

Monex Group to Partner with The University of Tokyo to Develop Blockchain Professionals

Offering Corporate Sponsored Research Program: “Information Economics for AI Solutions”

TOKYO, July 3, 2019 - Monex Group, Inc. (Headquarters: 1-12-32 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Representative Director & CEO: Oki Matsumoto) decided on February 28, 2019 that, with the purpose of developing blockchain professionals, Monex Group will offer the Corporate Sponsored Research Program to the University of Tokyo, the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies. Together with donations from other companies, the Graduate School will start the program, “Information Economics for AI Solutions,” from September 2019.

The endowed classes are designed to educate professionals, equipped with insights into both social science and engineering, who are capable of developing blockchain. With the focus on research of quantitative analytics for AI solutions, the classes are also aimed at creating added economic value as they bring forth academic achievements.

Monex Group believes in the power of creativity in forming the future of money and upholds, “For Creative Minds,” as its brand slogan. Through the endowed classes, the company hopes to bring new waves of technology to the financial industry enabling the company to offer enhanced services to its customers.

Overview of the classes

- Name: Information Economics for AI Solutions
- Purpose of the studies: Developing professionals for AI solutions and blockchain; Basic studies of information economy regarding the creation and evaluation of values brought about by AI and blockchain; Application of AI and blockchain to aging society, natural disasters, regional revitalization, and other issues; Study on how open sourced innovations should be.
- Name of the department: The Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies , the University of Tokyo
- Open Class period: September 1, 2019 to March 31, 2024
- Faculty: Hideyuki Tanaka (Professor), Shohei Osawa (Project Associate Professor)

Comments from the faculty: Hideyuki Tanaka (Professor)

We are grateful for Monex Group’s offering the endowed classes. AI Solutions are generated by integrating AI technologies, which include machine learning and deep learning, with ICT, which include cloud services, blockchain, IoT, and mobile technologies. As society is being powered and moved by data, the classes aim to bring about solutions that leverage innovative AI and blockchain technologies, while concurrently developing professionals and research that produce value from the data.

Comments from the faculty: Shohei Osawa (Project Associate Professor)

As symbolized in the words “innovation dilemma,” corporations are, in general, struggling to make long-term technological investments as they are forced to pursue short-term shareholder interests. In addition, data and other intangible assets tend to be evaluated lower than they should in Japan, when compared with the situations in other mature markets in Europe and the U.S. The endowed classes regard these challenges as educational issues inherent in society. The classes will focus on conducting basic research and on developing professionals, with emphasis on both the arts and sciences, to develop students equipped with the means of serving the public interest with a vision for the future. The goal of these classes is to enhance the value of the entire blockchain market.

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