

**URP ‘Platform for Leading-Edge Urban Studies’
Application Rules for Young Special Researchers (February 2015 Applications)**

Urban Research Plaza (URP), Osaka City University is seeking applications for URP Young Special Researcher positions, according to the terms below in order to support proactive and world class research activities by young researchers.

Two course classifications have been set up based on the URP Young Researcher’s research course. In 'A', the Global Course, the researcher conducts research activities such as field work and presentations at international conferences under the general supervision of a host researcher. In 'B', the Meister Course, the researcher pursues an independent research project that is closely linked to the host researcher's own project. Please see the attached chart of research themes and researchers able to act as host researchers, and apply accordingly.

1. Application Categories, Remuneration, and Number of Researchers

The two course classifications, the 'A' Global Course and 'B' Meister Course, are each divided into four categories (according to academic level), making a total of 8 categories.

Those chosen for acceptance based on their research plans, *etc.* (including applications for research funds) will be appointed as URP Special Researchers and will be able to carry out research using the funds specified in their research plans. They will also be paid a researcher salary, depending on their academic degree level and whether they are receiving fellowships or salaries from other sources. However, we will not provide duplicate research funding or duplicate payments, so there may be cases where travel expenses etc. are not allowed and salaries are not paid.

‘A’ Global Course

A-1	Doctor Course (a) : 1st to 3rd year student	Research funds (mainly travel; max. ¥500,000/12 months)	A-1 and B-1, “3 persons”
A-2	Doctor Course (b) : 4th to 6th year student	Research funds (mainly travel; max. ¥300,000/12 months)	A-2 and B-2, “2 persons”
A-3	PD	Researcher salary (hourly) and Research funds (mainly travel; max. ¥500,000/12 months)	A-3, A-4, B-3, and B-4
A-4	Ph.D. Candidate	Researcher pay (hourly) and Research funds (mainly travel; max. ¥500,000/12 months)	“approximately 2 persons”

‘B’ Meister Course

B-1	Doctor Course (a) : 1st to 3rd year student	Research funds (max. ¥700,000/12 months)	A-1 and B-1, “3 persons”
B-2	Doctor Course (b) : 4th to 6th year student	Research funds (max. ¥420,000/12 months)	A-2 and B-2, “2 persons”
B-3	PD	Researcher pay (hourly) and Research funds (max. ¥700,000/12 months)	A-3, A-4, B-3, and B-4
B-4	Ph.D. Candidate	Researcher pay (hourly) and Research funds (max. ¥700,000/12 months)	“approximately 2 persons”

Pay scale fixed by Osaka City University (as of January, 2014):

Postdoctoral Fellow (PD)	¥ 1,924/hour
Research Fellow (fairly high-level research under supervision)	¥ 1,600/hour

Notes:

- URP Special Researchers (A1 and A2, B1 and B2) must make at least two research presentation per year at workshops or seminars. The Researchers (A3 and A4, B3 and B4) are also expected to actively take part in organizing these workshops/seminars.
- Research plans may be extended up to three years in total, but research fund budgets are approved on a yearly basis. Also, “research result reports (interim reports)” and “budget reports” must be submitted yearly.
- Research funds are disbursed according to the rules of the university. It is possible that some planned expenses are not eligible for approval.

2. Applicant Qualifications

The applicant must match one of the categories below (1-4), must be able to specify as 'host researcher' someone who belongs to the URP 'Reinventing Cities for Cultural Creativity and Social Inclusion' base, and must be able to pursue research as their main occupation while registered as a URP Special Researcher (not bound by work responsibilities at other institutions).

* In applying, applicants should first contact a 'Researcher Qualified to be a Host Researcher' as listed in the attached chart.

	Degree and position as of Apr. 2015	Eligible category and research period	
(1)	Registered in doctor's course	A-1, B-1	3 year max. beginning from Apr. 2015 (up to 3 rd year of doctor's course)
		A-2, B-2	1 year max. beginning from Apr. 2015
(2)	Doctorate coursework completed	A-4, B-4	1 year max. beginning from Apr. 2015
(3)	Ph.D. holders	A-3, B-3	2 year max. beginning from Apr. 2015
(4)			

3. Selection Process

Applications will be screened by the URP Special Researchers Screening Committee in two stages: 1) Screening of application forms (see [1] in No. 4 below), and 2) an oral interview.

The oral interviews will be conducted at Osaka City University's Urban Research Plaza (3-3-138 Sugimoto, Sumiyoshi-ku, Osaka) on February 16, 2015 (Mon.). (Successful candidates will be notified of the details).

4. Application Procedure

- (1) Application documents: Special Researcher (Young) Application Form (Feb. 2015 version) (7 pages total)
- (2) Submission period: January 5 (Mon.) - January 26 (Mon.) 2015 (deadline)
- (3) Mailing Address (By mail or personal delivery only): See '**Address for Inquiries and Submitting Applications**' below.

5. Notification of Acceptance

1st Stage Screening (Paper screening): Acceptance or rejection sent out by mail on February 6 (Fri.)

2nd Stage Screening (Oral Interview): Acceptance or rejection sent out by mail on February 20 (Fri.)

