The role of the Educational Programs Committee is to effectively support research by graduate students. Ochanomizu University’s Global COE Program places heavy emphasis on fostering young researchers. The Global COE employs research assistants and implement Grant-in-Aid research, collaborative research support, and research presentation support programs to assist graduate students (for details of each program, please see p.2). We want to support as many graduate students as possible. However, at the same time, we want to especially emphasize support of research that has the capability to grow, so it is necessary for the research to present results. Thus we use a competitive scheme to determine how to allocate support. Because it is not easy to produce separate, discrete results in a research area, and it is difficult to compare the state of progress between diverse fields, it is difficult to select awardees. I hope that graduate students will not become preoccupied with minor results in the near term for the sake of receiving assistance, and will aim for major research on their own pace.

The Multivariate Analysis Seminar Series for Developmental Studies has held seminars entitled “Regression Analysis and Related Methods” (first seminar) and “Analysis of Longitudinal Data: Latent Growth Curve Analysis” (second seminar). The third seminar was held on Thursday, May 13, 2010. Based on the contents of the previous two seminars, this seminar discussed the “Latent Class Analysis.” In the first half of the seminar, Hiroto Murohashi (Associate Fellow) gave an overview of latent class analysis and explained analysis methods. In the second half, Satoko Matsumoto (Research Fellow) introduced examples of latent class analysis, and discussed the technique from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The participants came from a variety of fields, and expressed comments that they received information that was profitable for their own research activities. There were about 30 participants.
The Ochanomizu University Global COE research training program is comprised of the Fundamental Education Program (Grant-in-Aid Research Program, Research Assistants, and Research Presentation Support Program) as the basis for training researchers and the Innovative Education Program (Collaborative Research Support Program) aimed at fostering researchers who are sensitive to social justice, which is the main goal of this COE Program.

1 **Grant-in-Aid Research Program**

   The Grant-in-Aid Research Program is implemented to assist researchers with research expenses (public calls for research applications and selections are conducted once during each academic year) in order to support young researchers (persons registered in Ph.D. programs at Ochanomizu University or other universities) with outstanding research plans, which are essential to the execution of the COE Program. In the 2010 academic year, there were a total of 48 applications (Social Sciences: 18; Psychology: 19; Education: 11), and 23 of these were selected to receive research grants in the amount of 350,000 to 400,000 yen per applicant (total amount of grants: 9.5 million yen). The selected researchers will be required to submit a report on research achievements at the end of the academic year and make an oral presentation at a research presentation meeting. They will also be obligated to submit research results to GCOE proceedings or other academic journals.

   The 19 researchers selected in 2009 reported the results of their research over the past year on Monday, April 25, 2010, and the Grant-in-Aid Research Awards (Proceedings 12) was issued at the end of July 2010. For details, please refer to the Ochanomizu University Global COE Program homepage at http://ocha-gaps-gcoe.com/.

2 **Research Assistants**

   Research Assistants (RAs) are part-time employees who work mainly in research activities under the guidance of academic advisors. Other duties include attending symposiums, seminars, and other events held by the Global COE, and participating in activities related to the Global COE. RAs work two days per week at a basic salary of 100,000 yen per month, in order to guarantee persons registered in Ph.D. programs the opportunity to participate in advanced research, while at the same time providing an environment in which they can concentrate on their own research. First year students are hired based on their applications, while those who have already been in the Ph.D. program for one year or more are screened according to whether their research achievements are appropriate to the length of time they have been in the program. In the 2010 academic year, 36 of 51 applicants (D1: 23; D2: 8; D3: 3; D4 and later: 2) were hired as RAs.

3 **Research Presentation Support Program**

   The goal of this support program is to promote research by graduate students currently registered in Ph.D. programs in the field of human development, while at the same time establishing and enhancing the Global COE itself, by assisting these students with the travel expenses (transportation and lodging expenses) required to present research results at academic conferences. In the 2010 academic year, a total of 21 graduate students giving research presentations (five outside Japan) were selected to receive this support, with an upper limit of 50,000 yen for conferences in Japan and 100,000 yen for conferences held overseas (total amount of grants: 1.15 million yen).

4 **Collaborative Research Support Program**

   This program aims at promoting collaborative interactions between the realm of basic research and the realm of practical applications as part of the Global COE "Innovative Education Program," based on the premise of the differences and the relationship of tension that exists between these two realms. It offers a grant for experience in collaborative research in the front lines of schools, social welfare, child care, and assistance for developing countries, including participatory fieldwork, practice in compensatory education, and guidance in studies. In the 2010 academic year, three researchers were selected for the program (two from Grant-in-Aid research program; total amount of grants: 300,000 yen).
The Ochanomizu University Global COE has implemented the Disciplinary Linkage Project to promote mutual understanding and cooperation among three research fields: “International Inequality,” “Educational and Social Inequality,” and “Inequality in Childrearing.”

