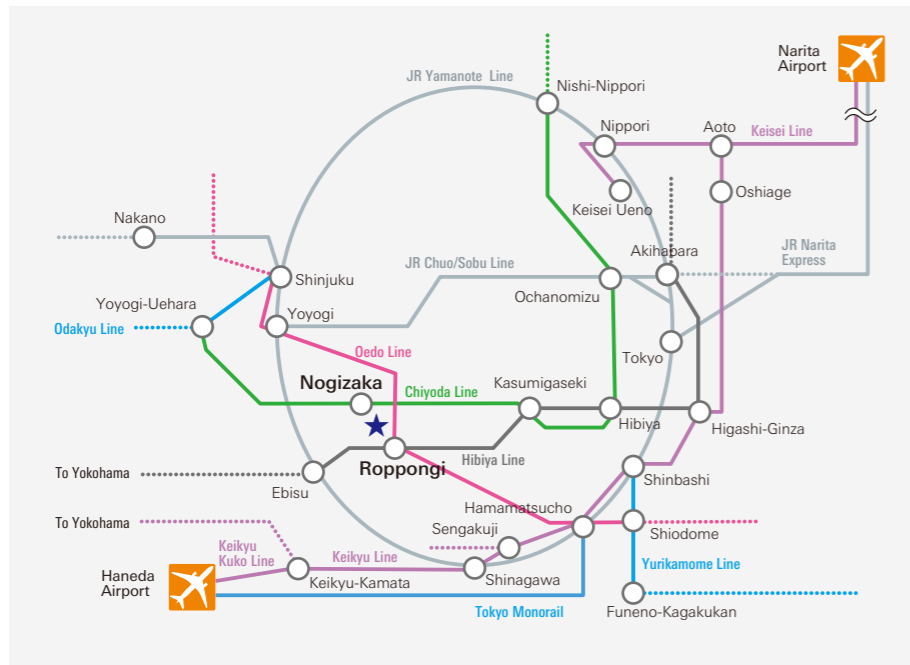


Access



GIST GRIPS Innovation, Science and Technology Policy Program

STI Educational Programs



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1 Background

In the 21st century, globalization, severe competition in international markets and societal changes place great demands on science, technology and innovation (STI). STI is expected to play a strong role in the creation of stable employment, the improvement of quality of life and the resolution of environmental, social and economic issues. Similarly, there is growing demand for policies to promote STI. In that context, nations around the world are accumulating knowledge for the drafting, design, and practice of effective STI policy. In academic fields including economics, law, political science, and sociology, researchers are developing a wide range of theories and analytical methods concerning real-world policy issues, and are accumulating the results of data analysis. However, this accumulated body of theory, practice and knowledge is not well shared among researchers, and is not always applied effectively in actual policy practice. There is a strong need to cultivate human resources who will be responsible for the execution of effective STI policy and corporate strategy, through mutual feedback and communication among practitioners and researchers. GRIPS Innovation, Science and Technology Policy Program (GIST) provides comprehensive educational programs including a doctoral program, a master's program and short-term training courses. Through these offerings, GIST cultivates human resources who can integrate knowledge from diverse academic fields, possess the ability to accurately discern social issues, and can employ a scientific approach in the planning, drafting, execution, evaluation, and revision of STI policy.



Photo: ★ Masao Nishikawa

Director's Greetings



Amid the complex and uncertain social and economic conditions of today, the success or failure of STI policy is a key issue for Japan and for the world. Policy challenges in the promotion of STI include public subsidies for research and development, taxation and cluster policy, industry-academia-government collaboration policy, intellectual property policy, competition policy and regulations of all kinds. These are becoming diversified as they cross beyond the borders of government ministries, local governments, technology sectors, and other domains. In order to draft sustainable STI policy under severe fiscal conditions and the demographic trend of an aging society with a falling birthrate, it is necessary to incorporate not only system design and policies to support research and development, but also policy elements related to the various processes by which the outcomes of these policies are realized in society.

At the same time, there must be evaluation and feedback, based on objective evidence, in the planning, drafting, execution, evaluation, and revision of the policy elements.

The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) is expanding its network throughout the world with the objective of cultivating politicians, mid-career government officers, and business persons to become policy and strategy professionals and future leaders. Our hope is that persons with a highly developed awareness of issues in STI policy will come together and leverage the knowledge of science for STI policy gained through this program in their career formation and policy practice.

