



Prospectus

Hokkaido University will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2026. As we approach this milestone, we have formulated the "Hokkaido University Strategy 150 for the Near Future" with the following objectives in mind: "support and nurture the next generation of researchers," "develop an academic information and research environment to strengthen our research capabilities," "actively use our strong brand power to conduct two-way public relations activities that connect the university with society," and "promote international public relations and disseminate university information, including cutting-edge research results and educational content, to the international community." All members of the faculty and staff are working hard to achieve this goal.

As one of the initiatives to achieve our objective, the Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences of the Hokkaido University has launched the "Balance de Ocean" (BO) project, an educational program aimed at nurturing top future marine scientists by using digital content, with support from the Hokkaido University's functional enhancement promotion funds (2019-2023).

The BO project aims to develop the next generation of top marine scientists at an early stage by enhancing next-generation online teaching materials. The project uses LASBOS* Moodle, an educational system that collects digital contents related to classes and experiments, and LASBOS YouTube**, which collects a variety of videos, to display the curriculum flow from the first and second year of university courses to the fourth-year graduation research and then to the content of the faculties' research. The goal is to nurture human resources who are eager to learn and engage in various practices in fishery science at an early stage, and in turn, to nurture top scientists with the ability to think logically, think creatively and pursue their work (research skills). We believe that those who can pursue this kind of work will be able to demonstrate their abilities in society.

The online learning materials created by the BO project are also open to the public. This allows people to learn and explore independently, regardless of location and time, occupation, age, field of study, or grade level. Our aim is to bring together excellent learners and to contribute to human society and the local community through our contribution to social education. We also hope to take

advantage of the unique features of the online system to proactively incorporate the needs of society into the university's cultivation of human resource.

The BO project will continue to maintain the LASBOS system and to create, store, and disseminate digital content, but we need your support to further develop this system and continue to disseminate it as attractive content. Therefore, the BO project has launched a collaboration program to further promote education and dissemination with the support of companies and organizations. In this program, we will collect donations from companies and organizations that agree with the purpose of the BO project, then in return for it, we have prepared benefits that make their contribution to the university and society visible, depending on the amount of the donation. In the case of a donation of 600,000 yen or more, we will set up an online course with some videos to introduce the activities of companies and organizations in LASBOS, our online educational materials. The new course will be linked to the existing course materials to foster human resources who can pay attention to the needs of society, outside university. We will also provide an environment that can be used to the maximum extent possible for the exchange and collection of information necessary for the effective promotion of this initiative. 50,000 yen or more in support will be used to print LASBOS cards, a tool for making LASBOS, an intellectual resource, widely available to society. The name of the company or organization that supported the program will be written on the LASBOS card and distributed widely. In order to maintain the cooperative system for this program, we would be grateful if you could support us for multiple years as much as possible.

We appreciate your support and donation to this project.

LASBOS is an acronym for Learning and Study by Balance de Ocean System.

** LASBOS Moodle and LASBOS YouTube can be viewed at the following URLs

LASBOS Moodle: <https://repun-app.fish.hokudai.ac.jp/>

LASBOS YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWo8IebtPw4Kibut-9Rga7w>

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