

《2025 Activity Achievements》

■April 18, 2025

1st Session: Seminar on Enhancing the Competitiveness of SMEs through IoT, AI and Other Technologies'

Takehiko Yasuda, Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Business Administration, Toyo University; Professor Emeritus, Toyo University

'What is the historical context of today's SMEs?'

Moderator: Iwamoto Koichi (Research Associate, Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry; Visiting Member, APU-NEXT)

■August 1, 2025

2nd Session: Seminar on Strengthening the Competitiveness of SMEs through IoT, AI and Other Technologies'

Yasuda Takehiko, Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Business Administration, Toyo University, and Professor Emeritus at Toyo University

'What is the historical context of today's SMEs?'

Moderator: Iwamoto Koichi (Research Associate, Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry; Visiting Member, APU-NEXT)

■December 5, 2025

3rd Session: Seminar on Strengthening the Competitiveness of SMEs through IoT, AI and Other Technologies

Company Visit: Hitachi Central Research Laboratory – 'Generative AI Metaverse'

Moderator: Iwamoto Koichi (Research Associate, Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry; Visiting Member, APU-NEXT)

■ Observation and Seminar for Kyushu Companies Organized by Kochi Prefecture's Global Niche Top Companies and SMEs

Dates: 7–8 November 2025

Visit: Canycom Inc. (Ukiha City, Fukuoka Prefecture)

Coordinator: Fujimoto Takeshi (Professor at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University and Director of APU-NEXT)

Participating companies and stakeholders

Yamamoto Kenji	Kyushu University	Professor Emeritus
Yoshimochi Takeshi	Kochi University	Associate Professor
Matoba Ryuichi	Kochi University	Associate Professor
Tamura Kan	Kochi University	4 th Year Undergraduate
Okada Shoji	Hirose Paper MFG. Co.,Ltd.	President and CEO
Ito Chihiro	Eiko Industries	President and CEO
Nakazawa Kazuma	Technology Management Division, Giken Seisakusho Co., Ltd	Senior Advisor
Tamaki Shino	Tamaki & Associates Co., Ltd	Managing Director
Nakaya Hitoshi	Matsuyama City Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Secretary-General
Nagahara Kazuya	Matsuyama City Chamber of Commerce and Industry	
Yanagihara Naoto	Tasukizuna Co., Ltd.	Managing Director

