



AGST NEWSLETTER

Winter 2017-2018



In this winter issue, we cover the different activities that took place during these past months.

From Module 1 Environmental Policy & Rural Development Studies, we report on the 2017 University of Göttingen - Kyoto University Joint Workshop on Sustainable International Agricultural Development.

Also, in the interview section, we highlight our conversation with Professor Hugh Campbell, University of Otago, New Zealand.

From Module 2 Business History & Industry Policy Studies, we feature the intensive course of Professor Marcelo Bucheli, University of as part of the international collaborative course

offered at the Graduate School of Economics.

From Module 6 Asian & Transcultural Studies, we shine a spotlight on the 10th KUASU Next Generation Global Workshop on the topic “Delineating Borders in a Borderless World”.

Find out about our latest publications on our Working paper series.



The Asian Platform for
Global Sustainability &
Transcultural Studies

**2017 UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN-
KYOTO UNIVERSITY JOINT-
WORKSHOP ON « SUSTAINABLE IN-
TERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT »**



The Asian Platform for
Global Sustainability &
Transcultural Studies



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN



Module #1

**Environmental Policy & Rural
Development Studies**



Professor Hiltraud Casper-Hehne (Vice President of the University of Göttingen) delivering opening remarks

Last December, a group of faculty members and graduate students from the Division of Natural Resource Economics in the Graduate School of Agriculture (GSA) visited the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at the University of Göttingen (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen) in Germany for a joint workshop on “Sustainable International Agricultural Development.” This workshop was held for three days from December 7 to 9, 2017 as part of the Japan Gateway: Kyoto University Top Global Program in collaboration with the University of Göttingen. The delegation from the Division of Natural Resource Economics consisted of two professors (Professor Motoki Akitsu and Professor Chieko Umetsu), one administrative staff member and three graduate students.

The first day of the workshop (Dec.7) was devoted to presentations by senior researchers from the two universities. It started with opening and welcome remarks by Professor Hiltraud Casper-Hehne, Vice President of the University of Göttingen, followed by three sessions with a total of eight presentations. Each of the presentations was followed by suggestive comments from a designated discussant and lively discussion among the participants. The speakers and the titles of their presentations were as follows:

Professor Bernhard Brümmer (Uni. Göttingen): “Food Standards and Agricultural Trade”; Professor Chieko Umetsu (Kyoto University): “Measuring the efficiency of collective floodplain aquacultures of Bangladesh using Data Envelopment Analysis”; Professor Fabian Fröese (Uni. Göttingen): “Employability of Chinese Youths: Rural and Urban Vocational School Students”; Professor Motoki Akitsu (Kyoto University): “Two stories for understanding rural changes in Japan: Generation approaches to depopulated areas and women’s entrepreneur movement”; Professor Claudia Neu (Uni. Göttingen): “Daseinsvorsorge: Crises and opportunities for individual life planning and public service provision”; Professor Xiaohua Yu (Uni. Göttingen):

“Engel Curve, Farmer Welfare and Food Consumption in 40 Years of Rural China”; Professor Tobias Plieninger (Uni. Göttingen): “Fostering biocultural diversity in landscapes through place-based food networks: a “solution scan” of European and Japanese models”; Dr. Dirk Augustin (Uni. Göttingen): “Renewable Energy: The contribution of Biomass on a local level”.

The second day (Dec.8) was spent on a field trip to the University of Göttingen’s Relliehausen Experimental Farm located near Dassel and the headquarters of KWS, one of the world’s biggest seed producing companies based in Einbeck. During the visit to the experimental farm, tour participants, consisting of the Kyoto members and international students (mostly from China) studying at the University of Göttingen, were introduced to some of the facilities for animal breeding and animal husbandry-based research, such as breeding rooms for Göttingen minipigs. At the headquarters of KWS, the participants were given an overview of the company’s history, current operations and future strategies, and then invited to a tour of some facilities of the company. The excursion was wrapped up with a city tour in Einbeck.



