

Project No.:18006 Core Institution in Japan: Keio University

**JSPS Core-to-Core Program -Strategic Research Networks-
FY2008 Research Report**

Project No.	18006
Research Theme	Stem Cells and Cancer Stem Cells
Duration of Project	2008/4/1-2011/3/31
Core Institution in Japan	Keio University

Implementing Organizations

Country	Japan
Core Institution	Keio University
Co-Chair (name and title)	School of Medicine・Professor・Toshio Suda
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-

Country	Sweden
Core Institution	Lund University
Co-Chair (name and title)	Lund Stem Cell Center・Professor・Stefan Karlsson
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-
Matching Fund	Swedish Research Council・Hemato-Linne Program

Country	Sweden
Core Institution	Karolinska Institute
Co-Chair (name and title)	Karolinska University Hospital・Director・Sten Lindahl
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-
Matching Fund	

Country	England
Core Institution	Oxford University
Co-Chair (name and title)	Weatherall Institute for Molecular Medicine・Professor・Sten Eirik Jacobsen
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-
Matching Fund	

Country	USA
Core Institution	The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Co-Chair (name and title)	MD Anderson Cancer Center・Associate Professor・Naoto Ueno
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-
Matching Fund	

Country	USA
Core Institution	Stowers Institute for Medical Research
Co-Chair (name and title)	Stowers Institute for Medical Reseach・Professor・Linheng Li
Number of Cooperating Institutions	0
Cooperating Institutions	-
Matching Fund	

Result of Program Implementation

①**Karolinska-Keio Joint Summer School 2008** : 6 PhD students and 4 Professors from Karolinska Institute (Sweden) participated in the Joint Summer School at Keio. Young researchers of Keio have also joined the lecture course and held presentations and discussions.

②**Mini-Symposium at Lund University** : 6 Keio members including PhD students visited Lund Univ.(Sweden) to join the Mini-Symposium. Active discussions were made under the theme "Stem cells in non-mammalian systems, the HSC-niche, cancer stem cells, stem cell transplantations, and on iPS cells."

③**JSPS Core-to-Core Program US-Japan Joint Seminar on Leukemogenesis** : About 30 American and Japanese stem cell and cancer biologists discussed intensively on leukemogenesis and treatment. 10 young investigators also joined this meeting and presented their data.

Achievements in FY2008 (Self Review)

Through the activities reported above, we strongly believe that the network between the institutions and also the bond between the researchers have been strengthened, which gradually will make us to take the leading position in the stem cell biology in the world. Activity ① and ② have contributed to promote institutional and program collaborations and Activity ③ has offered opportunities to exchange impressive ideas among US and Japanese active stem cell and cancer biologists. Beside Activities ①-③, 10 Keio investigators attended the international meetings or congresses on stem cells by the support of this grant. All activities have given opportunities for the young researchers to participate in international occasions to present their research results and exchange ideas which has been great chances to train young researchers' global sensibility and also promote mobility to the global world. Lastly, the Office for International Affairs at Keio University School of Medicine has supported the organization for the program implementation.

Future Plan

Keio University enjoys a world-wide reputation for stem cell studies, having other educational research programs which take approaches on stem cells from the perspective of metabolism, cancer etc. These programs at Keio aim to collaborate in developing translational studies of the stem cells and cancer through various activities with the Lund Stem Cell Center and other 4 institutes such as joint studies on normal stem cells and cancer stem cells, seminars focusing on the young researchers' work, and short/long term exchange programs, which in turn are expected to bring an expansion of a global network of researchers engaged in stem cell studies on the basis of this core-to-core projects.