

ORC Introduction (FY2019)**1. What is ORC**

The role and structure of OIST Researcher Community (ORC) is described in Chapter 4.5 of OIST PRP. Elections for ORC Office are held at least every two years and as often as necessary. Current office was elected in December 2018:

Function	Name	Position
Chairperson	Guillaume Vares	Staff Scientist Yamamoto Unit
Secretary	Crystal Clitheroe	Research Unit Technician Bourguignon Unit
Researcher Representative	Kimberlie Ward	Research Unit Technician Masai Unit
Researcher Representative	Cathal Cassidy	Staff Scientist Shintake Unit
Researcher Representative Alternate	Jelena Katic	Postdoctoral Scholar Yazaki-Sugiyama Unit

The composition of ORC Advisory Board and the list Researcher Representatives in Committees can be found on ORC website¹.

2. Mission Statement*a) English version*

The OIST Researcher Community (ORC) is an organization of all Postdoctoral Scholars, Staff Scientists, Group Leaders, Research Specialists, and Research Unit Technicians at OIST.

OIST is a dynamic, international, and collaborative institution. Most importantly, OIST is constantly growing and adapting.

By bringing issues of concern to the administration and faculty, the ORC works to make sure that the well-being of researchers at OIST is always a top priority. The ORC also aims to enrich the intellectual and social lives of OIST researchers by sponsoring and organizing events.

¹ <https://groups.oist.jp/orc/>

Everyone is encouraged to contribute to the development and shaping of the community.

b) Japanese version

OIST研究者コミュニティー（ORC）は、OISTでのすべてのポストドクトラルスカラー、スタッフ・サイエンティスト、グループリーダー、およびリサーチスペシャリストにより構成された組織です。

OISTは、ダイナミック、国際的、かつ協調的な機関です。最も重要なことは、常に適応し、成長し続ける事です。

ORCは、管理責任者や教職員へ懸念となる事柄を提示することによって、OIST研究者の福利が常に最優先事項であるよう取り組んでいます。

ORCはまた、イベントの主催、開催をすることによりOIST研究者の知的及び社会生活を豊かにすることを目指しています。

誰もが地域社会の発展と形成に貢献することを奨励されています。

3. Roles and Activities

ORC officers are in place to:

- Represent the views of OIST researchers at Faculty Assemblies (FAs) and other committees, and thereby inform decision-making.
- Inform researchers of University developments that may concern them.
- Provide information and support to researchers.
- Contribute to professional development and organize networking activities.

ORC officers organize regular Researcher Assemblies (RAs) open to OIST Researcher Community. During RAs, Researcher Representatives report minutes from FAs and other committees, discuss issues and ORC activities, and encourage discussion among researchers.

ORC office maintains several communication channels: ORC website, email newsletters, Slack workspace, Facebook page and group.

4. Projects

- A first comprehensive Researcher Survey was completed on 8 April 2019, with a participation rate of 50.6%. We are planning to repeat the survey on an annual basis.
- An ORC officer or volunteer is available every Monday during lunchtime (“ORC Open Hour”)
- A “Science Speed Dating” event was organized in February 2019, with more than 30 participants. Regular networking events will be held.

- We have launched a new monthly lunch seminar series, “Science Digest” in March 2019.
- We also organize monthly Research Unit Technician (RUT) Networking lunches.
- We are working with Student Council on establishing a Mentoring program (to be announced before summer 2019).