



KYUSHU UNIVERSITY

**MEXT Support Program for the Development of Human Resources
in Science and Technology
“Initiative for Realizing Diversity in the Research Environment”**

Diversity and Super Global Training Program for Female and Young Faculty (SENTAN-Q)

**Guideline for 6th Term Trainees
(Feb. 26, 2024)**

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Objective of this program

- The program is made to provide outstanding female and young faculty members with opportunities for strengthening their research and educational skills that meet the highest global standards to become attractive and competitive in the world's academic research.
- Trainees in this program are selected through highly transparent screening process from candidates recommended by each department and are expected to attain promotions to senior or management positions within a few years. In principle, trainees will take two-years diversity & global training course. When trainees reach the targeted learning level, certificates will be given and tenure or one-level promotion will be granted within one year.
- Through the program, trainees can acquire research and educational skills that meet the highest global standards, and the wide knowledge required for senior or management researchers. Furthermore, the formation of on-campus network that goes beyond the boundaries of male and female crossing different research fields are expected (as well as the elimination of unconscious bias)

Contents of this program

- This program consists of STEP1 to STEP6
 - STEP1 Selection of trainees
 - STEP2 University governance, diversity and inclusive education (on campus)
 - STEP3 Teaching methodologies for active learning in English (on campus)
 - STEP4 Directed study and guidance of international students (on campus)
 - STEP5 Up-to-date field-specific recurrent training(on campus)
 - STEP6 Final Examination: Teaching and directed study (overseas)
- Period : 2 years for each trainee (can be extended under certain conditions, e.g. maternal leave or nursing care)
- The program is to be implemented for six rounds from FY 2019 to FY 2024 as a JST project. The continuation after 2024 has not been decided. The program is expected to promote about 60 trainees through six application rounds.
- Trainees who complete the courses from STEP 1 to STEP 6 will receive certificates from the President and are granted tenured position or one-level promotion within one year of the completion of the program.
- This training program is supported by MEXT's Initiative for Diversity Research Environment, and will be carried out under a university-wide cooperative framework as a core project for developing human resources with world-class research and education capabilities while ensuring diversity, as part of the university's aim to become "Driving Social Change with Integrative Knowledge".

Details of this program(1/6)

STEP1 Selection of trainees (on campus)

Trainees are selected through highly transparent screening process from candidates recommended by each faculty.

- Qualified applicants: Female faculty, or male faculty aged 37 years old or younger at the end of FY in which the program starts (associate professor, lecturer and assistant professor)
(1) Tenured faculty (2) Untenured faculty but scheduled for a tenure review
- Application period: March 1, 2024(Fri) to May 10, 2024 (Fri)
- Application documents: Forms 1 to 4
- Interview Date: Early July 2024 (scheduled)
Place: Kyushu Univ. Ito Campus (details will be announced later)
- Selection criteria
(1) Sufficient research achievements (2) Having a positive attitude to learning about new issues surrounding universities and society with the acceptance of Kyushu University's policy that faculties should learn with students (3) Being motivated to improve global research and educational skills including overseas training
- Selection Committee members: President and board members of Kyushu University, professors emeritus in Institute for Advanced Study and external experts (about 10 members in total)
- Language: English and Japanese
- An unconscious bias check sheet should be provided to the judges before review
- Number of applicants (planned): 5-10 people / year
male : female = 1:1, humanities : science = 1:1 in principle
- Result announcement : Early July 2024
- Orientation meeting for successful applicants: Late July 2024
- Training course start : August 1, 2024 (Thu)

Details of this program(2/6)

STEP2 University governance, diversity and inclusive education (on campus)

Objective Learn about the importance of university governance, diversity and inclusion. Lecturers are invited from the world's top-class universities (mandatory course)

Diversity and inclusion

- Period: 1-2days intensive lectures in the first year
- Place: Kyushu Univ. Ito campus (It can be conducted online under certain conditions)
- Learn about the importance of diversity and inclusion in university and society and about various innovation cases born from these concepts.
- Lecturers are experts invited from overseas

University governance

- Period: 1-2days intensive lectures in the first year
- Place: Kyushu Univ. Ito campus (It can be conducted online under certain conditions)
- Learn about a vision of what a university should be from a long-term perspective and university management.
- Lecturers are university vice president or former vice president invited from the world's top-class universities (overseas).

