For Development and Sustainability of Female Scientists' Career: What Hokkaido University has done and been JSPS Forum on Women in Science June 11, 2009 Sanae M. M. Iguchi-Ariga, PhD. Vice-Executive / Professor, Graduate School of Agriculture

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Various Funds Started in 2006 to Encourage Female Scientists and Engineers Support for returning to lab after maternity/childcare leave Fellowship and research grant for postdocs (FY2007 budget: 262 million yen) JSPS program

Support for Model Programs

Model programs to support female scientists

Competitive grants made to support universities and research institutes that are taking initiative (FY2007 budget: 500 million yen)

Outreach to Schoolgirls

Interaction between researchers and junior/senior high school girls

Exposure to role models working in science and technology fields

Stimulating Scientific Interest

Lectures/seminars by frontline researchers

Opportunities for junior/senior high school girls to become more familiar with

Career Path Guidance

Projects at community education centers

Seminars held to encourage girls to enter scientific/engineering careers

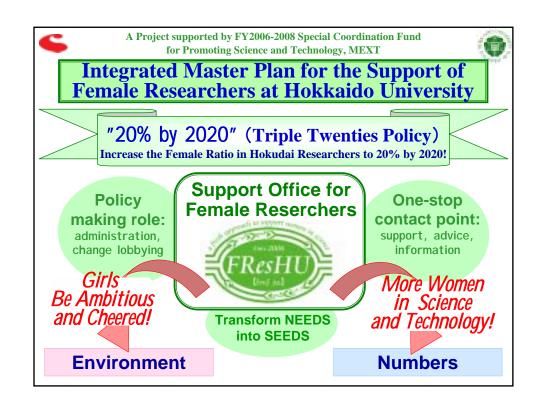
Model Programs to Support Female Scientists

Support for universities and research institutes that

- proactively hire and promote female scientists
- construct a framework to enable female
 scientists to balance research and childcare

Why are policy makers interested in a better reconciliation of work and family life?

- Fertility concerns
- **❖** Increasing female employment to sustain economic growth and pension systems
- Gender equity
- Enhancing diversity among researchers to promote scientific progress

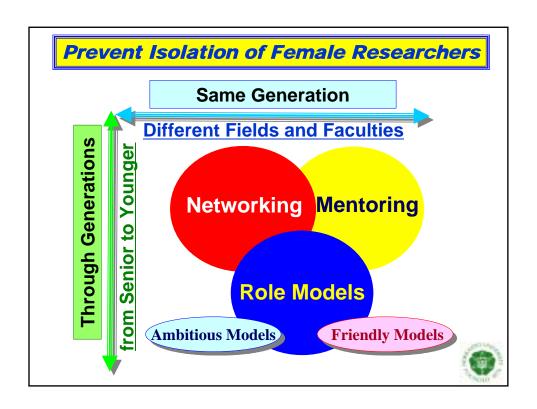


Environment

Support Activities of Women Scientists



- Networking and Mentoring
- Change in Attitude towards Women and their Specific Challenges
- Effective Coordination of Career and Life
- Human Support in case of pregnancy or upbringing of children
- Suitable Child Care and Schooling Facilities
- Coordination with Partner's Career Needs



Support Career Progression in case of Pregnancy or Upbringing of Children

- Need temporary replacement or supporting staff for research and other lab work
- Need temporary nursing or day care service responding to kid's sickness or emergency

Not only for female researchers themselves but also for surrounding lab members and collaborators

University/Institution should prepare the environment where young female researchers can be warmly welcome

Prerequisite Condition for Positive Action



10% of male scientists but >70% of female scientists have a partner who is also a scientist

High Mobility of young scientists

Promotion of next generation

Support
Young Scientists Couples
to Live Together

- Effective Coordination of Career and Family Life
- Big concerns for regional universities to secure excellent researchers!!

