

Foreword

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This school year, the beginning pages are devoted to an article by President Makio Takemura (this could be his final article), his resume, and the list of his accomplishments. This is a token of our appreciation to Dr. Takemura for the great acumen he displayed during his years of involvement in university operations and his continual efforts to enhance the brand value of the entire institution. At the same time, we wanted to keep a record of his vast and profound scholarship focusing on Eastern and Japanese Buddhist thoughts to ensure that it will remain in the memories of many people. We hope this goes a small way toward reciprocating his academic contributions.

The International Research Center for Philosophy has handled various topics. Considering the nature of our research, topics are such that they can be sustainably pursued for a long period. Even so, every topic must come to a pause at some point. Research on early modern philosophy will be halted for now, but may be re-launched afresh in the future if the opportunity arises.

Although we aspire to publish articles in English as much as possible, we were not able to do this enough because of financial and time constraints, which is unfortunate and regrettable. We tried to establish another project for this purpose, but were ultimately unable to do so.

Philosophy has an intrinsic tendency to move forward by constantly expanding its own research domain. Thus, we must always make efforts to develop new research dimensions in response. This is what philosophy is about.

Although the owl of Minerva spreads its wings at dusk, many wild birds start flying before the break of dawn. They do not wait for dawn to break before they fly; they fly, and then dawn breaks. It is hoped that a new research theme has been established so that at least some attempt can be made to prepare for such a development.