

The Next Visionary—Student Activity Guidelines Ver.1

★ Leading Forum 2013

October

◇ Eligibility Guidelines

Students must meet the following eligibility requirements.

1. A participant must be enrolled in one of the 'Leading Graduate Programs' funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. This could be at any University in Japan.
2. Each entry team must consist of at least four students but no more than ten. You may form a group with students from a different University or from a different leading program.
3. It is desirable that four members from each team will be present on both forum days.
4. Each student may not be a member of more than one team.

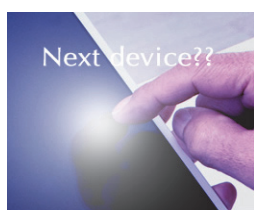
◇ How to Submit an Entry

An entry is per team and not per student. Please submit the application online at <http://leadingprogram-forum2013.jp/visionary/entry/> and follow the instructions to register member names. You will receive a registration confirmation email. If you do not receive the email within one day of the registration, please email forum2013@congre.co.jp to make an inquiry.

◇ Abstract and Abstract Submission

What is your vision for the next generation? Please refer to the topics below. You may use one of them, or may come up with another topic for your team in which case you will choose the topic closest to yours when submitting. Write an abstract within the word limit of 300 in English. In the abstract, please include your vision (corresponding solution/ideas) on the proposed issue your team has selected. Submit your team abstract at <http://leadingprogram-forum2013.jp/visionary/entry/>. You can edit the abstract online until November 15th.

◇ Topics



Topic 1: Device for the next generation

The next-generation device, defined herein, is a device that does not exist today, but its use will be widespread among societies, for example, within the next three decades. Just like the everyday use of cell phones today was not anticipated back in 1983. It is not hard to imagine that people, thirty years from now, will live in different social environments, with different demands. Please propose such a device and its use, considering anticipated social background and including other future aspects.



Topic 2: Sustainability of Resource or Infrastructures

Our living standards today are made possible by two elements: civil infrastructure and availability of energy resources for our consumption. To sustain and further improve such a way of living, we must consider: 1) renewing the infrastructures, 2) responding to further growth and development, and 3) preparing for increasing energy consumption on a global scale. Acting on those will require an enormous amount of public expenditures. While Japan faces a tough competition with other countries in securing energy, the country faces particular hardships considering its scarce domestic natural resources.

For this topic, propose an innovative plan for civil infrastructures (bridges, roads, water supply system etc.) considering both perspectives of 1) securing the stable supply of water, oil and electricity; and 2) improving the quality of life.

November



Topic 3: Social inequality among generations and minorities

The unprecedented arrival of a super-aging population requires the Japanese society to take new measures. That is, to consider the trade-offs in managing the national budgets of 1) providing for the future of the present population—in the form of pensions, and 2) providing for the future of the next generation—by investing in education. Extending the retirement age (supporting the older longer) may hinder hiring of the young. Our expanding aged population has imposed a greater economic burden of medical and social welfare costs. It has become evident that social security is no longer reliable for the retired. Would it be unreasonable to place the social security burdens on the working generation, if such a move is decided by democratic vote?

Further, the Japanese government is urged to take measures with regard to the social disparities among minority communities including minorities in nationality, religion, disability, and sexual orientation, and hence, to cherish the diversity.

In this topic, students will propose and discuss how we can overcome socio-economic inequality on the present day and beyond. Would an altruistic approach help promote “co-existence” among all socio-economic classes? Is it possible for the government to propose a measure improving the level of well-being and life-fulfillment inclusive of all classes?



Topic 4: Japan and the Globe, Now and Future

Understanding global affairs is required for conducting business domestically and abroad. It is fair to say that the globalization of Japan will increase our competitiveness abroad.

On the other hand, globalization may threaten the traditional Japanese management style, values, and social models. The Japanese management style had received much world attention up until the collapse of ‘the bubble economy’ in the late 80’s. The companies with the management style that fail to keep up with the globalization may be destined to perish.

While many companies run offices overseas, they face the risk of local or global political conflicts. One example is a recent attack on a Japanese company based in Nigeria by a local militant group for their political purposes, resulting in the death of 2 Japanese nationals.

Taken together, how do you think globalization should be approached by the Japanese government and Japanese companies? How can we increase our competitiveness, and at the same time, continue to maintain our traditional values?

◇ Team selection based on the submitted abstract

We will announce on the website which teams will participate in the leading forum based on the abstract submitted. Theme sections in which your team competes will also be announced. Those selected teams may continue revising the abstract content. Staff from the invited cooperation will give feedback on the abstracts on January 10th, the first day of the forum.

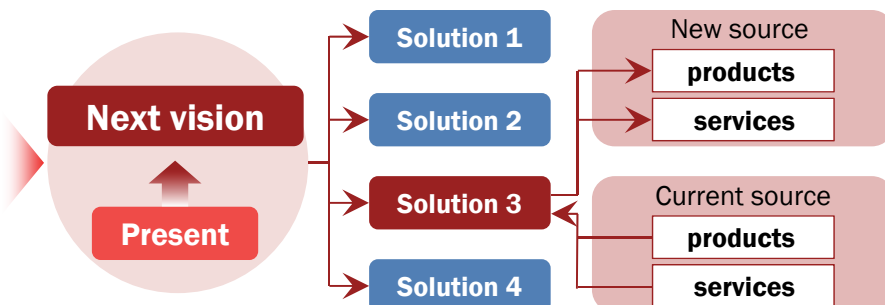
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Create a *vision* that fills a gap in the status quo

Examine problems that cannot be solved by one sector only—

1. Device for the next generation
2. Sustainability
3. Social inequality
4. Japan and the Globe



The 'Next Visionary' is the one who makes a difference in society now and in the future by implementing his or her original, high-impact *vision*.

