

## Message of the Dean

It is our great pleasure to see that the Research Institute of Logopedics and Phoniatics has started its research activities in the newly built building. This research organization has been engaged for more than one year in research planning, preliminary studies, and co-operative work with the oto-rhino-laryngology department and other groups. Some of the research results have appeared in publications and meeting papers. The Brain Research Institute and the Research Institute of Medical Electronics are now accommodated in the same new building and they will provide better research environments for the new colleagues. The new laboratory and office space will no doubt facilitate the activities of the able staff that the Institute duly boasts.

The Institute is unique in that the staff members have different backgrounds. The head of the Speech Science Section, Professor Fujimura, is actually the first member of the Faculty who has a background other than medicine.

It is needless to say that speech behavior is a typically complex human activity. In order to deal with speech behavior, normal or pathological, it is therefore necessary to utilize to the full extent knowledge of the mental processes and physical activities as their correlates. This is achieved only through integration of competence in special fields, physiological, physical, linguistic, and psychological.

Even though research work in the fields of speech science in Japan is highly appreciated internationally, it is unfortunate that our country has not yet established concrete courses for training speech pathologists and speech therapists. We hope that the research activities of this institute will give stimulation to serious consideration of this important problem, and give impetus to effecting on this campus well organized programs of research, education, and clinical work in the field of speech.

To whom it may concern, both domestic and overseas, I should like to request co-operation in varied forms to this new but well-qualified research group. It will be only through this assistance that the research group, severely limited in personnel and equipment, can display its potential and effectively pursue its research goals.

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