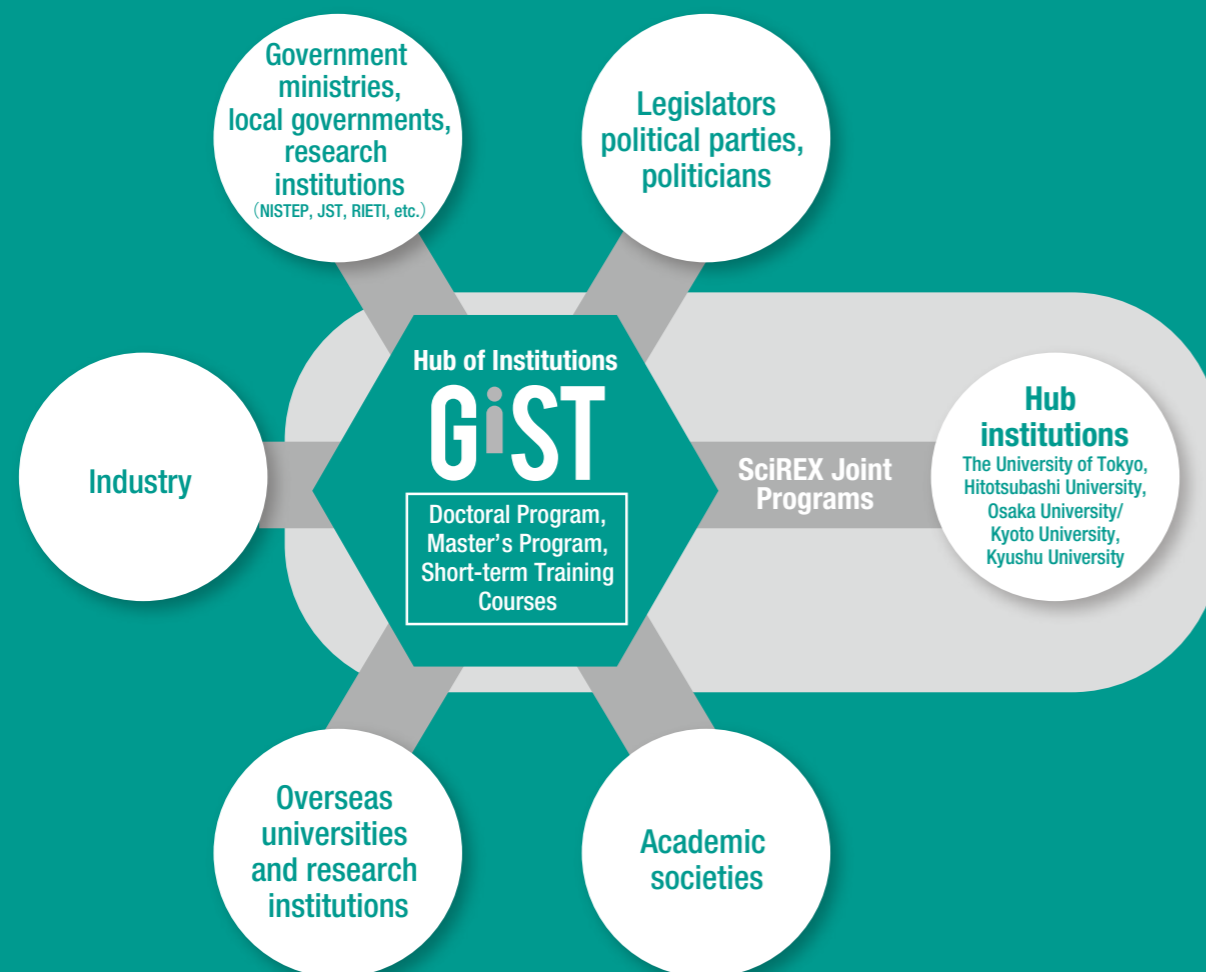
Tateo Arimoto
Professor and Director
Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Program

2 Overview

This program aims to cultivate human resources with the ability to employ a scientific approach in the planning, drafting, execution, evaluation, and revision of science, technology and innovation (STI) policy. GIST's faculty consists of professors from inside and outside Japan who are experts on STI policy studies. To achieve more practical research education, the program also involves front-line practitioners of science and technology policy as lecturers, and organizes frequent research workshops and seminars by eminent researchers and practitioners from inside and outside Japan.

There are the students from America, Indonesia, Egypt, Thai, Taiwan, Vietnam and Japan in our program. They are in international academic research environment.

