

May 2005

Foundry Kimura (Keio University)

Major Activities of Tokyo Center for Economic Research (TCER): FY2004

1. TCER seminars

32 seminars presented by Japanese and foreign scholars were held at Keio University Mita Campus, Tokyo, Japan in April 2004 - March 2005.

2. TCER conferences

(1) *Asian Crisis*

In cooperation with University of Tokyo, University of Washington, and others, a two-day conference was held at the University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan on August 30-31, 2004. 36 scholars from Japan and foreign countries were invited. 17 papers were presented. See <http://faculty.washington.edu/karyiu/confer/tok04/index.htm> for details.

(2) *TCER-CIRJE (Center for International Research on the Japanese Economy, Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo) Conference*

A conference titled “Macroeconomic Analysis on Missing Ten Years” was held at the University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan on December 11-12, 2004. Nine papers were presented, some of which will be published in the special edition of *Japan Economic Review* in English.

(3) *NBER-CEPR-TCER (TRIO) Conference*

In cooperation with Keio University and others, the 17th TRIO Conference “Enhancing Productivity” was held at Keio University, Tokyo, Japan on December 10-11, 2004. Six papers were presented, which will plan to be published in the special edition of the *Journal of Japanese and International Economies* after revision. See <http://www.nber.org/books/> for details.

(4) ***TCER Project (former Zushi Conference)***

Two-year research project was launched in the theme of “Economic Analysis of Markets and Laws.” The first conference was held at Odawara, Kanagawa, Japan on April 9-10, 2005 with participation of both economists and lawyers. The product will be published as a book in Japanese published by the University of Tokyo Press.

(5) ***The 15th NBER-TCER East Asia Seminar on Economics***

A conference titled “Monetary Policy with Very Low Inflation in the Pacific Rim” was held in Tokyo, Japan on June 25-27, 2004. 10 papers presented there will be published from the University of Chicago Press after revision. See <http://www.nber.org/books/> for details.

(6) ***TCER Microeconomics Conference (Decentralization Conference)***

Jointly with “The First Asian Workshop in General Equilibrium Theory (GATA2004),” a conference was held at Keio University, Tokyo, Japan on June 11, 2004. It was partially supported by the University of Tokyo, Keio University, and Kyoto University.

3. TCER-Doyukai (Japan Association of Corporate Executives) Seminars

This seminar series is for executives of corporate firms and businessmen of Keizai Doyukai to learn and discuss current economic issues in Japan. 11 seminars were held in FY2004. Presentators and their topics were as follows:

- Yuko Kawamoto (Waseda University) on structural reform
- Noriyuki Takayama (Hitotsubashi University) on pension system
- Yasunori Sone (Keio University) on election of upper house
- Koji Fukao (Hitotsubashi University) on inward FDI
- Eiji Ogawa (Hitotsubashi University) on the US current account deficit
- Toshinori Tachibanaki (Kyoto University) on inequality
- Yasushi Iguchi (Kansei Gakuin University) on foreign labor in Japan
- Masaru Yoshitomi (RIETI) on deflation in Japan
- Takao Komine (Hosei University) on total national power of Japan
- Tetsuo Ihara (Keio University) on commercial strategies
- Kazuto Ikee (Keio University) on market-oriented financial system

4. Other activities

About 100 researchers are registered as “TCER Researchers.” They are participating in the following research groups:

- (i) Economic theory
- (ii) Finance and capital market
- (iii) Commercial policies and international finance
- (iv) Labor economics
- (v) Public economics and environmental problems
- (vi) Industrial organization and regulation
- (vii) Information and economic institutions
- (viii) Cities and transportation
- (ix) Economic development and the North-South problem
- (x) International development studies

Electronic working paper series for these ten groups will be organized in the near future.