

Congratulations to the 22 students from National Aerospace University, Kharkiv Aviation Institute, and four other universities who are completing the Special Training Course for Ukraine today. Despite the fierce warfare, you have attended the classes for two and a half months. We would like to express our deepest respect for your untiring efforts.

Nearly five months have passed since Russia's unilateral invasion, yet indiscriminate bombings continue in many parts of your homeland, and we are heartbroken by the shocking scenes reported daily in the media.

The online delivery of classes was started because we were deeply impressed by your desire to attend lectures on advanced engineering technologies, and we wanted to respond to that desire. Fortunately, we had established a state-of-the-art system for distributing course content to other universities. In addition, we have a proven track record of commitment to enhancing the internationalization of educational program, including double degree programs with overseas universities in several engineering fields such as computer science and engineering, and we were able to launch this program immediately by utilizing these assets. This time, we were able to offer seven courses in computer science, including the fundamental and advanced classes on artificial intelligence.

In addition, University of Yamanashi also offers a series of liberal arts classes in English in which Japanese and international students can learn about languages and cultures together. In one such class, *Language and Communication across Cultures*, students from H. S. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University participated in the class together with the Japanese and international students of University of Yamanashi, and learned the importance of respecting and understanding each other's culture through group discussions and other activities.

No matter how many cities are destroyed and people are hurt by this unreasonable invasion, it will never be able to corrode the sincere spirit of young people to learn something. **You are proof of this!** It would be our great pleasure if anything you

have learned in this course could be of any use in rebuilding your beautiful country.

I know that the hard times are still ahead, but please do not forget this spirit and overcome your hardships.

We sincerely hope that the days when all the young people who bear the future can receive an education with peace of mind will return to your home country as soon as possible. If there is anything we can do to help, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Slava Ukraini (Glory to Ukraine) !

Shinji Shimada, President
The University of Yamanashi
19 July, 2022