

# **Entrepreneurship Education at the University of Tokyo**

## **Takao Someya**

Executive Director and Vice President (Responsibility: Start-up)

## Biography Takao Someya

1968 Born in Japan 1997 PhD, UTokyo

2009 Professor, School of Engineering UTokyo 2015 **Chief Scientist, RIKEN (concurrent post)** 

2020 Dean, School of Engineering

2023 Executive Director and Vice President

**Concurrent Appointment Overseas** 

2001 - 2002 Visiting Scientist, Columbia Univ.

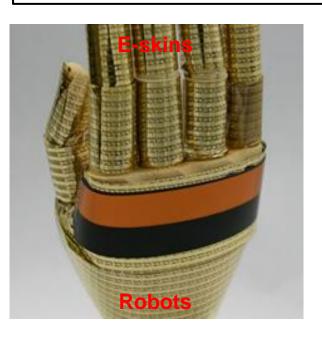
2009 - 2017Global Scholar, Princeton Univ.

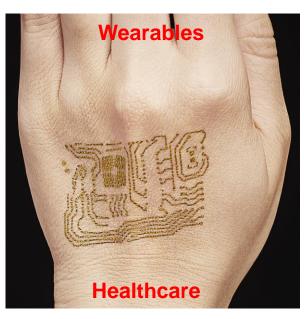
2016 - 2019 Globalfoundries Visiting Professor,

**National Univ. of Singapore** 

2017 - 2020 Hans Fischer Senior Fellow, Technical Univ. of Munich

## Invention of "e-skin" (electronic skin) with stretchable electronics







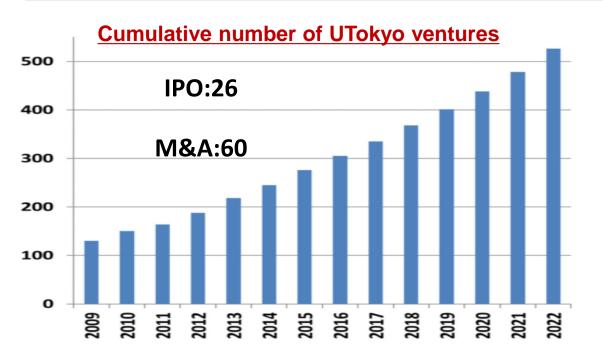
- √ >50,000 citations (h-index:100)
- ✓ NEDO/JAPERA Project Leader (JPY 9.7B) **JST/ERATO Research Director (JPY 2.0B) JST/ACCEL PI (JPY 1.5B)**
- ✓ 350 media coverage (CNN、BBC、Time、✓ Xenoma, UTokyo spin-off venture company Washington Post、New York Times)
- ✓ Patents: Japan18, USA13, China 5, Europe 2(Pending: Japan 55, Overseas 37)
- founded in 2015
- √ 2020 CES, METI Academic Startups Award
- √ Chosen top 4 among 507 smart apparel companies in the world

# **Creating Unicorns**

The University of Tokyo is strengthening support measures from entrepreneurship education to the establishment of startups with the aim of creating Unicorns.

- ✓ Number of UTokyo related venture companies: 526 (March 2022)
- √ Total market capitalization of top five companies: 1.4 trillion yen

(Jan 2021)



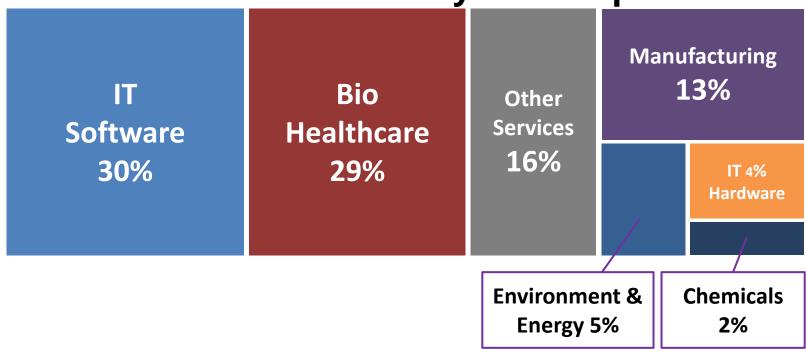
### **Outline of the plan**

- 1. Global collaboration
- 2. Deep tech reinforcement
- 3. Social entrepreneur development

