

October 9, 2018

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Stony Brook University

Dear Dr. Michael A. Bernstein:

I am writing this letter to you based on the creative discussion about interuniversity collaboration between New York and Yokohama that took place between Mr. Masaaki Maeda of the Advisory Board of the New York State Center of Excellence Wireless and Information Technology (CEWIT) and Mr. Makoto Sekiyama, Yokohama City Executive Officer for Global Partnership & Network.

The City of Yokohama is Japan's largest municipality, with a population of 3.74 million and 26 universities, and we are an important part of the Tokyo metropolitan area, one of the world's most successful economic regions. This year, the City of Yokohama has decided to move forward and open a representative office in New York City, which would make us the only Japanese local government directly managing a representative office in the city. Our new office will function as a representative of Yokohama City to the United States of America. Its goal will be to stimulate mutual trade and investment between both the United States and Yokohama, as well as to help solve global issues by promoting further cooperation with U.S. cities, states, and universities.

Yokohama's universities are becoming more globalized as they develop exchange programs for researchers and students with universities abroad. I am pleased that, with the invaluable support of Mr. Maeda, we are now positioned to move towards a new collaboration between The State University of New York, the largest comprehensive system of higher education in the United States, and the City of Yokohama.

I hope that the opening of our new office in New York enables us to strengthen our partnership and develop a wide range of interuniversity programs between SUNY and Yokohama including the on-going talks between Stony Brook University and Yokohama City University. I hope we can count on your kind support in this matter.

In conclusion, let me wish for your good health and success, as well as for the success of the upcoming CEWIT 2018.

Sincerely,



Fumiko Hayashi  
Mayor of the City of Yokohama