

1. Greetings from the library director

SIT Library Director, Prof. Yoshihisa HIROTA

Shibaura Institute of Technology (SIT) will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2027. Under the *Centennial SIT Action*, the university aims to become one of the top ten engineering universities in Asia. As a key part of the academic infrastructure supporting education and research, the library has worked to enhance its services and strengthen the academic information infrastructure in preparation for the 100th anniversary.

○Establishment and Achievements of the Open Access Promotion Framework

In FY2025, we promoted the “SIT Open Access Acceleration Project” to achieve the milestones set under the Ministry of Education’s “Open Access Acceleration Project.” The project was carried out under the SIT Open Access Promotion Task Force, which is composed of faculty and staff from the Academic Information Center, SIT Research Institute, and the Interdisciplinary Industry-Academia-Government-Civic Collaboration Headquarters.

As a result, the SIT OA Support System was successfully introduced by integrating the faculty achievements system with the library system. This system significantly streamlined the automatic retrieval and registration of publications and enabled open access through the institutional repository. We have also begun discussions on promoting open access to research data.

○Strengthening Campus Facilities and Encouraging Their Use

In January 2025, a new passageway was opened to provide easier access to Toyosu Library from the research building. As a result, the convenience of the library improved, and the number of library users increased significantly in FY2025. In collaboration with the Career Support section, we have also continued to offer company research seminars using annual securities reports available through the corporate information database eol. The number of participants has increased year by year.

○External Benchmarking Survey

To further enhance library services, the library conducted an external benchmarking survey of universities such as Kanagawa Institute of Technology, which actively promote student use of their libraries. Based on the findings of the survey, we will continue to improve the library environment and strengthen learning support functions at SIT.

○Introduction of RFID Tags and Self-checkout Machines

In January 2026, the introduction of RFID tags for all library materials was completed at both Toyosu and Omiya libraries. Self-checkout machines were also installed in both libraries, making the borrowing process easier and improving user services.

FY2026 will be an important year as SIT approaches its 100th anniversary. The library plans to further enhance Toyosu library through smart library initiatives and continue its efforts to promote open access, strengthen library facilities, and improve user services. With the 100th anniversary as an important milestone, the library will continue to evolve as an academic foundation infrastructure supporting education and research, as well as a center of knowledge that supports student learning and growth. We sincerely appreciate the continued understanding and support from everyone inside and outside the university.