	4,261	31,908
Interest and dividend	2,558	19,155
Income from the sales of assets	1,175	8,799
Income from business activities	678	5,077
Miscellaneous	1,092	8,177
Loans	0	0
Prepaid tuition and other deferred credits	4,541	34,005
Other	7,566	56,657
Income-flow adjustment	△ 4,740	△ 35,495
Cash and cash equivalents carried over from previous year	8,540	63,951
Total	45,804	342,998

Expenses

Item	FY2022 Yen (million Yen)	FY2022 US\$ (thousand dollars)
Personnel expenses	15,259	114,265
Expenses for education and research	7,477	55,991
Expenses for institutional administration	1,586	11,877
Interest on loans	98	734
Repayment of loans	1,205	9,024
Payment for land, buildings, and other construction in progress	689	5,160
Payment for equipment, libraries, and other	603	4,516
Payment for asset management	8,662	64,864
Other expenses	953	7,136
Reserve fund		
Expenses-flow adjustment	△ 505	△ 3,782
Cash and cash equivalents carried over to next year	9,778	73,222
Total	45,804	342,998

Summary

The size of the cash flow for fiscal 2022 was 45,804 million yen, an increase of 214 million yen from the planned budget. The main factors in cash flow were an increase in grants and an increase in miscellaneous (revenue from rental of facilities and equipment).

In expenses flow, payment for land, buildings, installation, and other construction in progress decreased by 634 million yen from the budget. While payment for buildings and installations increased by 539 million yen due to the new construction of Building No.15, S-TERRASSE in front of Building No.1, and the improvement of Building No.8 and No.9 piloti, construction in progress expenditures decreased by 1,108 million yen. In addition, payment for asset management increased by 483 million yen from the budget. As a result, cash and cash equivalents carried over to next year increased by 1,238 million yen compared to the previous fiscal year, and by 568 million yen compared to the planned budget amount.

(3) Balance Sheet

Assets

Item	FY2022 Yen	Changes Yen	FY2022 US\$	Changes US\$
	million Yen		thousand dollars	
Fixed assets	153,851	△ 2,768	1,152,097	△ 20,728
(Tangible fixed assets)	89,425	△ 2,641	669,650	△ 19,777
(Other assets)	64,425	△ 127	482,440	△ 951
Current assets	10,616	989	79,497	7,406
Total	164,467	△ 1,780	1,231,594	△ 13,329

Liabilities, Capital Fund, Balance of Income and Expenditures

Item	FY2022 Yen	Changes Yen	FY2022 US\$	Changes US\$
	million Yen		thousand dollars	
Long-term Liabilities	15,907	△ 1,139	119,118	△ 8,529
Current liabilities	6,753	△ 112	50,569	△ 839
(Total liabilities)	22,660	△ 1,252	169,687	△ 9,375
Capital fund	153,135	2,677	1,146,735	20,046
Balance carried forward to next year	△ 11,328	△ 3,204	△ 84,829	△ 23,993
Total	164,467	△ 1,780	1,231,594	△ 13,329

Summary

The major change in tangible fixed assets in fiscal 2022 was -1,435 million yen for the retirement of Karuizawa Seminar House in conjunction with its sale.

In specific assets, the reserves for specific assets increased by 2,330 million yen due to an increase in capital No.3, on the other hand, the reserves for depreciation and amortization of specific assets decreased by 2,409 million yen due to a transfer to the same reserves for specific assets. The total accumulated depreciation was 53,147 million yen, amounting to reserves of 57.4%.

Also included in other fixed assets were 4,345 million yen of capital contribution in ancillary operation and 58 million yen in security deposits for Sophia-Arrupe International Residence in Shinanomachi. As a result, total assets decreased by 1,780 million yen from the end of the previous fiscal year to 164,467 million yen.

On the other hand, in the liabilities section, since there is no new borrowing for facilities and equipment, long-term debt decreased by 993 million yen due to the transfer to short-term debt to be repaid in fiscal 2023.

Other

■ Debt Schedule (from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023)

