

The University of Tsukuba is located in Ibaraki Prefecture, an area with a concentration of public research institutes within a rich natural setting, ranking second in Japan for agricultural output. Model zones will be created for each research theme, and new social services for communities of the future will be created through technological innovation in motor vehicles such as automated driving, robotics, and fuel cells, as well as through data analysis and practical application using advanced technologies such as satellites and mobile terminals. The center also is expected to publish policy recommendations for regional revitalization through intersectoral coordination between universities, businesses, local governments and citizens, as well as to promote the implementation of practical research in society. The representative professors participating in the center are listed below. The participation of various corporate groups has also been planned for the future.

- (1) Akiko Yoshise, Chairperson, Graduate School of Systems and Information Engineering: Department of Policy and Planning Sciences
- (2) Tetsuya Sakurai, Director, Center for Artificial Intelligence Research
- (3) Akira Nakagawa, Provost, Faculty of Health and Sports Sciences
- (4) Yoshiyuki Sankai, Director, Center for Cybernics<sup>3</sup> Research
- (5) Masashi Yanagisawa, Director, International Institute for Integrative Sleep Medicine
- (6) Masao Yanaga, Provost, Faculty of Business Sciences
- (7) Fumihiko Uchida, Deputy Director General, Headquarters for International Industry-University Collaboration

Also, the team leader overseeing the 2017 promotion theme (theme for 2017: creating a social foundation for the regional future through social measurement) for the Council on Competitiveness-Nippon<sup>4</sup> is Professor Yoshiaki Osawa, from the Institute of Policy and Planning Sciences.