

April 15, 2015
Recruit Holdings Co.,Ltd.

Recruit restructures Recruit Institute of Technology as Artificial Intelligence research laboratory

World-renowned authorities invited to help commence global-scale Artificial Intelligence research

Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd. (President and CEO: Masumi Minegishi Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) has re-launched Recruit Institute of Technology (RIT) to start a global-scale artificial intelligence (AI) research laboratory and has invited world-renowned AI authorities as advisors, in collaboration with the Recruit Group companies in Japan and overseas.

1. Background to re-organization of RIT

Recruit aims to realize its mid- to long-term strategic vision of becoming the top HR business provider by around 2020 and the No. 1 matching platform provider globally in HR and promotion support domains by around 2030. To this end, with the focus on AI research as Disruptive Technology, we have restructured the RIT as an AI research center on April 1, 2015. On the occasion of the launch, we newly invited world-renowned AI authorities to act as advisors in order to pursue global-scale AI research in collaboration with the Recruit Group companies engaged in overseas and domestic businesses centering on the HR and promotion domains. Utilizing these research results, we will realize the No. 1 matching service that links industry and consumers, and continue to help each and every consumer to carry out positive actions.

2. Appointment of world-renowned AI authorities as advisors

-Tom M. Mitchell, University Professor, Carnegie Mellon University

A pioneering computer scientist extensively engaged in basic and applied problems in machine learning since its early stage. Prolific author of scientific works including the signature textbook "Machine Learning", he is founding chair of the world's first academic Department of Machine Learning. He has been a principle in several startup companies, including one which sold a division to U.S. employment website, Monster.com. Mitchell is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, Fellow of AAAS, and Fellow and Past President of AAAI.

-Oren Etzioni, CEO of the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, former Professor at University of Washington

A prominent researcher focusing on the Web search, Machine Reading, and Data Mining. Dr. Etzioni founded AI start-up companies sold to Microsoft and eBay. He is a Fellow of AAAI.

-David M. Blei, Professor, Columbia University

An innovative machine learning researcher and leading expert in topic models, which are major machine learning techniques for discovering patterns in massive data sets. One of the inventors of the topic model technique called latent Dirichlet allocation (LDA), which is applied in broad domains. Recently honored with the ACM Infosys-Foundation Award (2014).

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3. AI research in noted research institutions worldwide

Prior to this announcement, Recruit joined the MIT Media Lab as a Consortia Research Lab member and has sent a visiting scholar to Alex 'Sandy' Pentland, Professor at MIT, to explore a novel approach to big data analysis.

Recruit is also going to participate in Stanford Computer Forum membership program and will send a visiting scholar to Christopher D. Manning, Professor at Stanford University, to research in the field of natural language processing.

- Alex 'Sandy' Pentland, Professor, Media Arts and Sciences, MIT

Professor Pentland's research focuses on big data study which links human behavior and sensors, and privacy study. A serial entrepreneur and one of the most cited authors in computer science, Professor Pentland was named by Forbes as one of the world's seven most powerful data scientists.

- Christopher D. Manning, Professor, Computer Science and Linguistics, Stanford University

He is author of the celebrated textbooks, "Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing" and "Introduction to Information Retrieval" He is a Fellow of ACM, AAAI and ACL.

4. Future prospects

While advancing AI research under the guidance of prominent experts, RIT will globally recruit AI researchers. Aiming to realize global open innovation, RIT has collaborated with U.S. and Israeli AI startups, and the results will be reported progressively.

RIT is going to expand joint research efforts with other research institutions worldwide and work on business development in IoT industry.

Please stay tuned for updates on the future development of RIT.