The program, operated with the support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), promotes education and research on science for STI policy in collaboration with leading Japanese research bodies in STI policy studies. These research bodies include the Field Pioneering Hub Institutions (The University of Tokyo, Hitotsubashi University, Osaka University/Kyoto University, and Kyushu University) under MEXT's SciREX program, as well as the National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP), the Center for Research and Development Strategy of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST-CRDS), and the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI). The program also involves active collaboration with overseas universities and research institutions.



Educational Goals

Foster scientifically sound policy research ability

- Review of existing research and construction of theory-based hypotheses
- Verification of hypotheses through objective information and data
- Examination of implications of analytical results

Foster ability in the planning, drafting, execution, evaluation, and revision of STI policy

- Knowledge of past policy and governmental intervention in and outside of Japan, and their effectiveness
- Understanding of scientific research and the innovation process
- Understanding of the process of formation of pragmatic policy and ability to plan and implement policy
- Ability to debate and negotiate with overseas counterparts and institutions

Human resources objectives

- High-level personnel who, with extensive knowledge of science for STI policy, will as professionals bear responsibility for the formation and implementation of actual STI policy founded on objective evidence
- Research personnel who will develop and deepen the research domain of science for STI policy
- Personnel who, along with expertise in specified domains, possess a high level of knowledge of and capability in science for STI policy, and who can bridge domains of expertise such as the natural sciences and the humanities and social sciences

Target group

- Central government agency administrative officials and policy staff in the legislature (including Diet members and political party members)
- Local government body administrative officials
- Senior management officials and management candidates involved in the planning and drafting of corporate strategy
- Senior staff of international organizations closely involved in areas including economic growth and development through innovation and technical transfer
- Management staff of research organizations and funding organizations
- Think tank staff involved in national or regional policy formation
- Persons who aspire to positions of responsibility in research and the education of next generation in this field



Doctoral program

This program aims to cultivate human resources who can employ a scientific approach in the planning, drafting, execution, evaluation, and revision of STI policy and strategy. In particular, the program aims to foster administrative officials, practitioners, researchers, and other key personnel who possess advanced skills for policy research, the capability to plan and practice policy and strategy, and mastery of the multiple disciplines required for these, along with analytical competence in social science fields, teaching competence in higher education, and high-level foreign language competency.

In principle, the program accepts applicants who possess a Master's degree and are administrative officials or practitioners involved in policy, or are personnel who wish to pursue research or education careers in relevant fields. In the first year of the program, participants obtain credits in intensive courses where they acquire social science theory and analytical methods. Part-time enrollment based on participation in seminars is possible from the second year onward. The program accepts new entrants in both April and October.

Two degrees are offered, Doctor of Policy Studies for administrative officials and other practitioners; and Ph.D. in Public Policy for researchers. Dissertation guidance is offered in accordance with the goals and profile of the candidate.

Degree path

1st year		2nd year		3rd year and beyond	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Coursework (Required : 6 credits, Elective : 4 credits)					
	Thematic research : 1 credit	Thematic research : 1 credit	Thematic research : 1 credit	Thematic research : 1 credit	Thematic research
	QE	Doctoral dissertation		CS → Thesis Defense	

QE : Qualifying Examination CS : Ph.D. Candidate Seminar

Note : The above refers to October enrollment. Courses for April entrants start in the spring.

Seminars and short-term training courses

GIST offers seminars and short-term training courses in which national and local government officials and practitioners from universities, research institutes, and corporations learn about the latest issues, research findings, and analytical methodologies related to STI policy and policy studies

● GRIPS training seminar on university research activity analysis

In this seminar, participants learn about the analytical methodologies used in research at universities and exchange ideas and views.

● Workshop with private companies

In collaboration with companies and associations (e.g., Japan Management Association (JMA) and NEC), GIST organizes training workshops for the exchange of information and views so as to address common challenges and promote more effectively STI cooperation.

● Workshops and seminars for foreign government officials

GIST organizes workshops and seminars for foreign government officials upon request by foreign government bodies (e.g., National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office of Thailand, National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategies Studies of Vietnam).



SciREX joint programs

GIST carries out joint programs with the other SciREX Hub Institutions (The University of Tokyo, Hitotsubashi University, Osaka University/Kyoto University, and Kyushu University, see pp. 6-7).

- Summer Camps: Faculty members and students in SciREX Hub Institutions gather for interaction and network building opportunities in the form of research reports and group work.