The 6th Disciplinary Linkage Project Seminar “Reconsidering Research Methodologies in Language Development”

Date: June 16, 2010 (Wednesday) 2:00 pm–5:00 pm
Venue: Ochanomizu University Main Building Rm. 103
Participants: 45

The public seminar discussed empirical research approaches concerning children’s language acquisition and the issue of disparities, focusing on the issue of international disparities in the area of language development. First, Prof. Nobuko Uchida of Ochanomizu University provided a report on empirical research methods in language acquisition through a comparison of Japanese and Chinese research by using clinical interviews, teaching experiment paradigm and puppet paradigm. Next, Meichin Lee (Research Fellow) gave a presentation on approaches to studying second language acquisition based on examples of research in Japanese-Chinese bilingualism in Japan and Taiwan. She presented the current conditions and issues concerning the disparity in nurturing and educating children from international marriage families in multilingual and multicultural Taiwanese society.

The speakers presented a wide range of content, from basic science to applications. The conference drew many participants from both inside and outside the university, who held active discussions, making this conference a successful event.

Ochanomizu University Global COE Program: Science of Human Development for Restructuring the “Gap-Widening Society,” Effect of Social and Cultural Factors on the Literacy Learning of Infants: Comparative Databook on Japan (Tokyo), South Korea (Seoul), and China (Shanghai), Literacy Survey Project Group, March 2010, 62 pages.

In collaboration with the Benesse Corporation, the Global COE International Inequality Research Group is working on international comparative surveys involving Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam, and Mongolia. The survey group, led by Prof. Nobuko Uchida, carries out interview surveys of children aged 3 to 5 in each country to study their reading, writing, and vocabulary skills, as well as use surveys to gather information such as parents’ style of supervising their children, family income, attitudes toward early education, amount of investment in education, attitudes of educators, educational environments, and ways of involvement with children. The group’s findings have been published by the GCDE program, as well as widely reported by the mass media in countries such as Japan, South Korea, and Mongolia.

Ochanomizu University’s Global COE Educational and Social Inequality Research Group is carrying out the Japan Education Longitudinal Study (JELS). Student and parent questionnaires have been conducted in elementary and high schools from 2003. The group analyzed the panel data, collected from the Tohoku region in 2004 and 2007, and published results in seven chapters on topics such as “Modern tracking and tracking of student culture,” “Career choice of modern non-elite students” and “Effort to improve teacher capabilities using performance assessment.”

**Publications of Research Results**

Ochanomizu University Global COE Program: Science of Human Development for Restructuring the “Gap-Widening Society”, PROCEEDINGS 12 Grant-In-Aid Research Awards, July 2010, 116 pages. (Please see p.2 for Research Training Program.)

**2010 Information on Scheduled Events**

**The 4th International Symposium “Child Development and Child-Rearing Environment: Parenting and the QOL of Children”**

International comparative study of child-rearing environments and the QOL (quality of life) of children is currently under way from a collaboration of the GCOE International Inequality Group and Inequality in Childrearing Research Group.

The Global COE will hold a symposium for the interim reports on its international comparative study of QOL, with a keynote address by Dr. Sarah L. Friedman, a world-famous psychologist. Dr. Friedman is an associate director of CNA’s Institute for Public Research, responsible for health care research and policy, and is currently conducting a research on the intervention for mothers and their impacts on child development. For further details, please refer to the Ochanomizu University Global COE Website: http://ocha-gaps-gcoe.com/

Date: October 5, 2010 (Tuesday) 4:00 pm–7:00 pm
Venue: Ochanomizu University Inter-Faculty Building 2, Rm. 102
Language: English (English-Japanese interpretation provided)

Program:

**PART I Symposium: “Child-Rearing Environment and the QOL in Asian Countries”**

Keynote Report: Satoko Matsuzawa (Ochanomizu University)
*Longitudinal Changes of Parent-Child QOL and Their Related Factors* Interim Reports from Asian Countries
Lingzhong Xu (Shandong University, China)
Nirchara Kuangcharanong (Mahidol University, Thailand)
Tuan Diep Tran (Ho Chi Minh City University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Vietnam)
Yoko Aoki (Ochanomizu University, Japan)

**PART II Keynote Address: “Intervention for Mothers”**
Sarah Friedman (Associate Director, Institute for Public Research, CNA, USA)

**Open Seminar: “Competency and Assessment in Lifelong Learning”**

The Global COE will invite two scholars from Korea and hold a seminar on lifelong learning.

Date: September 21, 2010 (Tuesday) 10:00 am–12:30 pm
Venue: Ochanomizu University Faculty of Letters and Education Building 1, Conference Room 1
Lecturers: Yi Byung Jun, Professor Ph.D. (lifelong learning), Pusan National University
Park Ji Yeon, Researcher of K21, Pusan National University
Language: Korean (Korean-Japanese interpretation provided)

**Research Presentations by 2010 Research Assistants**

Twenty-three 2010 GCOE Research Assistants will hold the first research presentation meeting as follows:

Date: September 27, 2010 (Monday) 12:30 pm–4:30 pm
Venue: Ochanomizu University Main Building Rm. 103

**Open Seminar: “Globalization: New Challenge and Opportunities for Adult Education”**

The Global COE will invite Prof. S. B. Merriam and hold a seminar co-sponsored by the National Institute for Educational Policy Research.

Date: October 16, 2010 (Saturday) 10:00 am–12:30 pm
Venue: Ochanomizu University Faculty of Letters and Education Building 1, Conference Room 1
Lecturer: Sharan B. Merriam, Professor, Georgia University
Language: English (English-Japanese interpretation provided)

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