Source : Corporate & External Relations Headquarters

# Deep tech entrepreneurship is expected.

**Sectors of UTokyo-startups** 



DeepTech fields

Space, Robotics, IT Hardware, Semiconductors, Materials Science, Environment & Energy, Genome and Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals, Healthcare, Quantum Computing

## Entrepreneurial environment @ the University of Tokyo

## [1] Venture capital & funding

- The University of Tokyo Edge Capital Partners (UTEC)
- ✓ Venture capital associated with the University of Tokyo. Established in 2004.
- ✓ A pioneer in Japan's university-related venture capital, managing five funds with a cumulative total of approximately 85 billion yen.
- ✓ So far, he has invested in over 140 university startups.



- √ 100% subsidiary of the University of Tokyo. Established in 2016.
- ✓ Managed a total of 25 billion yen for the "Co-creation Fund No. 1" and 24 billion yen for the "AOI Fund 1".
- ✓ To date, we have supported over 75 University of Tokyorelated startups.

## [2] Intellectual property management

- UTokyo Technology Licensing Organization
- ✓ Technology transfer organization associated with the University of Tokyo. Established in 1998.
- ✓ Cumulative licensing revenue exceeding 10 billion yenCumulatively concluded approximately 5,000 contracts
- ✓ Japan's largest university technology transfer track record







## Division of University Corporate Relations, The University of Tokyo

### [1] Operating Incubation Facility

#### A startup support facility spanning 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>

- University of Tokyo Entrepreneur Plaza (2007-)
- University of Tokyo Entrepreneur Lab (2018-)
- Komaba Collaborative Research Building Incubation Room (2009-)
- University of Tokyo Kashiwa II Entrepreneur Hub (2019-)
- Cooperating off-campus facilities: Several locations around Hongo





### [2] Providing GAP Fund

- In-campus grant system to promote commercialization of research results (6 million yen per grant)
- A total of approximately 300 applications were received, and over 100 were selected.

#### [3] Hongo Tech Garage

•A workshop equipped with machine tools for students (2016-)



#### [4] Todai to Texas

 Dispatch of UTokyo-related startups and student project teams to the South by Southwest (SXSW) exhibition in the US



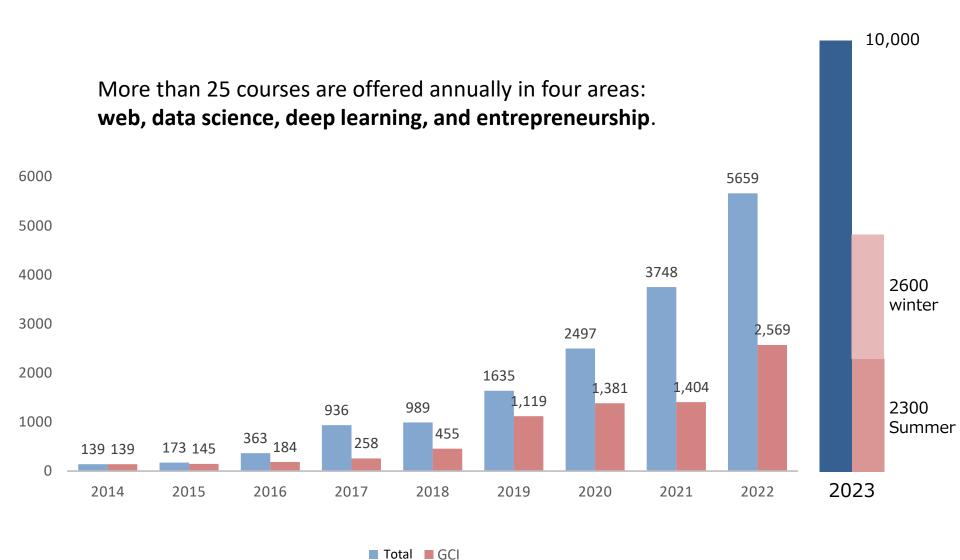
#### [5] FoundX

•Operated with donations from supporting companies (from 2019)•Supporting graduates in the very early stages before and after starting a business•Providing private rooms and coworking spaces





## **Al-related courses**



# Rising number of entrepreneurs

- In recent years, almost all graduates from Matsuo Lab have gone on to higher education or started a business.
- Half of students enrolled in technology management strategy majors hope to start a business in the future

