University of Tsukuba:
Framework of the “Entrepreneurship Training” course from the Ph. D.
Program in Human Biology (HBP)

Yoshinori Harada\textsuperscript{1} and Osamu Ohneda\textsuperscript{1,2}

\textsuperscript{1} HBP, School of Integrative and Global Majors, University of Tsukuba
\textsuperscript{2} Faculty of Medicine, University of Tsukuba

In HBP, the students are expected to become global leaders who have entrepreneurial mindsets as pivotal outcome for their careers. In order to achieve this aim, the “Entrepreneurship Training” course (intensive course, 5 credits) is mainly offered for the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd}-year students as a core elective subject in the curriculum. Since 2013, five to twelve students (i.e., almost 50\% of the students in their 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd}-year of the program) have taken this course each year. The “Advanced Entrepreneurship Practice” course (intensive course, 10 credits) is the advanced course of “Entrepreneurship Training” course, is offered for the 4\textsuperscript{th}-year students.

There are two objectives of the “Entrepreneurship Training” course: one is to learn basic knowledge and skills for starting up ventures/enterprises, and for maintaining business models as fruits of basic researches and/or ideas. The other is to develop “entrepreneurial way of thinking and mindsets” to brush up students’ capacities/competencies to overcome unexpected difficulties and unknown environments they might encounter in their professional carriers as leaders in diverse fields.

Course framework
1. Offering lectures on basic skills of entrepreneurship instructed by a variety of experts and professions invited from outside the University of Tsukuba, such as fund managers, CEOs of bio-ventures, patent attorneys, and research managers of established companies (Note: Exceeding 36 hours in total)
2. Conducting laboratory tours of rapidly growing bio-ventures and global pharmaceutical industries
3. Holding discussions and simulations to start up (bio-) ventures based on the students’ ideas or their own research themes, by organizing working groups and handling homework
4. Having opportunities to launch presentation competition for business proposals of the students, and also for receiving mutual constructive feedbacks among peers (i.e., peer reviews)
5. Brushing up proposed projects and making the final presentation
6. Awarding certificates and prizes to all members of the winning team
7. Trying to make applications for funding agencies (i.e., business funds and/or investors) in the “Advanced Entrepreneurship Practice” course

Off-campus studies in 2015
1. Attending the business model competition organized by the National Taiwan University next January
2. Visiting research laboratories of Japanese private companies, such as Eizai Co., Ltd. (Pharmaceutical industry), Hitachi, Ltd. (Electronic industry), Toshiba Corporation (Electronic industry), Fuji Television Network, Inc. (Mass media industry), etc.

Lectures and practice activities of the course are focused on introduction of lecturers’ practical experiences, including their successes and failures, and basic skills and knowledge of Project Management (PM) which should be useful for research team management to have leadership responsibilities in the future, as well as inauguration of business operation as entrepreneurs. In addition, a series of general lectures on basic skills and knowledge of PM, intensive practice of human resource management in terms of coaching are introduced.

From the viewpoint of feasibility of business development, it seems that the quality of possible business models proposed by the students taking the course has been improving year by year.