

2022

NEWSLETTER

# TMU TIMES

AN OFFICAL PUBLICATION OF TOKYO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY



## Vol.7

TMU International Affairs Office

## CONTENTS

TMU GLOBAL LECTURE SERIES

MEET A TOKYO HUMAN RESOURCES FUND FOR CITY DIPLOMACY ALUMNUS

A NEW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM LAUNCHED FOR THE 2022/23 ADMISSIONS!

JLCP VIRTUAL SUMMER PROGRAM

TOKYO METROPOLITAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY CORPORATION'S CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION



# TMU Global Lecture Series

Last September, Tokyo Metropolitan University (TMU) launched the first TMU Global Lecture Series entitled: The Future of/with the Earth. The series brings distinguished speakers from various industries and academic disciplines across the world to our campus to share their expertise. The series is open to the TMU community. It is offered as a credit-bearing course for undergraduate students to trigger their interest in global issues and studying abroad.

The first season of the lecture series included experts in the fields of philosophy, astrophysics, business investment, economics, power electronics, architecture, and anthropology from Japan and abroad (see the Program below). Each lecture was reflected upon by

TMU faculty members who had contacts with the speakers and/or taught the same disciplines as the speakers. Furthermore, Professor Ayabe, Vice-President for International Affairs, recaptured the intangible ideas that encompass a broad array of topics through the entire course as a threefold message: Revisit what is considered "normal" and join the endless intellectual game called "learning;" seek the common ground between science and contemporary philosophy and grasp your guiding principles; understand and seize the power of language. The speakers and TMU faculty members provided the TMU community with an intellectually unique and valuable opportunity to explore how we shape our future, and that of the Earth.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the series was offered online. It was well-attended and well-received by the TMU students and staff.

Some comments and feedback from the students are as follows.

*The series gave meaning to my life. It was the most enjoyable class I have ever taken at the university.  
The lectures provided me with the opportunity to revisit the ways we tackle issues surrounding the world.  
I was excited to study these spectacular topics from different perspectives.*

TMU has already started planning for the next season of the series scheduled for this summer.

<b>Prologue</b>	<b>Masao Ayabe</b> Vice-President for International Affairs
<b>1st Speaker   1st period 8:50▶10:20</b>	
<b>Markus Gabriel</b> Professor, Bonn University	
<b>Towards a New Enlightenment - Transdisciplinary and Transcultural Cooperation in the Post-Pandemic Era</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Yuji Nishiyama Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	
<b>2nd Speaker   2nd period 10:30▶12:00</b>	
<b>Yasumasa Yamamoto</b> Startup Investor/Specially Appointed Associate Professor, Kyoto University Graduate School	
<b>How Tech Business is Changing the World</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Hideaki Yamashita Vice President for Public Affairs and Institutional Assessment Professor, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration	
<b>3rd Speaker   3rd period 13:00▶14:30</b>	
<b>Yasuo Kobayashi</b> Professor Emeritus, Tokyo University	
<b>How To Be 'With the Earth'-a Philosophical Trial</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Yuji Nishiyama Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	
<b>4th Speaker   4th period 14:40▶16:10</b>	
<b>Megan Urry</b> Professor, Yale University	
<b>The Earth's Place in the Universe</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Takaya Ohashi President, Tokyo Metropolitan University	

<b>5th Speaker   1st period 8:50▶10:20</b>	
<b>Frede Blaabjerg</b> Professor, Aalborg University	
<b>Power Electronics - the Key Technology for Grid Integration of Renewable Energy</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Toshihisa Shimizu Specially Appointed Professor, Graduate School of Systems Design	
<b>6th Speaker   2nd period 10:30▶12:00</b>	
<b>Fuhito Kojima</b> Professor, Tokyo University	
<b>Market Design for Improving Real-Life Systems</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Takahiro Watanabe Professor, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration	
<b>7th Speaker   3rd period 13:00▶14:30</b>	
<b>Markus Gabriel</b> Professor, Bonn University	
<b>Will the Metropolitan-Oriented Society Change after the Pandemic?</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Tohru Yoshikawa Dean, Faculty of Urban Environmental Sciences	
<b>8th Lecture   4th period 14:40▶16:10</b>	
<b>Sayaka Ogawa</b> Professor, Ritsumeikan University	
<b>The Power of Narratives: What Words Can Carry (TBD)</b>	
<b>Coordinator</b> Masao Ayabe Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences	
<b>Epilogue</b>	<b>Masao Ayabe</b> Vice-President for International Affairs

# Meet A Tokyo Human Resources Fund for City Diplomacy Alumnus

The Tokyo Human Resources Fund for City Diplomacy is a fund established by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 2015 to financially support students who undertake graduate studies at TMU. It aims to provide them with opportunities to join the TMU community and engage in networking conducive to the development of their careers as well as that of Tokyo and beyond.

In the seven years since its launch, dozens of students have earned Master's and Ph.D. degrees and now play active roles in various fields around the world. One of our alumni has shared his experience with us.

If you are interested in applying for the new Tokyo Global Partner Scholarship Program, read this article and learn how the education we provide may help you advance your career.



Mr. Veersamy Nimelan

## ■Q1 Please tell us about your current job responsibilities.

*I am currently working as a researcher at the Department of Radioecology, Institute for Environmental Sciences (IES), Aomori, Japan. My research mainly focuses on the measurement of natural and artificial radionuclides and the associated health risks in different environmental and biological samples.*

## ■Q2 Please tell us about your research topic at TMU and provide specific examples, if any, of how your learning experiences at TMU prepared you for your current position.