Details of this program(3/6)

STEP3 Teaching methodologies for active learning in English (on campus)

Objective Learn about the latest teaching methodologies for active learning from lecturers invited from the world's top-class universities (mandatory course)

- Period: 2-3 days of intensive lectures in the first year
- Place: Kyushu Univ. Ito campus or Fukuoka City (It can be conducted online under certain conditions)
- Classes are conducted in English. Intensive and interactive lectures.
- Lecturers are experts invited from overseas.

Details of this program(4/6)

STEP4 Directed study and guidance of international students (on campus)

Objective Learn how to conduct research guidance in English for international students while receiving guidance from the world's top-class senior researcher as a mentor

- Period: 1 year starting from August, 2024
- Place: Trainees' laboratory
- Setting research theme, conducting research guidance in English and writing international co-authored paper etc. with international students (maximum 2) supervised by an overseas mentor
- An overseas mentor should be a university researcher who meets the requirements of Progress 100.
- Selection of international students and overseas mentor should be done by a trainee in principle.
- Web-conferencing system can be available for overseas communication. (In FY 2019, Kyushu University purchased a web-conferencing system and installed it in the Office for the Promotion of Gender Equality. A device can also be made available for lease.)

Details of this program(5/6)

STEP5 Up-to-date field-specific recurrent training (on campus)

Objective Select your extra-professional field from the top priority issues at Kyushu University, such as the latest data science (e.g., AI or IoT), SDGs, etc. and receive recurrent training to broaden the scientific view. This will be helpful to remain highly active after promotion through the establishment of interdisciplinary fields, research centers, and budget requests.

- Period: Take two or more courses from the list between August 2024 to July 2025 as the mandatory-elective course.
- Place: Kyushu Univ. campuses
- Lecturer: Kyushu Univ. faculty members in principle. Lecturers can also be invited from outside the university upon request from trainees.
- Select the extra-professional field. Faculty from the humanities should take science-related classes, and vice versa. Classes for industry-academia collaboration and entrepreneurship are also available.
- STEP 5 can be completed after STEP 6 overseas research.
- Lectures are conducted in English or Japanese using active learning method

Details of this program(6/6)

STEP6 Final Examination: Teaching and directed study (overseas)

Objective Overseas training constitutes the final examination of SENTAN-Q. It determines whether the trainees have developed research and educational skills that meet the highest global standards.

- Period: 1 year starting from August 2025 to July 2026 (overseas staying period should be more than 8 weeks)
- Place : Overseas partner university (or another world's top-class universities)
- Only trainees who have completed the STEP2 to STEP4 can participate in STEP6
- Conduct lectures at an overseas partner university in English. If it is difficult to conduct a regular class, it can be replaced with tutorial lectures at multiple universities.
- Student research guidance in English at an overseas partner university with a mentor. In principle, as in STEP 4, writing of one international co-authored paper as a principal investigator is required.
- The trainee selects an overseas partner university and mentor
- Expenses necessary for overseas training are borne by the SENTAN-Q program.

Evaluation of the trainees' achievements

STEP2, STEP3 , STEP5

- Quantitative evaluation of trainees' achievements based on rubric tables should be done by lecturers.
- A self-evaluation by the trainees will also be done at the same time to feedback on the efficiency of the program for the next year

STEP4, STEP6

- An overseas mentor from the world's top-class university determines whether the trainees have developed research and educational skills that meet the highest global standards in consideration of the achievement of internationally co-authored papers.

Final certification of the training (after the completion of two-years program) is decided by the President after deliberation by the committee

Appendix

- This program is designed to empower female and young faculty members by the direct guidance of the world's top-class researchers and being assessed on their research and educational skills. The goal is not simply to increase the number of female and young faculty members in senior or management positions, rather to make them to be competitive and attractive in global research market.
- The ultimate goal is to identify and nurture outstanding female and young researchers at Kyushu University who can lead the world's academic research and to appeal their skills to the world.
- The trainees should understand the objective of this program and make the best use of this training opportunity for their own learning and achievements.