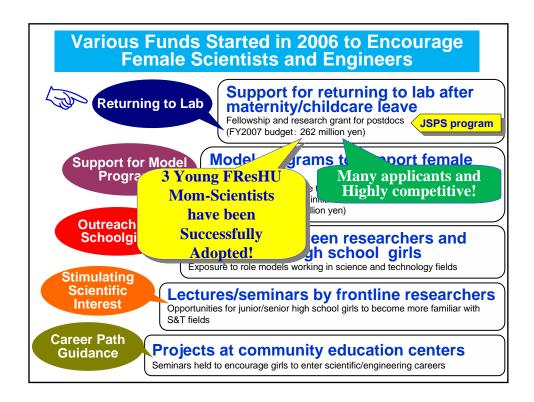


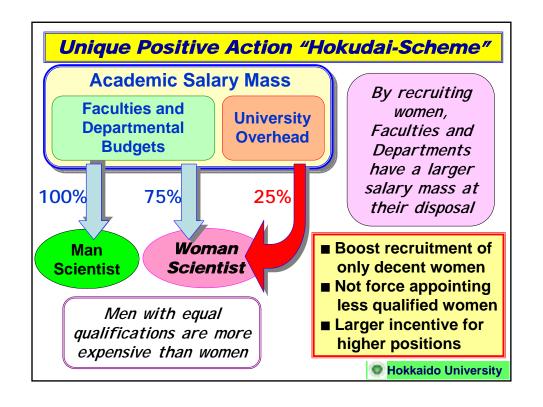
Numbers

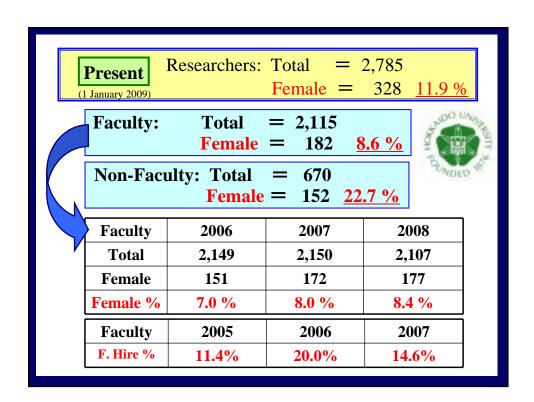
Increase Number of Women

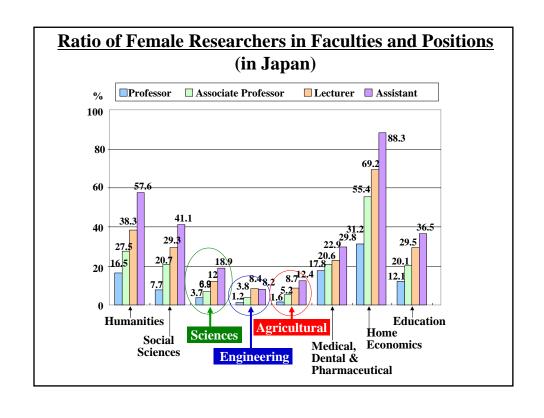


- Unique Positive Action "Hokudai-Scheme": incentives for the employment of female staff)
- Targeted Promotion of Graduate and Doctoral Female Students and Research Staff
- Reaching out and Recruitment Efforts among High School Female Students
- Reintegration of Former Female Scientist in the Academic Workforce







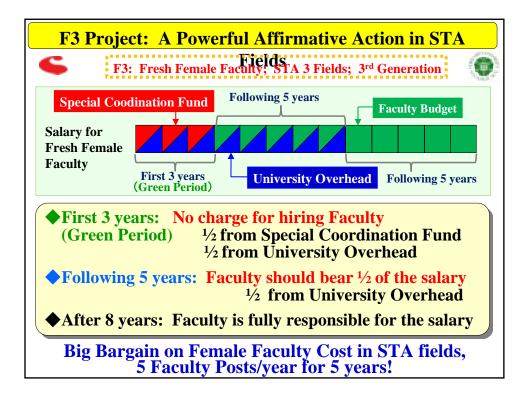


Accelerated Innovation of Fostering System for Female Scientists

A brand-new project by Special Coordination Fund for Promoting Science and Technology (FY2009 -; JPY100,000,000)

Clear Aim: Increase Female Faculty in Science,
Technology, and Agricultural Fields
Faculty Recruitment Targeted Only for Women

- Salary Support: JPY3,000,000 for 3 years
- Research Expense Support: JPY1,000,000-1,500,000 + 500,000
- **♥** Mentors Support: More than one Mentors (Support also goes to mentors)



Problematic Issues for Appointing Female Faculties

Present evaluation systems focusing on "numbers of publications" (total numbers and those in recent short term) are often unfavorable for female researchers with loads of childbirth/childcare.

Concern and angst for practical detriment attributed by possible life-loads on female staff: overcharge on other staff

Female scientists themselves have concerns in coordination of research career and private life, and find difficulties in prospects and strategic plans.

Steady position/employment and research conditions for mid-/long-term

Evaluation of research/education ability based on daily lab work and mid-/long-

- Steady achievement in researchOJT of research/education skills

Addition of extra-value of practical experience will expand possibilities of continuation and step-up in career

Systems lessening lifeloads/shortage of lab time

- •Allocation of supporters (lab technicians)
- ·Suitable child care

Presentation of role models and matchmaking with mentors

> • FResHU Office plays mentor roles as a whole

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Returning to Lab

Support for returning to lab after maternity/childcare leave

Fellowship and research grant for postdocs

Support for Model Programs

Mo SCI FResHU Caravan travels around Hokkaido and encourage high school girls and boys

institutes man (FY2007 budget: 500 million yen)

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US-Japan Round-table Discussion on Equal Participation in Science and Engineering

February 16 -18, 2009 Hokkaido University Sapporo



- ◆ Overview of US and Japanese gender equality activities: what worked, what did not work
- ◆ Career advances / Career path / "Positive action"
- ◆ Work-life balance /Dual career / Support for continued research during down time for family reasons
- ◆ Leadership training for women researchers / Mentoring

Either Male or Female should Face to his/her own Career Objectively as well as Subjectively

WANTS

SEEDS

NEEDS

Set <u>PRIORITIES</u> individually for what to treasure, not negotiable, including family

Self-Support for Young Scientists

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

Encourage Through Mentoring

- ♦ Work out between Life and Research With Professional Awareness
 - **♦ Be Prepared Positively** for the Career-Style and Life-Style chosen by himself/herself



