IAFOR
YEAR IN REVIEW | SUMMER, 2019
The latest news from The International Academic Forum (IAFOR)
IAFOR has entered into a number of strategic partnerships with universities across the world to form the IAFOR Global Partnership Programme. These academic partnerships support and nurture IAFOR’s goals of educational cooperation without borders, connecting the organisation with institutions that have an international and internationalising profile, and a commitment to interdisciplinary research.

The IAFOR Global Partnership Programme provides mutual recognition and scope for Global Partner institutions and organisations to showcase their research strengths, as well as engage in the development of projects and programmes with IAFOR.
Chairman’s Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the IAFOR Year in Review (Summer 2019). In it you will find information about The International Academic Forum (IAFOR), and an overview of some of our current research and publications, as well as photo reports of recent events. Our hope is to give you some insight as to the range and reach of our activities since last year.

Over the years, IAFOR conferences have brought together some twenty-five thousand scholars and educators from around the globe to discuss ideas critical to the development of scholarly research in Asia and beyond, making it one of the most respected international research organisations. Over the past twelve months, we have engaged in many cross-sectoral projects, including those with universities (the University of Barcelona, Hofstra University, UCL, University of Belgrade and Moscow State University), think tanks (the East-West Center), as well as collaborative projects with the United Nations in New York, and the Government of Japan through the Prime Minister’s Office, and in Honolulu with the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa.

With the IAFOR Research Centre at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at Osaka University, we have engaged in a number of interdisciplinary initiatives we believe will have an important impact on domestic and international public policy conversations. It is through our meetings and conferences that we expand our network and partners, and we have no doubt that future conferences will continue to offer such remarkable opportunities for the sharing of research and best practice, for the meeting of people and ideas.

We hope you enjoy reading through the brochure, and encourage you to visit our website for our latest news, and event information.

Warmest regards,

Dr Joseph Haldane  
Chairman and CEO, IAFOR
About IAFOR

Founded in 2009, The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) is a politically independent non-partisan and non-profit interdisciplinary think tank, conference organiser and publisher. Based in Japan, its main administrative office is in Nagoya, and its research centre is in the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP), a graduate school of Osaka University. IAFOR runs research programmes and events in Asia, Europe and North America in partnership with universities and think tanks, and has also worked on a number of multi-sector cooperative programs and events, including collaborations with the United Nations and the Government of Japan.

IAFOR is comprised of three entities:

- The IAFOR General Incorporated Association (Japan) is a social enterprise and non-profit entity registered under the laws of Japan.
- The IAFOR Research Foundation is a private nonprofit foundation, registered in the State of California and a 501(c)3 organisation under US tax code.
- The IAFOR Research Centre is housed in the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at Osaka University and the Centre’s funds are administered through Osaka University, a Japanese National University.
The IAFOR Research Centre is housed within the Osaka School of International Public Policy at Osaka University’s Toyonaka Campus.
IAFOR Research

In line with its organisational mission, IAFOR encourages, facilitates and nurtures interdisciplinary research, with an emphasis on international and intercultural perspectives. Current areas of focus of the organisation include the following ongoing collaborative programmes and initiatives.

Conferences

IAFOR continues to run excellent conferences with more than twenty conferences on three continents, attracting attendees from around the world, expanding our network and creating new research partnerships. An IAFOR conference typically attracts attendees from 30-40 different countries, and showcases and contextualises the local by bringing international attention and exposure, and offers the chance for the exchange of ideas in an immensely rich intellectual environment of cross-pollination. We are working ever more closely with partner universities in exploring joint projects. In the last 12 months, IAFOR has held events in Brighton & Hove (UK), Tokyo (Japan), Honolulu (USA), and Kobe (Japan), as well as at Barcelona University (Spain), Lingnan University (Hong Kong SAR), Hofstra University (USA), Virginia Tech (USA).

Innovation and Value

The Innovation and Value Initiative is housed at the IAFOR Research Centre at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at Osaka University, Japan. It was launched at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, in a special collaborative UN/IAFOR session at the Third Annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum 2018) on June 6, 2018, and has included various conferences and seminars, including the October 2018 IAFOR Global Innovation & Value Summit (GIVS), organised in partnership with the Wall Street Journal. This theme invites reflections at the intersection of innovation and value as they relate to the conference areas of study.

Resilience

IAFOR was asked by the Prime Minister’s Office and Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan to collaborate on the launch of the Kansai Resilience Forum. The forum was held in February 2019 and looked at how resilience is built in individuals and communities, through education and experience, as well as through various physical and logistical structures, enhanced by innovations in engineering and technology. This theme encourages interdisciplinary studies on the concept and reality of resilience as it relates to the conference areas of study.

The Silk Road

The IAFOR Silk Road Initiative is an ambitious international, intercultural and interdisciplinary research initiative that uses the silk road trade routes as a lens through which to study some of the world’s largest historical and contemporary geopolitical trends, shifts and exchanges. The initiative is a collaborative endeavour which includes the IAFOR Research Centre at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at Osaka University, Japan, Belgrade University, Serbia and The École Normale Supérieure, France. This theme encourages submissions on Silk Road Studies and international cooperation in general as they relate to the conference areas of study.
IAFOR Publications

IAFOR’s publications provide a constructive environment for the facilitation of dialogue between academics at the intersections of nation, culture and discipline. Since 2009, when the organisation was established, over 25,000 academics have presented their research at IAFOR conferences – a wealth of ideas have been generated and partnerships formed. Our various publications, from Conference Proceedings, to peer-reviewed journals, to our online magazine, provide a permanent record of and a global online platform for this valuable research. All of our publications are Open Access, freely available online and free of publishing fees of any kind. By publishing work with IAFOR, authors enter into an exclusive License Agreement, where they have copyright but license exclusive rights in their article to IAFOR as the publisher.

IAFOR Journals

IAFOR publishes several editorially independent, Open Access journals across a variety of disciplines. They conform to the highest academic standards of international peer review, and are published in accordance with IAFOR’s commitment to make all of our published materials available online.

IAFOR Journals are indexed in Scopus, DOAJ, ERIC, MIAR, TROVE, CiteFactor and EBSCO, SHERPA/ROMEO and Google Scholar. DOIs are assigned to each published issue and article via Crossref. Please note that indexing varies from journal to journal.

Each of our journal issues is viewed thousands of times a month and the articles are frequently cited by researchers the world over, largely with thanks to our dedicated marketing efforts. Each issue is promoted across our social media platforms and to our tailored email marketing lists. On average, each journal publishes biannually. Selected IAFOR Journals are available for purchase on Amazon. Search for The International Academic Forum (IAFOR).

