



Weekly Wire
News from East Asia and Pacific
National Science Foundation
Tokyo Regional Office
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JAPAN: Global Science Campus

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) will commence its “Global Science Campus” program in JFY2014. The applicant university should (1) form a consortium with the local-area education committee, companies, and other research institutions; (2) recruit high school students interested in university-level science studies in the region; and (3) develop and implement advanced and systematic science and mathematics education. There are two types of grants: (a) Yen 75 million (\$750,000) for a university that accepts around 150 high school students; and (b) Yen 40 million (\$400,000) for a university that accepts around 70 high school students. The grant enables the successful university to design the curricula, take the high school students abroad, and invite lecturers from other countries. The high school students will have the classes at universities in addition to their regular programs at their high schools. MEXT will make a decision on two grants for (a) and six grants for (b) in June 2014.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on MEXT and Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) websites and phone interviews.

JAPAN: Expanded Recruitment for the President

Kyoto University will solicit candidates for the next president of the university not only in Japan but also from abroad. The university is seeking a president who can exercise strong leadership in university reforms with the goal of attracting more talented students and faculty members from all around the world. As this is the first time for a Japanese national university to consider tapping a foreigner as its president, the selection committee will ask the presidents of Harvard, Cambridge, University of Tokyo, and other leading institutions to propose possible candidates to succeed President Matsumoto, who will step down on September 30 this year.



Note: This is a summary translation of an article on Yomiuri newspaper – March 16, 2014

JAPAN: Program Managers for ImPACT Program

The Cabinet Office has begun to recruit program managers for the ImPACT program that will begin in JFY2014. Standing for **Imp**ulsing **PA**radigm **C**hange through disruptive **T**echnologies, the \$550-million ImPACT program will select high-risk and high-impact projects with the U.S. DARPA system as the model, in the fields of manufacturing, energy-saving society, information network, healthy life, and resilient society. A program manager can maintain his/her faculty member appointment on condition that s/he spends less than 10 percent of his/her work time as faculty. A program manager is responsible for managing a grant of Yen 3-5 billion (\$30-50 million). The decision on the selection of the ImPACT program managers will be made in June 2014.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the Cabinet Office website.

JAPAN: World-class R&D Institutions

One of the items discussed when the Council for S&T Policy (CSTP) convened on March 12 was the establishment of “Special National R&D Institutions.” To be selected as the special national R&D institutions, the candidates should conduct research on nationally strategic projects; be able to present high citation numbers; possess its strategy on intellectual property rights; have collaboration with industry, university, government, and overseas institutions; be exercising commercialization efforts; have diversity in researchers; be internationally active; have excellent management systems; and be updated with IT environment and risk management. RIKEN and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) are listed as the candidates. It is not known yet when the final decision will be made.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the Cabinet Office website.

AUSTRALIA: State of Climate

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) reported “State of the Climate-2014.” It provides an observation summary of Australia’s climate and an analysis of the factors that influence it. The chapters include temperature, rainfall, heat waves and fire weather, heavy rainfall and tropical cyclones, ocean, greenhouse gases, and future climate scenarios for Australia.

<http://www.csiro.au/Outcomes/Climate/Understanding/State-of-the-Climate-2014.aspx>

KOREA: 4th Meeting of Korea and Denmark Alliance for Green Growth

At the “Fourth Meeting of Korea and Denmark Alliance for Green Growth,” Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) and the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) signed a memorandum of understanding on the “Cooperation for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.” KAIST and DTU will post on their websites the patents obtained through the implementation of joint research programs. Also, both KAIST and DTU students will attend conferences organized by DTU and KAIST.



http://www.kaist.ac.kr/_prog/_board/?mode=V&no=16325&code=ed_news&site_dvs_cd=en&menu_dvs_cd=0601&list_typ=B&skey=&sval=&smonth=&site_dvs=&GotoPage=