

The Japan Society of Applied Physics (JSAP) career advice meeting - an activity for promoting diversity of young members' career paths

Ichiro Shoji: JSAP, Chuo University (E-mail: ishoji@elect.chuo-u.ac.jp, membership@jsap.or.jp)

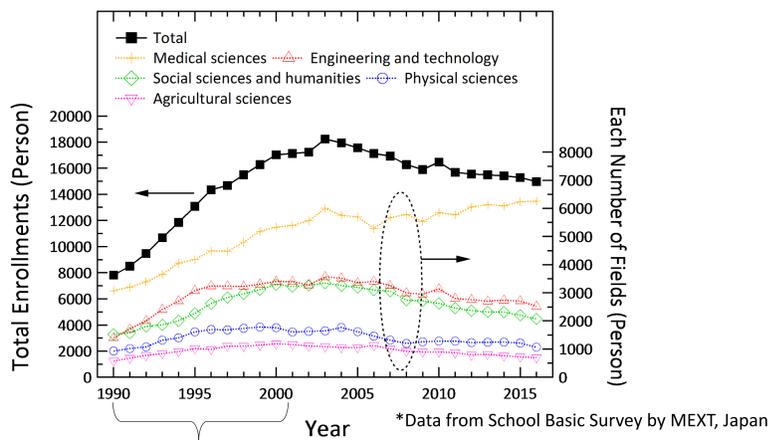
Nahoko Kasai: JSAP, NTT Basic Research Laboratories

Atsushi Masuda: JSAP, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

Background

The number of students in Ph. D. courses is now decreasing in Japan.

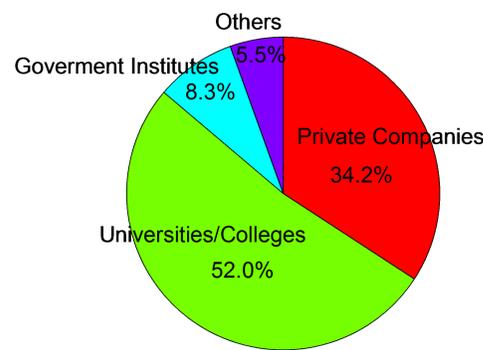
↪ The number of tenure positions in academia did not increase.



Policy of enhancement of graduate schools and the plan for supporting 10,000 postdoctoral researchers

Career support by JSAP

- ✓ JSAP has more than 20,000 members from various organizations.
- ✓ The members' scientific and technological backgrounds and interests cover wide range.



Affiliations of Members (2016)



The JSAP annual meetings can give good opportunities both for students/postdocs and various recruiting organizations to encounter each other!



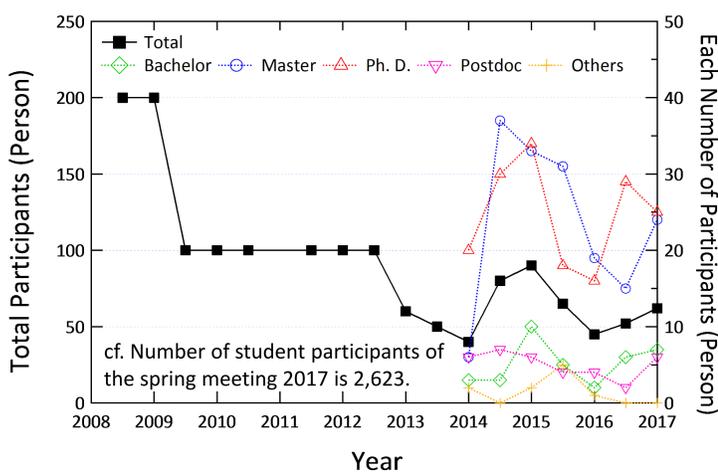
The speakers can use the career explorer mark in the manuscripts and slides to show that they are seeking jobs.

Career advice meeting



Poster of the meeting

- ◆ Purpose: to support the young members' career design by presenting various career paths
- ◆ Participants: bachelor/master/Ph.D. course students and postdoctoral researchers including foreign members
- ◆ Advisers: - researchers and personnel representatives from around 15 supporting member companies/government institutes (examples of organizations: IBM Japan, Mitsubishi Electric, NEC, Nikon, NTT R&D, SanDisk, Sony, TechnoPro, Toshiba, ULVAC, AIST, NIMS, JST, Nagoya Univ. B-jin) - APSG (Applied Physics Social Group) comprising voluntary senior members
- ◆ Date: held in half a day during each spring and autumn meeting
- ◆ Place: open space such as an exhibition hall at the venue of the annual meeting



- Number of participants is between 50 and 100 every time (the numbers before 2013 are rough estimations).
- Many Ph.D. course students as well as master course students participate.



- Luncheon seminar is held before the meeting.
- Each organization gives a short presentation to introduce the research activities and recruitment information.
- The participants can obtain general information before attending the career advice meeting.



- The organizations run their booths at the meeting site.
- The participants can directly talk to the researchers of each organization and obtain detailed information on - how Ph. D./young researchers contribute to the organizations, - what the organizations expect from Ph. D./young researchers.
- The staffs of the attending organizations can - understand current status of the participants, - also have chances of recruiting excellent persons.
- APSG members provide consulting services to the participants as second mentors, about various concerns on their career paths.

A case of a woman Ph.D. student who took a job through the career advice meeting

- Sept. 2014 (1st year of Ph.D. course): Her first participation to the meeting
She spent a good time by visiting several booths of companies and talking to some staffs. A researcher from one of the companies gave his business card to her and the interaction began between her and that company.
- Mar. 2015: Her second participation to the meeting
The same person of the company suggested that she visit the company.
- Jun. 2015 (2nd year of Ph.D. course)
She visited the company, talked to about 10 employees, and asked them how they determined their career paths.
- Jan. 2016
She started job hunting.
- Jun. 2016 (3rd year of Ph.D. course)
She took a job at that company.
- Apr. 2017
She began to work at the company.

Her comments on the career advice meeting

"It was especially good for me that I could meet the adviser who is recruiting students, without taking the employment examination. Although we can consult our friends and elders until the master course because many students go on, it would be difficult since there are few students going to Ph.D. course. The career advice meeting then greatly helped me with chances to freely consult the advisers on my career paths.

I would like JSAP to continue this event and hold it other than the dates during the technical meeting; the number of participants is small because only the persons who attend the technical meeting can participate."