Current IAFOR Journal titles include:

IAFOR Journal of Arts & Humanities
IAFOR Journal of Cultural Studies
IAFOR Journal of Education (indexed in Scopus)
IAFOR Journal of Language Learning
IAFOR Journal of Media, Communication & Film
IAFOR Journal of Psychology & the Behavioral Sciences

THINK

THINK, The Academic Platform, is IAFOR’s online magazine, publishing the latest in interdisciplinary research and ideas from some of the world’s foremost academics, many of whom have presented at IAFOR conferences. Content is varied in both subject and form, with everything from full research papers to shorter opinion pieces and interviews. THINK gives academics the opportunity to step outside of the traditional research publishing status quo – to get creative, explore different disciplines and to have their ideas heard, shared and discussed by a diverse, global audience. For more information on THINK please visit www.think.iafor.org
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Since 2009, IAFOR has welcomed university presidents, faculty deans, journalists, national politicians, government ministers, diplomats, charity leaders, think tank directors, company presidents, documentary photographers, movie directors, members of the armed forces, actors, lawyers, doctors, jurists, artists, poets, writers, clergy, scientists, philosophers...

Here are some highlights from the past twelve months, from our events in six cities, in five countries, and over three continents.
Submit your research to the
IAFOR Journal of Education

The IAFOR Journal of Education is a Scopus indexed, internationally reviewed and editorially independent interdisciplinary journal associated with IAFOR’s international conferences on Education.

Editor: Dr Yvonne Masters
ISSN: 2187-0594
Contact: publications@iafor.org

Aims & Scope

The IAFOR Journal of Education is an Open Access, peer-reviewed, international and intercultural journal. The journal encourages interdisciplinary research, with the primary focus being on addressing critical issues and current trends and research in education. This would include exploring significant themes, exceptional programs and promising practice in the field of education, and educational policy. The anticipated audience is preservice and inservice teachers and administrators, university faculty and students, education policy makers, and others interested in educational research. Papers submitted by academic researchers, theorists, practising teachers, policy-makers and educational administrators are welcomed. Submissions should be original, previously unpublished papers which are not under consideration for publication in any other journal. Please note that papers already submitted to or published in IAFOR Conference Proceedings are not accepted for publication in any of IAFOR’s journals.

Indexed in: Scopus (from 2019), DOAJ, ERIC, EBSCO Discovery Service, Education Source, MIAR, TROVE, SHERPA/RoMEO, WorldCat and Google Scholar. DOIs are assigned to each published issue and article via Crossref.

IAFOR Commitment

IAFOR believes in “Open Access” publishing, and since 2009, has been committed to maintaining an online searchable research archive that offers free access to anyone, anywhere, where there is Internet access, regardless of institutional affiliation or scholarly rank. IAFOR publications are accessible on the website (Open Access) to researchers all over the world, completely free of charge and without delay or embargo. Authors and contributors are not required to pay charges of any sort towards the publication of IAFOR journals.

For more information please visit:
www.iafor.org/journal/iafor-journal-of-education

The IAFOR Journal of Education is now indexed in Scopus.
Novelist, playwright and poet Gloria Montero delivers a powerful dramatic reading from her internationally-renowned play, *Frida K.* at the concurrently held Asian Conferences on Cultural Studies and Asian Studies (ACCS/ACAS2019) in Tokyo, Japan. **Above right:** Professor John Nguyet Erni, of Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, used his Keynote Presentation “Inhabiting the Open” to explore ideas of the self and the other and how people find belonging in the world.

**Below clockwise from top left:** Winner of the IAFOR Documentary Photography Award (www.iaforphotoaward.org), Ezra Acayan, talks of his work as a documentary photographer in the Philippines, in an interview with Professor Donald Hall, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences and Engineering at the University of Rochester, USA. Filmmaker Keiko Bang of Bang Singapore Pte Ltd, Singapore, discusses the spread of fandom and what applications the findings could have in spreading information beyond pop culture. Professor Sue Ballyn of Barcelona University, Spain, in her Keynote Presentation, “Can we agree to disagree? Unreclaimable Futures”, responds to questions relating to how the elderly are being failed. In his own Keynote Presentation, titled “Resisting the Cynical Turn: Projections of a Desirably Queer Future”, Professor Donald Hall spoke to the conference theme of “Reclaiming the Future” by embracing positive narratives, concentrating on the possible, and encouraging artists, writers, philosophers, and theorists to “challenge and change the world”.

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"Independence & Interdependence" was the theme of concurrently held Asian Conferences on the Social Sciences (ACSS2019), Sustainability, Energy & the Environment (ACSEE2019) and Aging and Gerontology (AGen2019), which took place May 20–22, 2019 in Tokyo, Japan.

**Above left:** Dr Eddie Bruce-Jones, of Birkbeck, University of London, UK, gave an interesting Keynote on the history of forced migration, focusing on those brought from South Asia to the Caribbean. **Above right:** Mr Kotaro Katsuki of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who oversees the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the Japanese government domestically and internationally, delivered a very insightful Keynote on the country’s early steps to implement the SDG’s as agreed by the international community through the United Nations.

**Below from left to right:** Toshi Nakamura, founder and CEO of Kopernik, an Indonesia-based non-profit, shared the real-world experiences of a development agency and the challenges they face in his presentation. Professor Osamu Arakaki, of International Christian University (ICU), Japan, explained how his university is helping Syrian refugees access education through a scholarship programme.

**Bottom from left to right:** Continuing on the theme of Independence and Interdependence, Lowell Sheppard, of HOPE International, Japan, talked about his experiences leading a development agency in Asia. Dr James W. McNally of the University of Michigan, USA and NACDA Program on Aging, and IAFOR Vice-President (Social Sciences and Sustainability), spoke on the challenges brought on by an aging population, including the importance of respecting the needs of the aging themselves.
The Asian Conference on Language Learning (ACLL2019) was held in Tokyo, Japan on the theme of independence and interdependence and saw more than 150 academics from over 35 countries. **Above from left to right:** Professor Sarah Mercer of the University of Graz, Austria, delivers a Keynote on the “Interdependence of Language Teacher and Learner Wellbeing”; Masaya Mori, Executive Director of the Rakuten Institute of Technology explains how AI technologies can enhance language learning in a Keynote entitled “Transforming Passive TV Viewing into Language Learning with AI”; Author, journalist and CLIL guru, Phil Ball responds to questions following his keynote on “Consolidating Integration”.