Borrower		Year-end balance	Interest rate	Due date	Remarks	
Long-term liabilities	Public financial institutions	Promotion and Mutual Aid Corporation for Private Schools of Japan		%	date (YY/MM/DD)	Purpose of use
		16 General facilities	0	2.00	2024.3.15	Construction of Sophia University Building No. 2
		22 General facilities	303,310,000	1.60	2030.9.15	Sophia University Mejiro Seibo Campus New construction of Building No. 1, succession from Seibo Gakuen
		23 Extraordinary facilities	1,506,160,000	1.70	2031.9.15	Acquisition of Sophia Soshigaya International House
		26 General facilities	1,466,630,000	0.90	2034.9.15	Construction of the new building (Building No. 6) of Sophia University
		27 General facilities	1,733,280,000	0.80	2035.9.15	Construction of the new building (Building No. 6) of Sophia University
		30 Extraordinary facilities	1,249,950,000	0.80	2038.9.15	Construction of Shinanomachi International Student Dormitory
		23 General facilities	57,760,000	1.60	2031.9.15	Refurbishment and new building construction at Sophia Fukuoka Junior and Senior High School buildings
		23 General facilities	90,160,000	0.50	2031.9.15	Refurbishment and new building construction at Sophia Fukuoka Junior and Senior High School buildings
		24 General facilities	29,760,000	1.50	2032.3.15	Refurbishment and new building construction at Sophia Fukuoka Junior and Senior High School buildings
		27 General facilities	660,000,000	0.5 from March 31, 2019	2035.9.15	Construction of new buildings for Eiko Gakuen Junior and Senior High School
		subtotal	7,097,010,000			
	Commercial financial institutions	Mizuho Bank, Ltd.	325,000,000	0.407	2030.7.10	Student Emergency Support Fund
		The Hiroshima Bank Ltd.	50,000,000	0.31	2026.3.2	Hiroshima Gakuin falling rocks and other hazardous area construction costs
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation		13,368,000	0.73	2024.10.31	Facility restoration and capital investment of Rokko Junior/Senior High School	
subtotal		388,368,000				
	Catholic Jesuit Center, a religious corporation	1,500,000,000	0.015	2039.3.31	Purchase of land and building for Sophia University's Building No. 14 (Maryknoll)	
	Catholic Jesuit Center, a religious corporation	120,000,000	0.00	2032.3.25	Renovation of Rokko Junior/Senior High School buildings	
	subtotal	1,620,000,000				
Total		9,105,378,000				
Short-term liabilities	Public financial institutions	0				
	subtotal	0				
	Commercial financial institutions	0				
	subtotal	0				
	Other	0				
	subtotal	0				
Long-term debt due within one year		993,236,000				
Total		993,236,000				
Sum Total		10,098,614,000				

※ is the amount of increase or decrease due to transfer within one year of repayment deadline

■ Matters relating to the company funded by Sophia School Corporation

The status of companies in which the share of investment of Sophia School Corporation is one-half or more of the total amount of investment is as follows:

Name	Sophia Campus Support Co., Ltd.				
Business Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning, security, maintenance, and management of buildings and ancillary facilities • Sales and sales management of foods, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages • Non-life insurance agency and life insurance sales • Sales, brokerage and mediation of education and office equipment, measuring instruments, stationery, etc. 				
Amount of stated capital	20,000,000 yen (400 shares)				
The amount of Sophia School Corporation's capital, the share of the company's shares, and the date of acquisition of such shares.	20,000,000 yen (400 shares), 100%, February 2, 2015				
The amount of dividends and donations received by Sophia School Corporation during the fiscal year, as well as the status of funds and transactions with the Sophia School Corporation.	(Unit: Yen)				
	Amount received from the company	Dividends	0	Extraordinary charitable contributions	60,000,000
		Charitable contributions in kind	0	Rental income	0
		Interest earned	0	Miscellaneous	47,199,077
	Amount payable to the company	Cost of consumables	26,597,561	Cost of repairs	40,116,050
Consignment costs		692,097,415	Meeting costs	2,724,250	
				(Unit: Yen)	
		Balance at beginning of year	Capital expenditures, etc.	Income from funds, etc.	Year-end balance
Capital investment in the company		20,000,000	0	0	20,000,000
Loans to the company		0	0	0	0
Accounts payable to the company		0	0	0	0
Loans from the company		0	0	0	0
Accounts receivable from the company		0	0	0	0
Guarantee liabilities	None				

Name	SMI Corp.				
Business Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of multi-language medical information applications for medical institutions and dissemination to medical institutions • Promoting the dissemination of multilingual medical information application to foreign visitors through travel agencies and travel insurance providers • Education and consulting related to the multilingual information systems • Planning, development and sales of multilingual information applications, etc. 				
Amount of stated capital	38,000,000 yen (760 shares)				
The amount of Sophia School Corporation's capital, the share of the company's shares, and the date of acquisition of such shares.	26,000,000 yen (520 shares), 68%, October 1, 2018				
The amount of dividends and donations received by Sophia School Corporation during the fiscal year, as well as the status of funds and transactions with the Sophia School Corporation.	(Unit: Yen)				
	Amount received from the company	Dividends	0	Extraordinary charitable contributions	0
		Charitable contributions in kind	0	Rental income	0
		Interest earned	0		
	Amount payable to the company			Consumables expense	0
				(Unit: Yen)	
		Balance at beginning of year	Capital expenditures, etc.	Income from funds, etc.	Year-end balance
Capital investment in the company		26,000,000	0	0	26,000,000
Loans to the company		0	0	0	0
Accounts payable to the company		0	0	0	0
Loans from the company		0	0	0	0
Accounts receivable from the company		0	0	0	0
Guarantee liabilities	None				