- 1) Propose a feasible solution for a specific situation
- 2) Your solution should be based upon available resources

◆ Timeline and preparation

Submit your abstract by November 15th (Friday). Continue making revisions to your abstract for the forum. Participants will have the opportunity to receive feedback during the forum sessions on January 10th and will present their abstract on January 11th.

- Please prepare a handout and/or a PowerPoint presentation including a figure, for the first-day World Café. A 24-inch screen will be available.
- Please make sure at least one member brings his or her laptop. Presentations on the second forum day will be done using the PowerPoint.

◇ Schedule

FORUM DAY 1: January 10th (Friday)

a. Opening ceremony (1:15-1:45PM)

b. World Café (1:45-4:00PM)

Each team will be assigned to one of two groups (A and B) in each topic. The teams in group A will make their presentations during World Café 1 and 3. The group B will make the presentation during World Café 2 and 4. In each World Café, two students will present from each team, hence, there should be 4 presenters for two World Café. The performance (abstract and discussion), evaluated by the invited staff from corporations during World Café, will be the basis of team selection for semifinal presentations on the second-day forum.

1. World Café 1 (1:50-2:20PM)

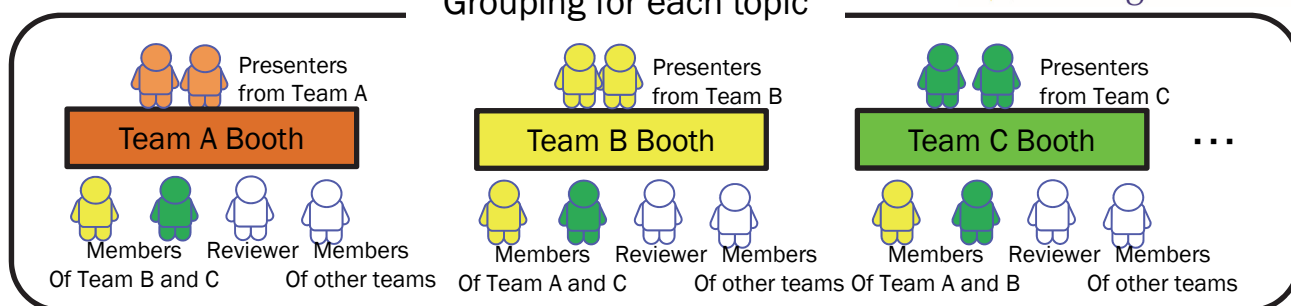
The first two presenters in group A will stay in his or her team booth. The rest of the team members will rotate the booths of other teams in the same topic section. Ten minutes will be allocated to each team presentation. Reviewer staff and members from other teams or in group B will critique and discuss the abstract.

After Entry

Forum Day 1

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2. Break (2:20-2:30PM)

3. World Café 2 (2:30-3:00PM)

The first two presenters in group B will stay in the home booth. The rest of the members will visit other team booths. The procedure is the same for World Café 1.

4. Break (3:05-3:20PM)

5. World Café 3 (3:20-3:50PM)

The second two presenters in group A will stay in the home booth. The rest of the members will visit other team booths. The procedure is the same for World Café 1 and 2.

6. Break (3:50-4:00PM)

7. World Café 4 (4:00-4:30PM)

The second two presenters in group B will stay in the home booth. The rest of the members will visit other team booths. The procedure is the same for World Café 1, 2 and 3.

8. Break (4:20-4:30PM)

c. Team meeting 1 (4:30-5:00PM)

Each team will discuss the feedback and critiques received during World Café to further refine the abstract.

d. Wrap-up session (5:00-5:30PM)

The staff will provide final feedback.

e. Reception (6:00-8:00PM)

A reception will be held for all forum participants.

f. Announcement of the team selection for the semifinal (8:00-8:10PM)

In the semifinal on the second forum day, 24 teams (6 teams from each 4 topic) will present; the advancement to the semifinal will be based on the team performance during the World Café. Additionally, 4 (one team from each topic) winning teams from the consolation bracket will also join the semifinal presentation.

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Forum Day 2

FORUM DAY 2: January 11th (Saturday)

- e. Team meeting 2 (10:30AM-12:00PM)
Time to prepare for the afternoon presentation.
- f. Consolation bracket tournament (10:30AM-12:00PM)
Each team will make a 8-minute presentation. The details will be announced during the forum.
- g. Semifinal presentations by 7 teams (1:00-2:50PM)
Each team will have 8 minutes to present their abstract, followed by 3 minutes for audience questions. All participating staff will assign a score to each presentation. The details will be announced on the forum day.
- h. Final presentations by 4 teams (3:00-4:00PM)
Winning teams from each topic section will then present for all the participants. All participants will have an opportunity to assign scores to the presentations.