

## 2022 Autumn Matriculation Ceremony of Eikei University of Hiroshima

### Message from the President

Congratulations on your admission to Eikei University. Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are delighted to welcome eight international students from India, Mexico, Liberia, Senegal, Vietnam, Slovakia, and Indonesia. Last year, 5 out of 9 international students could not enter this country and participated in the entrance ceremony online. This year, I am very glad to be able to meet everyone at the ceremony. We can feel the situation has been improving.

COVID-19 pandemic and/or the commodity price hikes resulting from Russia's invasion of Ukraine show us that we are part of a global system. In addition, it is said that the development of science and technology, which has enriched our lives, might be an indirect cause of climate change. We are part of a system. It is the role of young people to perceive the global system and social system that we are built into, think about how the social system should be related to them, and transform it into a better form.

You have come to Japan, a small island country in the Far East, where you will work hard with friends who have different backgrounds. I want you to understand the importance of understanding and empathizing with different backgrounds.

I hope that you will enjoy your new life here in Hiroshima, where peace has a great meaning, make new friends, and use the competencies you have acquired at Eikei University to go out into the world.

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

President of Eikei University of Hiroshima

Dr. Mutsuhiro Arinobu