**Below from left to right:** Dr Mary Sengati-Zimba, Zayed University, United Arab Emirates; Jennie Roloff Rothman, Kanda University of International Studies, Japan; Dr Satoko Kato, Kanda University of International Studies, Japan; Dr Yasmin Dean, Mount Royal University, Canada (speaking); Professor Ted O’Neill, Gakushuin University, Japan; and Professor Jo Mynard, Kanda University of International Studies, Japan, take part in a lively and interactive featured panel on “Supporting Learners and Learning from Outside the Classroom: An Interdependent Multidisciplinary Approach”.

**Bottom left to right:** Professor Keiko Sakui of Kobe Shoin Women’s University, Japan delivers a keynote on “Gender, Race and Other Factors: Being a Member of Multiple Communities”; and Dr Marco Koeder, digital marketing director of J. Walter Thompson, Japan, discusses “The Power of Randomness: Lessons from (Mobile) Gaming and Behavioral Economics” as they relate to the use of games in learning.
Above left: Professor Barbara Lockee, of Virginia Tech, opened an energetic conference at Virginia Tech with The IAFOR Conference on Educational Research & Innovation (ERI2019). As a key member of the Organising Committee, Professor Lockee led the effort to make this first collaboration with Virginia Tech a success. 

Above centre: Professor Mark Pegrum delivered a technology-focused Keynote Presentation on the use of new programs and devices to improve access to education. 

Above right: Dr Rich Ingram of James Madison University captivated the audience with his Keynote Presentation on psychophysiology, even connecting sensors to Professor Pegrum’s head to demonstrate how brain activity can be measured in order to gain insights into how students learn.

Below left: Dr Amy Azano, also of Virginia Tech, added to the theme of improving educational access and outcomes with her Keynote Presentation on the challenges facing rural communities. 

Below centre: Dr Steve Harmon, associate dean of research at Georgia Tech Professional Education (GTPE), director of educational innovation at the Center for 21st Century Universities (C21U), and a professor at the Georgia Tech College of Design, used his Keynote Presentation to show how his university is expanding online opportunities while maintaining the high academic standards for which they are known.

Below right: Professor Robert Doyle, associate dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University and former associate dean of Harvard College, discussed the “anatomy of the flipped classroom” during his Keynote Presentation, rounding out an exceptional group of Keynote Speakers.
Above: The 10th Asian Conference on Arts and Humanities (ACAH2019) opened with a great plenary line up on the theme of “Reimagining the Future”. Renowned curator Dr Yutaka Mino (above left), Director of the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, was the first keynote and spoke of encouraging aesthetic sensitivity in the young by creating exciting and open museum spaces. He was followed by the world’s leading expert of the Great Wall of China, and its most prominent international protector, William Lindsay OBE (above center) speaking on preserving the past to preserve the future by documenting this great cultural heritage site. Former Dean of the Medill School of Journalism, Professor Brad Hamm (above right) spoke of the extraordinary role of big technology companies in global and local communities, media and journalism, the economy and the daily lives of adults and children.

Below: Filipino documentary photographer Ezra Acayan (below left), Grand Prize Winner of the 2018 IAFOR Documentary Photography Award, takes questions from the audience during an interview moderated by Professor Hamm. Launched in 2015, the IAFOR Documentary Photography Award is an international photography competition that seeks to promote and assist in the professional development of emerging documentary photographers and photojournalists. Heather Croall (below right), Director and CEO of the Adelaide Fringe Festival, spoke on how a Fringe festival can offer cultural transformation to a city as a way of “reclaiming the future”. The Adelaide Fringe is the Southern Hemisphere’s largest annual arts festival and the second-largest Fringe in the world after Edinburgh.
Think Tokyo, The 9th Asian Conferences on Psychology & the Behavioral Sciences and Ethics, Religion & Philosophy (ACP/ACERP) were held in Tokyo, in March 2019, and invited interdisciplinary research on the conference theme of “Value and Values”.

Above: Organising Committee member, Professor Dexter Da Silva (left) welcomes delegates to the conference. Leading educational psychologist, Professor Mimi Bong (center) speaks on what leads people to study and why. Governance guru, Nicholas Benes (right), delivered a keynote on “The next 50 years”, looking at the many challenges that lie at the intersection of ethics, philosophy, psychology, and values that may affect the worth of what we own, the enjoyment we derive from living, and even our survival as a species.

Below: Dr George Chryssides (below left), one of the world’s leading authorities on religion and new religions, asks “Are Religious Values Paramount?” in his irreverent and wide-ranging keynote address, before Professor Satoru Nishizawa (below right), Chairman of the Japanese Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, delivered a powerful presentation on the “Psycho-Social Characteristics of Child Abusing Parents and Families”.

Bottom: Renowned historian and Buddhist priest, Dr Brian Victoria (bottom left), speaks on values at the intersection of religion and tolerance, before law professor Dr Frank Ravitch (bottom center) of Michigan State University delivered a powerful plenary with a focus on law, religion and politics in the US. Professor David Putwain (bottom right), Chair of the Psychology of Education Section of the British Psychology Society, delivered a keynote on “The Value of High-stakes Exams: Do Teachers Help or Hinder?”.
Above: The 5th Asian Conference on Education & International Development (ACEID2019) was held in Tokyo in March on the theme of “Independence and Interdependence” and opened with former UN special rapporteur to Myanmar and internationally recognised jurist, Professor Yozo Yokota (above left), who delivered a keynote on education and displaced peoples, before taking part in an interactive panel discussion. Professor Haruko Satoh (above right) of Osaka University and Co-Director of the OSIPP-IAFOR Research Centre, delivers a keynote on the challenges of the multicultural classroom in a Japanese university context.

Below left: Building university partnerships across national borders was the subject of a lively panel discussion with (from left to right) Dr Justin Sanders, now Director of Continuing Education at Temple University, Japan and panel moderator; Dr Naoki Umemiya, Director of the Technical and Higher Education Team, at the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Professor Mark Williams, Vice-President of International Academic Exchange at International Christian University, Tokyo; Suvendrini Kakuchi, Tokyo Correspondent for University World News, and Chie Kato, Senior Associate Dean at Temple University, Japan.

Bottom: Delegates at ACEID gather for a group photo after the main plenary session. The conference saw some 200 participants from more than 35 countries.
IAFOR began its 2019 in Honolulu, Hawai‘i with a joint plenary session of the IAFOR International Conferences on Education (IICEHawaii) and Sustainability, Energy and the Environment (IICSEEHawaii), with Dr Christina M. Kishimoto (above left), Superintendent of the Hawai‘i State Board of Education, Dr David Lassner (above center), President of the University of Hawai‘i, and Dr Richard R. Vuylsteke (above right), CEO of the East-West Center. The panel was chaired by Dr Joseph Haldane, Chairman and CEO of IAFOR and entitled “Education and Sustainability: Local Lessons from Hawai‘i”, and three of the State’s leaders joined to give their reflections on leadership and positive change around the conference theme of “Independence & Interdependence”.

