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What does it actually mean to integrate art and science?

Fumika Araki

Since 2022, I have been working with members of Associate Professor Jorge Almazan's lab at the Faculty of Science and Technology's Department of System Design Engineering to improve the atmosphere of the northern part of the Hiyoshi campus. The first thing we did was build the "Hiyoshi Pavilion" where the Fifth Building used to be. The following year we decorated the Green's Terrace with orange-colored films in order to make it feel more festive. To raise awareness of this initiative, Prof. Almazan and I scheduled regular events, lectures, and workshops to promote the students and

faculty members involved with our projects. We also displayed study models for the pavilion in the Hiyoshi Media Center (library). I believe that this project contributed some to the revitalization of that part of the campus. In addition, the "Hiyoshi Pavilion" created by the Almazan Laboratory was featured in the Italian architectural magazines *Area* and *Arketipo*. We received some feedback from first-year students who told us that they had heard about the project back when they were in high school.

However, I have to admit that I think the best part of the project is what happens behind the scenes. We have administrators involved in the project that allow all of our members to contribute using their unique strengths. The meetings are student-led, and everyone shares their thoughts and opinions openly with each other. Of the various projects I have been involved in, I feel that

none has been as open and transparent as this one, and this has inevitably led to incredible results. I think that this is a shining example of diversity in action. We have Prof. Almazan, who has cultural roots in Spain. We also have faculty members from the Yagami Campus and Hiyoshi campuses working together. In addition, faculty, staff, and students have crossed institutional boundaries to make this project a reality.

Running a project like this, on top of my regular teaching and research, takes a great deal of time and energy. I talk regularly with the ever-supportive secretary of the Hiyoshi Office of Art History about what else still needs to be done, and we work diligently for the event. And yet, when it is all over, I know we are all happy to have taken part. In some ways, preparing for an event reminds me of putting on a show. But perhaps I am possessed by the god of the stage.

理工学 Information

Keio Artificial Intelligence Center Creating a new center at the forefront of next-gen AI research

Keio University established the Keio AI Center (KAI) and appointed Komei Sugiura, a professor with the Department of Information and Computer Science at the Faculty of Science and Technology, as the director. KAI is based in part on a cooperative partnership with Carnegie Mellon University, one of the world's top universities in AI and robotics research and aims to promote research in cutting-edge AI technology while collaborating with industry leaders. The opening ceremony for KAI was held on September 24, 2024, with United States Ambassador Katherine E. Monahan and corporate representatives in attendance to celebrate the occasion.



For more information about KAI, please refer to the following press release.
(Japanese language)
<https://www.keio.ac.jp/ja/press-releases/files/2024/9/24/240924-4.pdf>

Editor's postscript

The cover of this issue is based on the painting of the *Mona Lisa* as requested by Associate Professor Araki. When we went to shoot the cover, we used an image of the *Mona Lisa* to adjust and match Associate Professor Araki's pose to that of the original. During this process, everyone in the room commented with observations about the painting and its subject, discussing the model's physique, the way she placed her hands on the chair in front of her, and the angle of her face as it turned toward the painter. By the end of the session, I felt like I could see so many hidden details in the *Mona Lisa* that I had never stopped to consider before. I was hit with the realization that I had accidentally found myself enjoying the "art of appreciating art" that Associate Professor Araki had discussed during her interview. I like to think that this moment gave me a small glimpse into her world and research. (Fuhito Sugihara)

Issue Cover : An homage to the *Mona Lisa*

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