

Wednesday 20th April, 2016

**Outline: CICASP Seminar 28
Grant Writing Masterclass**

Writing grant is part of life as a researcher. You will write one such proposal at least every other year. Ikuma explained what makes the difference between being awarded the grant, or not. Beyond your proposed research and your scientific record, it is the written proposal itself that can put you a cut above your competition. Remember that the reviewers are human, make it easy for them to read and remember that they are unlikely to be specialists in your field. When checking over your own draft proposal, it is difficult to assess it as someone reading it for the first time without the relevant background. Reading others' applications can help you to see things from a reviewer's perspective and so improve your own grant writing skills. In an interactive activity, students examined an example first draft of a grant application: the section on past research achievements. Each pair spotted 3 good points about the draft along with 3 points that could be improved upon in later drafts. They shared these points with the class.

Preparation for the next seminar: see page two

Wednesday 27th April, 2016

**Outline: CICASP Seminar 29
Grant Writing Masterclass**

This seminar will have an entirely practical focus. Many students are currently working on their own JSPS applications. This is your chance to get direct feedback on your proposals from an expert grant-writer. Carrying out the preparation for the seminar will allow you to get the most benefit from this invaluable opportunity. This will be the last of two seminars focussed on grant writing.

Preparation for next week's CICASP Seminar

Prepare a “proposal”

- (i) send it to Ikuma by Tues 26th April 17.00 (allows more detailed feedback);
- or (ii) bring it to the seminar (printed out as a ‘hard-copy’).

Your proposal will be a sub-section of the application as a whole

- previous research achievements
- or - study proposal

Two Options:

1) Bring part of your own JSPS Application

- If your application is written in Japanese, you can:
 - either - translate one section into English
 - or - prepare a different proposal in English for the seminar, but also bring along your application in Japanese (Ikuma will discuss applications in Japanese, after the main seminar)

2) Write a proposal based on your favourite paper

- Frame it as if it is your own previous research achievement or your own future study

Email the CICASP team with any questions.