Below: Professor Nathan Murata (top left), Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM), welcomes delegates to the conference, following the traditional Hawaiian Oli ceremony, opening and blessing of the conference by Aunty Kehaulani Lum and Uncle Bruce Yoshio Keaulani (top right). Dr Amanda Müller of Flinders University (bottom left) conducts an interactive workshop discussing the opportunities gained through conducting interdisciplinary research and the benefits of team-based research projects. Volunteer graduate students from the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (bottom right) relax during a lighter moment in the conference.
Above: Dr Deane Neubauer (above left), Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM), moderates a wide-ranging plenary panel on “Independence and Interdependence”, looking at the challenges faced by teachers and policymakers as they prepare students for the unknown in a rapidly changing world. Held in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Higher Education Research Partnership (APHERP), which conducts a wide range of policy-focused research with a special focus on higher education, this panel included presentations by Professor Joshua Mok Ka-ho (above center), Vice-President and concurrently Lam Man Tsan Chair Professor of Comparative Policy of Lingnan University, and Dr Sela V. Panapasa of the University of Michigan (above right). Dr Panapasa looked at questions of demography, race and ethnicity, measuring health and education disparities.

Below: Professor David P. Ericson (top left), Professor of Philosophy of Education and Educational Policy Studies in the Department of Educational Foundations, at UHM gives a historical overview of formal education and systems, in order to then offer possible projections of where we might be heading in a thoughtful address as part of the “Independence and Interdependence” plenary panel. Dr Keiichi Ogawa (top right), a Professor/Department Chair in the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies at Kobe University in Japan, delivers a Keynote Address on "SDGs and Education: Sustainable Financing for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia". Bottom: Delegates join for a group photo on the steps of the Hawai‘i International Convention center. Over 300 people from 45 different countries attended the 2019 IAFOR conference.
"Urban Heritage and the Modern City" was the theme of The IAFOR Conference on Heritage & the City, held in partnership with Hofstra University, New York. Academics from more than 25 countries attended the conference to “help build the concept of ‘urban heritage’ as the foundation for developing pioneering methodologies for the study of cities”.

Above from left to right: Academic, actress and theatre director, Professor Jean Dobie Giebel (Hofstra University) welcomes delegates; Professor Mark Lukasiewicz, Dean of the School of Communication at Hofstra University, delivers a Keynote Presentation on “Alternative Facts”; Professor Gregory Pell (Hofstra University), an expert on artistic correspondence between cinema and film, speaks as part of the Featured Panel on "Urban Heritage and the Modern City". Panelists responded to the proposition that the “diversity and otherness of the new city-space requires us to study the city as a sort of cultural heritage collage,” and “urges us to consider new methodological paradigms”.

Below, clockwise from top left: On the same Featured Panel were Dr Rodney Hill of Hofstra University, a prominent film scholar and archivist who considered the role of visual and filmic versions of New York, and Professor Alfonso J. García Osuna, who looked at literary interpretations of the city. IAFOR Vice-President, Professor Ted O’Neill of Gakushuin University, Japan, with IAFOR Scholarship winners, Ioannis Vardapolous of Harakopio University (Greece), and H. Kubra Gur Duzgun of Mimar Sina Fine Arts University (Turkey). Dr Ljiljana Markovic, Dean of the Faculty of Philology at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, spoke of cities as places of both conflict and compromise, as well as cooperation and reconstruction. Professor Markovic has been interested in the role of the university at the very heart of civil life in Serbia, where she also serves as a city councilor.
Top left: Professor Leonard K Cheng, President of Lingnan University, Hong Kong, welcomes delegates to the IAFOR Conference on Higher Education Research (CHER-HongKong2018), before delivering his keynote presentation, “Innovation and Entrepreneurship at a Liberal Arts University? The Experience of Lingnan University”. The Conference was held in association with the Asia Pacific Higher Education Research Partnership (APHERP).

Top right: Professor Anthony Welch, of the University of Sydney, Australia, delivers a Keynote Presentation, “Innovation, Entrepreneurship and the Shift to the East”, to a packed room in Lingnan University, in which he detailed the massive increase in research and development budgets and output from China.

Below, clockwise from top left: Dr Xu Di from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, USA, gives her Featured Presentation titled “Value, Innovation, Entrepreneurship: An Ethical Perspective for Global Education, Research & Development”. Professor Deane Neubauer from the East-West Center, USA, and co-director of APHERP, gives a Featured Presentation on “Recalculating Higher Education in the Asia Pacific Region within the Emerging Fourth Industrial Revolution”. Professor Catherine Montgomery, University of Bath, UK answers questions following her Featured Presentation on the impact of innovation and entrepreneurship on education. Professor Yuto Kitamura, The University of Tokyo, Japan, gives a Featured Presentation on "The Impact of Internationalization of Higher Education in Asia on Cooperation Among Diverse Stakeholders: International Cooperation to Promote Entrepreneurship and Innovation".
Top: APHERP celebrates the moving of its secretariat from the East West Center (Hawai‘i, USA) to Lingnan University (Hong Kong) with the unveiling of a ceremonial plaque at CHER–HongKong. The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) was excited to partner with APHERP for this event. After this successful conference, IAFOR is looking forward to future opportunities to work with APHERP.

Below: Professor Ka Ho Joshua Mok, Vice-President of Lingnan University (left), and Dr Joseph Haldane, Chairman and CEO of IAFOR (right) deliver closing addresses following the plenary sessions. The two both expressed that the conference had been a great success, and that they enjoyed seeing so many scholars from around the world coming together in international, interdisciplinary academic pursuits.

Bottom left: A trio of musicians from Lingnan University entertain delegates at the Welcome Reception. Many delegates noted they enjoyed the opportunity to network at the Welcome Reception, and that the music helped to create a relaxing, informal atmosphere. Bottom right: Detail from the CHER–HongKong Programme.
Dr Zachary Walker, of University College London’s Institute of Education, delivers the opening keynote to the 10th Asian Conference on Education (ACE2018), held in Tokyo, and attended by more than 550 people. Dr Walker’s insightful Keynote Presentation, titled “The Things that Do Not Change”, explained the importance of flexibility in responding to learner needs, but also the need to implement best practices as demonstrated by research in the field. Dr Andy Curtis, from Anaheim University (USA), and 50th President of TESOL International, gives a humorous and moving account of his journey as an educator and scholar, in a Keynote Presentation titled “Moving Forward by Going Back: Not Changing but Innovating”, drawing on both personal experience and on a wide variety of intellectual inspirations, including the current relevancy of Thomas Dewey’s work from more than hundred years ago.

