Mayumi Shirasawa, Ph.D., is the program coordinator of the Postsecondary Education Programs Network of Japan (PEPNet-Japan) working in the Research and Support Center on Higher Education for the Visually and Hearing Impaired, Tsukuba University of Technology, Japan. She holds Ph.D. in Disability Studies by researching objective analysis of Japanese to Japanese Sign Language interpreting. She also holds a certification of Japanese Sign Language interpreter.