



OIST Essentials

Research

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GRUSS

I would like to share with you the news that our Chief Operating Officer, Keisuke Yoshio, intends to return to the mainland early next year and OIST is now seeking his successor. After five years working away from his home, Yoshio is looking forward to rejoining his family in Chiba Prefecture. His deep experience of government and the education sector, and his professional courtesy and consistent good humor, has been greatly appreciated by all who have worked with him. We will miss him, and I know that he will miss us. He has also told me he will miss the view from his apartment, where he has enjoyed an occasional Gin and Tonic while watching the Okinawan sun set over the East China Sea. I appreciate Yoshio's contribution to OIST since joining us in 2018, establishing dedicated senior management for administrative services to ensure research staff can remain focused on their science. This was commended by a senior delegation of scientific leaders and university administrators who undertook an external review of OIST late last year



I am also pleased to announce that Keita Nagase has agreed to serve as Interim CIO/VPIT while the search for a new CIO continues. Keita will assume these additional responsibilities atop his existing duties as Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). Please join me in supporting him during this transition period.

COVID-19 is having a sustained impact on our work and travel plans, both personal and professional. As we continually adjust in steadfast pursuit of research excellence, I am grateful to you all. The success of OIST is built upon your talent, creativity and resilience.



Peter Gruss
President and CEO

The President's Office



The "PCR Hut" Is Now Open and There Are New Hours for Testing

Starting last Wednesday, September 16, PCR tests are now submitted to the sample drop box located in the parking lot across from the security booth. The sample submission period has also changed to 9-10am. Special thanks to Nobuo Uechi and Hiromitsu Kaneku of the Facility Management Section who built the hut; Kieran Deasy and Makoto Kuroda of the Engineering Support Section who updated the design of the drop box; and Toshinori Tanaka, Nana Arakaki, Hiroyuki Tahara, and Mary Collins who have helped make PCR testing at OIST possible.

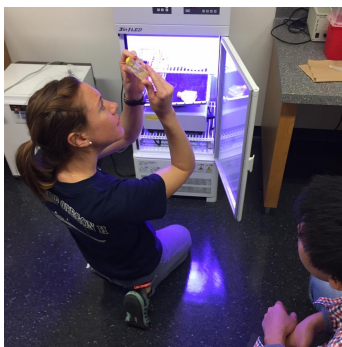


No More "Skill Pills," but the Learning Goes On!

Due to a trademark issue, we are no longer able to use the term "Skill Pill", so for now, let's run with "Mini course". We have new 4 mini courses for October, and we need your help! Sign up if you want to learn or teach some cool stuff!

[More News](#)

Essential Events



Mini Course: R for Reproducible Science Part 1 of 4

Wed., Sept. 23 15:00

B701 & Zoom

Dr. Maggi Brisbin will teach best practices for reproducible data analysis in R, a programming language and environment for



Quick Fix: Writing a Cover Letter

Thurs., Sept. 24, 12pm

Zoom

Dr. Irina Filonova will teach best practice for Cover Letter writing, aimed at researchers, graduate students, and anybody who is interested in improving



The Neanderthals in Us: How Neanderthal Genes Influence Us Today

Fri., Sept. 25, 7:30am

Zoom

Learn how genes from Neanderthals still influence us from one of the most outstanding leaders in the field of evolutionary genetics. Dr. Pääbo will discuss how

statistical computing and
graphics

their job application
materials

Neanderthal gene
variants influence fertility,
pain sensitivity and
severity of SARS-COV-2
infections in people today.

[More Events](#)

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COVID-19 Guidance for Staff and Students

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