

As of March 26, 2025, Time-table is subject to change.

Entrepreneurship Workshop; June 30th, July 1th and July 7th

Objective:

The University of Tokyo's International Research Center for Neurointelligence (WPI-IRCN) and Corundum Neuroscience collaborate to offer a unique platform at the crossroads of neuroscience, AI, and startup innovation.

This workshop introduces foundational startup concepts inspired by the Silicon Valley model, with a particular focus on globalization. It aims to equip participants with entrepreneurial thinking, startup fundamentals, and a practical understanding of what goes into a pitch. Sessions and guest speakers are curated to explore the intersection of neuroscience, AI, and entrepreneurship.

Lecturers (in no order) confirmed as of now:

- [Ian Burkhart](#), Founder and President of the BCI Pioneers Coalition and VP of the North American Spinal Cord Injury Consortium and first BCI implant patient.
- [Samuel Pollard](#), Director of Regulatory Affairs, MCRA
- [Aiden Aceves](#), PhD: Vice President of Biotechnology Investments at Insight Partners.
- [Jojo Platt](#): US Partnership Lead at Corundum Neuroscience; GM stealth neuro tech startup
- [Katsuya Hashizume](#): Executive Director and Partner at Beyond Next Ventures
- [Shinichiro \(Sheen\) Komoto](#): Partner at Eight Roads
- [Karl Handelsman](#) MS: Founder and Managing Partner of Codon Capital
- [Alain Prochiantz](#), PhD: Founder BrainEver
- [Dan Marshak](#), PhD: Board Director of public and private biotech and healthcare related companies. Serial entrepreneur
- [Devang Thakor JD, PhD](#): ex US Patent Agent, serial entrepreneur
- [Yasuyuki Oikawa](#): Co-Founder, COO Amplified.AI
- **Prof. Hiroaki Kitano: CTO of Sony, Professor at OIST**
- [Kenichi Nogami](#): MBA, Founder and CEO Metcela, Inc., CFO Infocurion
- [Prof. Patrick Newell](#): Professor at Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation, Shizenkan University
- [Caleb B. Bell III, PhD](#): President and Executive Director at CCI, serial Founder and Investor
- [Prof. Shun Nagao, MBA](#): CFO; Corundum Systems Biology
- **Yasushi Yamamoto**: Founder and CEO of Corundum Group; serial Founder

Schedule at a glance:

| | 6/30 (Mon) | 7/1 (Tue) | 7/2 (Wed) to 7/5 (Sat) | 7/7 (Mon) |
|-------|---|--|--|--|
| AM | Introduction to the Spirit of Entrepreneurship & Initial Idea Pitch | IP 101, Competitive Moats, and Value Creation | IRCN and Chen Institute Joint Course on Neuro-inspired Computation | Finance 101, exit dynamics and the investor perspective |
| PM | Market opportunity and product/market fit | Business Model and startup decision making | | Storytelling and element of the pitch |
| Eve | Kick Off ("success story" keynote) | Partners Reverse Pitch / reception | | VC Reverse Pitch / reception |
| Goals | Set the tone, inspire entrepreneurial thinking | Understand the fundamentals of a business opportunity and IP | | Understand the DNA of academic and non academic startups and R&D |