

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Social Outreach Seminars 2020

Media and Breast Cancer Survivor



~Dialogue with a TV director who had both breasts removed:
support and glass ceiling for women~



Speaker: Ms. Yuki Akutsu

What if you or your family were diagnosed with cancer out of the blue?

The speaker, who had both of her breasts removed due to bilateral breast cancer, will discuss the issues faced by breast cancer patients in Japan and the world, what kind of support is needed for them, glass ceilings women face, and how media coverage should be, based on her self-featured HTB documentary “Boobies behind, Journey ahead.” Regardless of age and gender, come join us to learn about true diversity, support for others, and inclusion.

The number of breast cancer patients is on the increase worldwide. Breast cancer is the leading cause of death for female cancer patients. Although October is a Pink Ribbon month worldwide, unfortunately not many college students know about it. By attending this seminar, hopefully more students will be motivated to get involved in the activities that raise awareness for all generations and gender and help increase the screening rate.

[Seminar format & film viewing]

In the seminar, some segments from the documentary film “Boobies behind, Journey ahead” will be shown and the speaker’s talk and discussions will follow based on designated themes. Participants are strongly encouraged to watch the film for free in full before the seminar. It is 45 min. long with English subtitles. You may of course participate in the seminar without having watched it. https://youtu.be/_NM4LD9SEt4

Date: Monday, October 26th, 2020. 3rd period (12:25 – 14:00 JPN time).

Location: F108 classroom + online

Invitations for: APU students/faculty/staff, guests

Language: Japanese, with some English support

HTB Hokkaido Television
Broadcasting Co. Ltd. Chief
Editor of Website

She started out in the production in HTB. In 2003, she was assigned to the news department and covered breast cancer patients and created events as part of her lifework for over 18 years. Since 2005, she has been involved with the Pink Ribbon activities to increase screening rate every October. She has produced related TV programs and events and developed events within her company. She has visited many elementary, middle, high schools, and universities to raise awareness.

She was diagnosed with breast cancer in May 2019 and was operated on in July. She filmed herself in the whole process and created the documentary film, “Boobies gone, Journey ahead”, which received the 2020 the Japan Commercial Broadcasters Association’s outstanding award.

APU’s Honors Program students helped create English subtitles to the film, which went on to become one of the finalists in the 2020 Japan Prize, an educational film competition for overseas.

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<https://weareapu.zoom.us/j/91580066273>

<https://youtu.be/a-A8gU5cyE8>

