

**Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for
Professional Graduate Business School**

The Department of Management of Technology,
Graduate School of Innovation Studies,
Tokyo University of Science



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
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The Department of Management of Technology (hereafter, MOT) in the Graduate School of Innovation Studies at the Tokyo University of Science states, based on the university's founding spirit of "Building a Better Future with Science" that its mission is "to cultivate talented persons who can initiate innovations in society by technological management and the strategic use of intellectual properties."

Based on this mission, the MOT also states its unique mission as "educating persons of talent who can construct a system of innovations which create new businesses and markets." Moreover, it states its purpose as "offering education aimed at the integration of management and science-technologies fusing science and engineering studies to cultivate persons of talent who take responsibility for a series of innovative processes, from technological to market developments."

In order to meet this purpose, the department puts up an educational objective of cultivating persons of talent with several abilities: to see into the next generation of technologies by systematically acquiring knowledge that fuses theory and practice, to anticipate possible future products and lead whole processes of product development, and to link technologies and markets.

To achieve this objective, the MOT organizes its course offerings based on the concept of a " π (pi)-shaped education system," in which science is the foundation and "technology" and "management" are the two pillars set up to support "innovation." The curriculum is organized to fuse two areas of study, technology and management. Utilizing a high ratio of faculty members with practical experiences in its faculty organization, the MOT offers an educational experience that helps students engage in direct practice.

It is highly commendable that the MOT's "Future Envisioning Committee" meets every other month and functions well. For example, the committee examines comprehensively—from the viewpoints of mid- and long-term perspectives—its educational systems, pedagogies, and policies to recruit students. In particular, concerning the educational content, curriculum revisions are made in a timely manner to reflect the trends of businesses and society.

Moreover, the MOT's efforts to promote educational research activities are highly commendable. For example, the MOT provides faculty members with ample funds for educational research to financially support their research so that the research output of the MOT as a whole increases. Moreover, the MOT has established the Center for Innovation Research, and various research projects have been conducted in collaboration with the Department of Intellectual Property Strategy (another department in the Graduate School of Innovation Studies). The research outcomes have been published in the book series, "Research Volume Series of the Center for Innovation Research."

Overall, the MOT has taken and implemented a variety of initiatives that have all worked well. In order to further develop its education, however, it is necessary to address the following points.

First, there is the issue of setting an appropriate limit to the number of credits students can register in a given year. Currently, the number is set at forty, of which more than thirty-eight credits are required for graduation. Because of this, there is a possibility that students may not complete courses in a well-balanced manner each

school year, which is against the MOT's purpose of education. On this point, the MOT states that the current arrangement is to meet the various needs of adult, non-traditional students who have jobs. Although Japan University Accreditation Association (JUAA) understands this point, it is necessary to consider setting an appropriate maximum limit to the credit numbers to be allowed to register.

Second, regarding the MOT paper, which is the requirement for program completion, it is expected that the MOT will clarify the criteria for its examination and evaluation. The significance of MOT papers has recently increased as an educational core of the MOT. Considering this, the MOT has gradually reduced the number of required credits for program completion in order to allow students enough time to write the papers. If it is indeed the case that the significance of the MOT papers has increased as the measure of mastery of the knowledge and skills students learn in the program, it is necessary to clarify the criteria for the paper's examination and evaluation in order to assure quality. For MOT papers, students come up with a theme (and topic) from a wide range of themes—from a study to find solutions for managerial challenges by analyzing the problems faced with a particular kind of business to a study to make up a business plan. Thus, it is critical that the MOT makes efforts to assure the quality of such papers by making clear the criteria for MOT paper examination and evaluation.

JUAA expects the MOT to aim at raising the quality of education by improving the points mentioned above. That is, the MOT is expected to continuously conduct self-studies and evaluations, make efforts for improvements and reforms, and extend its strengths, which will result in further departmental development. JUAA hopes that the MOT will maintain its position as a model for education in the area of technology-business in Japan.