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Waseda Institute for Advanced Study plays an important role for Waseda to become a university that can make propositions to society



Waseda University Vice-President Shuji Hashimoto

Profile Graduated from the Department of Applied Physics, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Waseda University in 1970. Became Associate Professor of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, followed by successive service in various posts including Professor in 1993, Head of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering and Dean of the Graduate School of Science and Engineering. Appointed Vice-President responsible for general school affairs, academic affairs, research promotion, student affairs, cultural promotion, and management planning. Also serves as administrative committee member of WIAS in addition to Chief Executive Director of Honjo Waseda Research Park Foundation.

WIAS was established with the aim of gathering excellent young researchers from all over the world to enable them to focus on their particular study. There has been interdisciplinary collaboration across conventional barriers that usually separated academic fields, and we have seen the buds of new study. At times I am envious of the people at WIAS, feeling that if I was a member of the institute, I would be able to make outstanding achievements. Talking to researchers from many different backgrounds, makes me feel very interested and gives me a sense of mission that I must further invigorate the institute. I am convinced that the presence of WIAS will continue to stimulate the entire university.

Going forward, I hope to increase opportunities for exchange with faculty members, and it might be possible to temporarily transfer them to WIAS to

concentrate on their study. From the viewpoint of recruiting faculty members, the institute can be considered a human resources pool with excellent researchers. For example, it could be utilized as a place to prepare to establish new education/research sections or departments/majors. Currently, we assemble researchers regardless of research themes, but going forward, we may intentionally allocate about 1/2 or 1/3 of the quota to researchers in specific fields, involve professors, and establish research groups.

However, in reality, the attractiveness of the institute is not yet widely known even

within the university itself. We must link WIAS with the many research institutes and centers that Waseda has and further exert the total strength of Waseda University.

One role of a university is to transmit messages to show the path that society should take. WIAS, which is a forum of human resources to support the future of mankind and of new academic studies assumes an important role for Waseda University. It is my sincere hope to make WIAS an institute, where distinguished researchers from all over the world will want to visit.



Vice-President Hashimoto meeting with researchers during a lunchtime seminar



Want to contribute to the improvement of aging Japanese society with a declining birthrate through **health economics**

Focusing on investments in human capital to increase labor productivity

My major is health economics, development economics, and education economics, with focus on applied research. A common topic of my research is human capital, which is defined as the capabilities and knowledge embodied in human labor. Individuals often need to make decisions on investments in their human capital to increase their labor productivity or welfare in the future. For

example, they need to choose how many years' of schooling to receive or the right amount of medical care services to purchase.

According to the well-known "health capital model" in health economics, higher incomes lead to better health. Many previous studies have confirmed this prediction, using data from Europe and the US. However, longitudinal data from recent health and nutrition survey in China (CHNS) have shown an opposite relationship between income and health, - i.e. the richer individuals are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases such as high blood pressure and cancers. To address

the puzzling difference, I investigate the effect of health information on health investments. While people in developed countries can make the right decisions with perfect health information, people in developing countries often do not have the information and, therefore, are not able to make the optimal health investments. Using a statistical method called Regression-Discontinuity Design, I compared patients who were likely to have high blood pressure and diagnosed so and those who also have high probability to have high blood pressure but were not diagnosed, and found that the former significantly reduced their daily fat intake to improve health. The effect of the diagnosis on fat cut was greater among high-income class, compared to low- and middle-income classes. (See the figure below).

Also, two well-known American radio programs, "National Public Radio" and "Freakonomics," have recently covered the research findings of another paper of mine. The research studies educational achievement of elementary school students in rural China, where only 10% of students with poor eyesight wear eyeglasses. In a randomized experiment, sample students are randomly divided into a treatment and control group, providing those with poor eyesight with free eyeglasses. The study finds that students supplied with eyeglasses perform better in academic tests than those not supplied with eyeglasses. Given that better



education will increase future income, this finding implies that eyeglasses could be a rewarding investment in human capital. The research has gained wide attention after being reported by the radio programs. A manufacturer of eyeglasses even approached us to propose donating eyeglasses to developing countries.

Want to provide the university with a new academic field

I have worked in several research institutes in the US before I joined WIAS. I enjoy greater research flexibility working at WIAS. I think such an environment is also rare in Japan. Since it hasn't been long since I came to Japan, I have often felt that, to a certain extent, I am benefiting from the name value of Waseda. As a researcher of WIAS, it is relatively easier to make a good first impression on researchers of other institutes and gain their trust.

I am now also very interested in health issues in Japan, especially regarding how people make post-retirement health investments. Looking at the future of Japan, the country faces issues of the pension system and increasing medical expenses. I now teach Chinese economics and health economics at Waseda. As they are new subjects, they are popular among students. I hope to integrate in my lectures many issues facing modern society and search for solutions to these problems with my students.



