

Program Abstract

Name of Plan: Special Rearing Plan for Researchers by IAR of NU
Principal Manager: HIRANO, Shin-ichi
Institution: Nagoya University
Program Term: 2006 FY~2010 FY

Present Status of Nagoya University

Nagoya University is a mid-sized university consisting of approximately 1,770 faculty members. As shown by Dr. Noyori's Nobel prize and Dr. Akasaki's invention of the blue-light emitting diode, Nagoya University demonstrates the top level research activity in natural sciences, and occupies 5 - 10 % of large Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research projects and 10 % of the 21st Century COE programs.

The Institute for Advanced Research (IAR) was established in 2002 to promote top level sciences. IAR focuses on rearing young, but top level researchers in the university, and has already been achieving some promising results. The department of biological science is planning to expand this program in collaboration with other life-science related departments (medicine, agriculture, engineering, etc.) by establishing an independent team of young researchers as a model case for the tenure-track system.

Nagoya University has already introduced a fixed-term system and annual salary system mainly for the faculty members employed under the 21st Century COE programs.

Program Abstract

The "Special Rearing Plan for Researchers" is introduced as a new program in the Institute for Advanced Research (IAR) supported by JST.

IAR manages international recruitment and selection of the candidates. Adopted researchers are provided with personnel expenses, research grants, employment costs of PD researchers and laboratory spaces in order to encourage independent research activities. The researchers are requested to experience some educational work at the corresponding department. At the end of the 5-year period, IAR evaluates the researchers' activity and ability, and recommend the tenure endowment to the corresponding department.

Blessed with fulfilling research and education systems, IAR selects prominent tenure candidates and foster young researchers with broad vision and research ethics through the support for individual research activity and activities at IAR.

Goal of the Program (Mission Statement)

Nagoya University employs approximately 15 young researchers under this program. The main goal of this program is that all the researchers achieve outstanding results and attain tenure positions. The term of employment is 5 years and subject to the mid-term assessment in the third year and the final evaluation (tenure examination) at the end of the term. Once approved at the tenure examination, researchers are offered tenure at the corresponding department.

The young researchers reared under this program are expected to become faculty members at the corresponding department of Nagoya University. Once these researchers move to the department and solicit high evaluations, the tenure-track system and the atmosphere to promote advanced research with research ethics are expected to become prevalent extensively.