

For Applicants in Japan

(Unfortunately this year we are obliged to limit applications to those from within Kyoto University.)

The 6th Next-Generation Global Workshop and 1st KUASU International Conference

“Revisiting the Intimate and Public Spheres and the East-West Encounter”

January 11-13, 2014

I. A New Era of the Next-Generation Global Workshop

This is the sixth consecutive workshop. The five previous workshops were organized and hosted by the GCOE project of the Kyoto University Graduate School of Letters' Global Center for Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia. This one is organized and hosted by a newly established organization: Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit (KUASU). The spirit and purpose of this workshop is basically the same as before: to provide early career scholars with an opportunity to deliver presentations to an international audience, to exchange opinions with their peers from various parts of the world, and to learn how to participate and communicate in an international academic setting. However, reflecting the highly interdisciplinary nature of KUASU, which consists of four divisions of humanities, social sciences, economics, and environmental studies, it is open to next-generation researchers from a wider range of academic fields. At the same time, the size of the workshop will be smaller to allow a clearer focus and more intensive discussions.

This workshop has a double theme; “Revisiting the Intimate and Public Spheres and the East-West Encounter.”

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Section 1: Revisiting the Intimate and Public Spheres

This section deals with the reconstruction of intimate/public spheres and the policy mix, a theme continued from the GCOE. This is to look at how changes of institutional framework interact with intimate/public spheres. Boundaries between intimate and public spheres are fluctuating in many ways and for various reasons. Demographic changes and the global free trade framework, for example, are causes of the reconstruction of the role of the state, market, and family and other intimate units in the process of macro- and micro-level changes such as welfare retrenchment, casualization of work, changing household structures, low fertility and population ageing, and the wealth gap.

The establishment of new social systems or institutions is an urgent issue. Social innovation is needed for the change from an old existing system to a new system based on social needs, by introducing new ideas, methods, strategies, actions or policies.

Many Asian countries have followed the paths of more “developed” countries in the West but this is becoming more complicated, firstly because Western countries are also searching for new direction after economic recession and welfare retrenchment and secondly because Asian countries are going through highly varied and mixed processes due to different economic and political circumstances as well as the influence of both traditional and invented local ideas and values.

This section welcomes analyses of social innovations from the East or West regarding, for example, work-life balance, gender equality, social integration of immigrants, social inclusion of vulnerable groups, or community oriented policies.

Section 2: The East-West Encounter

The other section, on “The East-West Encounter” goes deeper into the historical and philosophical background of the different conditions that different regions of the world are currently facing. The East-West encounter took place under various unbalanced political, economic,

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social and cultural circumstances. In many cases, the East was forced to encounter the West. The encounter also embodied various forms of colonialism and post-colonialism. One can observe this in the many faces of orientalism and reverse-orientalism. Both sides in the encounter were transformed or metamorphosed.

This section aims to investigate nuanced aspects of the East-West encounter, debunk numerous myths surrounding it, and envisage what cultural and social cross-fertilization should be.

Possible topics include: the adoption and transformation of western ideas by Asian thinkers of various backgrounds, comparative studies of modern Asian philosophies, mutual influences between western and eastern traditions, cultural interchanges among Asian countries in the modern era.

The Next-Generation Workshop will be organized for two days. Each section in the workshop will consist of several sessions. The number of paper presenters in each section will be less than ten and they will be selected from applicants. We look forward to receiving highly qualified applications.

The workshop will be followed by the 1st KUASU International Conference on the same theme. The Conference will take the form of round table discussions and the professors who attend the Next-Generation Workshop will take part. All participants in the workshop including students are expected to contribute to the round table discussions.

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II. APPLICATION GUIDELINES for Next-Generation Scholars from within Japan

Workshop Schedule (Japan Standard Time)

Application deadline: Midnight 1st October 2013

Each applicant must prepare a 350-word maximum abstract in English. The abstract should be sent as a PDF file to kuasu.nextgeneration@bun.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Email subject: Application for NGGW 2014

The applicant should also provide the following information:

- a) Name (please capitalize your family name)
- b) Affiliation
- c) Title/ Position
- d) Postal Address, Telephone Number, and Email Address
- e) The year of PhD completion (full time tenured researchers only)
- f) The name of a referee who is a member of the KUASU Steering Committee.
- g) Please let us know if you would attend or not without travel award from KUASU.

The notification of the results of applications will be e-mailed to each applicant by the middle of October 2013.

Deadline for the submission of the full paper (4,000-6,000 words) :
Midnight 10th December 2013.

Eligibility for application

Ph.D. students, Ph.D. candidates, post-doctoral fellows and researchers at a similar career stage who are affiliated to Kyoto University. The Organizing Committee will screen the applications by candidates' qualifications as well as the content of their abstracts.

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Contact: Organizing Committee of the Next-Generation Global Workshop, Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit.

Email: kuasu.nextgeneration@bun.kyoto-u.ac.jp