6. Next Planned Call for Applications

Applications will be accepted for the Second semester of 2015 in August (Details to be announced in July, 2015).

(Address for Inquiries and Submitting Applications)

URP Special Researcher Advisor

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**(Attached Chart)URP ‘Reinventing Cities for Cultural Creativity and Social Inclusion’
Research Themes and Host Researcher Candidates**

	Research Themes	Possible Host Researchers ○ : Unit Leader
U R B A N T H E O R Y	<p>◆ Unit theme: Taking an historical overview of the individual cultural backgrounds of cities and their governance based on the theory of creative cities, and considering the formation of space in creative cities</p> <p>◆ Research Areas: Urban economics, urban policy studies, urban administration, urban social history, history of spatial form, comparative urban history, regional history, Asian urbanism, architectural history</p> <p>◆ Keywords: Creative cities, culture industry, creative industry clusters, compact cities, revitalization of city cores, suburban new towns, core urban living, environmental capacity, governance, traditional cities, modern cities, urban law, social cohesion, core and periphery, historical museums, preservation and vitalization, historical town-building</p> <p>◆ Research projects:(1) Comparative International Research on Creative Cities and Creative Cultural Industries (2) Comparative Research on Creative Down-sizing of Cities (3) Research on the Formation and Changes of the Osaka Megacity (4) Comparative Urban Research Centered on Osaka (5) Research on Town-building Using Historical Resources</p> <p>◆ Message: We are seeking ambitious people who will rise to the challenge of developing advanced urban thoughts on an accumulation of comparative research from a global and historical perspective.</p>	<p>○ ABE Masaki (Grad. School of Law)</p> <p>SASAKI Masayuki (URP&Doshisya Univ.)</p> <p>FUKUDA Miho (Grad. School of Human Life Sciences)</p> <p>TSUKADA Takashi (Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>NIKI Hiroshi (Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>FUJITA Shinobu (Grad. School of Human Life Sciences)</p> <p>TATEMI Jun-ya (Grad. School of Creative Cities)</p>
C R E A T I V I T Y	<p>◆ Unit theme: Rebuilding urban spaces that mediate art and design and ensuring the diversity and vitalization of communities</p> <p>◆ Research areas: Cultural policy, urban planning, art management, urban culture, culture economics</p> <p>◆ Keywords: Art, historical space, town management, inclusive society, community, diversity, minorities, communality, cultural resources, dramatic performances, soundscapes, community tourism</p> <p>◆ Research projects: (1) Art accessibility in contemporary society– toward building a society that recognizes minorities (2) Revitalizing Asia's historical urban spaces and ensuring diversity (3) Research on culturally creative town management and spatial form (4) Community regeneration through university-based management of art centers and theatre arts education</p> <p>◆ Message: We are seeking people who will plunge into the urban space, passionately speak out and boldly act to recreate cities through art and design.</p>	<p>○ KANA Koichi (Grad. School of Engineering)</p> <p>NAKAGAWA Shin (Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>MIYAMOTO Katsuhiro (Urban Research Plaza, Grad. School of Engineering)</p> <p>HIRATA Oriza (Tokyo University of the Arts)</p> <p>HASHIZUME Shinya (Osaka Prefectural University /Osaka City University)</p>
I N C L U S I O N	<p>◆ Unit theme: Steps toward social inclusion through housing assistance to the homeless, minorities, the housing-poor, or those in socially disadvantaged areas</p> <p>◆ Research areas: Geography, sociology, housing, urban planning</p> <p>□ Keywords: Homeless, minorities, ethnicity, gender, social exclusion and inclusion, the aged and handicapped, housing assistance, NPOs, urban housing problems, housing policy, local housing planning, housing planning, town building</p> <p>□ Research projects: (1) Moving from exclusion to inclusion, developing jobs aid systems, welfare and housing assistance for the homeless and the housing-poor (2) Capitalist culture, ethnic relations, and foreign workers in the cities of East Asia (3) Research on aid policies for the housing-poor using local housing stock</p> <p>□ Message: We are looking for people who will pierce through the roots of social division and inequity, sincerely trying to devise a change from exclusion to inclusion while reshaping our understanding!</p>	<p>○ MIZUUCHI Toshio (Urban Research Plaza, Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>TANI Tomio (Konan University)</p> <p>Jeon Hong-Gyu (Urban Research Plaza)</p> <p>MIURA Ken (Grad. School of Human Life Sciences)</p>
G L O B A L	<p>※ Host Researchers in the 3 Units above can accept candidates in both the Global and Meister Courses</p> <p>※ The 5 Host Researchers on the right only accept candidates in the Global Course</p> <p>□ Research Areas: International Strategic Accounting、Cultural Industry Theory, Spatial Information Studies– GIS, International Political Geography, Urban Transportation</p>	<p>○ OKANO Hiroshi (Grad. School of Business)</p> <p>NAGAO Kenkichi (Grad. School of Economics)</p> <p>KIMURA Yoshinari (Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>YAMAZAKI Takashi (Grad. School of Literature)</p> <p>UCHIDA Takashi (Grad. School of Engineering)</p>

For details of projects and Host Researchers please see this link: <http://www.ur-plaza.osaka-cu.ac.jp/>.