Research Group on Culturally-Informed Engineering

“Interdisciplinary Innovations in Engineering”

Institute of Industrial Science (IIS)

https://www.cue.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp

IIS Strengths
- UT leader in industry-university collaboration
- Covers nearly all engineering fields
- “Dunbar’s number (150)” of labs enables integrated institutional operation

Recent Projects
- Sponsoring monthly “Culture X Engineering” research group with interested EMP alumni (since July 2019)
- Inviting experts (internal and external) to lecture on wide range of themes (the senses, culture, art...)
- Established formal IIS research group to promote even deeper engagement (since April 2020)

3-Party Collaborative System
- Taking advantage of IIS’s strengths as a leader in industry-university collaboration while adding professionals (EMP grads, etc.) as an intermediary in our efforts to fuse science and the arts
- Creating a virtuous cycle in which each group enhances its functionality, generating dynamic ideas that improve on the past, and providing a space for collaboration
- Normalizing collaboration, nurturing personnel who can blend science and the arts

Humanities
Characteristics
- Diverse ideas, ways of thinking
- Medium- to long-term perspective

Improved Functionality
- Social applications for humanities research
- More employment opportunities for students

Science-Arts Fusion @ IIS (v. 2.0)
- Organic network
- Bird’s-eye view
- Catalyst for collaboration
- Sponsoring regular seminars
- Developing timely projects

Society & Culture
Characteristics
- Social implementation, business perspective
- “Collective strength” generated by the senses, cultural tradition
- Low barriers for non-experts, serve as intermediaries

Improved Functionality
- Personal networks transcend industry barriers
- Create new collaborations in society & between industry/university
- Continuing education

Productivity

Catalyst/driving force behind all science-arts blending and social collaboration at UT

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(N.B.) In this group, “humanities researchers” refers to UT liberal arts faculty in “humanities” fields.