

Progress report in Japan (October 2006 – November 2007)

1. Academic Conference Achievement

- **March, 2007.** Neuroethics workshop session at 8th Asian Bioethics Conference (ABC2007) in Bangkok, Thailand (up to 130 participants)
- **September, 2007.** Neuroethics Luncheon at 30th Annual Meeting of Japan Neuroscience Society in Yokohama, Japan (170 participants)
- **October, 2007.** Neuroethics workshop at Autumn Meeting of Japan Association for Philosophy of Science in Tokyo, Japan (30 participants)
- **In November 10 and 11,** there will be three neuroethics-related sessions at 19th Annual Meeting of Japan Bioethics Society, 6th of Annual Meeting of Japanese Society for Science and Technology Studies, and 40th Annual Meeting of Philosophy of Science Society Japan.

2. Public Engagement Achievement

- **March, 2007.** Neuroethics public workshop and Science Café in Sapporo, Hokkaido

3. Funding Achievement

There are three funding support are going on.

- **October 2004 –March, 2009.** JST/RISTEX funds “Neuroethics Research Group” (Principal Investigator: Osamu Sakura, Ph.D., Professor, Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies, University of Tokyo).
- **October, 2006 –March, 2009.** JST/RISTEX funds “Neuroscience Literacy” (Principal Investigator: Yukihiro Nobuhara, Ph.D., Professor, Philosophy of

Science, University of Tokyo).

- **June, 2007 – February, 2008.** MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) funds “Ethical, Social, and Religious Impact of Neuroscience Research of Consciousness on Society” (Principal Investigator: Naphide Fukuyama, MD, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Neurology, Kyoto University School of Medicine).
- **August, 2007 – February, 2008.** METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of the Japanese Government) funds ”Safety issues in neuroscience, and their effects on research activities in the field of life sciences in Japan” (Principal Investigator: Miyako Takagi, Docteur d'Université en Science Professor, University Research Center, Nihon University).
- **June, 2007 –March, 2009.** JST/RISTEX funds “Neuroscience Literacy” (Principal Investigator: Yukihiro Nobuhara, Ph.D., Professor, Philosophy of Science, University of Tokyo).

4. Future Funding and Governance Perspectives

- Prime Minister of Japanese Government issued “Innovation 25” in which the Brain-Machine Interface R&D will be funded for future 18 years. They also consider the ELSI of BMI in this funding plan.

http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/innovation/index_e.html

- In June, 2007, MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) publish “Neuroscience Renaissances” as next decade blue print for the promotion of neuroscience research, in which the necessity of neuroethics and the role of JST/RISTEX neuroethics research group were clearly described.
- In October, 2007, MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) hired an analyst of bioethics and neuroethics research (2 years appointment), Dr. Keiichi Fukagaya in the division of life science.