

NEWSLETTER

Vol.1 | June 2023



Message from the Chair

It is our great pleasure to present the first issue of the GSEP newsletter. GSEP began by accepting its first batch of 13 students in April 2016, and this April of 2023, 11 students enrolled as the eighth batch. GSEP is a small program but due to the students' excellent performance and engagement, its presence should be understood greater than its size.

We have decided to publish a new GSEP newsletter quarterly. With this newsletter, we hope you find the various activities of the current GSEP students. This newsletter also aims to serve as a hub to keep the communications among the GSEP alumni.

Thank you for your reading and we would be grateful for your interest in and generous support to GSEP.

Naoya Abe, PhD., GSEP Chair



Welcome GSEP 8th batch students!

April 4th, 2023, marked a new beginning for the GSEP 8th batch students. This is the first time after COVID-19 that we had the face-to-face welcome ceremony for new GSEP students. All of 11 GSEP 8th batch students attended the welcome ceremony where President Kazuya Masu delivered the warm welcome speech. There was also an orientation for new GSEP students, where the faculty members introduced them about the history of Tokyo Tech and the overview of the GSEP program. We hope they will enjoy staying in Japan and studying at Tokyo Tech!

GSEP Lunch Meeting

GSEP students and faculty members enjoy occasional lunch meetings to interact with each other and talk freely at an open atmosphere. We held this year's first gathering on May 17th where the 1st and 2nd year GSEP students had fun exchanging ideas on how to overcome the challenging 1st year courses!



Off-Campus Project 2023

Every year around March, GSEP students head outside the campus for few days to explore the real world, learn, and have some fun! The GSEP Off-Campus Project is one of the key parts of GSEP students' extracurricular activities, which is aimed at enhancing their educational and social inspirations, as well as widening their horizons beyond everyday academic studies. It also familiarizes non-Japanese students with the Japanese working culture and environment.

On March 1st to 3rd, 2023, GSEP members visited multiple locations in Saitama and Tsukuba areas of Japan, including The Railway Museum, Canon Eco Technology Park, Science Square Tsukuba, JAXA Tsukuba Space Center, Asahi Printech Funabashi, and Kasai-Rinkai Park. They learned the progress of the technology, glimpsed the forefront of scientific research, and discovered a newfound appreciation for the technological and scientific wonders of Japan.

The Off-Campus project also offered a unique opportunity for GSEP students to bond and discuss various topics related to their academic experiences. In the evening, students and faculty members gathered at a meeting room at the hotel to have dinner and break the ice for more friendly group discussions. They freely shared their verdicts and reflect on the places they had visited on the day.



GSEP members in front of the H2 rocket at JAXA

They could as well as freely talk about any life or academic matters in a welcoming environment. These interactions made the day one of the most fruitful events of the 2023 Off Campus Project.



GSEP students and faculty members gathering in the evening

Webinar for 2024 admissions

GSEP holds online webinar for prospective applicants on July 8th, 2023. At the webinar, the Chair of the program, faculty members, and GSEP students introduce the program along with the application procedures and requirements.

There is also a Q&A session, where attendances can freely raise their questions and listen to real voices from the students. Online registration (from the below QR code) is needed to join the webinar. See more details at our official website and Facebook:

<https://www.tse.ens.titech.ac.jp/~gsep/>

<https://www.facebook.com/gseptokyotech>

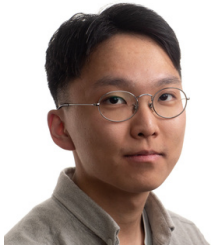


**Zoom
Registration**



**FB Page
(Live feed)**

Alumni's Voices



Zolbayar Shagdar '20

Where are you now?

I'm living in Norway currently, pursuing my doctoral degree in computer science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). I'm working on the topic of Facial Video Analysis for Pre-hospital Cerebrovascular Accident (stroke) Detection, where my goal is to develop a diagnostic support system for fast and efficient response to strokes using computer vision and artificial intelligence.

How do you describe the benefits of GSEP?

GSEP provides its students both the opportunity and privilege to experience Japan and learn first-hand from its culture. While it goes without saying that Japan has the best to offer in terms of education and culture, geography and the language barrier makes it a distant dream for many foreigners to visit or live there. GSEP makes it a close reality, being one of the only handful of undergraduate programs in Japan that are taught fully in English. There are even trips around Japan specially organised by GSEP, that give its students not only a great opportunity to travel but also unique insights into Japanese working culture through industrial site visits. Finally, as I get to study and work together with people from around the world after GSEP, I see that the quality of education GSEP and Tokyo Tech offers is top-notch.

How does GSEP contribute to what you are doing now?

Academic research is often a combination of several different fields. I think the transdisciplinary studies at GSEP train you academically to be able to educate yourself in the necessary discipline when it is not your specialty and approach the project from that perspective.

Going further, whether in academia or industry, we as scientists and engineers must always take into account the ethical and social considerations that go into our works. I believe the liberal arts studies with GSEP have prepared me well to do that reflection.

Class Notes

2020 (1st Batch)

Do Khanh Ngoc is currently a doctoral student at Tokyo Tech, doing his research on global warming and urbanization.

Tanad Lerdbussarakan is pursuing a PhD in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Melbourne, Australia.

Ghiffari Aby Malik Nasution is currently doing his PhD in Energy Science and Engineering at Tokyo Tech.

Zolbayar Shagdar is pursuing a doctoral degree in computer science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Uyanga Tumurbaatar lives in Osaka, Japan, working at Schneider Electric as part of a business leadership program.

2021 (2nd Batch)

Jomphol Lamoontkit is enrolled in an MSc program in the Ocean and Resources Engineering department at the University of Hawaii.

2022 (3rd Batch)

Mondragon Raphael Angelo Verzosa is currently pursuing a Master of Engineering degree in Materials Science and Engineering at University of Toronto, Canada.

ATTENTION! All GSEP Alumni

Please send your news for inclusion in Class Notes to: gsep-contact@tse.ens.titech.ac.jp

Editor's Note

Welcome to this very first issue of the GSEP Newsletter! I hope you enjoy our new attempt to share a close look at GSEP students' campus life and updates on our alumni.

I myself joined GSEP office as a new staff this April, but the past three months were enough for me to understand how close each other the students and the faculty are. Just as you might sense from this issue, I feel that makes this program most inviting. We will keep you updated on lively GSEP news with this quarterly newsletter.

Eiko Masuda, GSEP Staff