Professor Keith W. Miller, University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), USA, delivers a Keynote Presentation titled “Sophisticated Machines and Innovative Education: Who (or What) Will Thrive?” in which he spoke of the role of AI, robots and their relationship with students and teachers in an interactive, and thought provoking speech. Dr Liying Cheng, from Queen’s University, Canada, gives a wide ranging Keynote Presentation on “High-Quality Classroom Assessment in Times of Change: From Purposes and Uses to Tasks and Environments”, which looked at new and innovative methods of assessment. Professor Ted O’Neill of Gakushuin University (Japan) is flanked by founding IAFOR Journal of Education editor, Dr Bernard Montoneri of National Chengchi University (Taiwan), and current editor, Dr Yvonne Masters from the University of New England (Australia). Professor O’Neill moderated a lively Featured Panel on “Thriving in Publication: Ethical Guiding Principles for Academic Publication.”
Top left: Professor Kay Irie, from Gakushuin University, Japan, speaks about delivering change in conservative institutions as part of the Featured Panel Presentation on “Leadership and Innovation”, chaired by IAFOR Chairman, Dr Joseph Haldane (not pictured). Top right: Professor Ljiljana Markovic, Dean of the Faculty of Philology at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, who spoke of the challenges facing a developing country, responds to a question during the same panel.

Bottom, clockwise from top left: Dr Kristin Palmer, Director of Online Learning Programs at the University of Virginia, USA, in the Featured Panel Presentation titled “Leadership and Innovation”, delivers a perspective from a major US public research institution. Dr Peter McCagg, Vice-President of Akita International University, Japan, a small but highly ranked college located in rural Japan, talks of disconnect between the university’s more global facing aims and its relationship with the local community. Professor Ljiljana Markovic is interviewed by prominent Serbian TV anchor, Svetlana Gurbor of Pinkova TV. Distinguished Professor Tien-Hui Chiang, of Zhengzhou University, China, delivers a thought provoking and controversial Keynote Presentation titled, “Teacher Competences Function as the Discourse of International Competitiveness within the Institutionalized Milieu in the Epoch of Globalization”.
Top left: Professor Kaori Hayashi, a noted expert in the field of Japanese Media and Politics at The University of Tokyo, Japan, gives the opening Keynote Presentation on "Indifferent Publics – The Challenge of Japanese Media Today" at the ninth Asian Conference on Media, Communication & Film (MediAsia2018).

Top right: Prominent Asian documentary filmmaker, Keiko Bang, gives a highly engaging multimedia Keynote Presentation on "Fearful Futures: Are we Awoke?". Bang has produced more than 50 award-winning documentary films, worked and for and with governments and non-profit agencies, undertaken projects to support refugees, and worked at some of the largest broadcast companies in the world, and she drew on this breadth of experience to deliver a truly memorable presentation.

Bottom, clockwise from top left: Professor Georg Adlmaier-Herbst, of the Berlin University of the Arts, Germany, delivers a Keynote Presentation titled "When All the Research Says Otherwise but Fear Remains: On the Role of Facts in Dealing with Future Fears", which looked at the intersections of psychology, behavior and media. Professor Yutaka Kubo from Waseda University, Japan, takes part in a Featured Panel Presentation on the state of film studies in Japan. The panel was moderated by Timothy W. Pollock, from Osaka Kyoi University & Hagoromo University of International Studies, Japan, who also served on the Organising Committee for MediAsia2018, helped to make the conference so successful. Professor Chie Niita, also from Waseda University, was another panel participant. Professor Kubo and Professor Niita provided deep insights built on their many years of respective experience, and thoroughly engaged the audience in discussion.
The IAFOR Global Innovation & Value Summit (GIVS2018) was held in Tokyo, and brought together some of the biggest names in government and business in Japan. Organised in association with JWT and The Wall Street Journal, the conference considered and contextualised questions of innovation and value with a focus on innovation ecosystems in the global, regional and local ecosystem of Japan.

**Top left:** Telecommunications pioneer, Dr Sachio Semmoto, Chairman of RENOVA, Inc. and founder of DDI (later KDDI), delivers the opening Keynote Presentation at GIVS2018, recalling his experience of innovation in Japan in the privatisation of the telecom industry. **Top right:** Oki Matsumoto, Managing Director & Chairman of the Monex Group gives his views on how government can help encourage innovation by keeping its distance.

**Clockwise from bottom left:** Motoko Imada, President and Founder of media group, Infobahn, Inc., talks of the challenges and opportunities of being a woman in business in Japan; Dan Sloan, Founder of the Nissan Global Media Center moderates the morning Keynote Panel; Student volunteers from Gakushuin University help welcome delegates to GIVS2018.
If the phrase “innovate or die” is true, then these “shinisei” businesses must be considered to be the most innovative in the world. This “Innovation in Japan’s Heritage Industries” plenary session at GIVS2018 explored how innovation happens within heritage companies and what can be gleaned from these practices and applied to organisations that aspire to be similarly sustainable over the long term.

Top left: Masao Hosoo, President (11th Generation), Hosoo Corporation, talks about how his textile company uses both tradition and cutting edge technology in its products. Top right: Reverend Takafumi Kawakami, Zen Priest & Vice Abbot, Shunkoin Temple, Kyoto, has lectured around the world, including at MIT, on mindfulness and the continued relevance and role of religion in changing times.

Below left: Shuji Nakagawa, President & Craftsman, Nakagawa Mokkougei, which makes wooden objects, speaks about using innovation to introduce a new generation to traditional implements by reimagining them.

Bottom left: Hiroko Koide, External Board Director of Mitsubishi Electric Company, and Board Director for Business Strategy and Marketing at Vicela Japan Co, chairs the panel discussion. Bottom right: Rumiko Obata, Executive Vice President, Obata Sake Brewery, speaks of the innovative production and promotion practices she has employed to keep tradition and the rural brewery flourishing.
Japanese firms have been regularly regarded as inwardly focused, and averse to overseas business and competition, but this is not accurate, as there are many notable exceptions, including that of Mr Yuzaburo Mogi, Honorary Chief Executive Officer & Chairman of the Board, Kikkoman Corp. One of the true business giants of the past century, Mr Mogi was responsible for introducing soy sauce to the US market postwar, and to the building of the company into the food manufacturing giant it is today. Here he recounts his experiences of opening a new market to a traditional product, and how he helped create that market.

