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For Immediate Release

SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
President and Group CEO Shuhei Abe
(TSE Prime: 8739)

**SPARX Offers Training Course at Sophia University
to Foster World-Class Entrepreneurs**
—Providing up to JPY 10 million in grants for outstanding business ideas—

TOKYO—October 10, 2024—SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX; TSE Prime: 8739) today announced it plans to offer its Entrepreneur Training Course at Tokyo-based Sophia University.

The course will be held for the second consecutive year, with ten sessions from October to December 2024 for all Sophia University undergraduate students who wish to attend. Course projects judged as excellent business ideas will receive up to JPY 10 million for research and related support to explore their feasibility. SPARX’s start-up investment managers will guide students as mentors in this course. The students will systematically study entrepreneurship and deepen their understanding of investment, finance, and marketing fundamentals. The course will offer practical programs where the students can have opportunities to speak with experienced entrepreneurs and experience the process of making their entrepreneurial ideas a reality, from business planning to sales strategies.

■ Course Outline

Title:	Entrepreneurship Training Course
Dates:	October–December 2024 (10 sessions)
Eligibility:	Sophia University undergraduate students (open to students in all faculties and academic years)
Details: (Tentative)	(1) Mindset 1: Lecture on entrepreneurial spirit by SPARX CEO Shuhei Abe (2) Mindset 2: Self-analysis and inventorying values (3) Mindset 3: Forming your vision, mission, values, and organization (4) Business perspective 1: Analyzing business models through familiar cases (5) Business perspective 2: Market research and building competitive advantage (6) Case studies: Learning business from successes and failures (7) Financial basics 1: How to read financial statements (8) Financial basics 2: Practical profit planning (9) Presentation preparation: Hints for pitches and presentations from start-up executives (10) Final presentation: Students present their business ideas

- This press release is not intended to solicit investments. Its sole purpose is to promote understanding of the SPARX Group’s CSR initiatives and provide information on its efforts.
- SPARX would gladly accept interviews from media outlets to discuss the Entrepreneurship Training Course.
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