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## Experiment on the rooftop

Engaging in atmospheric environment studies means many experiments being conducted on the rooftop. So we install various pieces of equipment rooftop for continuous observation and bring in measuring apparatuses as necessary to obtain detailed data. Carrying in these materials requires muscle power and is often affected by weather conditions. However, success in obtaining intriguing data, using equipment originally designed and manufactured by myself, gives me exceptional delight.

## Musical activities

I began to take classical piano lessons at age 4, appearing on piano recital stage three times a year thereafter. After coming of age, I even formed bands. The band named "almi" released two CDs. On the occasion of Yagami Festival (our campus festival), our band performed on the main stage. Although I was also active as a member of the "Okotamura" jazz fusion band, I had to suspend my activities with this band because I became very busy with both work and child rearing.



## Basketball

In my student days, I belonged to the basketball club. Even today, once-a-week basketball exercise is a must for me. Once I formed an ad hoc team with juniors of the Applied Chemistry Department to take part in Keio's basketball tournament, where we won the Keio Gijuku Presidential Cup. I also enjoy this sport with my friends. I'm looking forward to the annual training camp with them.



## Exhaust gas purification experiment in U.S.A

While studying in the United States, I conducted diesel exhaust gas purification experiments by adding a catalyst to the fuel. I carried the test equipment, which is larger than our body, put it on a vehicle, assembled it and took samples – all by myself. I contributed the research results in the form of a research paper while in the U.S., which was accepted and published after I returned to Japan.



## Academic prize awarding ceremony

Fortunately enough, I was able to receive five academic awards in the past three years. Any academic results cannot be achieved solo. Fruit of research can only be published thanks to students' ceaseless efforts, cooperation from businesses and discussions with other researchers from within and outside Keio. I'm determined to devote myself to research with gratitude to all these people around me always in mind.

# Tomoaki Okuda's ON and OFF time

Whether in ON or OFF time,  
I love to be with many others.

## Child rearing

Small children are leading their daily lives with all their power. I feel there are many things I can learn from them. They are too active for me to handle. So I occasionally invite some students to my home to deal with my small ones. As their father, I think I should set an example by making all-out efforts from day to day so that they will grow into healthful, reliable citizens.



## Sports in U.S.A.

In the early days of my stay in the U.S., I had difficulty in communicating with others due to my poor English speaking ability. But the golden saying "Sports are a universal language!" came to my mind. Through soccer, basketball, snowboarding and other sports, I became friendly with many people from many parts of the world.

## Public lectures and media interviews

Because atmospheric environment issues are a focus of public interest, I'm often asked to deliver public lectures and respond to mass media interviews. To the extent possible, I accept these requests so that our research results will be used to benefit society. In doing so, I explain environmental issues facing us based on the latest scientific knowledge.

