Chugai Establishes Endowed Course at Waseda University
–Focus on Japan’s Leading Cause of Death: Cancer–

September 8, 2011 (Tokyo) - Waseda University [Head Quarter: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; President: Kaoru Kamata (hereafter, “Waseda”)] and Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. [Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Osamu Nagayama (hereafter, “Chugai”) ] have established an endowed course (starting September 2011) designed to foster subjectivity in students by encouraging them to think about medical treatments (especially for cancer) as a matter of personal concern, while also providing an opportunity to think about their future careers.

This course will introduce the Japanese medical (insurance) system, with a focus on Japan’s leading cause of death – cancer – as a healthcare issue. Some of the lectures will be presented by clinical physicians and researchers speaking on the present state of cancer treatment in Japan, including the challenges and ethical considerations. Other presenters will include security analysts and corporate employees (researchers, MRs) who are directly involved in the industry to show how pharmaceutical companies are meeting the challenges of cancer treatment.

Masao Hijikata (Professor of Faculty of Social Sciences, Waseda), supervisor of the newly endowed course, shared his thoughts: “I think it is highly significant that Waseda – a university that does not have a medical school – has been able to offer a course that looks at medicine not only from the standpoint of cutting-edge medical treatments but in an interdisciplinary manner that encompasses all aspects of the medical world. Although it is an introductory course, the opportunity to receive lectures given in accessible terms by physicians and researchers who are active globally at the front lines of medicine will give students interested in the world of medicine a good way of finding points of contact between the medical world and their own fields of study.”

Atsushi Sato, (General Manager of the Corporate Social Responsibility Department, Chugai) added: “Establishing this course is in line with our CSR activities. As a pharmaceutical company leading the cancer treatment in Japan, we are extremely pleased to be able to contribute to the development of human resources in the medical field, where need is expected to grow.”
Outline of the Endowed Course

1. Name of University: Waseda University
2. Name of Course: “Challenges on the Front Lines of Medicine Today”
4. Format: Offered in omnibus format through the Open Education Center.
5. Class size: About 150 students from all departments
6. Language of Presentation: Japanese

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