



**Grußwort von Stadtpräsidentin Cathy Kietzer aus Anlass der Festveranstaltung  
„Exzellenz verbindet: Das Kyoto-Kiel-Austauschprogramm“  
im Rahmen von „150 Jahre Japan-Deutschland“  
Freitag, 30. September 2011, 18.30 Uhr, Zoologisches Museum der CAU,  
Hegewischstraße 3**

Dear vice-president professor Bosch,  
Dear consul Sakamoto,  
Dear state secretary Dr. Andreßen,  
Dear professor Schneider, Dear professor Agata,  
Dear scientists from Japan,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you very much for your invitation. I'm glad to be here and to spend an interesting evening with you.

These days we celebrate the 19<sup>th</sup> intercultural weeks in our city – a great annual event. This year it's themed “diversity – it's not a question of age”. So the main audience is the older people, but the intention is the same every year: intercultural networking – learning from each other, making contacts, keeping in touch.

The intercultural weeks, ladies and gentlemen, are only one part of our open minded, cosmopolitan city. There is much more: The Kieler Woche – the world's largest sailing event and the largest summer festival in Northern Europe – and a lot of vivid twin-city partnerships and inter-city friendships for example.

And of course, dear professor Bosch, I also think about the Kiel University: A cornucopia of knowledge, of excellent scientific power in our city – and a cornucopia of international and intercultural contacts. It's diversity we can experience today.

At this moment a special warm welcome to you, professor Agata, and to you, the six junior-scientists from the University of Kyoto. Welcome to Kiel! We are proud to have you here. Enjoy your stay in Kiel and take home only the best impressions!

This year we celebrate 150 years of cooperation between Germany and Japan – an anniversary also formed by engagement like yours, professor Bosch and professor Agata. The Kiel-Kyoto-exchange is a benefit for the Universities, for the Centre of Excellence and for the participants – but also for the cities of Kiel and Kyoto. The participants of the exchange are ambassadors!

So my thank goes to everyone who cares about the international exchange in our city. I wish you a nice evening with stimulating talks and a pleasant stay in Kiel! And please do come back! Thank you for your attention.