Meng Konishi (Zhao)

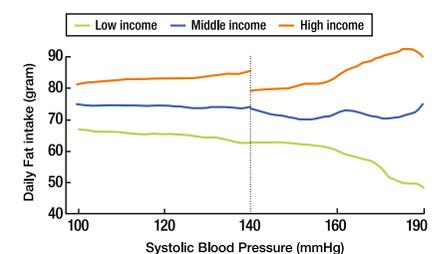
Assistant Professor
(Applied Economics)

PROFILE

2005 – 2006 Consultant at the World Bank, 2008 – 2010 Research Associate at Williams College, 2009 Adjunct Professor at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, 2010 Received a Ph.D. in Applied Economics from University of Minnesota. Current research focuses on the interrelationship between health information, health perceptions, and health capital investments.

[HP http://www.waseda.jp/wias/eng/researchers/p/ofile/prof_m_konishi.html](http://www.waseda.jp/wias/eng/researchers/p/ofile/prof_m_konishi.html)

Daily fat intake and blood pressure by income level



The discontinuity in the local average at the cutoff of 140mmHg indicates individuals' adjustment in daily fat intake in response to a hypertension diagnosis. The larger the gap is, the greater is the decrease in fat intake.



Naohiro Shichijo

Associate Professor
(Management)

PROFILE

Graduated from Department of Mathematics, School of Science, University of Tokyo in 1994. He earned Ph.D in Engineering from University of Tokyo in 1999. After spent one year at RACE (Research into Artifacts, Center for Engineering), University of Tokyo as a post-doctoral researcher, he joined III (Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies), University of Tokyo, as an assistant professor. After promoted as an associate professor in 2004, he moved to current position in April 2010. His research area spans Knowledge Economics, Management of Technology and Network of Science.

HP http://www.waseda.jp/wias/eng/researchers/pfile/prof_n_shichijo.html

Science of management to produce Innovation more efficiently that contributes to the society

Toward the consilience of academics and society

After the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, I was convinced that we need more innovation to solve social complex problems. For a while, Universities and companies, the main pillars of creating knowledge as the core of innovation, have introduced a merit-based evaluation system. Under high-pressure, scientists strive day and night to achieve more scientific outputs. However, due to excessive emphasis on quantitative aspects of outputs, they tend to conduct research that

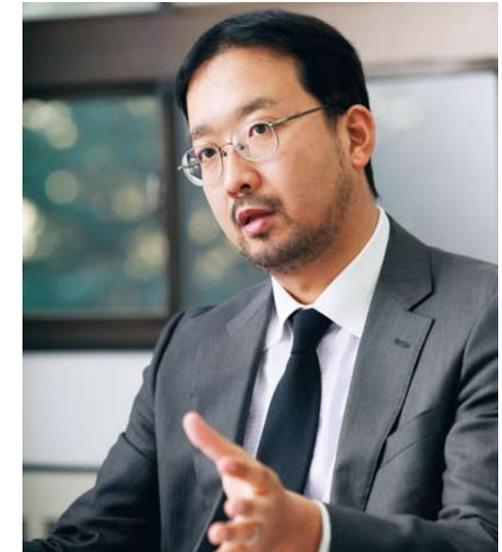
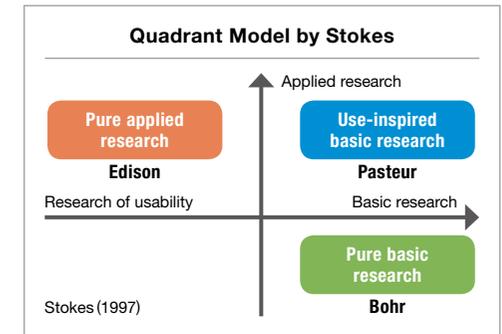
explores narrow topics in depth. The narrower the range of investigation becomes, the more efficiently you will obtain aspired results, but knowledge production would be saturated early on, and too much specialized knowledge make it difficult to collaborate with other fields, however, the coupling of different knowledge is essential for the realization of innovation. For this reason, to achieve innovation in a sustainable manner, exploration or the diversity of research should be evaluated positively, and directing research agenda toward “Society” is needed. In the field of science and engineering policies, the Quadrant model originally proposed by D. Stokes (top right figure) is widely

used to classify researchers’ orientation. In this diagram, in addition to the conventional “basic-applied” dichotomy, a new axis “Consideration for use” is added to classify research into four categories. Based on this concept, I characterized activities by individual research in a quantitative manner, based on patents and bibliographical data, and put them into four categories. As a result, it turned out that while the average citation rate of the Bohr type scientists (more basic and less use oriented) are superior to the Pasteur type scientists (more basic and use orientated) as predicted. However, Pasteur type research accounts for almost all of the most highly cited articles that have a strong impact to society. By advancing this research, I’d like to deepen the understandings of the structure of science and would like to establish multilateral research evaluation methodology as a “tool” and to propose new science policy recommendations to establish “academic activities for society.”

In addition to the research on science policy, the manufacturing processes of contents including animation and movie films are also subject of my research. Production of contents are performed in a project-based organizations, utilizing human resources with diverse capabilities. Such kind of creative processes are usually considered hard to handle quantitatively because of various kinds of uncertainty. By measuring creative processes of anime production in detail using ethnographical approach, I obtained quantitative mathematical model and simulation model of anime production. From this result, I’d like to propose team organization/management methodology that will bring the best out of creative power of artists.

