

# Training Program for Researchers: An Approach for Human Resource Development at the National Diet Library, Japan

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Research Service of the Research and

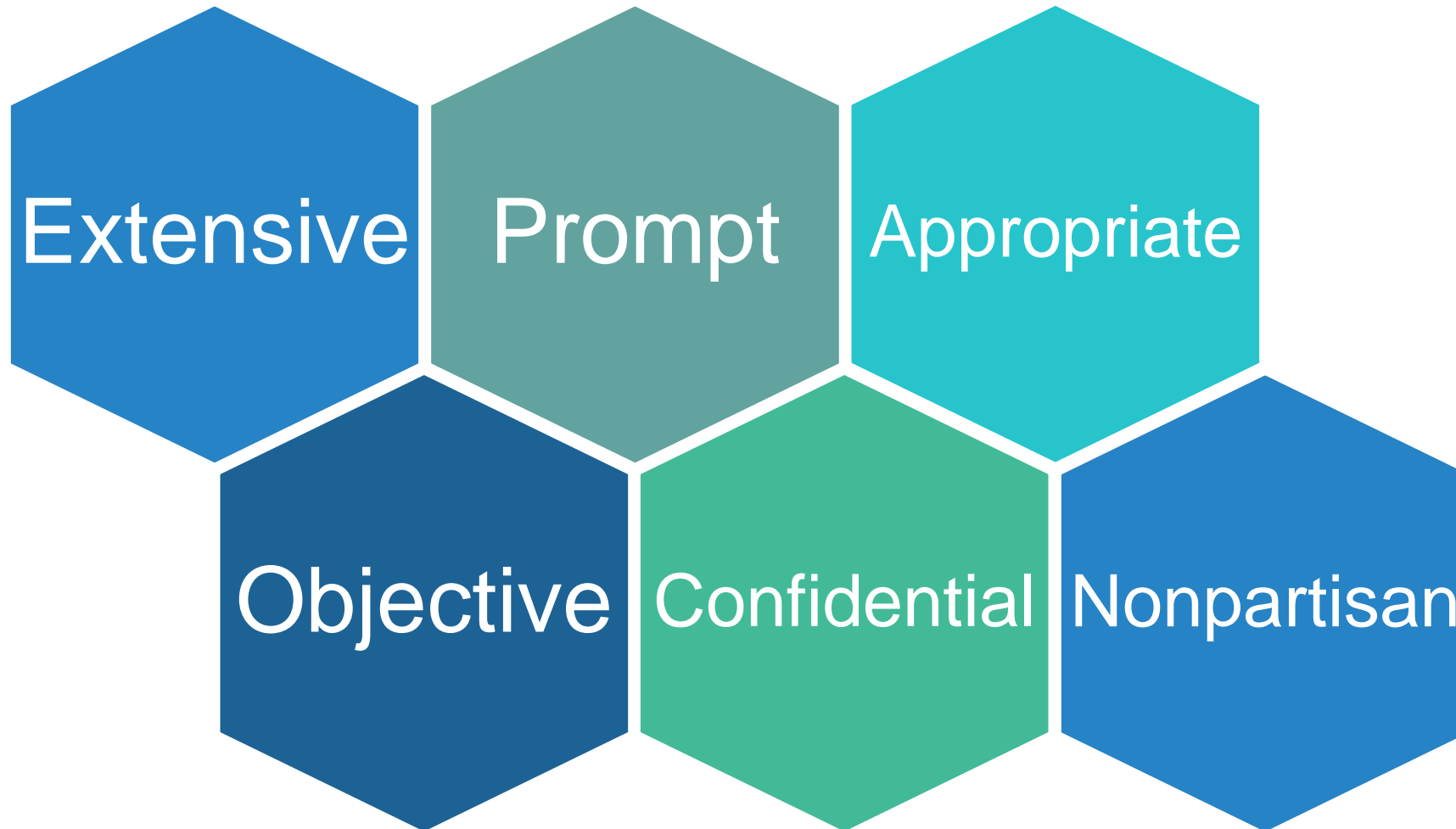
Legislative Reference Bureau

National Diet Library, Japan



# Research Service Policy of the Research and Legislative Reference Bureau (the Bureau)

Research services to Diet (Parliament) members are to be



# Training program for researchers

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The Bureau's in-house training program

- has been in place **more than 30 years**
- takes place when the Diet is in **recess (around from July to October)**



# Overview 1

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- **20 lessons per year**
- Lessons which are **compulsory** for newly appointed researchers
  - Basic knowledge of **interpretation of law**
  - **Search methods** of legal materials of selected countries
  - Others

# Overview 2

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- Each lesson is generally **90** or **120 minutes**
- Lecturers
  - **Experienced researchers and specialists** at the Bureau
  - **University professors**
  - **Analysts** from other research institutions
  - **Others**

# Adding new training courses 1

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Background:

**The changing  
information environment**

# Adding new training courses 2

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Diet Members themselves can **access much information from the Internet**

- The Bureau has **lost its advantage**
- Traditional style of reporting is **not enough**  
e.g. ([slide 8](#))



**More value must be added to the Bureau's research services**

Traditional style of reporting:  
**Memo with bibliography**

◆Request date : December XX, 2015

◆Contents of the request

Newspaper articles and other related materials concerning regulations of electronic cigarettes in the United States , the United Kingdom, and the EU

Provided are the materials in the following material list as requested.

