

Séminaire CNAM - LIRSA (EA 4603)

Vendredi 12 juin 2015 – 10h-12h

**Salle 37-1-43 au Cnam
2 rue Conté, métro Arts et Métiers**

Changing innovative competences? Institutional resilience and change in the Japanese biomedical sector par Maki Umemura

Discussion animée par Thomas Durand et Sakura Shimada

Changing innovative competences ?

Institutional resilience and change in the Japanese biomedical sector

This paper considers the ability of the state to ‘upgrade’ institutions and alter the innovative competences of firms embedded within a domestic environment. It does so through a case study of the regenerative medicine industry in Japan. Until the mid 2000s, Japan had attracted limited interest with regard to biomedical innovation. However, several developments – from Shinya Yamanaka’s discovery of iPS cells to government efforts to nurture this sector – have prompted considerable change and international interest with regards to Japanese engagement in this field. The paper incorporates comparative institutional analysis and heeds to the tensions between institutional change and continuity as firms endeavour to pursue innovation at the technological frontier.

Maki Umemura is a lecturer in international business at Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University in the UK. Her research interests are in innovation (particularly in the biomedical sector); institutional change and Asian Business Systems. She is the 2015 recipient of the Chaire Michelin award of the France-Japan Foundation at EHESS where she is currently visiting scholar.

<http://business.cardiff.ac.uk/people/staff/maki-umemura>

<http://ffj.ehess.fr/index/article/316/japanese-innovation-at-the-technological-frontier-the-case-of-regenerative-medicine.html>