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Talented undergraduates in Japan are being pulled in different directions. The government and the universities are urging them to pursue advanced scientific degrees as part of a larger effort to stimulate economic growth, while companies traditionally prefer to train them on the job. The cover is drawn in a style known as manga, a form of illustration popularized in serial cartoons and comic books in Japan. A more traditional depiction of the same idea appears on page 43 to open our special report on Science in Japan. [Illustration: Tomoko Saito]