



L-R: Chubu University President Kasuo Yamada, Robert Lilley, the International Office's Tomoyasu Tanaka, Ellen Lilley

**Robert W. Lilley, Ph. D.
Engineering
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Robert, his wife and daughter spent April, May and June of 1997 in Japan at Chubu University. Robert was asked to speak—in Japanese—at the Founder's Day that celebrates the beginning of Chubu University. Below are his remarks.

I am honored to represent your sister institution, Ohio University, as the 24th visiting professor in the program bearing the name of Dr. Kohei Miura. I brought to Chubu University my interest in electrical engineering. My wife and I have gained much understanding through our new experiences in Japan. The beautiful ceremony today is an example of those new experiences. In our two countries, we do many things differently, but we are the same in expressing respect for our ancestors and their good works.

Ohio University has many long-standing and deeply cherished connections with Japan. The policy of the university is to actively nurture these relationships. They help the University to perform its educational mission in a time of increasing global interdependency. I bring greetings from Ohio University's President, Dr. Robert Glidden, our Provost Dr. Sharon Brehm, our Dean of Engineering Dr. Kent Wray, and from many of my colleagues who have visited Chubu in past years.

President Glidden sends this message: "I am a strong believer in the importance of international education in this information age, when the globe is becoming smaller and smaller. We at Ohio University benefit greatly from the visiting students who come to us from Chubu University, and we treasure our relationship with Chubu."

Dr. Glidden asked me to extend his warm personal greetings to President Yamada, and to Dr. Tomoyasu Tanaka who has been such a loyal contributor to both universities and to our relationship over the years.

I also bring one sad note: The agreement between Chubu and Ohio Universities was signed in 1973 by Dr. Kohei Miura and by Dr. Claude Sowle, the University Presidents. Dr. Sowle was the

16th President of Ohio University from 1969 to 1974. He then became a law professor at Ohio State University in Columbus and then dean of the Miami, Florida, School of Law. He was working on a school accreditation in Puerto Rico, when he died unexpectedly on March 2nd.

Claude Sowle was President at a time of social unrest in America which affected college campuses and the entire nation. His open leadership style was made more difficult by the controversy over an unpopular war. But he found the time to work toward international understanding and cooperation with this visiting professorship.

My wife Ellen, daughter Karen and I have found visiting Japan to be a fascinating new experience. The people here are patient and helpful, accepting with good humor our good intentions and mistakes. Our new Chubu University friends are gracious hosts and dedicated teachers. I am certain that Dr. Kohei Miura would be proud of your high professional and personal standards.

The early visitors from Ohio met Dr. Miura personally; I certainly shall not. However, as I experience Chubu University, I think that maybe I know something about him. He must have been both a leader and a statesman; both an educator and a salesman; both a visionary and a realist.

Thank you again for this opportunity to be a part of your academic year and a part of your commemoration of Chubu University's founder, Dr. Kohei Miura.