*My research topic at TMU was measuring the gamma radiation and associated health risks from the natural high background radiation areas in India. I used different techniques to measure radionuclides, such as radiometric and mass spectrometry. I collaborated with my supervisor, Prof. Kazumasa Inoue, from the beginning of my research. Through this project, I learned and developed skills to measure artificial radionuclides (Cs-137 and Cs-134) from the Fukushima nuclear accident samples. In addition, I have been conducting gadolinium measurements in different water samples from Japan.*

*The highly facilitated laboratories and good academic environment at TMU gave me an opportunity to develop my research skills and knowledge on different topics, which eventually helped me pursue my career as a researcher.*

## ■Q3 Please share your memories of your time (happy days and difficult times at TMU and/or in Tokyo).

*For me, TMU was my first exposure to an international academic environment. I was overwhelmed in the beginning because of the language gap and laboratory atmosphere where students were expected to participate and contribute. I enjoyed meeting people from diverse backgrounds. Eventually, I made good friends at the university and in the neighborhood. It was always amazing to see Tokyo's urban beauty and experience the superior technology. Every day, you are surprised by hidden gems in Tokyo.*

*In addition to the urban settings, Tokyo has a mesmerizing natural beauty where you can relax and focus on yourself.*

## ■Q4 Who would you recommend this scholarship program to?

*Students who are inquisitive, self-motivated, open-minded, and willing to learn a new culture can really benefit from this scholarship program.*

## A New Scholarship Program Launched for the 2022/23 Admissions!

Tokyo Metropolitan University is proud to announce that it is launching a new scholarship program, the Tokyo Global Partner Scholarship, starting with academic year 2022/23 admissions. Like its preceding program, the Tokyo Human Resources Fund for City Diplomacy, the Tokyo Global Partner Scholarship provides scholarships to students who wish to pursue graduate studies at TMU. The scholarship covers tuition, international airfare, and a monthly stipend of 150,000 JPY. Eligibility

criteria for the scholarship include a bachelor's degree (master's applicants) or a master's degree (Ph.D. applicants) from higher education institutions in Tokyo's sister cities, countries and regions of Asia, or Tokyo Metropolitan University's partners, among others.

This scholarship aims to provide students with unique learning opportunities generated by TMU faculty's high-quality, cutting-edge research and prepare them for work and life

across international boundaries. Simultaneously, TMU builds networks and partnerships for university innovation, allowing it to contribute even more to Tokyo and beyond.

[Please visit our website for more details.](#)



Tokyo Global Partner Scholarship

# JLCP Virtual Summer Program

Tokyo Metropolitan University offered the Virtual Summer Program, an exclusive program for students from partner universities, in the summer of 2021 (28th June – 7th July).

It was our first online academic activity to interact with our partner universities.

The Japanese Language & Culture Program (JLCP) was a 10-day virtual program where international students studied Japanese language and culture, and interacted online with TMU students.

## Courses Offered

### Japanese Language Courses

-Courses include synchronous instruction, including live virtual activities with instructors and three individual tutoring sessions.

-Students can select the optimum course level based on the result of the Japanese language placement test.

### Lectures on Japanese Culture and Society

-Synchronous special lectures about Japanese culture and society in English.

### E-Learning for Japanese Language

-Asynchronous self-study using an e-learning system. Students can review the points that they find difficult to understand in class whenever

convenient for them.

### Multi-Cultural Environment

-Befriending TMU students and engaging in cultural exchange activities such as guided virtual tours of TMU Campus and Labs.

For the 2021 JLCP Virtual Summer Program, we had 13 participants from nine universities across eight countries and regions.

The program provided an opportunity for the participants to learn the Japanese language as well as the culture and society, and interact with TMU students, which led to close friendships even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## TOPICS

## Tokyo Metropolitan Public University Corporation's Climate Emergency Declaration

On July 16, 2021, the Tokyo Metropolitan Public University Corporation (TMPUC), an umbrella organization representing Tokyo Metropolitan University, Advanced Institute of Industrial Technology, and Tokyo Metropolitan College of Industrial Technology, declared a climate emergency. In doing so, we officially joined Tokyo, Japan, and other 2,000 local and national authorities as well as more than 300 fellow uni-

versities around the world in an effort to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This declaration requires the TMPUC community at all levels to work together to shape and contribute to a more sustainable future for Tokyo and beyond. It requires that all actions by the community consider climate change mitigation and other sustainable development goals. Recently, TMPUC announced the launch of the Tokyo

Research Initiative for Sustainability (TRIS) to bring together research from a broad range of disciplines to tackle global challenges, including the climate crisis, and promote Tokyo's efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals at home and abroad.

Please visit TMPUC's website for more information on the [declaration](#) and [TRIS](#).



The declaration



TRIS



私たちは持続可能な開発目標 (SDGs) を支援しています。

### TMU at a Glance

- 9,059 students (6,803 undergraduate and 2,246 graduate)
- 647 faculty staff and 503 administrative staff
- 568 international students from 26 countries
- International Partner Universities/Institutions (Institutional-level Agreements): 96
- International Partner Universities/Institutions (Faculty-level Agreements): 114

### Academic Divisions

#### Undergraduate Programs

- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Economics and Business Administration
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Urban Environmental Sciences
- Faculty of Systems Design
- Faculty of Health Sciences

#### Graduate Programs

- Graduate School of Humanities
- Graduate School of Law and Politics
- Graduate School of Management
- Graduate School of Science
- Graduate School of Urban Environmental Sciences
- Graduate School of Systems Design
- Graduate School of Human Health Sciences

