

PRESS RELEASE

University of Chicago
Seoul National University
University of Tokyo

University of Chicago, Seoul National University, and University of Tokyo Sign Quantum Field Partnership

The University of Chicago, Seoul National University, and the University of Tokyo have agreed to promote a global partnership on academic exchange and research in the field of quantum science and technology.

By promoting future collaboration among three universities that play leading roles in the quantum field, this trilateral partnership aims to contribute to the further development of quantum science and quantum technology, which have the potential to bring about major changes in society and the economy.

On January 18, 2024, during the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting held at Davos, Switzerland, President Paul Alivisatos of the University of Chicago, President Ryu Hong Lim of Seoul National University, and President Teruo Fujii of the University of Tokyo signed the partnership agreement at AI House Davos, which was jointly initiated by the University of Tokyo's Institute for AI and Beyond.

The signing ceremony was attended by Mr. Jesus Mantas, Global Managing Partner of IBM Consulting. IBM is collaborating with the three universities in quantum fields.

In their opening remarks, the presidents of the three universities noted:

■ Paul Alivisatos, President of the University of Chicago

The University of Chicago has a long and deep history at the forefront of quantum science, chemistry, and physics. Joining with the University of Tokyo and Seoul National University to pursue collaboration in the field of quantum science and engineering demonstrates our commitment to advancing field-defining research and education in this pivotal area. This partnership will help us bring together scientists from all over the world to unlock the profound potential of quantum technology.

■ Ryu Hong Lim, President of Seoul National University

Seoul National University is thrilled to join this collaborative effort in quantum science and engineering with the University of Chicago and the University of Tokyo. This step highlights our commitment to dynamic collaboration and the importance of developing this technology for industry growth and economic advancement. With over 30 quantum research groups on campus, this partnership will greatly enhance our educational and research capabilities globally as well. I'm excited about its potential impact and the transformation it promises.

■ Teruo Fujii, President of the University of Tokyo

The University of Tokyo has been at the forefront of implementing quantum computing and technological applications in society. Today, it is a great pleasure for us to sign this letter of intent with the University of Chicago and Seoul National University to strengthen the global partnership in the quantum field among leading universities in each of our countries. I hope that our collaboration in quantum science and technology will play an important role in solving various global issues in today's turbulent world.

Ambassador Rahm Emanuel of the U.S. Embassy in Japan and Ambassador Philip S. Goldberg of the U.S. Embassy in South Korea made the following comments regarding the signing of the agreement:

■ U.S. Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel

Solidifying the spirit of Camp David and building on the Hiroshima announcement in May, the University of Chicago, the University of Tokyo, and Seoul National University have signed into a new trilateral quantum computing partnership, further uniting our three countries and turning the words of the Camp David Principles into a reality. Our three countries are more innovative, cutting-edge, and better off—together.

■ U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea Philip S. Goldberg

Korea's world-class universities and their cutting-edge research fuel tech industry innovation. The quantum computing partnership Seoul National University forged today with fellow leaders in advanced tech, the University of Tokyo and the University of Chicago, will benefit not only the people of our three nations, but others across the world. This is a perfect example of our trilateral cooperation accelerating progress to serve the global good.

This partnership is in line with "The Spirit of Camp David," a joint statement by the leaders of the United States, the Republic of Korea, and Japan released last August. The governments of the three countries have jointly expressed their congratulations on this signing.

Through further collaboration, the University of Chicago, Seoul National University, and the University of Tokyo will promote cutting-edge education and research in the quantum field and the creation of global innovations.



From left to right: President Teruo Fujii of UTokyo, President Hong Lim Ryu of SNU, President Paul Alivisatos of UChicago, and Mr. Jesus Mantas of IBM Consulting.

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