

# THE HISTORY AND AIM OF THE SEIREI GAKUEN EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION (SGEO)

The Seirei Gakuen Educational Organization (SGEO) cultivates service to humanity and professional expertise based in the embodiment of its founding philosophy: "Love Thy Neighbor."

The educational efforts of SGEO formally began in 1949 when the Enshu Christian School was established in Hamamatsu with the same underlying philosophy. Tamotsu Hasegawa, the founder of Seirei, established the school on the notion that, "Japan's postwar reconstruction will be meaningless without the spiritual restoration of the youth, anchored in education."

Facing a shortage of nurses after World War II, Tamotsu Hasegawa started to provide nursing education to meet the demands of society. The Enshu Christian School later changed its name to Seirei Vocational School of Practical Nursing as a result. This was the starting point of nursing education that is still the hallmark of today's Seirei Gakuen Educational Organization.

Once enrollment grew sufficiently, a nursing course in the Seirei Gakuen High School was begun. In time, the high school curriculum shifted to a comprehensive general education program, responding to the social needs of that time. This is what forms the Seirei High School program of today.

In 2009, we opened the Seirei Christopher Junior High School. The goal of the junior high school is to foster a well-rounded character in our students and to seek academic development over the course of the 6-year program in lower- and upper-secondary school education. Both the junior and senior high schools aim to create an engaging institution to meet the demands of society, while also allowing students to carry out their academic aspirations based on improved teaching methodologies and a high-quality educational environment.

Tamotsu Hasegawa also foresaw the era of advanced medical treatment and opened the Seirei Gakuen Junior College of Nursing in 1969. In 1992, Tamotsu Hasegawa founded the Seirei Christopher College of Nursing to train nurses who would possess advanced knowledge, skills, and an attitude of service to others. The college went on to add academic departments and ultimately to become the Seirei Christopher University (SCU).

In 1998, the Seirei Christopher College of Nursing began offering a Master's program through the School of Nursing. Given the aging Japanese population, and with an eye on treating illnesses, injuries, and addressing social issues related to an aging society, the Schools of Social Work and Rehabilitation Sciences were opened in 2002 and 2004, respectively. With the introduction of these final academic departments, SCU completed its educational facilities, encompassing almost all aspects of healthcare and social work.

In addition, in 2008, a Bachelor's program in Child Education and Social Work was established. This program, along with all the other efforts of Seirei Gakuen Educational Organization, strengthens our commitment to our obligation to work closely with professionals in all medical fields and to cultivate graduates who protect life and the well-being of each and every member of our community.

Finally, SCU nurtures the creation of professionals of the highest caliber as a general university with both Master's and PhD programs in the nursing, rehabilitation, and social welfare fields.

In 2011, SGEO also opened a preschool of early childhood education and care called Seirei Christopher Kodomoen. Reflecting an era of declining birthrates and an increasing number of households with both parents working, SGEO thinks that integrating kindergarten and nursery school was inevitable. Seirei Christopher Kodomoen contributes to the local community as a preschool for early childhood education and care, serving both needs.

In 2016, SGEO opened the Seirei Christopher University College of Care Work. This was in response to the growing social need for care of the elderly, assisting them to live a full and dignified life. We train certified care workers in a two-year program. We teach them to care for the elderly in a caring and kind manner.

SGEO's newest ambition is to establish Seirei Christopher Medical School. Rather than being a conventional College of Medicine, SGEO envisions creating a graduate school to nurture medical students on their path to becoming qualified doctors. A shortage of medical doctors is a serious social issue; however, it is important to identify students who have a clear sense of purpose, as well as the academic capability to train as doctors. SGEO is pursuing further development, including revision of enabling legislation, with the aim of establishing such a facility in Japan in the near future.

SGEO has a long history of anticipating societal changes and social movement and has always worked towards addressing the needs of the broader community. Furthermore, SGEO will continue to devote itself to its students so that we may achieve the realization of a new educational model that focuses on reforming society in order to promote the practice of healthcare and social work as well as improving their quality of our graduates. We will continue to seek to cultivate professionals who care about life and the well-being of each and every member of the community.



Founder  
Tamotsu Hasegawa  
(1903~1994)



Chairman  
Ryo Hasegawa

Founding Philosophy  
" Love Thy Neighbor "

