

Australian Studies Association of Japan Annual Conference

Date: 9th (Saturday) and 10th (Sunday) June, 2018

Venue: University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba Campus, 1-1-1 Tenno-dai, Tsukuba, Japan

Registration fee: Free

Language: Japanese and English (Simultaneous interpretation to both English and Japanese provided at Opening Ceremony, Keynote Speech and Panel Discussion 1).

1. 2018 Annual Conference Schedule

Day 1

Saturday, 9th June, 2018

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| 10:00-12:30 | ASAJ Board Meeting
(Room A205, Laboratory of Advanced Research A (LARA)
総合研究棟 A) |
| 13:00 | Registration Open (Entrance Hall, LARA) |
| 13:30- | Opening Ceremony (LARA Room 110)
Opening Remarks by Professor Mayumi Kamada, Nagoya
University of Commerce and Business, President of the
Australian Studies Association of Japan
Official Welcome by the member of the University of Tsukuba
Congratulatory Address by the Australian Embassy in Tokyo |
| 14:00-14:45 | Keynote Speech (LARA Room 110)
Prof Helen Gilbert (Visiting Professor of Australian Studies in
the Center for Pacific and American Studies, University of
Tokyo
“Diplomatic Interventions: Aboriginal Performance on the
International Stage in the 21st Century” |
| 15:00-17:30 | AJF Sponsored Project: The Past and Present of Australian
Studies from Japanese Perspectives
Panel Discussion 1 (LARA Room 110) |

“Contemporary Transformation of Australian Economic Geography”

Panelists:

Prof Kevin O'Connor (University of Melbourne)

Prof Shinsuke Minamide (Otemon Gakuin University)

Prof Michiyo Yoshida (Wakayama University)

Prof Jun Tsutsumi (University of Tsukuba)

Chair/Facilitator:

Prof Toru Taniuchi (University of Tokyo)

18:00-20:00 Conference Dinner at Cafe MARHABAN in the campus

Day 2

Sunday, 10 June, 2018

8:45 Registration Open (Entrance Hall, LARA)

9:00-10:45 General Presentations (LARA Room 110)
Ms Tomoko Sawaki, Dr Tomohiko Kimura, Prof Donna Weeks,
Dr Thomas Wilkins

10:45-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:00 General Presentations (LARA Room 110)
Prof Yuka Ishii, Prof CHEN Hong

12:00-13:00 Lunch
Board Meeting (LARA Room 205)

13:15-13:45 Annual General Meeting (LARA Room 110)

14:00-16:50 AJF Sponsored Project: The Past and Present of Australian
Studies from Japanese Perspectives
Panel Discussion 2 (LARA Room 110)
“Reconsidering 1988: Indigenous Affairs since the Bicentenary”
Panelists:
Prof Ritsuko Kurita (Hiroshima University)
Prof Hiroshi Tsuda (University of Tsukuba)
Prof Tomoko Ichitani (Seinan Gakuin University)

Discussants:

Prof Sachiko Kubota (Kobe University)

Prof Takao Fujikawa (Osaka University)

Prof Megumi Kato (Meisei University)

Discussion

16:50 Concluding Remarks

■ Lunch

Free light meal (sandwiches and biscuits) is available at LARA 107 both on Saturday and Sunday. Bringing your own lunch is also recommended because no cafeteria and convenient store available within walking distance from the venue.

■ Dinner on Saturday: 5,000 yen (Students: 4,000 yen) RSVP by 31st May 2018

※ AJF Sponsored Projects: The Past and Present of Australian Studies from Japanese Perspectives (Sessions 1 and 2) is sponsored by the Australian Embassy and the Australia-Japan Foundation.



2. Summaries of Keynote Speech and Panel Discussions 1 and 2

Keynote speech:

Professor Helen Gilbert (Visiting Professor of Australian Studies in the Center for Pacific and American Studies, University of Tokyo

“Diplomatic Interventions: Aboriginal Performance on the International Stage in the 21st Century”

Helen Gilbert is Professor of Theatre at Royal Holloway, University of London, and author/co-author of several influential books, notably *Performance and Cosmopolitics: Cross-Cultural Transactions in Australasia* (2007) and *Postcolonial Drama: Theory, Practice, Politics* (1996). From 2009–14, she led a transnational European Research Council-funded project on indigenous performance across the Americas, the Pacific, Australia and South Africa. Her many edited books include *Recasting Commodity and Spectacle in the Indigenous Americas* (2014) and *In the Balance: Indigeneity, Performance, Globalization* (2017). She recently completed a fellowship at the Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society in Munich, supported by a Humboldt Prize, and is currently the visiting Chair of Australian Studies at the University of Tokyo for the 2017–18 academic year.

This presentation examines the workings of cultural diplomacy in the arts by canvassing recent Aboriginal Australian performances that have been staged in international venues in connection with festivals, exhibitions and other cross-cultural initiatives. It explores not only the ways in which indigenous embodied arts have been harnessed to celebrate Australia’s achievements (at home and abroad) while promoting particular institutions and events, but also how Aboriginal performance-makers strive to shape their own cultural and artistic encounters with diverse audiences. Case studies to be discussed in brief include Big hArt’s presentation of *Namatjira* in London in 2013, Marrugeku’s tours of *Gudirr Gudirr* to Europe (2013–14) and Toronto (2015) and the staging of *Jack Charles V the Crown* in Shizuoka (2017). Keeping in view the limitations of the ‘culture-as-resource’ model (Yúdice) in promoting cross-cultural dialogue, I consider the performances at issue as making compelling invitations to their audiences to see, sense and understand the challenges facing indigenous societies today and to acknowledge their root causes in European colonialism. Such invitations can be seen as part of an emergent trans-

indigenous public sphere where (soft) diplomacy is being reimagined as a grass-roots activity. At the broader level, my research seeks to illuminate ways in which performative acts and aesthetics sustain indigenous cultures within, against and beyond the forces of the neo-liberal market place.

AJF Sponsored Projects: The Past and Present of Australian Studies from Japanese Perspectives

The project consists of two sessions. The first session “Economic Geography of Contemporary Australia” will analyse the recent trends in Australian demography and logistics. With a group of Japanese geographers, we will invite Professor Emeritus Kevin O’Connor from the University of Melbourne as a guest speaker. The second session “Reconsidering 1988: Indigenous Affairs since the Bicentenary” will commemorate the 30th anniversary of Australian bicentenary. To reflect on the history and historiography of indigenous and non-indigenous relationship, we will organise a panel of six Japanese leading scholars from the fields of history, anthropology and art (no simultaneous interpretation provided).

3. Campus Map

Tsukuba Express from Akihabara station is the fastest way to get Tsukuba station. It takes about 20 minutes from Tsukuba centre (Tsukuba station) to the venue. Another convenient way to get the venue is Joban Highway Express Bus from Tokyo Station at bus bay 2, Yaesu South Entrance (八重洲南口) (about 75 minutes). The venue is just in front of the final stop, Centre of Tsukuba University (Tsukuba daigaku chuo 筑波大学中央).

Detailed access information is available online:

http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/access/tsukuba_access