Professor Chieko Umetsu (Kyoto University) giving a presentation on her research



Group photo after the students session



The third day (Dec.9) was dedicated to research presentations by graduate students from the two universities. A total of seven students, three from Kyoto and four from Göttingen, gave presentations on their research. The speakers and the titles of their presentations were as follows:

- * Ms. Eva Hasiner (Uni. Göttingen): "Vulnerability to overweight: An application to the Chinese working age population";
- * Ms. Erina Seto-Suh (Kyoto University): "The hybrid social space of Vietnamese vegetable gardens in Japan";
- * Mr. Tahir Mahmood (Uni. Göttingen): "What determines food (in)security in Pakistan?";
- * Mr. Masao Fukutomi (Kyoto University) : "Do people care about others' payoff consequence in referendum voting? A laboratory experiment (with Yohei Mitani)";
- * Mr. Henning Schaak (Uni. Göttingen): "True attitudes of the agricultural sector towards GM and chemical crop protection";
- * Mr. Yuquan Chen (Uni. Göttingen): "Does the Centralized Slaughtering Policy Create Market Power for Pork Industry in China?";
- * Ms. Lin-Jung Chiu (Kyoto University): "The Food Consciousness in Children's Educational Picture Books: A Case Study of the Taiwanese Council of Agriculture of Executive Yuan".

Overall, the joint workshop was very successful. It provided a good opportunity for the faculty participants from the two universities to get to know each other's research areas and interests in more depth, and this will greatly help the two institutions promote further educational

and research cooperation. The event was also very rewarding for the student participants, particularly for those from Kyoto, providing them with an excellent opportunity to present their research in English in an international setting.

Contributor:

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Field trip to the University experimental farm



Students presentation session

INTERVIEW:
SOCIOLOGY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD
AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS



Professor Hugh Campbell, University of Otago,



Module #1

Environmental Policy & Rural
Development Studies

As part of the series of the international collaborative courses offered by the Graduate School of Economics and sponsored by the Asian Platform for Global Sustainability and Transcultural Studies, the Sociology of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Crisis course wrapped up on Saturday 11, 2017. This intensive course was taught by Professor Hugh Campbell, Chair in Sociology and Head of the Department of Sociology, Gender and Social Work at the University of Otago, New Zealand.

This course was organized to build analytical skills and strengthen knowledge related to food and agriculture, such as food production and its consequences on the environment across the recent crisis. Professor Campbell particularly shared insights on the “Food Regime theory, which seeks to explain the periods of stability and periods of transformational crisis in world food relations. This theory stems from a long durée analysis political economy of agriculture and food developed in the end of the 1980s. Not only did the course explore the theories that helped to explain the cultural and political dynamics and changes around food, but also, students could examine the alternatives that support a “food from somewhere” regime, not a “food from nowhere” regime. In the last day of the course, students had the chance to present their research and experiences related to the concepts they learned in class.

At the end of the course, we asked Professor Campbell few questions about his experiences at Kyoto University and his ideas about agrifood and sustainability issues.

Q1: Is this your first time teaching at Kyoto University? How was your experience here?

Hugh Campbell: Yes, it is my first time teaching an intensive course at Kyoto University. It has been a wonderful experience coming to Kyoto and the university is a lovely place to visit, you are very well supported and the course has been very enjoyable.

Q2: How did the students in this course compared to the students in New Zealand and other countries you have been to?

Hugh Campbell: There are some quite important differences. The group of students that come to Kyoto are generally talented international graduate students. As they are coming from all around the world, they bring their own perspectives. There is a lot of strong input from different places around the world. Whilst in the class there was a group of Japanese students with a lot of interesting insight about Japan itself. There is also a strong cohort of Chinese students, they brought a lot of interesting information about the recent things happening in China. So, really, as a professor, I learned a great deal from the students themselves. In terms of their own experiences and the places, they come from.

Q3: For the past several decades, the concept of sustainability has become an important concept in development. Your lecture series focused on agriculture, food and environmental crisis. From your experiences, what would you describe as the main challenge of sustainability of our modern era?