Environment where freedom of research is 100% guaranteed

Being a member of WIAS is advantageous since it gathers researchers of many different disciplines. For me, as one of my research subjects is research



on scientists, their work styles are very inspiring for my study. As I also handle interdisciplinary topics, I need a wide comprehensive range of knowledge, and I really feel that communication with colleagues has accelerated acquiring knowledge of different disciplines.

WIAS is a heaven like place where “freedom of research” is 100% guaranteed. As WIAS itself is a relaxing environment, my back aches and stiff shoulders are long gone (smile). I think this favorable condition comes from well-considered governance of our university headquarter, with a mind of respecting the independence of scientists and expanding their freedom at a maximum. I’d like to “exploit” this to take full advantage of this environment.



Yukihiro Masuda

Associate Professor,
Department of Architecture and
Civil Engineering,
Toyohashi University of Technology

PROFILE

Graduated and obtained Ph.D. from Building and Urban Environmental Engineering, Department of Architecture, Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Waseda University, 2006. WIAS Assistant Professor and Associate Professor, 2007–2010. Current post and Visiting Associate Professor, Global Science and Technology Center for Crisis and Emergency Management, Tokyo University of Science since 2010. Research Area; Sustainable Science and Engineering towards Architecture and City of the Future – Environmental System Design, Planning and Management.

HP <http://einstein.ace.tut.ac.jp/masuda/index-e.html>

Philosophy as a researcher cultivated at WIAS

My philosophy as a researcher was cultivated during my three years at WIAS. At the entrance ceremony, Dr. Kuniaki Tatsuta, the then director of the institute, referred to “academic independence” and “practical utilization of knowledge” as the mission of Waseda University and said, “Undertake research that truly contributes to society,” which was very impressive. I have recalled his advice when determining my research topics since then. I currently pursue a new environmental control theory of architecture and cities in addition to system development.

At WIAS, researchers of many different fields get together, stimulate each other, and have a sense of tension in a good sense. Even daily exchanges like chatting in corridors were inspiring and meaningful. At the same time, there was a sense of comfort like a high school class. In the future, it would be preferable that a network of former members of the

institute is established and strengthened. As the world gets more and more complicated, what a researcher can solve becomes limited. Interaction among researchers with diverse academic backgrounds will be very significant.

Toyohashi University of Technology is a unique university with a mission to cultivate quality engineers. The gigantic mechanism of the world is supported by individual technologies, and the university has a steady atmosphere that enables students to feel the importance of detail. Since having a laboratory, I have come to think that leading research in view of the next generation will bear fruit through cooperation between faculty and students. In class, we discuss things not written in textbooks, and I give challenging research topics to the students. I hope to develop a new academic field that contributes to society, while developing with my students.

(Left) Participated as a panelist in 2011 District Heat Supply Symposium sponsored by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry



(Right) With members of Building and Urban Environmental Engineering Laboratory

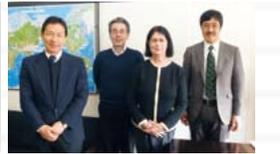


Courtesy calls by Canadian and Australian representatives

Representatives from the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of British Columbia (PWIAS) and the Institute of Advanced Studies at the University of Western Australia (IAS/UWA), member institutes of UBIAS (University Based Institutes for Advanced Study) visited Waseda, exchanged information, and discussed possibilities of future cooperation.



Visit on December 20, 2011 (PWIAS)



Visit on January 19, 2012 (IAS/UWA)

Signed MOU with Korea Institute for Advanced Study

On September 26 and 27, Hideaki Miyajima, Director, Hiroyuki Kawada, Associate Director, and Shinsuke Suzuki, researcher, participated in an international conference held by the Korea Institute for Advanced Study (KIAS) in Seoul and signed a Memorandum of Understanding between WIAS and KIAS. KIAS was established as a national research institute focusing on basic science in October 1996. Currently, the institute has Schools of Mathematics, Physics, and Computational Science, with about 100 researchers actively developing research activities including seminars and symposiums. In the future, we expect research exchanges in the field of natural science and joint research with KIAS.



Visiting fellows for 2012 selected

WIAS invites excellent internationally active researchers from other countries and through academic exchanges, seminars and other opportunities, contributes to the invigoration of Waseda research activities. Please visit the official website and Facebook page for the schedules of seminars by visiting researchers and news about their stay in Japan.

Boris Lanin, Professor, Academy of Education of Russia (Russia)

Field: Methods of Teaching Literature
Period of appointment: April 1, 2012 - May 31, 2012 (scheduled)

Alessandro Stanziani, Professor, L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (France)

Field: Economics and Social History
Period of appointment: October 15, 2012 - November 30, 2012 (scheduled)

HP <http://www.waseda.jp/wias/eng/researchers/p/ofile/visiting.html>

About the WIAS Office



The WIAS Office is located on the 5th floor of Building No. 9 on the Waseda Campus. It operates the institute and supports researchers from a wide range of perspectives such as research expense control, conference management, public relations/achievement promotion, and partnerships with overseas research institutes.

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