The second plenary panel at GIVS2018, on “The Multinational View on Innovation (Inbound/Outbound)”, explored how Japan’s leading companies define, measure, manage and inspire innovation both domestically and overseas with representatives from several leading Japanese companies. Panelists included Jin Song Montesano, Chief Public Affairs Officer, LIXIL Corporation (pictured above), and clockwise from left below, Masafumi Ishibashi, Chief Marketing Officer, Nestle Japan; Mandali Khalesi, Toyota Global Head of Automated Driving Mobility and Innovation; Ludovico Ciferri, President, Advanet. The panel was chaired by Ross Rowbury, President of Edelman Japan.
Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has pinned the future of Japan’s economy on innovation, and while heritage and existing businesses must plan an important role in this embrace of growth and change, everyone is looking to Japan’s start-up sector as the key driver of Japan’s future growth. In the “Entrepreneurial Innovation in Japan” session at GIVS2018, panelists explored the unique elements of Japan’s start-up culture, and how this is driving or dampening the country’s future innovativeness.

Above: Kei Shimada, Director of Innovation, at IBM Innovation and Incubation Labs (left) and Tamaki Sano, General Manager of the Business Creation Department at Kirin Company, Ltd. (right) talk about creating and encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship within large corporations.

Below left: David Milstein, Partner, Head of Japan, Eight Roads Ventures, and prominent venture capitalist speaks positively of the investment environment of Japan. Below right and bottom: Marco Koeder, Digital Business Director at J. Walter Thompson, Japan chairs the panel, where David M. Uze, Co-Founder & CEO, Trillium Secure, Inc., strongly disagrees with the positive views of Japan’s start-up environment, comparing it unfavourably with Silicon Valley.
Driving innovation and value creation across all earlier panels at GIVS2018 are the laws, regulations and overall policies set in place by the central and regional governments. Simultaneously, Japan’s educational foundation is built on creating the proper environment and launching pad for innovative research and new entrepreneurs and innovators who will drive the future of innovation growth. This session explored how the Japanese government, as well as educational institutions, are working to foster both the spirit and environment to foster and develop future innovations.

**Top left:** Yoshimasa Hayashi, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (2017-2018), & Member of the House of Councillors, Japan, talks as part of the panel, and outlined how the Ministry is preparing for “Society 5.0”, where Artificial Intelligence both destroys and creates opportunities and employment. **Top right:** Yoko Ishikura, Professor Emeritus, Hitotsubashi University, Japan, and Member of the Global Future Council at the World Economic Forum speaks on the need for immediate action to encourage innovation in Japan.

**Clockwise from left below:** Kosuke Motani, Chief Senior Economist of the Japan Research Institute, talks about regional regeneration in Japan in depopulated areas; Eikei Suzuki, Governor of Mie Prefecture, Japan, responds with success stories from Mie; David Hajime Kornhauser, Director of Global Communications, Kyoto University, Japan, moderates the session; Yoshiaki Ishii, Director of the Science, Technology and Innovation Bureau at the Cabinet Office gives another government view.
Above (and bottom left): Geoffrey Wexler, Chief, International Division, Studio Ponoc, Japan, and formerly of Studio Ghibli and Walt Disney, moderates the final session at GIVS2018, weaving together the insights and discussions from all previous sessions, and encouraged the remaining panelists to answer the key question under discussion throughout the entire Symposium: What is truly driving innovation and innovativeness in Japan today, and how will this develop and grow in the future?

Below left: Professor Philip Sugai, Professor, Doshisha University, Graduate School of Business, Japan, and Director of the OSIPP-IAFOR Research Center’s Innovation and Value Initiative at Osaka University thanks delegates for attending the event.

Below right: Peter Landers, Tokyo Bureau Chief of The Wall Street Journal delivers a very thoughtful overview of the GIVS2018 summit in his closing remarks. The Wall Street Journal was the official partner of the summit.
Above left: Dr Alex Aguilar, Vice Rector for Outreach and Internationalisation at the University of Barcelona (left) and Dr Joseph Haldane, IAFOR Chairman and CEO, welcome delegates to The IAFOR International Conference on the City (CITY2018) held concurrently with The IAFOR International Conference on Global Studies (GLOBAL2018). The conference theme was “Fearful Futures” and the uncertain political future of the global city of Barcelona provided a stimulating backdrop for this conversation to unfold. Above right: Internationally acclaimed novelist and journalist, Liz Byrski of Curtin University, Australia, delivers a Keynote Presentation, considering her love-hate relationship with various cities in which she has lived, the reasons for fleeing from them, and the physical and emotional effects of being in any city. This address was a part of a “Cities we Fleed” panel that also included addresses by Professor Sue Ballyn (opposite page above right) and Professor Donald Hall (opposite page bottom right).

Below (clockwise from top left): Dr Bill Phillips delivers a keynote presentation on “Catalonia’s Referendum on Independence from Spain”, contextualising the political crisis in Catalonia as part of a panel on the subject. Dr Philips is head of the English and German Studies Department, and teaches English literature and culture, at the University of Barcelona, and also serves as a local councillor. Dr Cornelis Martin Renes delivers a thought-provoking keynote address, “¡A España no hay presos políticos! / In Spain there are no Political Prisoners!”, that looked at the way in which the Spanish government handled political and legal issues around the Catalan independence referendum. Dr Montserrat Camps-Gaset, a member of the Board of the University of Barcelona, and a Catalan native responds to questions on the issue of separatism and identity in Spanish politics, while Michael Strubell contributes a poignant analysis as a panelist in a featured Panel Presentation “The Way and Wherefore of Spain’s Current Political Crisis: Catalonia... Again”.

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Above (from left to right): Professor Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz, Director of the Center for Global and Area Studies at the University of Delaware, after her her Keynote Presentation “Writing the City: Buenos Aires in New Millennium Crime Fiction”, which looked at true crime as inspiration for fictional explorations. Phil Ball delivers a thought-provoking Keynote Presentation on “Football, Politics and the City”. Mr Ball is one of the world’s foremost football journalists, who has written award-winning and bestselling books during his career as a sports journalist. Professor Emerita Sue Ballyn, Founder and Honorary Director of the Centre for Australian and Transnational Studies Centre at the University of Barcelona, responds to questions from the audience during the Featured Panel Presentation “Cities we Fleed”.

Below (from left to right): Writers Phil Ball, Gloria Montero and Liz Bryski on a very wide-ranging panel entitled “How Can Writers Respond when the Future Looks Fearful?”. Gloria Montero is a world-renowned novelist, playwright and poet, especially known for her play Frida K., which has been performed globally.

Bottom right: Professor Donald Hall, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences & Engineering at the University of Rochester, delivers remarks as part of the “Cities we Fleed” panel, where he talks of the societal, racial and generational fissures in the Deep South of the United States in the 1960s and 1970s. Bottom left: Conference attendees pose for a group shot outside the Aula Magna of the University of Barcelona.
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Kansai Resilience Forum 2019

On February 22, 2019, the Government of Japan, in collaboration with The International Academic Forum (IAFOR), held the Kansai Resilience Forum 2019, which became a major international and interdisciplinary platform for extensive discussion on resilience and its role in society, the globalising economy and disaster risk reduction.