Analysis of Business Conditions

■ Business conditions (financial ratios are five-year average for fiscal 2018-2022)

The ratio of tuition and other student fees to ordinary revenue was 66.8%, which is about 10% lower than the average of other corporations of 76.0% (*). From a viewpoint of income diversification, a lower value is desirable. In case of Sophia School Corporation, revenue from asset management was significant (4.5% of ordinary revenue, compared to an average of 2.2% for other institutions), and this is reflected in the results. On the other hand, the ratio of expenses for education and research (33.6%) in terms of expenditures was lower than the average of other corporations (34.2%), due to the inclusion of revenue from asset management in ordinary revenue, the denominator.

Other revenue factors include the ratio of donations to ordinary revenue of 2.8% (average of other corporations: 2.4%), and the ratio of grants to ordinary revenue was 13.6% (average of other corporations: 12.0%), each of which exceeds the average of other university corporations.

Conversely, on the balance sheet, the ratio of classification of assets to total assets, which indicates the ratio of own capital to total assets is 84.0%. This suggests that the management foundation is stable. However, the ratio of ordinary balance to ordinary revenue is only 6.9%, compared with the target of 10%, due to the low balance of educational activities, which indicates the revenue and expenditures of our core business.

*Average of other corporations: Compiled by The Japan Association of Private Universities and Colleges

Average figures for FY2021, for 16 corporations including Sophia School Corporation, with a student capacity of 10,000-19,999

■ Business accomplishments and issues

In fiscal 2022, although the ordinary balance, which shows the revenue and expenditures of normal business activities, remained positive, a number of temporary factors, such as a disposal difference resulting from the sale of Karuizawa Seminar House, which was struggling to operate at a deficit, resulted in a negative balance of current year before transfer to Capital fund. However, the income from the sale has been used to establish a new fund to enhance research activities. This fund will finance the promotion of the new medium-to long-term plan “Grand Layout 3.0,” which will be kicking off in fiscal 2023.

For fiscal 2023, there are no extraordinary and large-scale expenditures planned as was the case in fiscal 2022. However, because forecasts predict that difficult conditions will persist, including the impact on asset management and soaring prices due to change in the global economic situation, it is necessary to constrain expenses more than in previous years and strive to achieve the target of 10% for the ratio of ordinary balance to ordinary revenue.

■ Future policies and measures

While the outlook for the global economy remains uncertain due to the heightened geopolitical risks, we are determined to conduct solid asset management that diversifies risks and secures stable realized profits.

Also, to achieve the ongoing target for the ratio of ordinary balance to ordinary revenue, various financial measures, such as reviewing the existing budget, will be promoted. Based on the “Grand Layout 3.0,” in order to secure the financial resources necessary to renovate aging facilities, improve the ICT environment, and expand various funds to revitalize education and research activities and enhance student support, it is our policy to increase capital No.3 and reserves for depreciation and amortization of specific assets, thereby strengthening our financial base.

Main Business Companies Operated by Sophia School Corporation

■ Sophia Campus Support

<https://sophia-cs.co.jp/>



Sophia Campus Support was established on February 2, 2015, as an operating company wholly owned by Sophia School Corporation. The business was founded with the intention of enhancing services for students, pupils, faculty, and staff, and offers more than 30 different services.

The Operations Department has been providing services to assist student life such as non-life insurance, the university store, beverage vending machines, student dormitories and apartments, and costumes for graduation ceremonies.

The Business Promotion Department offers project management services for equipment maintenance, repairs, cleaning, and others. Profits are donated to Sophia School Corporation and utilized for student and pupil grants.

■ Sophia Global Education and Discovery Co., Ltd.

<https://jp.sophia-ged.com/>



Sophia GED (Sophia School Corporation investment stake 49%: the largest investor) was established on May 1, 2019, in the Thailand capital of Bangkok. In line with the educational spirit of Sophia University, distinctive and unique educational and training programs are being offered, and high-quality, practical study tours are available through its networks across South-East Asia. The educational programs are designed for a diverse group of people from both Japan and South-East Asia, and online initiatives are actively being developed during the COVID-19 epidemic. In FY2022, Sophia GED also resumed the travel program after a two-year absence, and was able to hold a practical program in Thailand.