Hugh Campbell: I'm an Agrifood scholar. I'm

very interested in the sustainability of agriculture and food systems. The great challenge that we are facing at this moment is that the entire system of corporate industrial food relations is careering towards a crisis and collapse, where there is a number of stresses in that system, and there is, in areas in terms of soil availability, in term if water availability, in terms of social and political sustainability of small-scale farming, in all of a lot of levels, the corporate industrial food system is heading towards a crisis. So, my main concern in terms of how we respond to that in a sustainability framework is how to create the alternatives, how to create the space of hope, how to create the experiments, how to create different ways of doing things at different scales. That way, when corporate industrial food system crashes, we have some alternatives and we can survive the challenging transition after that.

Q4: What is your message for students of Kyoto University and for those who are interested in agrifood studies in general?

Hugh Campbell: Well, agrifood issues are one of the great challenges of the 21st Century, lining up with energy and climate change. The sustainability of agriculture and food systems is fundamental to our ability to survive to the end of this century and through the 22nd as well. So, for students coming here, they get the chance of studying things that are fundamental and important to the future survival on the planet. But also, the chance to come here is enhanced by the fact that there is a lot of visiting scholars from all around the world. They are all eminent world leaders in their field and you really get the chance in a very small and intensive short course to have a very sort of close intellectual engagement with these leaders in the field. So, this is an amazing opportunity for students to come to Kyoto University and take one of these courses.

Other comments or messages you want to add?

Hugh Campbell: I think for visiting professors coming here, Kyoto University is very well-organized university and visits are very well supported. So, with my experience coming here, the administrative support for the program and the facility for the course were very good. I really had a clear sense of what I needed to do, and I got good advice on transportation, accommodations, and other related matters. So, for people who are nervous about going to a foreign country as a visiting scholar, you really have no worries about Kyoto University, they do a great job.

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Professor Bucheli, delivering his lecture.

Historical Approaches to Business and Economics

On November 14th, 2017, the course on Historical Approaches to Business and Economics B taught by Professor Marcelo Bucheli, from the Department of Business Administration of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was completed. This intensive class is part of a series of international collaborative courses organised by the Graduate School of Economics, AGST Module 2 Business History and Industry Policy Studies. The aim of this event was to equip students with a deeper understanding of the evolution of international business during the last 150 years, focusing on the adaptation strategies developed by multinationals when facing a changing global and domestic political environment.

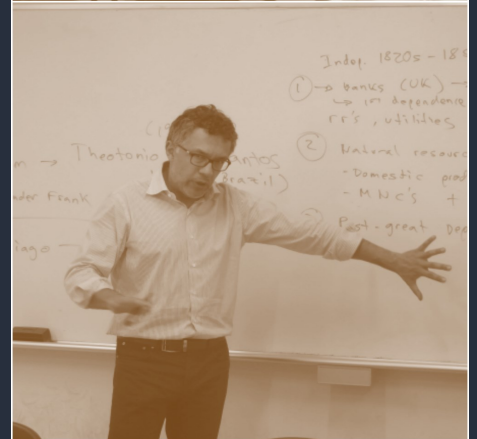
During the seven sessions, Professor Bucheli engaged with the course participants, mainly from the Graduate School of Economics, on several lines of reasoning. First, politics and culture were neglected in the discussions about globalisation and firm organisation in business school in the 1980-1990s. Second, using an amalgamation of theories and approaches from business history and political economy perspectives, Professor Bucheli added elements of politics and culture into the analysis of multinationals. Third, drawing on cases in Latin America, Professor Bucheli illustrated how the notion of nationalism, for instance, affected the strategy and organization of transnational corporations. The students also learned how the relationship between governments and multinationals has changed over the years through the concept of expropriation.

At the end of the course, students were given a chance to present their research and receive comments and feedback from Professor Bucheli.

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Module #2

Business History & Industry

Policy Studies



Photo of the participants

10TH KUASU NEXT-GENERATION GLOBAL WORKSHOP (2017/09/28-29)



The Asian Platform for Global Sustainability & Transcultural Studies



KYOTO UNIVERSITY ASIAN STUDIES UNIT
京都大学アジア研究教育ユニット



Delineating Borders in a Borderless World

The proceedings of the 10th Next-Generation Global Workshop are now available online. In establishing a new master-level joint degree program in Transcultural Studies between Kyoto University and Heidelberg University, the last Next-Generation Global Workshop was organized in September 28th-29th on the topic of "Delineating Borders in a Borderless World." This was the 10th workshop organized annually by the Kyoto University Asian Studies Unit (KUASU). Prior to KUASU, the workshop was initiated in 2008 by the Kyoto University Global COE Program for Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia. This year's workshop also marks a further step in the ongoing collaboration in education and research of Kyoto University and Heidelberg University, besides the current Kyoto International Consortium for Asian Studies network.

The workshop provides early-career scholars an opportunity to present their research and receive feedback from international scholars. After careful screening, 17 presentations were selected from nine countries including Japan, China, Germany, Indonesia, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam, France, and the United States. The workshop presentations were grouped into six sessions, namely Post-coloniality and Nationalism, Transformation and Acceptance I and II, and Migration and Redefining Vulnerability.

Many comments from participants were very positive about the significance of the workshop. Participants said that the workshop was an "exciting and inspiring opportunity to share research with professors, expand professional networks, and embrace perspectives from students and scholars from other disciplines" and that "the best part was the comments by the commentators, which really dissected each presentation and gave valuable feedback and this format is something worth emulating." At the same time, email contact information was collected before the workshop and some other logistical suggestions were obtained for improving the workshop in the following years.

The workshop proceedings can be accessed on the following website:

<http://www.kuasupier.kyoto-u.ac.jp/program-enterprise/reports/proceedingsioth/>

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Module #6

Asian & Transcultural Studies



AGST Working Paper Series

The Asian Platform for Global Sustainability & Transcultural Studies (AGST) was established with the goal of equipping globally minded researchers and students with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development in Asia and throughout the world. It forms part of the social sciences and humanities under the banner “Japan Gateway: Kyoto University Top Global Program” (JGP) and involves the three Graduate Schools: Economics (GSE), Letters (GSL) and Agriculture (GSA: Division of Natural Resource Economics).

Our Working Paper Series (AGST-WPS) currently disseminates research relevant to Environmental Policy & Rural Development Studies (AGST Module 1), Business History & Industry Policy Studies (AGST Module 2), Developing & Emerging Economies Studies (AGST Module 3) and Asian & Transcultural Studies (AGST Module 6), but will expand into other areas (International Trade & Financial Studies; Business Management & Accounting Studies) on the basis of future international partnerships. The series provides a conceptual and empirical foundation for the ongoing research projects at Kyoto University and our partner universities.

Submission:

Submission of Working Papers is open to all faculty members, researchers, and Students (doctoral and master's) of the GSE, GSL and GSA, as well as their partner universities as long as the topic of the paper aligns with one or more of the above-mentioned Modules and its quality measures up to the standard of the Working Paper Series.

For further details please contact the International Affairs Office (IAO), Graduate School of Economics, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Economics East Bldg. 2nd Floor.

Recent publications:

Diarta, Setia & Kurosawa, Takafumi (2018). *Family Structure and Spin-offs: A Study on Micro and Small-sized Metal-working Firms in Indonesia, 1980s-2015*. (AGST Working Paper Series No. 6452-01). Kyoto: Asian Platform for Global Sustainability & Transcultural Studies.

Hiraga, Midori & Hisano, Shuji. *The First Food Regime in Asian Context? Japan's Capitalist Development and the Making of Soybean as a Global Commodity in the 1890s-1930s*. (AGST Working Paper Series No. 6451-03). Kyoto: Asian Platform for Global Sustainability & Transcultural Studies.

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