The Kansai Resilience Forum took place at the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, comprised of three panel sessions on Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, Resilience and Society, and Resilience and the Globalising Economy as major topics, and culminating in a Special Keynote Presentation by world renowned architect, Tadao Ando, who designed the event venue following the Great Hanshin Earthquake of 1995 as a symbol of both renewal and recovery.

The Forum was opened by Tomoaki Ishigaki of the Prime Minister's Office of Japan on behalf of the Government of Japan; and Joseph Haldane, Chairman and CEO of IAFOR, who highlighted the significance and timeliness of the discussion for both Japan and the global community.
Panel I: Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

Panel Session I addressed the issues of disaster risk reduction strategies and how Japan can aid other disaster-prone areas. It was moderated by Peng Er Lam of the National University of Singapore, whose central point was that resilience is created through joint efforts of the local communities, national governments and international collaboration of regions under threat of natural disasters.

Yuki Matsuoka, the Country Head of The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), Japan, shared, among other issues, the UN’s experience and expertise in disaster risk management speaking about the “shift from considering stakeholders as vulnerable victims to agents of change and focus on empowerment and inclusion” in building up resilience.

Shotta Hattori of Kozo Keikaku Engineering, Japan, spoke about simulated evacuations and the social value of their results which help study social psychology and human behaviour in times when disasters hit people’s habitats.

Satoru Oishi of Kobe University / RIKEN, Japan, gave insight into how supercomputers and other state-of-the-art technologies are used for enhancing urban planning, evacuation and rescue strategies through complex modelling. Kobe is home to the K computer, one of the world’s most powerful supercomputers.
Ljiljana Markovic of the University of Belgrade, Serbia, stressed the role of lifelong education in building up a resilient society. She also laid special emphasis on invaluable support the people of Serbia have been receiving from Japan in terms of rescue assistance, healthcare development and educational exchange, underlining the importance of international cooperation. As a way of recognising this aid, when Japan was struck by the March 11, 2011 earthquake, the Serbian people responded quickly and generously and were among the largest European donors of aid to Japan.

Haruko Satoh of Osaka University, Japan, summarised the panel by underlining the importance and timeliness of the Forum which has been able to showcase how Japan approaches disaster risk management, how it bounces back, what experience it has and most importantly how this is shared with the rest of the world.

Panel II: Resilience & Society

Panel Session II had Resilience and Society as its theme and was chaired by Richard Lloyd Parry, the Asia Editor of The Times, who has covered tsunamis and nuclear disasters in Japan, among other topics. He looked at the role of resilience in society, both positive and negative, in response to emotionally difficult situations.

Tomohide Atsumi, a professor of psychology at the Faculty of Human Sciences of Osaka University, Japan, addressed the issue of volunteerism and human support in dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters. He gave an example of the Pay-It-Forward Network, when the survivors of a previous disaster help those of the current one. He spoke of how this volunteerism organically occurred in Kobe in 1995, and of how this has become more formalised in the present day.
Hidenobu Sumioka of Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratory, Japan, spoke about the help of robots in increasing resilience in society, showcasing the effectiveness of robots through interpersonal touch in interaction with elderly people, children and those who need stress relief. An interesting finding of the Laboratory is that their Telenoids, robots with a minimal human design, can be successfully used across cultures, which was proven in an experiment at a caretaking facility in Denmark. Japan is a world-leader in robotics and AI, and in an aging society, such technologies can help augment the human experience.

Hiroshi Okumura of Kobe University, Japan, stressed the significance of “memory preservation in a stricken area for the formation of a strong community against a disaster” as historical records are pivotal for accumulating and sharing experience. This is especially important in areas ravaged by both human and man-made disasters and has implications and lessons far beyond Japan.

Monty P. Satiadarma of Tarumanagara University, Indonesia, looked at the concept of resilience from a psychological angle, explaining how natural disasters affect people's mental and emotional state and giving practical advice on how to deal with survivors. Dr Satiadarma is a leading clinical psychologist who treated children suffering PTSD following the 2004 Aceh earthquake and tsunami.

Lowell Sheppard, Asia Pacific Director of the HOPE International Development Agency, Japan, used the example of tsunami stones, benchmarks that reminded people of the traditional lines below which it is unsafe to build, to examine the role and importance of oral history and education in passing on ancient experiences.
A lively discussion followed the panel addressing the questions of the importance of leadership in resilience, how disasters can change societies, what changes are necessary for Japanese society and how modern technology and robots could be implemented in disaster management in more efficient ways.

Panel III: Resilience & the Globalising Economy

The third panel was dedicated to the correlation and interplay between resilience and the globalising economy. The panel was chaired by Brad Glosserman of Tama University, Japan, who raised the issue of globalisation changing the ways societies are organised. He stressed that facing various problems that modernisation brings, combined with exposure to natural disasters, Japan might well see resilience and promotion of resilience as its national purpose in a postindustrial and postmodern world.

Atsushi Iizuka of Kobe University / RIKEN, Japan, talked about the partial application of big data and super computers in enhancing the resilience of cities and emphasized the importance of private/public partnerships that allow investment in big urban projects to make cities safer, better and smarter.

Ray Klein of Tekinvest KK, Japan, looked at various perceptions of resilience and its representation in the Japanese society. He outlined that resilience can be traced in how Japan manages its growth and aging of its population, in revitalisation and modernisation of older areas, and in how newer generations approach traditions.
Thomas Mayrhofer of the Intercontinental Hotels Group, Japan, spoke on how the hospitality industry can help by becoming an active actor in the community in times of crisis, opening its doors to survivors and providing supplies and shelter to them. He also stressed the major role of communication between national and regional services and international tourists, and explained despite difficulties, Japan was able to quickly recover its key transportation and economic infrastructure from the heavy rain and typhoon last year.

Takenosuke Yasufuku of Kobe Shushinkan Breweries, Japan, situated in the largest sake production region in Japan, talked about how damage caused to his brewery was devastated by the earthquake of 1995, and reopened in 1997 after strenuous effort. He underlined the role of business in coping with the aftermath of natural disasters showcasing how the brewery supplied local communities with basic necessities such as water from their processing facility.

Tasuku Kuwabara of McKinsey & Company, Japan, spoke about how resilience matters for Japan’s development, and its potential in further growth and innovation. He stressed that Japan not only recovers from natural disasters, but also moves further in its development using distinctive technologies that should be shared both inside and outside the country.

