

First RIKEN Administrative Advisory Council, 2011 Terms of Reference

RIKEN's mission is to conduct scientific research of the highest quality that will advance the causes of science and technology and fulfill the tasks consigned to it by society. This involves making the best use of RIKEN's resources as a comprehensive research institution to draw out and bring together the individual wisdom of the researcher into a consolidated "RIKEN wisdom" that can in turn be transformed into "social wisdom" through RIKEN's collaborations with industry and other sectors of society.

To achieve this, RIKEN requires an administration that will not only support its research activities but take the initiative to drive these activities forward by providing the needed human resources and organizational systems, as well as strong ties with society.

In this regard, the first Administrative Advisory Council is asked to review and advise on the following matters.

1. Collaborations with universities and industry
For the creation of "social wisdom", strong ties of collaboration with universities, industry, and other external institutions are essential. RIKEN is therefore making efforts to forge organizational ties with other institutions as well as supporting the individual ties of collaboration initiated by its researchers. In particular, RIKEN is placing special emphasis on strengthening its collaborations, including those for financial support, with industry. We ask that the Administrative Advisory Council comment and advise on the administrative efforts in this direction that have been made so far and that should be made hereafter.
2. Public relations strategies
RIKEN is highly rated in the scientific community and yet it is not well known to the general public. The Administrative Advisory Council is asked to evaluate RIKEN's efforts to promote understanding and support for its activities among the general public. Is RIKEN using the right methods to demonstrate that its achievements are worthy of the investment society has made in RIKEN? In particular, are RIKEN's international public relations endeavors as effective as they could be?
3. Creating a truly international administration
RIKEN is striving to attract the best minds in scientific research, searching far and wide around the globe for superior talent and preparing an optimum environment that will stimulate these people to realize their full intellectual potential. The Administrative Advisory Council is asked to review and advise on RIKEN's efforts to create an administrative structure that will provide the kind of support these people need.