<Material list>

(United States)

1. “Regulator Will Treat E-Cigarettes Like Tobacco,” *New York Times*, 2011.4.26
2. FDA, “Stakeholder Letter: Regulation of E-Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products,” 2011.4.25 <<http://www.fda.gov/newsevents/publichealthfocus/ucm252360.htm>>
3. FDA, “FDA NEWS RELEASE: FDA proposes to extend its tobacco authority to additional tobacco products, including e-cigarettes,” 2014.4.24

(United Kingdom)

4. “Electronic cigarettes to be treated as 'medicines',” *Telegraph.co.uk*, 2013.6.12
5. MHRA “Press release: UK moves towards safe and effective electronic cigarettes and other nicotine-containing products,” 2013.6.12.



# Adding value to research services 1

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## New lessons foster new skills

- Skills for writing **brief and clear summaries**  
(slides [10](#) and [11](#))
- Techniques for **improving presentations**  
**Typography and layout design** (slide [12](#))

New style of reporting:  
**Memo with  
summary**

◆Request date : December XX, 2015

◆Contents of the request

Easily comprehensible materials concerning regulations of electronic cigarettes in the United States and the EU

Provided are the materials in the following material list as requested.

1. The United States

Electronic cigarettes sold for the purpose of treatment of quitting smoking are regulated as drugs and medical devices under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) initially aimed at regulating electronic cigarettes other than mentioned above as drugs and medical devices, but in the wake of the ruling by the Federal Court of Appeal in January 2011 that electronic cigarettes should be regulated as tobacco products, it changed its former policy in April of the same year to announce that electronic cigarettes would be regulated as tobacco products. In April 2014, the FDA announced a proposal for regulations on electronic cigarettes. The proposed regulations include a ban on sales to people under 18 and the prohibition of distribution of free samples.

2. EU

# New style of reporting: Memo with table

◆Date requested: December XX, 2015

◆Contents of the request

I want to learn about the differences in eligible parties in connection with unemployment benefits and social assistance in Germany.

[Unemployment benefits and social assistance in Germany]

By way of unemployment insurance, unemployment assistance, and public assistance programs in Germany, these currently include unemployment benefits I, unemployment benefits II, and social assistance. An overview of each of these programs is shown in the following table.

	unemployment benefits I	unemployment benefits II	social assistance
Eligible beneficiaries and requirements	unemployed	Needy people who can work	Needy people who lack the ability to work
Benefit amount	67% of previous after-tax wages (60% for people without	Bare minimum amount needed for people to get by	Same amount as unemployment benefits II

New training courses:  
**Typography  
and layout  
design**

### 欧文書体の分類



**セリフ体**  
各線の始点や終点に「セリフ」と呼ばれる装飾がある。縦線が横線よりも幅が太い。

**サンセリフ体**  
各線の始点や終点に「セリフ」がない。縦と横の線幅が同じ。

長い文(本文)に最適      短文や見出しに最適

Serif fonts are most suitable for long text; sans-serif fonts are better suited for titles and short text.

Text should be aligned with the left margin.

### 左寄せが基本!!

- ✕ 食堂の状況について  
昼時は混雑しますが、それより前やそれより後は、ある程度空いています。大人数でお越しの際は、11時台や13時台にお越しくください。  
※土曜日は昼時でも食堂は空いています。
- 食堂の状況について  
昼時は混雑しますが、それより前やそれより後は、ある程度空いています。大人数でお越しの際は、11時台や13時台にお越しくください。  
※土曜日は昼時でも食堂は空いています。

# Adding value to research services 2

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## New lessons foster new skills

- Training in how to conduct briefings



Helpful for

- **Face-to-face lectures** given privately to Diet Members
- Researchers participating in **meetings** with Diet Members

# Adding value to research services 3

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## Increased number of lectures

- Lectures on current political issues by external experts **to further enrich and deepen researchers' knowledge**

# Adding new training courses 3

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## The changing information environment

Most information published by the Bureau is available on the Internet

- ➔ Researchers must pay more attention to **copyright protection**
  - ➔ Lecture on copyright is added as a **compulsory** part of the training program

# Problems and challenges

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## Problem

- Growing number of lessons
  - ➔ A growing work load for researchers

## Challenge

- Making training courses more useful for researchers



# My questions to the audience:

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- What are **your organization's initiatives** for developing human resources to meet the **changing needs of parliament members**?
- How do you cope with the **increasing workload** while providing more training programs?

THANK YOU