The panel was followed by an in depth discussion on the perception of resilience as a concept in and outside Japan and what is unique to Japan and could be exported to the outside world; whether there is a platform for Japanese communities, businesses and individuals to share the experience gained in natural disasters; whether Japanese resilience is effective for international guests, workers and students inside the country, who should be the agent to enhance resilience and decide how it should be communicated to the local and international community.
Special Keynote Presentation: Tadao Ando

The Forum closed with a Special Keynote Presentation by world-famous architect Tadao Ando, who emphasised the link between art, architecture and resilience and its impact on communities, and the role each member of a community can play in increasing social resilience, stressing the importance of education. The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art was designed by Tadao Ando after the Great Hanshin Earthquake of 1995 as a symbol of memorial and overcoming tragedy, as well as one of beauty, looking to the future. The Director of the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Yutaka Mino, a renowned museum director and curator, moderated the session.

The Kansai Resilience Forum provided a platform for re-examining resilience from interdisciplinary perspectives and paradigms, from the abstract concept to the concrete, with contributions from thought leaders in business, academia and government. The discussions were wide-ranging, in-depth and thought-provoking. Participants echoed the views from different perspectives that Japan is always working to improve, leads the world in disaster risk management and response. They also pointed out that Japan can share its experiences and expertise with the world, through its continued engagement in business and development, and in such forums as these.

We thank all of those who took part in the Kansai Resilience Forum 2019, and would like to express our gratitude to Osaka University, Kobe University, and the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art.

For more information please visit: kansai-resilience-forum.jp

Photography by Thaddeus Pope, IAFOR.
Innovation & Value Initiative

www.iafor.org/innovation-and-value-initiative
Innovation and Value Initiative

More than ever, solutions to the transnational challenges, from climate change, sustainability to refugee crises, are in need of radically new approaches that depart from the present institutional limitations of global governance. Interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration, between science/technology and the humanities or public and private sectors, in search of new values and models of how we conduct businesses, produce food or even live, are recognised widely as the way forward, as has been demonstrated in the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that usefully combines the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals (public) and Global Compact (private sector).

Moreover, as the world confronts the limits of Western concepts of innovation and the value that these bring, other unique, sustainable and inclusive models of innovation may have important and globally applicable lessons that could guide the future of innovation and value creation initiatives around the world. Even though global connectivity has been greatly enhanced, there are local or regional pockets of ecosystems with demonstrated capacities to survive over centuries, and yet these are hardly recognised or properly integrated into the theoretical underpinnings that inform international practices and policies.

As a way to take part in this global endeavour to renovate the current international system and create new values, the IAFOR Research Centre is proud to announce the Innovation and Value Initiative that will start as a three nodes project in the following areas: Value and International Economy, Value and International Politics and Value and Social Innovation.

About the Initiative

The purpose of the Innovation and Value Initiative is to explore the drivers, processes and outcomes of innovation and value creation across countries, markets, industries and sectors and identify the drivers that foster the most healthy innovation and value-creating ecosystems across (1) heritage businesses, (2) multinational companies, (3) entrepreneurial startups, (4) educational institutions, (5) governments, (6) NGOs and NPOs. This initiative will also foster mature conversation between leaders across these fields and industries, and will address the questions of “what is innovation?”, “what is value?” “what are innovation ecosystems?” and what we mean by these terms in context.

The initiative will be comprised of the following elements: research, education, dissemination (working papers, workshops and conferences), and initiate collaborative implementation projects with businesses, local, regional or international NPOs and/or international organisations (for example, the humanitarian use of blockchain technology). The three nodes, “Value and International Economy”, “Value and International Politics”, and “Value and Social Innovation" will have each have its independent research component, but the researchers will also work closely to share findings, team teach for classes at OSIPP, integrate their works at implementation level or producing policy recommendations where possible and practicable, and plan new collaborative projects.

Lead Researchers

- Haruko Satoh – Professor, OSIPP, Osaka University, Japan
- Philip Sugai – Professor, Doshisha University, Graduate School of Business, Japan
- Toshiya Hoshino – Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations
Project Nodes and Teams

Value and International Economy

Lead Researcher

- Philip Sugai – Professor, Doshisha University, Graduate School of Business, Japan

Associated Researcher(s)

- John Beck – President, North Star Leadership Group

Value and International Politics

Lead Researcher

- Haruko Satoh – Professor, OSIPP, Osaka University, Japan

Associated Researchers

- Toshiya Hoshino – Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations
- Peng-Er Lam – Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Value and Social Innovation

Lead Researcher

- Toshiya Hoshino – Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

For more information please visit: www.iafor.org/innovation-and-value-initiative/

Dr Joseph Haldane, Chairman and CEO of IAFOR, co-moderated the Official Meeting, a roundtable session on Innovators and Investors, and focussed on questions at the intersection of innovation and value, including “Impact investing”; investments made into companies, organisations, and funds with the intention to generate social and environmental impact alongside a financial return. The chair of the meeting was Japanese Ambassador to the United Nations, His Excellency Dr Toshiya Hoshino.

Dr Haldane said: “For IAFOR, impact investing is a particular area of interest in regards to the funding of research in higher education, and dovetails with the work we will be doing within the IAFOR Research Centre at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at Osaka University, as part of our new Innovation and Value Initiative, and also with The IAFOR Global Innovation & Value Summit 2018 (GIVS2018) to be held in Tokyo later this year." He added that “it is a great recognition of IAFOR to have been invited to collaborate, and we are honoured to have been asked to work with the United Nations at this important event, and look forward to working with the UN and other stakeholders in the support of Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI-SDG).”

Dr Haldane, who teaches on the postgraduate Global Governance course at OSIPP, and is an Expert Member of the World Economic Forum in this area, was also keen to raise the issue of governance and policy implications of the uses of blockchain technology. In his introduction to the panel, he suggested that the use of blockchain, given its verifiability and the transparency of transactions might have a positive effect on systems of governance. This might be especially important at a time when the rules-based international system, exemplified by institutions such as the United Nations, are being challenged.
Introducing the IAFOR Research Centre at Osaka University, Japan

The IAFOR Research Centre (IRC) is a politically independent, international and interdisciplinary think tank based at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP), at Japan’s Osaka University, that conducts and facilitates international and interdisciplinary research projects. The main focus is to encourage mutual international and intercultural understanding and cooperation in line with IAFOR’s mission of encouraging interdisciplinary discussion, facilitating heightened intercultural awareness, promoting international exchange, and generating and sharing new knowledge.

The IRC helps to nurture and capacity build by encouraging students to take part in international conferences and research projects, in line with the Osaka University’s Global 30 commitments from Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

For more information about the IAFOR Research Centre visit: www.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp/iaforresearchcentre/