



For Immediate Release

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**FedEx Institute of Technology's Systems Testing Excellence Program (STEP)
Collaborates with Nomura Research Institute of Japan on Knowledge
Management in Software Testing**

On Wednesday, November 7, leaders from the Nomura Research Institute of Japan spent the day at the FedEx Institute of Technology at the University of Memphis to learn about cutting-edge research on knowledge management for software testing that was conducted by an interdisciplinary STEP research team from the Departments of Computer Science and Management Information Systems at the University of Memphis. Nomura Research Institute contacted the university recently after learning about the progress STEP had made in the research area in the past year.

The delegation from Nomura Research, which recently launched a major action plan pertaining to "Large-Scale Multi-Platform Systems" focusing on the optimal utilization of knowledge and assets in test processes, expressed a desire to benefit from STEP's research to advance Nomura's best practices in software testing. Discussions also focused on forging a collaborative research relationship, and Nomura Research made a contribution to the University of Memphis Foundation towards software testing research.

Dr. Jasbir Dhaliwal, Chair of MIS at the University and director of the STEP initiative, noted: "We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with the Nomura Research Institute in relation to the knowledge-based testing of securities systems and the development of knowledge-based testing technology. This visit validates the University's decision to grow (with the

encouragement and support of FedEx) the largest, most integrated interdisciplinary research group in the world focusing on advancing the science of software testing. The international testing marketplace is taking notice of our research and we are pleased to contribute towards improving industry best practices at both local partners like FedEx and international partners like Nomura.”

The FedEx Institute’s Executive Director, Shaye Mandle, welcomed the group to Memphis and hosted a luncheon in the Digital Living Room of the FedEx Institute. “The University of Memphis is truly an institution with international reach and we are aggressively attempting to push our capabilities out to the marketplace,” said Mandle. “Today’s collaboration with our friends from the Nomura Research Institute demonstrates the recognized excellence of our research programs, such as STEP, and the international stature of our researchers in the software testing space. Today’s meetings allowed us to share ideas, showcase our research results, and expand the recognition of the outstanding research being conducted at the University of Memphis.”

About STEP

The **S**ystems **T**esting **E**xcellence **P**rogram (**STEP**) is a major interdisciplinary research initiative under the umbrella of the FedEx Institute of Technology with academic program support from the Fogelman College of Business and Economics.

The Department of Management Information Systems is leading this Program and is tasked with building up research and curricular competencies at the University of Memphis that will help position the university as a nationally and internationally recognized thought leader in the science of testing.

The Program defines systems testing as a strategic and interdisciplinary area of interest encompassing all aspects of the testing of business systems including hardware testing, software testing, requirements testing and the testing of business rules. At a theoretical level it encompasses all forms of validation and verification of business applications using a systems thinking approach to ensure the successful development and application of technology in business.

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