Research Institutes

Other Chuo Initiatives

Institute of Comparative Law in Japan

The Institute of Comparative Law in Japan was founded in 1948 and was the first such institute in Japan. Since then, the Institute has been highly valued as a leading research institute in this field. The Institute actively engages in research, undertaking joint research projects that bring together Institute members and external researchers. In particular, it is involved in productive academic exchange with other universities and research facilities, both domestic and international. Research results are released in publications such as the Hikakuho Zasshi (Comparative Law Review), Kenkyu Sosho (Research Monographs), Honyaku Sosho (Translated Monographs), and Shiryo Sosho (Documentation Monographs). The Institute's wide-ranging efforts to publicize findings also include international symposia and lectures from visiting foreign researchers.

Institute of Accounting Research

Founded in 1950, the Institute of Accounting Research is dedicated to comprehensive research in such fields as the practice and theory of corporate accounting, tax matters, finance, and corporate legislation and regulation. Lectures on public accounting and bookkeeping are offered for students intending to become certified public accountants. In addition, "Accounting Research" is published biennially on the Institute's website, a pioneering journal of accounting research with a long tradition in Japan that offers an "open university" environment for the wider public, in line with the Institute's proud tradition of accounting education.

Institute of Economic Research

In 1964, the Institute of Economic Research was established for the purpose of promoting research on the actual situations of the Japanese and world economies, as well as theoretical and historical research, through collaborative research and surveys. The Institute's collaborative research teams, made up of full-time faculty members, visiting researchers (external researchers), and associate researchers (graduate students), conduct research activities, mainly at the University, as well as strive to share their findings with society through collaborative research and surveys undertaken with external research institutes and researchers. The teams publicize their work in Kenkyu Sosho (Research monographs) and annual reports, as well as holding numerous public lectures, public research meetings, and symposia to present their research results. In addition, the Institute's library has collected, organized, and preserved a large collection of academic materials from Japan and abroad, mainly on economic statistics.

Institute of Social Sciences

The Institute of Social Sciences opened in 1978 to undertake joint interdisciplinary research primarily in the social sciences. As a joint research institute of politics, law, history, economics, and sociology, the Institute comprises many research teams and engages in joint research on various themes, with research outcomes publicized in various publications and at public research meetings. A key feature of the Institute's library is the collection of newspapers and newsletters from political parties, labor organizations, and agricultural organizations; statistical reports from local governments; and, basic statistical reports from other nations.

Institute of Business Research

The Institute of Business Research was founded in 1979 to conduct theoretical and empirical research on companies and businesses. Researchers specializing in such fields as business administration, accounting, commerce, finance and economics form research teams with visiting researchers and assistant researchers. Their research findings are made public through such publications as Kenkyu Sosho (Research Monographs) and the periodical Kigyo Kenkyu (Corporate Research Reports). Furthermore, the frequent public lectures, symposia, and research meetings where these findings are presented are attended by many leading specialists, and the Institute's research collection includes the histories of numerous Japanese companies.

Institute of Cultural Sciences

The Institute of Cultural Sciences was founded in 1978 to conduct collaborative research on cultural sciences in their broadest sense. With full-time University faculty members and visiting researchers from other universities, this Institute has been addressing a wide variety of topics, frequently holding research meetings and symposia. Findings are made public in publications, such as journals, monographs, and translated monographs, and attract considerable interest from academic associations.

Institute of Health and Sports Science

The Institute of Health and Sports Science was founded in 1978 to conduct collaborative research and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the fields of Health and Sports Science. It is active in 11 fields of research: effects of physical education, student fitness, outdoor sports, human performance, physical arts, sports medicine, high-altitude training, exercise and health policy, sports for people with physical and mental disabilities, cognitive and psychological sports studies, and system physiology.

Institute of Science and Engineering

Since its founding in 1992, the Institute of Science and Engineering has been conducting strategically cooperative research activities, such as collaborative research. It has also been actively involved in funded research projects, as well as collaborative and sponsored research with private companies. In 2011, the Advanced Science and Technology Center was established to carry out large-scale research projects with external funding and to facilitate joint use of on-campus experimental equipment, contributing to the reinforcement and advancement of research at the Institute.

Institute of Policy and Cultural Studies

The Institute of Policy and Cultural Studies was founded in 1996 to develop comprehensive and multifaceted research methodologies for the study of policy and culture, aimed at contributing to the international community by generating harmony among the peoples of the world. The Institute holds meetings on the fundamental theme of "Japan's Place in the 21st Century" and engages in collaborative research. It also organizes research meetings, lectures, and symposia on matters of policy and culture as they impact all aspects of human activity. Research results are published in the Nenpo (Annual Bulletin of the Institute of Policy and Cultural Studies) and Kenkyu Sosho (Research Monographs).

Research and Development Initiative

To meet the growing social demand for university and interdisciplinary research, the Research and Development Initiative (RDI) was founded in 1999 to promote interdisciplinary collaborative research using external funds. RDI also acts as a forum for exchange among industry, government and academia. The research activities of the RDI are conducted by individual research units on a project-by-project basis. Each unit operates within the parameters defined by external funding, with clearly defined topics, objectives, time periods, and conditions of research. The system enables each research unit to produce concrete results based on fundamental research and original technology and theories to aid in the search for answers to issues facing society. The RDI members' offices, shared-use equipment room, and meeting room are located on the Korakuen campus. The RDI provides assistance for information network and administrative support systems for achieving advanced research results.

AI and Data Science Center

Currently, with AI innovation following the emergence of big data, major changes are underway throughout industry and in daily life. At such a turning point it is a key mission for the University to foster individuals who can appropriately respond to such social changes while maintaining the long-term vision needed to contribute to human happiness and the sustainable development of society. In response to these demands, the AI and Data Science Center was established in April 2020.

ELSI Center

At present, even human wisdom cannot keep up with the rapid evolution of AI technology. As a result, the threat of dystopia becoming a reality has been raised, in opposition to a utopia, or ideal society. Under these circumstances, Chuo established the Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) Center in April 2021 to gather the wisdom needed to consider timely and pressing issues, and to promote digital transformation (DX) for the development of an inclusive society through social innovation.

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