

## **Expression of Interest in the International Image Interoperability Framework**

The Kyoto University Library Network hereby expresses its support of the objectives of the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) and its interest in participating in the IIIF's activities.

The mission of the Kyoto University Library Network is to provide a first-rate academic and information infrastructure worthy of a world-leading education and research institution. The Library Network has striven to enhance and enrich this academic information infrastructure with the aims of recording and disseminating the outstanding academic achievements of Kyoto University, and establishing and maintaining frameworks for the management and preservation of the university's intellectual assets in order to ensure their accessibility in the future.

In pursuit of those aims, the Library Network has accumulated around 6.9 million publications and also gathered a significant number of valuable holdings, including materials that are designated as National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. We are engaged in ongoing efforts to digitize such valuable materials, and have already made around 4,000 items publically available through the Kyoto University Digital Library.

*(Kyoto University Digital Library: <http://edb.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/exhibit/>)*

Since launching the Kyoto University Research Information Repository (KURENAI) in 2006, the Library Network has also made around one hundred forty thousand academic papers and other publications by the university's researchers available for public access. KURENAI has the greatest number of registered publications in Japan and is the country's most frequently used online research repository.

*(KURENAI Website: <http://repository.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/dspace/>)*

In April 2015, we adopted the Kyoto University Open Access Policy, committing to make active efforts to ensure open access to the academic information possessed by the university. As of the 2016 academic year, those efforts have been designated as a high-priority initiative, and intensive work will be carried out to publish image-based academic materials by digitizing academic papers and primary sources and making them available on KURENAI.

The goals of the IIIF are in alignment with the aims of the Kyoto University Library Network. We hereby express our support of the IIIF's efforts as it pursues its goals in cooperation with major institutions around the world, seeking to enrich the sharing of knowledge through the formation of an interoperable framework for image-based resources. This in turn will develop an information infrastructure that can be used by researchers and others around the world as their common property.

The Kyoto University Library Network also expresses its interest in participating in the activities of this international framework, with the aim of further expanding the framework's activities in Japan.

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