

February 8, 2021

President Nagahiro Minato Kyoto University 7606-8501 Yoshida-honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto-shi Kyoto JAPAN

Tel: 075-753-7531

Dear President Minato,

I am writing to you as Chair of an international committee that was asked by the Research Institute of the Mathematical Sciences (RIMS) to evaluate their programs in Research, Education, and in the context of the International Joint Usage Research Center (IJURC).

RIMS is a spectacularly successful jewel of Japanese mathematics. It is known and highly respected by the foremost mathematicians around the world, and a great many of them have visited RIMS for conferences or for longer stays. Intellectually and in fame RIMS operates on the highest international plane. Kyoto University is also world famous, and RIMS contributes greatly to its stellar reputation.

Unfortunately, RIMS' current physical facilities are not appropriate for an Institute at this level. Institutes in mathematics such as RIMS operate by bringing people together, and helping them engage with each other. But this is hindered by RIMS' separation into many different buildings, and overall shortage of space. Because RIMS is so visible internationally, and such an important part of the reputation of Kyoto University, the committee and I want to bring this to your urgent attention.

We therefore request a Zoom meeting with you to discuss how the situation could be improved.

Sincerely Yours,

David Eisenbud, Director, Mathematical Sciences Research Institute

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and Professor of Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley