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RITSUMEIKAN CENTER FOR ASIA PACIFIC STUDIES

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Conference as Cornerstone for Promoting Asia Pacific Studies... New Research Time for APU academics...

Interview with President Sakamoto

President Kazuichi Sakamoto was the founding Director of RCAPS from July 1996 to March 2001. During his time, RCAPS established at Ritsumeikan University at Kyoto, launched the academic journal and conducted symposiums and conferences to attract attention to the concept of Asia Pacific Studies. With the establishment of APU at Beppu, RCAPS moved to APU. President Sakamoto has been closely associated with all aspects of RCAPS as APU's President. He kindly consented to give an interview for the RCAPS Newsletter. Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang, Secretary General of RCAPS, started off the interview by asking him about his feelings about RCAPS.

President Sakamoto: Currently, RCAPS, together with APU, is in the beginning development stage. In order to raise APU educational standards, education supportive research activities are of vital importance. University's research activities are directly related to its ratings. Therefore, if APU is not active enough in various research fields, our ratings will be hard to improve. With that in mind, we decided to establish RCAPS, which would act as an initial framework for Asia Pacific Studies.

At the current stage, there still remains the question regarding the research field that RCAPS should concentrate on. We are planning to include each APU professor's different contributions, yet the essential body of RCAPS projects are aimed at the new Asia Pacific Studies field. Although Asia Pacific studies field is very broad and has no strictly defined boundaries, we are trying to pursue the new dimensions of Asia Pacific Studies backed by the unconventional Asia Pacific Studies research. I strongly believe that APU's College of Asia Pacific Studies will be the essential background for further successful RCAPS research.

Asia Pacific region has many diverse cultures and religions. However, with the current pace of 21st century globalization, there is increasing tendency for different countries' assimilation. Thus, by establishing RCAPS we are trying to discover the complete global picture of the exceptionally dynamic Asia Pacific region.

How would you evaluate current RCAPS research?

President Sakamoto: In the case of APU, results of the last four years work could be clearly measured by looking, for example, at the overall level of student's grades or their job-hunting success rate, whereas scientific research evaluation has no clear criteria and thus requires more time in order to gain considerable social recognition. Therefore, I think it is too early to speak about RCAPS achievements, or try to estimate how it will be perceived by society.

Since APU is a newly established university, we still have the potential to attract good professors from around the globe. As compared to other universities in Japan which are doing research based on outside observations, APU professors' diverse background opens new research dimensions with unique Asia Pacific Studies insights. I think that Asia Pacific Studies research, which is done solely by Japanese researchers, is somewhat limited and lacks consistency. In other words, Asia Pacific "people's" research on Asia Pacific Studies is aimed towards further Asia Pacific Region development. By saying "Asia Pacific people", I do not exclude non-Asian countries. Researchers from Europe, United States and other countries are more than welcome to participate in RCAPS projects. I strongly believe that in the long-run RCAPS will be recognized for doing comprehensive research on Asia Pacific Studies.

How important was the first RCAPS conference held in 2003?

President Sakamoto: I truly consider it as one of the main RCAPS events, which, I believe, should be held on an annual basis in the future. RCAPS conference is extremely meaningful for the Asia Pacific Studies field, since it is the only place for scholars interested in Asia Pacific to gather and discuss most current findings and issues related to that field. The fact that APU provides such a new Asia Pacific Studies research framework is very important for APU as an education institution.

Interview with Pres. Sakamoto Cont...

What do you think about the RCAPS journal?

President Sakamoto: While APU professors are very busy teaching, they also have to manage their time for scientific research. Thus, only two or three RCAPS journal publications are being issued annually. Compared to other international research journals, I think we still have not achieved sufficient research standards. In my point of view, the number of scholars writing for RCAPS journal must be increased and the articles that we decide to publish should be chosen carefully in order to achieve higher international recognition.

Moreover, we are considering establishing a new research time allocation system. That is, during a certain period of time allow some of the professors to temporarily stop their lectures and concentrate only on their research projects. I believe that such a system could considerably upgrade current APU research results.

Could you describe APU 's current research exchange activities with domestic and international institutions?

President Sakamoto: This is an area that we need to work on further. While we have plans to begin research exchange activities with a number of prestigious research institutions including Peking University 's International Research Center, Singapore 's Asia Research Center and East West Center in Hawaii we are still in the early stages of this and as such do not have any significant exchanges activities in progress. In this sense, I think RCAPS conference is a corner stone for accomplishing this goal in the long run.

Why does APU, being a private university, aim to become an Asia Pacific Studies center?

President Sakamoto: Historically, private universities in Japan have always had a wide educational spectrum. Although there are many financial restrictions on supporting research in private universities like APU, I disagree that only public universities should do research. Indeed, there is much pressure from APU faculty on this point, but I always persist that we have to balance both research and education. I think, nowadays there can be no superior education without high-quality research.

What do you think about APU 's research and education activities and their links to society?

President Sakamoto: Research, education, society and their contributions to each other have to be mutually beneficial and balanced. As I have mentioned, universities can no longer concentrate exclusively on education or research. I believe that APU manages to successfully balance between research, educational and society contribution even though it 's still a very young university. We have already received recognition as a COL (The Center of Learning), yet unfortunately still not the COE (The Center of Excellence). By supporting current government goals, we are hoping to attain sustainable development in the long run.

Do you see any inadequacies at the current stage of RCAPS development?

President Sakamoto: I think there are two things that could be improved in RCAPS. First, since each APU faculty staff member has his/her own international network, we have to utilize this advantage in creating strong RCAPS network. Only through well-built network ties we will be able to seek for new financial funds and faster expand internationally. Second, I think that Ritsumeikan University 's Kinugasa Campus and Biwako Kusatsu Campus and APU research centers should work together more closely as one joint organization. For example, Biwako Kusatsu Campus is putting a lot of effort into MOT (Management of Technology) activities. Besides this there are also a number of experts in the Asia Pacific field to be found in Kyoto and I believe that it is important that we work together to make the most of our resources. Therefore, I believe that we should establish joint research activities between APU and Ritsumeikan University at Kyoto.

What do you think about RCAPS future?

President Sakamoto: I think that RCAPS future potential could be realized only through mutual cooperation between Ritsumeikan University and APU. We have to challenge ourselves in combining these two powers in order to successfully expand in international scientific research arena. Once I move back to Kyoto I hope to be able to encourage the realization of this task from that end also.

Note from Prof. Mani



Having been the Director of RCAPS from April 2001 to March 2004, I am happy that my term of three years has ended, and Professor Malcolm Cooper has become the next Director of RCAPS. When President Sakamoto asked me to be RCAPS Director sometime in December 2000, he told me to use RCAPS as my regular office so that it will always be lighted. In March 2001, RCAPS had only its academic journal. During the three years, RCAPS moved to become an important institution within Japan and the Asia Pacific with a website, regular Current Research Seminars and Contemporary Asia Pacific Seminars, the launching of the annual Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference series, and many small improvements that make it an attractive place for the promotion of Asia Pacific Studies. I take this opportunity to thank all the colleagues who worked with me in the RCAPS Steering Committees during the three years. Some colleagues like Professors Eades, Zhang Wei-bin, Gunarto, Ko Yiu Chung, Fukui Hayao and Nakagami deserve my heartfelt appreciation for having served more than one term and helping me whenever the need arose. Another person is APU English Lecturer Mr. Mark TePunga, who was ever willing to help me whenever I called upon him. I cannot forget all the support given by the staff of the Research Office, especially Takamatsu-san, Takahashi-san, Belinda-san, Ando-san, Murata-Kacho, and Yoshimoto-san. RCAPS has been a marvelous opportunity for me to contribute to APU during its founding years.

Faculty News

Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang Invited to Join UNESCO

Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang has been invited to join the world largest encyclopedia on sustainable development organized by the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization). The Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS, see <http://www.eolss.com/> for further information) is the result of an unprecedented global effort and a decade of planning. EOLSS is the only series to comprehensively examine the origins and threats facing all the systems that support life on Earth - from the climate to the world's oceans, forests, water cycle and atmosphere. EOLSS therefore covers a diverse range of social issues - from international human rights law and poverty eradication to the psychology of religion. EOLSS covers roughly 200 themes, each managed by an internationally recognized expert in the field. The leading experts who have contributed to this state-of-the-art publication come from diverse fields such as: the natural sciences (like chemistry and biology); social sciences (such as history, economics, law and psychology); humanities, and engineering. EOLSS also deals with interdisciplinary subjects, like earth and atmospheric sciences, environmental economics as well as the most effective approaches for managing natural resources like non-renewable energies, biodiversity, and agriculture. The EOLSS has the support and advice of an unprecedented number of renowned scientists worldwide. The Board of General Advisors, who have advised on the overall vision and direction of the project, is distinguished by a number of Nobel and UN Kalinga Laureates, World Food Prize Laureates, and fellows of science and engineering academies.

Professor Wei-Bin Zhang was also invited to make two article contributions to the EOLSS. He completed his theme article "Complexity and Sustainable Development" for the theme of Fundamental Economics in Encyclopedia of Social Sciences and Humanities. He is writing his theme article "Mathematical Modeling in Social and Behavioral Science" for the theme of Mathematical Models in Encyclopedia of Mathematical Science. The invitations demonstrate international academic recognition of APU in two important fields of sciences.

Two APU Professors Ranked in World-Wide Economists Ranking.

Two APU Professors, Wei-Bin Zhang and Dipendra Sinha were ranked in a world-wide ranking of economists. The study was sponsored by the European Economic Association and the rankings can be found at the following URL: <http://student.ulb.ac.be/tcoupe/rankiab11.html>

Prof. Malcolm Cooper Elected as World Executive to ATLAS

Prof. Cooper was elected to the World Executive of the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS). ATLAS was established in 1991 to develop transnational educational initiatives in tourism and leisure. It provides a forum to promote staff and student exchange, transnational research and to facilitate curriculum and professional development. ATLAS currently has members in more than 60 countries.

General Research Activities

Assistant Prof. Munehiko Asamizu



Development of Civilization and Changing of Tourism, The Japan Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, Annual Conference, 2003

The Relations between Risk Management and Sustainable Tourism in Asia, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference, 2003

Sustainable Tourism Policies in Japan, Japan Institute of Tourism Research, Annual Conference, 2003

The Social Backgrounds for Development of Tourism Education in Australia, Society for Oceanian Education Studies, Annual Conference, 2003

Tourism History Education under Limited Situations, Japanese Society of Tourism and Hospitality Educators, Annual Conference, 2004

Contemporary International Tourism Policies in Japan, Spring Conference, 2004

Others: Introductory Reading for Tourism Studies, APU Course Pack, 2003

Introductory Reading for Contemporary Tourism, APU Course Pack, 2004

Prof. Malcolm Cooper

Backpacker Tourism.

Japan has historically not attracted many free independent overseas travelers (FIT) to its major tourist sites, except those around Tokyo. Equally, Japanese tourists have been reluctant to travel as FIT, especially backpackers in other countries, including Australia. These patterns are slowly changing as a result of the increasing confidence of Japanese abroad, and an increasing realization that Japan has much to offer the tourist as well as the business person. In fact, backpacker tourism is a rapidly growing segment of tourist flows in many Asia Pacific countries and, given the ease of travel in Japan and the wealth of cultural/environmental attractions to be found here, should be of interest as a developmental tool for overseas tourism to Local Government and to accommodation and attraction owners in this Country.



Student Research Field Trips.

Prof. Cooper's research seminar class made two field trips in 2003. The first was to Miyazaki and the second to Nagasaki. Both of these involved the designing, and administration of a questionnaire, and both covered aspects of tourism. In the first, they surveyed visitors to Ocean Dome and other attractions in Miyazaki, and in the second, surveyed visitors to Peace Park and Glover Park in Nagasaki. This material will be published in due course.

APU/Macquarie University MOU.

RCAPS and Macquarie University's Centre for Environmental Law have a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in furthering the aims of the two institutions. RCAPS Steering Committee member, Prof. Malcolm Cooper's role was to negotiate a road map for implementation of the existing MOU for the academic years 2004-5. This involved reconvening discussions covering Research, Joint Conferences, Lectures (by videoconferencing and/or distance learning), Student and Faculty exchange. A revised MOU was successfully achieved, and it is expected that this will be refined and operational plans developed for adoption and implementation within an agreed time frame by the two institutions.

RCAPS Funded Research Projects

Biodiversity Conservation - Prof. Malcolm Cooper & Associate Prof. David Askew

The research purpose is to review cost sharing principles and existing cost sharing frameworks with respect to biodiversity conservation, in Japan, Australia, and the United States, and to develop an economic and legal model of market-based environmental preservation through user pays charges and tourism. This project is action-oriented and will provide an important addition to the range of mechanisms available to ecosystem managers for environmental and bio-diversity protection. It is at the fore-front of international environmental and ecotourism research being carried out by the International Union of Conservation Networks and the Asian Development Bank in the Asia Pacific Region (SPREP, Thailand) and, given the urgent need for supplementation of declining Government (public) funding for ecosystem conservation and rehabilitation in the 21st Century, offers an opportunity to take advantage of the increasing importance of ecotourism in the Region. This research will assist in the development of a consistent and coordinated approach to private and public ecosystem conservation in the Region.

Hong Kong: The Pearl Made of British Mastery and Chinese Docile-Diligence - Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang

Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang completed a book manuscript on Hong Kong's Modernization for his RCAPS-financed project on Hong Kong's Modernization.

Hong Kong has been written on from different perspectives: administrative, constitutional, racial, financial, economic, international, legal, social, geographical, sociological, political, cultural, and historical. Nevertheless, one of the most important perspectives has been omitted in the literature on Hong Kong. The Chinese population is 98 per cent of the total population of the colony and the Chinese main ideology had been Confucianism. Although Hong Kong has never been governed formally with Confucianism as the main ideology, this does not mean that we can neglect Confucianism in examining Chinese behavior in Hong Kong. We show how the British had helped the Chinese realize the Confucian principles in modern times with Hong Kong Chinese in the "low level" of the "Confucian hierarchical system". This book is not merely a study of Hong Kong per se. It is a consequence of the interest in China's history and conscious efforts to apply modern (Western) knowledge to interpret Chinese thought and Chinese history. It is in fact part of a broad study about Confucianism and its implications for modernization of the Confucian regions (covering Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao, Vietnam, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, and Singapore).

Comparative Studies: Governance and Public Administration Reforms in the Asia Pacific - Prof. Itoko Suzuki

The research is part of the comparative studies organized by the Asia Pacific Panel on National Governance that convenes an annual review meeting in the IAS Annual Conference (International Institute of Administrative Sciences). For the last two years, experiences in several countries of the modalities and working relations of NGOs in public service delivery, capacity building and advocacy in national governance have been focused. The Panel plans to convene in 2004 in Seoul with the focus on the role of the NGOs in E Governance.

Multilateralism and Asia Pacific Security Cooperation in the 21st Century - Associate Prof. Xin Xu

During the 2003-2004 academic year, I made substantial progress in my research project, "Multilateralism and Asia Pacific Security Cooperation in the 21st Century." With the generous support of RCAPS subsidy, I organized a successful panel on "Multilateralism and Regional Security Order" for the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference on "The Limits of the Nation-State in the Asia Pacific" (November 27-28, 2003), and presented a paper on "Multilateralism and Three Visions of Regional Security Order: International Systemic Change in the Post-Cold War Era." I also participated in and presented papers to several academic conferences, including the 38th American Studies International Conference on "Korea/Asia and America: Convergences and Ruptures," Chuncheon, Korea (October 30-November 1, 2003), Japan-U.S. Joint Workshop, co-sponsored by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, George Washington University, Tokyo, Japan (December 14-15, 2003), and International Workshop on "External Strategy of the New Chinese Leadership," Japan Institute of International Affairs, Tokyo, Japan (February 9-10, 2004).

Fall 2003 RCAPS Seminars

RCAPS continued to organize the following seminars during fall 2003.

Contemporary Asia Pacific Seminar Series

The Contemporary Asia Pacific Series invites leading scholars from other Japanese universities who are permanent faculty members or researchers, as well as visiting international scholars.

Current Research Seminar

Members of both Colleges of APU are invited to present their current research in Current Research Seminars.



Contemporary Asia Pacific Seminar Series

Poverty Reduction Challenges in Asia and the Role of the Asian Development Bank,

Mr. Jungsoo Lee, Asian Development Bank

Our Future Economy: Money and Sustainability - The Missing Link,

Dr. Stefan Brunnhuber, University of Wuerzburg, Germany and University of Budapest, Hungary

Designing and Evaluating a Graduate Program in Public Service in the Era of Globalization,

Prof. Pratt, APU Visiting Professor, & Director, Public Administration Program, University of Hawaii

Economic Liberalization in India and Japan's Response,

Prof. K.V. Kesavan, Visiting Professor, Ritsumeikan University & Professor of Japanese Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Current Research Seminars

Das Ende Der Etopie - Demise of Japanese Style Management, Prof. Masaharu Kuhara, APM

Market Based Approaches to the Preservation of Environment, Prof. Malcolm Cooper, APM

Technology Transfer to China; Cases in Xi'an FDI Companies, Prof. Koji Suzuki, APM

The Inaugural Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference

— Promoting Asia Pacific Studies —



Ritsumeikan Center for Asia Pacific Studies (RCAPS) organized the first Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference on 27, 28 November 2003 under the theme: 'The Limits of the Nation-State in the Asia Pacific'. The annual Conference series was launched as a comprehensive regional coverage on the political, economic and social trends and developments that relate to the Asia Pacific region.



Our practice in the past has been to organize symposiums with a smaller number of scholars focusing on singular topics. The new approach allowed RCAPS to expand this 'Socratic seminar' kind of discussions from symposiums to discussion in many panels at the same time allowing many speakers to participate in panels of their choice while contributing to the interlocking of many focused networks in the study of the Asia Pacific. Given the view that research on the Asia Pacific is multiplying at a rapid pace every year, there is an increased need to bring more scholars into contact with each other than before. So, holding of symposiums was replaced by a larger conference where more than one symposium could be held using the limited manpower, time, funds and above all the valuable effort of scholars, both at other universities as well as at APU, more efficiently than before.



The conference was initially planned to bring together 35 scholars in about seven panels. Thanks to the effort of many panel conveners and Management of Technology project coordinators at APU, the Conference expanded tremendously by the date of the Conference. The Conference brought together ninety-three scholars and practitioners in the fast growing field of Asia Pacific Studies. The Conference consisted of three Keynote Address Sessions, seventeen panels and two Round-Table Symposiums enabling the scholars and practitioners to deliberate on various sub-areas of the Conference theme.

There were many milestones achieved via the Conference via the first Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference. This was the first time that the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University was able to bring together so many participants together in promoting Asia Pacific Studies. The Conference was also able to launch the preliminary preparations for the establishment of an International Association of Asia Pacific Studies (IAAPS) in 2004. The Conference also produced many papers relating to Asia Pacific Studies to be published in a special volume with more to be published in the Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies.

The Keynote addresses by Professor Yoneo Ishii, Professor Ezra Vogel and Professor Ippei Yamazawa, not only gave added prestige to the Conference but also gave focus to the theme of the Conference.



The special volume of the first Conference brings together forty-two papers with more papers to be published in the RCAPS Journal.

Introducing our Graduate Students



Victor Chi Ming Chan, Hong Kong, P.R. China
Supervisor: Professor Itoko Suzuki

After receiving my Master degree at the University of Hong Kong, I have started my PhD program at APU in September 2003. I completed a presentation entitled "Domestic Determinants of Sino-Japanese Relationship in the context of ASEAN Plus Three" at the inaugural Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific Conference in November 2003.

Currently, my research focus is the application of the concepts of global and regional public good, regional economic and financial cooperation in the Asia Pacific, and Sino-Japanese relationship. In my research, I examine how and why free trade agreements and financial stability in the Asia Pacific are regarded as regional public goods. The provision and management of regional public goods is dependent on regional leadership. In the Asia Pacific, apart from the traditional influence of the United States, China and Japan are two major candidates for regional leaders, which are able to facilitate the supply of regional public good. Throughout the processes, there are significant implications for the prospect of triangular relationship between China, Japan and the US.



Christopher C. Nshimbi, Zambia
Supervisor: Prof. Paul Close

My research project is on regional integration, globalization and development. Motivations for the study are that not only is the world seeing a proliferation of regional schemes, but developing countries are being encouraged to regionalize so they can build capacities to enable them participate effectively in the global economy. My findings thus far indicate that regionalism, especially among developing countries in Africa, only leads to temporary growth. The greatest beneficiaries of globalization seem to be industrial countries. There are, however, the Newly Industrialized Economies of Asia on the other hand, that on record registered rapid economic growth and development. I wish to find out whether regional cooperation among them contributed to their development. To accomplish this I am making a comparative assessment of the role of regionalism in development in East Asia, Africa and Latin America in the wake of globalization;

and particularly how these nations cooperate through regional schemes to attain growth for their respective domestic and the regional political economy.



Raman Mahabubur M., Bangladesh
Supervisor: Prof. A. Mani

Research Topic: Administrative Cadre in Asian Civil Service Systems: Lessons for Bangladesh. (Tentative)

My research paper is based on comparative study of Administrative cadre in Asian civil service systems. Most of the East Asian countries orchestrated industrialization and rapid economic growth, much of which resulted from the innovative policies formulated by the country's brilliant civil servants. Their promotions, recruitments, management, sense of mission, degree of corruption, accountability, transparency, mode of responsiveness to the downtrodden, as well as their relations to the political forces can be lessons for Bangladesh.

This paper scrutinizes the civil service systems of several East Asian countries that can be shining examples for other developing countries like Bangladesh. Colonialism had played crucial role in shaping civil service systems of all these countries while Japan and Thailand do not have colonial experience. Among the countries studied here the richest are Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Hong Kong and Singapore, while the poorest are Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka. All of the countries that are being highlighted here are multiparty democracies except Hong Kong.



Fred R. Schumann, U.S.A.
Supervisor: Masakatsu Ogata

I have been a Guam resident for over 25 years and have been involved in the tourism industry throughout most of those years. Guam depends heavily on revenues from tourism with most of them visitors coming from Japan at just over 80% of total visitor arrivals. My research at APU, under the supervision of Professor Masakatsu Ogata, examines trends in Japanese overseas travel and will identify how Guam is reacting to meet the newer demands of this market. As part of my dissertation project, I intend to interview the main stakeholders in the public and private sectors on Guam and determine how much of a vision is shared for the future of tourism.

Some of the questions to be addressed are the following: Do industry leaders receive and share information about Guam's fragile tourist economy? Do they communicate across sectors to address immediate and long-term issues? Are industry leaders aware of trends that directly affect Guam's visitor industry from major markets like Japan? Do Guam's industry leaders understand what they can and cannot control when it comes to increasing visitor arrivals?

The level and success of collaboration as well as deficiencies in various aspects of collaboration, between key stakeholders in Guam's tourism industry will be assessed. It will also review how Guam's experiences can be studied by other small island destinations to learn from successes and disappointments in public and private sector collaboration.



Chai Hongzhi, P.R. China
Supervisor: Prof. Tomozo Morino

My name is Chai Hongzhi. I come from China. I have worked in a software company in Shenzhen for four years as a software engineer. I enrolled in APU's Graduate School in Sep, 2003. My major at APU is Development Economics. I am interested in high-tech corporation's organization structure, development strategy and optimum readjustment to meet the challenge from knowledge economic and new economic. My supervisor is professor Tomozo Morino

Introducing our Graduate Students Cont...



Batbold Dorjgurkhem, Mongolia
Supervisor: Prof. Supachit Manopimoke

I graduated from Odessa Hydrometeorology University, Ukraine in 1985 with Bachelor degree then received Masters Degree in 2000 from University of Adelaide, Australia majoring in conservation biology. I previously worked as government officer for the Ministry of Environment, Mongolia; as conservation project leader for UNDP Mongolia and as Conservation Director for WWF Mongolia Office. I am experienced in fieldwork, administration and management of conservation activities including activities with local communities and interest groups. My interests include the harmony of the co-existence of development and wilderness. I am currently working on research studies to reveal sound and sustainable relationship between property right principles and conservation of biological diversity. My research project will be involving case and field studies in Mongolia. A major challenge lies ahead in harmonizing western notion of property rights with the traditional unwritten rules held by traditional society.



Yuan Aihua, P.R. China
Supervisor: Prof. Dipendra Sinha

My Research builds up a model to examine the regionalism in the economic development. While most studies focus on the role of national government intervention, I shall show the correlation between regionalism and economic development. In the second part of the paper the case of ASEAN is examined in the model and further regional cooperation policies are suggested.

Maymee Aung, Myanmar

Supervisor: Prof. Supachit Manopimoke

I am currently working on my Masters degree in International Cooperation Policy with the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. I hold a Bachelor degree in Civil Engineering from Yangon Technological University and have worked for a construction office for two years in Myanmar. During the first two years at APU, I studied Social science and in April 2003, I joined the Graduate School. It has been a rewarding experience to be able to familiarize myself with a range of varied and interesting disciplines. Indeed, this opportunity has empowered me to be able to look into issues with a more comprehensive approach. Presently, I am undertaking a research on empowering women in poverty through microfinancing programs under the able supervision of Professor Dr. Supachit Manopimoke of APS. I am hopeful that the research will come up with illuminating insights into the development of marginalized women in the growing societies.

Aung Aung Myo Thein, Myanmar

Supervisor: Prof. Dipendra Sinha

Research Topic: Analysis of post-war Japanese industrial policy to SME 's

My research involves overviewing the Post-war Japanese industrial structure, in order to place emphasis on Japanese industrial policy and economic plans which were adopted and implemented during this time. While post-war Japanese industrial development was mainly based on heavy industries, it is no less important for SME sector in the context of SME promotion policy in present day Japan reflecting the industrial reorganization and business recovery. In line with METI 's new concept of SME policies, SMEs becomes crucial in Japanese industrial policy in the sense that it poses a source of dynamism in Japanese economy for the 21st century and it demonstrates flexibility, mobility and creativity. This research will focus on Japanese SMEs policy covering the past and present experiences providing a case study analysis on one sample SME, manufacturing industry.



Dulal Miah, Bangladesh
Supervisor: Prof. Masaharu Kuhara

I am Md. Dulal Miah, an MBA student of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. After graduating from Bangladesh majoring in Accounting & Information Systems, I worked for a very short period in a privately held company in Bangladesh. The need for a financial market in the forthcoming globalize era is becoming an utmost priority as business activities are booming around the world. Moreover, the recent financial debacle in the world financial markets, particularly in Asia, forces us to contemplate the sectors with more carefully. These on-going phenomena kindled my interest to study further. Having a concentration on Finance, I am now working on the concerned issue under the supervision of Professor Kuhara, Ph.D. and am hoping to enlarge my knowledge on the said issue under the professor 's adequate supervision and overall patronization of APU.



Tan Vang Nguyen
Supervisor: Prof. Kunio Igusa

Research Topic: " Push Up Vietnam 's Economics in the Future! "

My research at APU examines Vietnam 's economy, especially after it joins the World Trade Organization (WTO). In order to do this, the research attempts a historical documentation of how Vietnam 's economy has been changing since the 1930 's.

While at APU, I have continued to write articles for Vietnam Economic Development Review. The articles are in Vietnamese as well as in English. My articles have also appeared in Viet Nam Finance Review, Viet Nam Business Forum and Viet Nam Economic News.

2003 Publications

Prof. Munehiko Asamizu

Australia's Tourism and Culinary Culture, New Edition, Gakubunsha, 2003

Papers: Sustainable Tourism Policies in Japan, Proceeding for JITR Annual Conference, No.18, 2003

Overseas Students and 'the Era of Winter' in Japanese Higher Education, Bulletin of European and American History, No.15, 2004

Tourism History Education under Limited Situations, Proceeding for JSTHE Annual Conference, No.3, 2004

Prof. Zhang Kunmin



1) Policies and Actions on Sustainable Development in China (Chinese version), Beijing, China Environmental Science Press, January 2004

2) Evaluation of An Ecocity and Its Indicators

ZHANG Kunmin, WEN Zongguo, DU Bin, SONG Guojun et al, Evaluation of An Ecocity and Its Indicators, Beijing, Chemical Industry Press, August 2003, B5, pp.467.

3) "Study of indicators of urban environmentally sustainable development in China", Int. J. Sustainable Development ZHANG Kunmin, HE Xueyang and WEN Zongguo (2003) "Study of indicators of urban environmentally sustainable development in China", Int. J. Sustainable Development, Vol. 6, No. 2, (Jun 2003) pp. 170-182.

4) Chinese version of Environmental Encyclopedia

ZHANG Kunmin, HUANG Runhua, XU Jialin, GUO Xiaomin et al, Chinese version of Environmental Encyclopedia (translated from 1998 edition) Changsha, Hunan Science & Technology Press, May 2003, A4, pp.757, more than 2 million kanji.



Prof. Malcolm Cooper

1) The Economics of Water Loss Management, Manual 3, Brisbane: Sustainable Industries Division, Queensland Environmental Protection Agency and Wide Bay Water, pp 85 + Appendices.

2) Protecting the Environment through Accreditation of Eco-tourism Operators: A Planning Tool, In M. Ranga and A. Chandra (Eds), Tourism and Hospitality In the 21st Century, New Delhi: Discovery, 1-19.

3) Issues In Intellectual Property Rights, In M. Ranga and A. Chandra (Eds), Tourism and Hospitality In the 21st Century, New Delhi: Discovery, 273-284.

4) Hervey Bay In Transition: The Role of community Based Information Technology In Overcoming the Great Digital Divide, In S. Marshall, Xinghuo Yu, and W. Taylor (Eds), Using Community Informatics to Transform Regions, New York: Idea Group Publishing, 223-237.

5) The Role of Tourism Bureaux in the Development of Tourist Attractions in Australia: A Case Study of Hervey Bay, Queensland, Journal of Hospitality & Tourism, 1(2).

6) Lake Management under Conditions of Heavy Tourist Pressure: The Case of Fraser Island, Ritsumeikan Journal of Asia Pacific Studies, Volume 12, October, 61-74.

Papers: 1)Water Demand Management and the Development of Water Resources Law in the Asia Pacific, Presented to The Limitations of the Nation State in the Asia Pacific Conference, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Beppu, Japan, 27-28 November.

2) Ecotourism in Australia and New Zealand Presented to The Limitations of the Nation State in the Asia Pacific Conference, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Beppu, Japan, 27-28 November.

Prof. Wei-Bin Zhang



Taiwan's Modernization: Americanization and Modernizing Confucian Manifestations, Singapore: World Scientific Pub Co; October 2003 (ISBN: 9812383514)

A Theory of Interregional Dynamics: Models of Capital, Knowledge, and Economic Structures, Berlin, Tokyo, New York: Springer, March 2003 (ISBN: 3540443061)

If interested, you might order any of Wei-Bin Zhang's books through either of the following addresses:

<http://www.allbookstores.com/browse/Author/Zhang,%20Wei-Bin>

<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-form/104-5048776-6379169>



Coming Soon:

1) Prof. Dipendra Sinha, The Mother of All Puzzles Would Not Go Away, (with Tapen Sinha) Economics Letters

2) Prof. Dipendra Sinha, Safety, Profitability and the Load Factor for Airlines in the United States, Journal of Air Transport Management

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