

For first-year students of the Graduate School of Informatics

Congratulations, Everyone! Welcome to the Graduate School of Informatics at Nagoya University. You have entered the university with the scholastic ability appropriate for research in informatics. Informatics is a new field, and the Graduate School of Informatics is just three years old. Let's create informatics together!

Research is called a cycle. Find current challenges, explore existing research, create new value based on new ideas, evaluate them, and identify the next challenge. Information technology, such as AI, SNS, and XaaS, now has the power to move society. The research cycle in informatics form the basis of many problem-solving challenges in the world. Regardless of the field of informatics you will specialize in, we hope you graduate with a research cycle that will contribute to the information society.

As you may have seen at Nagoya University Station or on the campus, we sent a message to everyone, "Let's create a resilient human society with cutting-edge information technology." Today, I would like to share my thoughts on the meaning of this message.

Informatics is about many cutting-edge technologies and can solve a number of problems. For this reason, we have chosen the motto "let us create a resilient human society." Resilience is the capability of systems and individuals to cope with significant adversity or risk (*). Recently, COVID-19 caused many problems. The entrance ceremony was canceled at Nagoya University. Many academic conferences had to be cancelled. However, as you may know, some conferences were held using online conferencing systems. Activities that in the past would have stopped, could continue. Informatics has the power to bring such resilience to society.

(*) [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/culture-and-development/the-future-we-want-the-role-of-culture/disasters/.](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/culture-and-development/the-future-we-want-the-role-of-culture/disasters/)

Human creations and societies sometimes lose their balance and struggle to return to a state of equilibrium. Out of balance, they can pose significant risks for the surrounding environment and humans themselves. Although it is not an ideal situation, I believe that informatics can contribute to the resilience of society. Let us create a resilient human society with your research!

April 1, 2020

Masato Edahiro

Dean, Graduate School of Informatics

Nagoya University