Susumu Nikaido graduated from the University of Southern California in 1941 and was an honorary degree recipient (LLD) in 1986. Born in Kagoshima Prefecture, he was the vice president of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan and was elected to the Diet’s House of Representatives from the then-Kagoshima No. 3 constituency in the nation’s first general election after World War II, in 1946. His political accomplishments has supported numerous programs for Japan’s postwar political and economic development and has been instrumental in promoting the relationship between Japan the United States. He was elected to the chamber 16 consecutive times until he decided to retire from politics by refusing to run in the 1996 general election.