

# Women and the Labor Market in Japan: Our Challenges

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 | 12:45 – 1:45 PM  
Room 890, Kravis Hall, Columbia Business School



*Featuring:*

**Nobuko Nagase**, Professor of Labor Economics and Social Policy, Ochanomizu University;  
Author, *Women's Career and Family in Japan: Labor Practice, Gender Wage Gap, and Child-Rearing*

*Moderator:*

**Takatoshi Ito**, Professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University;  
Director, Program on Public Pension and Sovereign Funds, CJEB

Note: This event was part of CJEB's [Japanese Management Leadership Program](#).

Professor Nagase reflected on her new book, *Women's Career and Family in Japan: Labor Practice, Gender Wage Gap, and Child-Rearing*, which follows Japanese women's careers and families mainly from the 1980s to the present, including their challenges and achievements and the changes that came through the years. Selected by *Nikkei* as one of the Ten Best Economics Books of the Year to Read by Economists, the book includes much of Professor Nagase's empirical work on women's market and non-market work in Japan and governmental policies. The book also offers an analysis of the Japanese employment model from a female perspective. She provided insight into why Japanese women's earnings remain low despite their top-ranking scores in PISA and PIAAC studies. The event recording is available at <https://youtu.be/3ydFORRztFY?si=BDTLm2ueut748qeM>.