The History of Sophia

- 1549 St. Francis Xavier comes to Japan.
- 1906 The Society of Jesus accepts the Pope Pius X's request to establish higher educational institution in Japan.
- 1908 Three Jesuit priests arrive in Japan again to prepare for the establishment of a university.
- 1911 Sophia School Corporation (Jochi Gakuin) is founded.
- 1912 Sophia School Corporation purchases land in Kioi-cho in central Tokyo.
- 1913 Ministry of Education approves establishment of Sophia University (three departments: Philosophy, German Literature, Commerce) under Special School Law.
- 1928 Sophia is reorganized as a full-fledged university under University Law, with two faculties: Humanities and Commerce.
- 1932 Night-school program of Sophia University is established. / Building No.1 is completed. / Fukuoka Catholic Seminary School is opened, which will be renamed to Taisei Junior High School (middle school under the pre-war school system) in 1936.
- 1937 Sophia University Alumni Association is established. / Rokko Junior High School is incorporated as an incorporated foundation, which will be reorganized and incorporated as Rokko Gakuin School Corporation in 1950.
- 1938 Rokko Junior High School (middle school under the pre-war school system) is opened.
- 1946 Public lecture series are launched.
- 1947 Rokko Junior High School is reorganized into Rokko Junior and Senior High School. / Eiko Junior High School is opened, which will be renamed to Eiko Gakuen Junior High School in 1949.
- 1948 Sophia University begins operation under provisions of post war School Education Law, with two faculties: Humanities and Economics. / Taisei Senior High School is opened.
- 1949 International Division, predecessor of the present Faculty of Liberal Arts, is founded.
- 1950 Sanada Moat Athletic Ground is opened. / Eiko Gakuen Senior High School is opened.
- 1951 Sophia School Corporation as an academic legal entity is founded according to provisions of Private School Law. / Taisei Gakuen Corporation is founded. / Graduate programs at the Master's level are started in Theology, Philosophy, Western Culture, and Economics.
- 1956 Hiroshima Gakuin School Corporation is founded. / Hiroshima Gakuin Junior High School is opened.
- 1957 Faculty of Law is established. / First female students are admitted. / Eiko Gakuen School Corporation is founded.
- 1958 Faculty of Theology and Faculty of Foreign Studies are established.
- 1959 Hiroshima Gakuin Senior High School is opened.
- 1962 Faculty of Science and Technology is established.
- 1964 Specialized training college courses in social welfare are started at Sophia.
- 1966 Graduate Schools of Law, and Science and Technology are established. / Graduate School of Western Culture is reorganized as Graduate School of Humanities. / The social welfare courses are reorganized into a separate Specialized Training College named Sophia School of Social Welfare. / Sophia Junior College Alumni Association is established.
- 1970 Graduate School of Foreign Studies is established.
- 1973 Sophia Junior College is founded.
- 1975 Department of Japanese Language and culture, reorganized as Department of Comparative Culture in 1977, is added to Faculty of Foreign Studies.
- 1976 Sophia School of Social Welfare is reorganized into a Professional Training College. / Sophia Community College is launched.
- 1980 Construction of Hoffmann Hall is completed. / International Division is closed.
- 1984 Central Library is opened.
- 1987 Faculty of Comparative Culture is established.
- 2004 Juris Doctor Program (Law School) is established.
- 2005 Faculty of Human Sciences is established. / Graduate Schools are established in Human Sciences and Global Environmental Studies. / Building No.2 is completed.
- 2006 Faculty of Comparative Culture is reorganized as Faculty of Liberal Arts. / Graduate School of Global Studies is established.
- 2007 Graduate School of Economics is reorganized.
- 2008 Faculty and Graduate School of Science and Technology are reorganized.
- 2011 School corporation Seibo Gakuen is merged with Sophia School Corporation, with Seibo Nursing School and Seibo College merged into Sophia University. / Department of Nursing is added to Faculty of Human Sciences and Master's Program in Nursing is added to Graduate School of Human Sciences. / Taisei Junior and Senior High School renamed to Sophia Fukuoka Junior-Senior High School.
- 2012 Sophia Junior College is renamed to Sophia University Junior College Division. / Sophia Soshigaya International House is opened.
- 2013 Celebration of 100th anniversary of Sophia University's founding, 40th anniversary of Sophia Junior College's founding, and 50th anniversary of Sophia School of Social Welfare's founding.
- 2014 Faculty of Global Studies is established. / Seibo College of Nursing is closed.
- 2015 Course of Midwifery is established.

The History of Sophia

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| 2016 | A new Sophia School Corporation is structured based upon the merger of Sophia School Corporation, Eiko Gakuen School Corporation, Rokko Gakuin School Corporation, Hiroshima Gakuin School Corporation and Taisei Gakuen School Corporation. / Graduate School of Applied Religious Studies is established. / Graduate School of Foreign Studies is renamed as Graduate School of Languages and Linguistics. / Seibo Nursing School is closed. |
| 2017 | Building No.6 (Sophia Tower) is completed. |
| 2019 | Sophia-Arrupe International Residence is opened. |
| 2020 | Sophia Community College is closed. |
| 2022 | Sophia School of Social Welfare is closed. / Building No.15 is completed. |



Sophia — Bringing the World Together

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