

March 10, 2005

Nara Institute of Science and Technology

Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd

Nara Institute of Science and Technology and Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd

conclude agreement to establish “Collaborative Course”

—To further strengthen industry-academia collaboration and contribute to human resources development—

Nara Institute of Science and Technology (NAIST) (Ikoma City, Nara Prefecture; President: Koji Torii) and Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Higashiyodogawa-ku, Osaka; President and CEO: Takakazu Morita) have concluded an agreement to establish a collaborative course on “Functional Polymer Science” at the NAIST Graduate School of Material Science.

This agreement will take effect in April 2005. Three staff members of the Santen Nara Research and Development Center (Ikoma City, Nara Prefecture) will provide education and instruction for students of Nara Institute of Science and Technology, centering on basic research on kinase (an enzyme) that catalyzes phosphorylation of protein, which contributes significantly to development of diseases.

This Course aims to develop interactive and substantial cooperative relations between industry and academia, to further promote collaboration among businesses and academic research facilities in the Keihanna Science City, to develop new medicines to treat people who suffer from various diseases, and to develop human resources.

NAIST and the Santen Nara Research and Development Center are located close to each other; such proximity is a great advantage and will help create an environment conducive to close collaboration, generating synergistic effects.

#### ● Outline of Course ●

Name of Course: Functional Polymer Science Course

Place: Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Graduate School of Material Science Bldg.

Description of research: Research will be conducted focusing on kinase (an enzyme) that contributes significantly to the development and worsening of diseases. The Course aims to design medicines using computers, to develop new medicines to control kinase function, and to develop synthesis technologies necessary for the creation of medicines using state-of-the-art technologies.

Teaching staff: Masakazu Ban; Hiroyuki Aono (Visiting Professors)

Takahiro Honda (Visiting Associate Professor)

\*What is a “Collaborative Course”?

A “Collaborative Course” provides education/research instruction in cooperation with companies at a high research level. It is expected that the establishment of this collaborative course will facilitate the development of collaboration between industry and academia in the real sense. In the past, industry-academia exchange has been unidirectional, from industry to academia; this course is designed to

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develop interactive industry-academia collaboration; the teachers of the course instruct students as well as conducting research using the facilities/equipment of the university; students can receive education/research instruction using research facilities of the company. The course provides an opportunity for the students to gain extensive knowledge in a broad range of science fields, from basic science to applied science, from teaching staff other than the teachers of the university. The teaching staff of the course can contribute to the development of human resources who will play a leading role in the cutting-edge science and technology of the future. Currently, the Graduate School of Material Science offers six collaborative courses.