(Okayama, Japan, 24 September 2015) This issue includes a feature on new insights into ‘plant stress’ and how plants absorb nutrients and toxins; news of an agreement by Okayama University and IAEA on radioactive waste management and environmental remediation, the world’s first hybrid lung transplant, developing iron-controlled biology, and networking to combat infectious diseases; research highlights on high-efficiency energy transfer in photosynthetic organisms, key genes in epidermal cell differentiation for survival of plants, critical points of water in carbon nanotubes, damage-free structure of photosystem II, and synthesis of compounds for water-oxidation; an innovative method to fabricate metallic nano-surfaces for surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy; and a ‘vista’ of Okayama’s Bizen Yaki pottery.

Okayama University e-Bulletin highlights news and views from one of Japan's largest comprehensive universities internationally recognized for its dynamic and innovative approach to interdisciplinary scientific research and pioneering educational programs. Contents of the September 2015 issue of Okayama University e-Bulletin:
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/ Feature
Plants feel stress! Frontiers in plant mineral stress tolerance and how nutrients and toxins are absorbed by rice and other plants
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/feature/vol12/feature_001.html

Caption
Beneficial effect of silicon on plant. Silicon is able to protect the plants from various stresses such as pathogen, insect damage and water loss. News
Okayama University and IAEA sign a new agreement related to radioactive waste management and environmental remediation
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/news/vol12/news_001.html
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Developing new insights into iron-controlled biology
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/news/vol12/news_002.html
---
Combatting Infectious Diseases with Research Networks
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/news/vol12/news_003.html
---
World’s first hybrid lung transplant: Simultaneous lung transplants from both brain-dead and living donors
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/news/vol12/news_004.html

Caption
Hybrid lung transplant (simultaneous transplant from brain-dead and living donor) conducted at Okayama University Hospital.

Life Science World 2015 : Okayama University presents its latest research achievements at Asia’s largest bio event
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/news/vol12/news_005.html

Research highlights
Exploring the structural basis for high-efficiency energy transfer in photosynthetic organisms

http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/research_highlights/vol12/highlights_001.html
Caption
Crystal structure of plant PSI-LHCI supercomplex

Damage-free structure of photosystem II and the synthesis of model compounds for water-oxidation

http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/research_highlights/vol12/highlights_002.html
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Key genes in epidermal cell differentiation are essential for survival of plants

http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/research_highlights/vol12/highlights_003.html
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Evidence for solid-liquid critical points of water in carbon nanotubes

http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/research_highlights/vol12/highlights_004.html Intellectual Property and Enterprise
Quick and low-cost fabrication of metallic nano-surfaces for surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/ipe/vol12/ipe_001.html Topics
Letters from alumni
Johannes Effenberger
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/topics/vol12/letters.html
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Okayama Travelogue
The lure of Bizen Yaki
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/topics/vol12/travelogue.html
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Club Activities
The art and culture of Japanese flower arrangement: Okayama University Ikebana Club
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/topics/vol12/club_activities.html