

## **Messages for the Gymnastic Festival in 2017**

**From Mr. Uffe Strandby, President of the Academy of Physical Education in Ollerup, Denmark**

On behalf of the Academy of Physical Education in Ollerup it is a great pleasure for me to send you this message.

Since 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1931 where President Mr. Niels Bukh visited Jiyu Gakuen with a group of Danish gymnasts there has been a close and warm relationship between Jiyu Gakuen and the Academy of Physical Education in Ollerup.

From the very beginning and until now more than 200 Japanese students have graduated from Ollerup and a good part of them are former students from Jiyu Gakuen.

In the same period there have been a lot of mutual visits of groups from both schools, and recent years 2 graduated students from Ollerup have each year been invited to become instructors for a period at Jiyu Gakuen.

Beside that a lot of Danish students from Ollerup have visited Jiyu Gakuen with gymnastics groups with great pleasure.

The relationship between Jiyu Gakuen and Ollerup has been strengthened during all these years with so many mutual events, and we all hope this will be continued and developed in the years to come.

Our vision is that young students at both schools shall feel the responsibility to bring this good relationship into the next century.

The best wishes for a good Gymnastics festival 2017 at Jiyu Gakuen!

Warm regards

Uffe Strandby

President, Academy of Physical Education in Ollerup