

Capacity Development in Women Researchers' Research Activities



11th Women Researcher Encouragement Award

With the aim to increase the research motivation of the entire group of women researchers, a "women researcher" encouragement award has been established at Hiroshima University since 2007 to grant research funding to young and distinguished researchers who currently lack it. This year, we particularly focused on those who are aspiring to conduct research activities abroad, and following a strict evaluation process, the three awards below were awarded to grant a total of 3,000,000 JPY of research funding.

2018 11th Women Researcher Encouragement Award Recipients

| Name | Associated Department | Title | Research Title |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Mihoko Tominaga | Graduate School of Education | Associate Professor | Research on delicious educational activities with cooking experiences at the core: The effectiveness of delicious science education that incorporates molecular cooking |
| Kanako Nozaki | Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences | Researcher | Evaluation of the efficacy of anti-depressant drug candidates and clarification of their mechanisms with anhedonia behavior of the depression model as an index |
| Yumi Hoshino | Graduate School of Biosphere Science | Assistant Professor | Building a good ovum model for the prediction of development potential and soundness diagnosis |



2nd Women Researcher Joint Research Funding System

With the aim to cultivate the leadership skills of women researchers, we called for joint research studies by Mazda Motor Corporation, Delta Kogyo Co., Ltd., and International Development Center. Following a strict evaluation process, we selected three research projects and awarded a total of 5,000,000 JPY of research funding.

2018 2nd Hiroshima University Women Researcher Joint Research Funding System List of Selectees

| Name | Associated Department | Title | Research Title |
|---------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Tomomi Yamane | Education Development International Cooperation Research Center | Researcher | Basic study on the effectiveness of global goals toward awareness of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) |
| Makiko Kodama | Graduate School of Education | Professor | Examination of the impacts of Mazda Motor Corporation's human resources development internship (short-term course) and its ideal state for the future |
| Hitomi Ogata | Graduate School of Integrated Arts and Sciences | Assistant Professor | The effect of sleep quality on evacuees' physiological indicators |

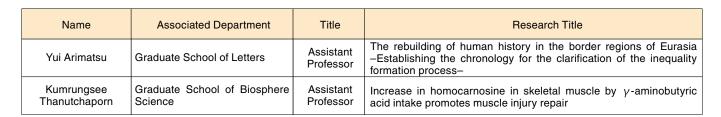


1st Women Researcher Overseas Joint Research Funding System

This system for women was newly established with the objective of accelerating international collaborative research by young women researchers using funds donated by the Micron organization. This is the first fiscal year and measures amounting to approximately 3.5 million yen were taken with regarding to the following four items.

2018 1st Hiroshima University Women Researcher Overseas Joint Research Funding System List of Selectees

| Name | Associated Department | Title | Research Title |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Kasaragod Deepa Kamath | Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences | Assistant Professor | Micrometer-scale tomography of whole mouse brain using polarization-sensitive optical coherence tomography and validation using rapid histological imaging |
| Megumi Watanabe | Comprehensive Strategy Office | Lecturer | An empirical analysis of multiplex social networks among university faculty in the US |





Gender Equality Awareness-Raising Seminar

Date/Time: September 4, 2018 (Tues.); 13:30–15:00

Location: Hiroshima University Department of Education A214 (small conference room)

Instructor: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Demske (Potsdam University)Participants: 10 people (two students, eight faculty members)

Details: A seminar with a round-table discussion format was held concerning women researchers who have had

successful careers at German universities. It was a good opportunity to hear how women researchers engage in research and education and build their careers in Germany, where there is a long history of academics.









English Essay-Writing Seminar (Nature Academies)

Date/Time: March 7 (Thurs.), 8 (Fri.), and 9 (Sat.), 2019; 9:00–16:30

Location: Information Media Education Research Center seminar room Kasumi Campus, No. 1 Conference room, 2F Clinical Building

Participants: A total of 23 researchers from collaborating organizations and industry, academia, and government diversity conference member organizations.

Details: Across the three fields of natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities and medicine, an interactive essay-writing workshop was held by experienced editors from Nature magazine.









English Presentation Seminar

Date/Time: March 15 (Thurs.) and 16 (Fri.), 2019; 9:00-16:00

Location: (Higashihiroshima campus) Information Media Education Research Center seminar room (Kasumi campus) No. 2 Conference room, 3F Clinical Building

Participants: Participation from a total of 30 women researchers and staff from related organizations

Details: Lecturers with experience of overseas employment in private organizations were invited to hold practical seminars regarding knowledge and skills in connection to effective English presentations for research announcements and discussions. During the seminar, the participants held exchanges through practice, including making actual presentations on their specialist fields.









2018 Women's Success Promotion Seminar

In order to expand the horizons of women researchers in science and technology, keynote speeches and special talks were held regarding the following themes and mutual awareness was raised in question-and-answer sessions.

Date/Time: March 1, 2019 (Fri.); 15:30-17:00

Location: Hotel Granvia Hiroshima

Topic: "Points to be aware of when developing women in the field of natural science"

Participants: 36 people (staff from Cooperating Organizations and Member Organizations)

Schedule:

Opening Remarks: Misako Aida (Hiroshima University Director/Vice-President of University Reform)

Keynote Lecture: Professor Yumi Inada (Associate Professor, School of Childhood Sport Education, Nippon Sport Science University)

Topic: "Natural science education and gender: The current state and problem areas of elementary and middle school education"

Special Lecture: Professor Yasuko Morinaga (Professor, Graduate School of Education, Hiroshima University)

Topic: "'Unconscious bias' and gender: When the imagined belief that 'because I am a woman...' decreases women's motivation"

Q&A: 16:45

Closing Remarks: Yoko Ishida (Hiroshima University Deputy Director of Gender Equality, Head of Gender Equality Promotion Office, Education Development International Cooperation Research Center Professor)

<Voices of the participants (excerpts)>

- It was interesting that women's dislike for science is based more on emotion than knowledge. Also, I realized that efforts toward educational methods during junior high school are the key.
- I clearly understood that women's desires are lowered by prejudice from "unconscious bias."
- I renewed my understanding that there are limits to school education in breaking down the fixed ideas of women about "science," and that there is a need to change society as a whole.
- I think that Japan will decline in international competitiveness if it does not strategically promote natural sciences education.
- I knew the phrase "unconscious bias," but it also made me think deeply about the issue of "positive discrimination."



(Keynote speech from Associate Professor Inada of Nippon Sports Science University)



(Special talk by Professor Morinaga of Hiroshima University)