Group work theme	Year	Theme
	2013	Big Project
	2014	Depopulating Society 2045
	2015	Policy Proposals for Creating Innovation to Address Grand/Societal Challenges



- International Symposiums: SciREX Hub Institutions co-organize international symposiums as venues for the sharing of information on the activities of related institutions inside and outside Japan and for the expansion of global networks.

2012	Past, Present and Future of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research
2013	Governance of Science, Technology and Innovation: Current Challenges and Policy Options
2014	Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy
2015	University-Industry Collaboration Policy for Promoting Innovation

3 SciREX



Implemented by MEXT in 2011, Science for RE-designing Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (SciREX) advances initiatives aimed at the evolution of policy formation processes and at the pioneering of interdisciplinary work, to promote policy formation and practice rooted in rational processes based on objective evidence.

SciREX is engaged in three main activities: development of data and information infrastructure; funding for R&D projects; foundation of Hub Institutions for Fundamental Research and Human Resource Development.

Hub Institutions

The Hub Institutions for Fundamental Research and Human Resource Development will construct sites for international-level research and human resource development, and will carry out education and training programs for persons in charge of policy who will undertake policy formation and implementation based on objective evidence, and for researchers who will deepen and expand the emerging research field of science for STI policy.

In order to develop diverse human resources to carry out work in science for STI policy, five Hub Institutions have been designated: National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (the Hub of Institutions); and The University of Tokyo, Hitotsubashi University, Osaka University/Kyoto University, and Kyushu University (Field Pioneering Hub Institutions). Each Hub has established its own education and training programs and, through inter-Hub collaboration, is carrying out initiatives aimed at the realization of a comprehensive human resource development scheme, and the construction of a diverse human resources network.



4 Student Support, Resources and Facilities

One unique aspect of GRIPS is our extensive support system for assisting students in their daily lives. We consider this aspect of student life to be every bit as important as academic life, especially for foreign scholars unfamiliar with Japan. International students have comprised, on average, about 60% of the GRIPS student body over the last 10 years, so we have developed comprehensive services to assist students in their day-to-day living.

The Student Office conducts orientation programs for incoming students and assists arriving international students in getting organized and settled in Japan. It also hosts a number of social events and activities, including field trips and concerts. The Student Office also functions as a hub to promote meaningful interaction and understanding between Japanese and foreign nationals.

Resources

Center for Professional Communication

The mission of the Center for Professional Communication is to support GRIPS' students, faculty, and staff in developing effective professional communication skills and the competencies needed to communicate productively in a multiple stakeholder environment. To this end, we offer a range of instruction and support in fundamental areas of professional communication in English and Japanese, including policy paper writing, professional speaking, grant proposal writing, and digital communications.

We also provide opportunities for cultural and academic exchanges through a self-access learning center; organize seminars and special events related to all aspects of professional communication; and prepare customized materials for students and staff on academic and professional writing and language learning.

The center supports the Japanese language learning of students who lack the Japanese language proficiency needed for daily living and study. The purpose is to help students achieve greater competence in comprehension and speaking. The center also facilitates cultural and traditional experiences.

Library

The GRIPS Library offers an extensive collection of policy studies publications from around the world. The collection contains over 170,000 volumes, including reference books, statistical collections, working papers, and government documents. The library's large collection of periodicals includes more than 10,000 journals, many of which are available online. To serve our academic community, the library staff is well trained to respond to research-related requests.

Facilities

Student rooms

Each student is given an individual study space in one of the student rooms, which are accessible 24 hours a day. Individual spaces are equipped with a desk, a comfortable chair, and a bookshelf and are separated with partitions for maximum privacy.



Health Services Center

The Health Services Center provides free-of-charge medical and counseling services including medical advice, first aid and specialist referrals.



Fitness Center

GRIPS has a modern fitness center equipped with strength training machines, cardiovascular workout machines, a blood-pressure measuring device, and showers. The fitness center is open six days a week and is free of charge.

5 Admissions



Doctoral course timeline (October enrollment)

Application deadlines	Online entry	The beginning of November of the previous year
	Online application & supporting documents	The middle of November of the previous year
Screening	December to March	
Results	April to June	
Enrollment	October	

Please see <http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/admissions/index/> for full details and the latest information.

Please be informed that this timeline is only for applicants who are residing in countries other than Japan. If you reside in Japan during the period from the time of application until admission, you are considered a domestic applicant. You should contact the Admissions Office to seek information about the domestic application process prior to applying.

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