NIHU is one of the four Inter-University Research Institute Corporations. It consists of six Inter-University Research Institutes involved in research in humanities. While each one of the institutes is deeply involved in foundational research in their field as a core research center of Japan and as an international research center, six institutes interact in a complementary fashion and transcending the frameworks of previous scholarship. They also cooperate with research institutes in Japan and other countries in their attempt to identify and solve issues in contemporary society. To achieve a truly enriched human life, NIHU promotes research on the human sciences and aims to create new value.

**Resource Sharing**

In 2016, NIHU established two centers, Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation and Center for Information & Public Relations. The six member institutes, each serving as a center for nationwide research exchange, are kept accessible to the researcher community. At the same time, they engage in multifaceted joint research projects, publish information to the world proactively, and enhance and promote the development of the next generation of scholars.

**NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects**

**Institute-based Projects**
- REKHAKU: Constructing Integrated Studies of Cultural and Research Resources, and Renovating Sharing Infrastructures of Research Resources in Japanese History and Culture
- NUL: Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts
- NINJAL: Diverse Language Resources and the Consolidation of Japanese-language Studies
- NICHIBUNKEN: Historical and International Research into Popular Culture to Pursue New Images of Japan
- NIHNC: Transformation towards Sustainable Futures in Complex Human-Nature Systems in Asia
- MINPAKU: Info-Forum Museum for Cultural Resources of the World

**Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects**
- Change of Local Communities and Reconstruction of Community Cultures after Disasters in Japanese Archipelago
- Rethinking Eco-health in Asia
- Development of a Field of Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective

**Network-based Projects**
- NIHU Area Studies: Northeast Asia, Modern Middle East, South Asia, Contemporary China
- Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: NIHU International Collaborative Research and Utilization
- The Archives of the Dutch Factory in Hirado
- Insights into Japan-Related Overseas Artifacts and Documents of the Nineteenth Century in Europe through Research and Use
- Research, Conservation and Utilization of the Marega Collection Preserved in the Vatican Library
- Survey, Study and Use of the Japan-related Documents and Artifacts in North America
- Coordination between projects to make effective use of research results

**NIHU Repository and Researcher's achievements Database**

NIHU Repository and Researcher's achievements Database

NIHU is an international research center that contributes to identifying contemporary issues, with the aim of creating a new value system for the human sciences.

**Public Information Activities**

**Resource Sharing**

niuh_int http://nt.nihu.jp/
A database on research in the human sciences for the integrated retrieval of information resources from inside and outside NIHU

**Public Information**

NIHU Repository and Researcher’s achievements Database

Each institute publishes a repository for sharing research outcomes with the world. An integrated database of scholars, which provides information about scholars who belong to NIHU, is also operated.

http://www.nihu.jp/sougou/kyoyuka/japan_links/

NIHU Magazine:
This magazine provides information about NIHU’s latest research activities and findings to the world.

**Collaborations with Society**

NIHU Symposia: Information about research activities and findings is published widely available.
In FY 2016, the symposiums are to be held under the themes of “Yokai Monsters” in Jun, and “Food” in Nov.

Industry-Academia Collaborations
Promoting sharing of research outcomes for the common good by collaborating with industries such as the tourism industry.
Graduate School Education

Four of the institutes have established five departments (doctoral programs) by taking advantage of the characteristics of each, as a foundational institute of the school of Cultural and Social Studies, Graduate University of Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI), thereby fostering scholars with a high level of expertise and a broad perspective. In addition, the six institutes of NIHU contribute to developing human resources as next-generation leaders, for example by accepting postgraduate students from other universities to support their research.

International Collaboration

NIHU has built connections for cooperation with institutions in other countries for research in the human sciences, invites scholars from other countries to study in Japan, helps arrange for Japanese scholars to study abroad, and actively promotes the mutual exchange of scholars, holding of international research symposiums, and deployment of lecturers. Under an agreement with the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) of the United Kingdom, NIHU accepts students and young researchers and give research guidance to them, for example, thereby contributing to the development of overseas researchers on Japan.

NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies

The NIHU Prize in Japanese Studies recognizes the achievements of outstanding Japanese studies by scholars from overseas, with the support of YKK Corporation, in order to deepen understanding of Japan and encourage and promote Japanese studies overseas. It is presented to researchers residing outside Japan who have made outstanding achievements in scholarship on literature, language, history, ethnology, culture, the environment or other fields relating to Japan.

The 5th NIHU Prize, FY 2015, was presented to
Professor Alexander Vovin
École des hautes études en sciences sociales, France

Collaborations with Society

NIHU has been holding symposiums for the public and press conferences to transmit to society the results of the research in humanities. In addition, in collaboration with the industries, we have been engaged in the activities to return to society for its benefit the results of the research in humanities.