



ACTING TOGETHER IN A WORLD OUT OF BALANCE



APRU

**The Voice of
Knowledge & Innovation**

APRU Members 2020-2021

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President and Vice-Chancellor | Monash University

Duncan MASKELL

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Peter HØJ AC

Vice-Chancellor and President | The University of Queensland

Michael SPENCE AC

Vice-Chancellor and Principal | The University of Sydney

Ian JACOBS

President and Vice-Chancellor | UNSW Sydney

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HAO Ping

President | Peking University

LIN Zhongqin

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Seoung-Hwan SUH
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Vice-Chancellor | University of Malaya

MEXICO

David GARZA
Rector | Tecnológico de Monterrey

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Vice-Chancellor | The University of Auckland

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Chancellor | University of California, Santa Cruz

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Carol L. FOLT
President | University of Southern California

Ana Mari CAUCE
President | University of Washington

07	From the Chair
08	From the Secretary General
09	APRU Leaders
13	New Members
14	APRU Responds to COVID-19
15	APRU Strategic Plan 2019-2021
17	Highlights and Achievements
18	SHAPING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC
19	Annual Presidents' Meeting 2019
22	Senior International Leaders' Meeting 2019
24	Vice Presidents for Research Meeting 2019
25	Shaping Higher Education in the Asia Pacific
28	CREATING GLOBAL STUDENT LEADERS
29	The APRU-The New York Times Asia-Pacific Student Case Competition
30	Undergraduate Leaders' Program 2019
31	2019 APRU-IRIDeS Summer School
32	Global Health Student Leadership
33	Young Researchers and Students Contribute to Population Aging Studies
34	Global Student Design Ideas Competition
35	SOLVING ASIA-PACIFIC CHALLENGES
36	Asia Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL)
38	Digital Economy
40	Global Health
42	Multi-Hazards
44	Pacific Ocean
46	Population Aging
48	Sustainable Cities & Landscapes
50	Sustainable Waste Management
52	INFORMING INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY
53	Policy Engagement with the United Nations
55	Policy Engagement with Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
58	Case Study: APRU Policy Partnerships
60	NETWORK LEADERS
61	APRU Program Leaders
62	Senior International Leaders
64	APRU Partners
66	ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
67	Publications
68	APRU in the Media
69	Network Meetings 2019-2022
70	APRU International Secretariat

FROM THE CHAIR

Gene D. Block
Chair, APRU
Chancellor, UCLA

Dear Colleagues

This is the first annual report that I have been unable to present at the Annual Presidents' Meeting (APM). I profoundly regret that we have had to cancel the APM scheduled to be hosted by Professor Dawn Freshwater, Vice-Chancellor of The University of Auckland, on her campus, June 21–23, 2020.

When we met a year ago at UCLA, none of us anticipated that the world would be struck by a calamitous health emergency. As I write, the international community is trying to cope with the pandemic as we rush to develop effective treatments and vaccines.

Unexpectedly, the crisis has made our theme last year, *Connecting the Asia-Pacific for the Global Common Good*, even more relevant today. Our universities are playing critical roles in research, public education and many other areas. At the same time, we are facing the challenges of moving to remote teaching, of pastoral care of our academic communities and of deepened financial stress.

Under the title, *Acting Together in a World out of Balance*, this report records the achievements of APRU members acting together for the common good in the midst of this uncertainty. While there has been disruption to some of our programs, you will read in these pages that much has been achieved.

As we strengthen the impact of our work together, I am particularly pleased to welcome eight new members of our network.

Monash University (Australia) President & Vice-Chancellor, Margaret Gardner

Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China) President, Lin Zhongqin

UC Riverside (USA) Chancellor, Kim A Wilcox

UC Santa Cruz (USA) Chancellor, Cynthia K Larive

Universidad de los Andes (Colombia) President, Alejandro Gaviria

Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) (Ecuador) Rector, Carlos Montúfar

The University of Queensland (Australia) Vice-Chancellor and President, Peter Høj

Xi'an Jiaotong University (China) President, Wang Shuguo

With the addition of such eminent members, APRU now has an impressive reach: 55 leading research universities around the Pacific Ocean. This means we have an even greater role to play in building trust and cooperation for the benefit of our societies. Our mission has never been more important.

Next year, I look forward to welcoming you to the APM, hosted by President Subra Suresh, Nanyang Technological University, in Singapore on June 20–22, 2021.

Before then, APRU is launching a number of initiatives to address the crises of a world out of balance. We look forward to working with you on these and other actions in the year ahead.

FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



Christopher Tremewan

Acting Together in a World Out of Balance

Speaking to the presidents of China's top universities at a meeting in Xi'an in October last year, my message was that, in a world out of balance and where any sense of equilibrium has disappeared, research universities, acting together, can make a real difference.

I was not aware then that the region would soon face even more extreme events such as the wildfires in Australia, further weather disasters and then a global health emergency with Covid-19.

But my point stands.

While we face abnormal challenges in abnormal times, 21st century universities have a huge range of capabilities through research, education, community engagement and industry partnerships which empower global reach. When we seize the opportunity to act together internationally, we can make an impact at scale for the common good.

The crises of the past year have given sharp definition to the valuable contributions of the APRU network. Our continuing programs range from global health and multi-hazards to sustainable cities and population aging, and from artificial intelligence and gender equity to leadership development and the future of the Pacific Ocean. Each has gained new relevance through stimulating initiatives empowering our members to act collectively on solutions to Asia-Pacific challenges. Among these initiatives were the Asia-Pacific Mayors' Academy, undertaken in partnership with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat), and the Artificial Intelligence for Social Good project, in collaboration with Google and UN ESCAP. We further deepened our work with Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and its working groups. We continued to align our activities with the objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Multi-Hazard Program's latest publication, 30 Innovations for DRR, demonstrates the strong association between disaster risk reduction and the SDGs.

Through the latest APRU—*The New York Times* Asia-Pacific Student Case Competition, students prepared policy briefs to inform decision makers on global health and air pollution in their economies. The winning team's entry was published in the international edition of the newspaper.

APRU has also helped members to address key challenges within universities. Together, we are piloting the Asia Pacific Women in Leadership (APWiL) mentorship program to advance gender inclusion and equity at member universities, and provide intercultural opportunities for the professional growth and development of aspiring women leaders.

The APRU Global Health Program released a report on Workplace Wellness which makes recommendations to universities to improve employee health and wellbeing.

APRU Future Impact Project

The increasing urgency of the issues we face means APRU needs to acquire capabilities that equip us for the long term and enable us to deliver more value to our members and their societies. This means we have to change, adapt and acquire new capabilities.

Last year, members approved a new strategic plan consisting of four priorities:

1. Building global impact
2. Increasing APRU's value to members
3. Creating high-value partnerships
4. Generating resources

For the past six months, we have worked with a consultancy company, Entangled Solutions, on the APRU Future Impact Project. With the aim of finding out what members want from the network in this new context, as well as evaluating what we are doing and how we can change in order to deliver on the four priorities, many members and a number of our partners have already been consulted. Furthermore, there has been a great deal of research on the strategic environment and a lot of thinking about what the current sudden disruption teaches us for the long term. Although we started this before the current health emergency, it has reinforced the importance of planning ahead.

I look forward to sharing the results with you very soon. Ultimately, we will need to start doing new things and stop doing others.

Not only will we change in order to meet your expectations, but we will also renew our commitment to providing value and build on all the work that we have done together.

Addressing the Crisis

I am pleased to announce that change is already underway. In response to international travel restrictions, we are re-arranging our program schedules and launching APRU Plus, a series of virtual high-level meetings and collaborative initiatives focused on the needs of our members in these uncertain times.

Covid-19 Webpage on the APRU Site

To enable members to share how they are dealing with the health emergency, we have uploaded the links to members' policies and actions on our website

<https://apru.org/coronavirus-emergency-and-apru-universities/>

University Crisis Management

We are working with Peking University on an initiative on university crisis management. We aim to work on a collaborative research project on Covid-19 and other crises that universities have faced (earthquakes, tsunami, floods, wild fires, extreme weather, and resultant social crises).

Other Key Issues

One of the activities will be sharing experiences of maintaining high-quality online teaching and assessment across the whole university over an extended period, as well as the long-term lessons learned from this experience. We will respond to members' interests and needs through other key topics.

As we move into this exciting new phase of responding anew to the challenges of the region, we are greatly encouraged by the vibrant new members who have joined us in the past year. We look forward to their insights, energy and commitment.

Finally, I would like to thank our members, partner organizations and many others for your part in the continuing success of this network. I look forward to working with you.

Steering Committee 2019 — 2020

The Steering Committee is APRU's executive body, as elected by the presidents of member universities. It oversees the strategy, policy, programs, and finances of the network.

Gene D. BLOCK
Chancellor, UCLA; Chair, APRU

Bundit EUA-ARPORN
President, Chulalongkorn University

Nikita Y. ANISIMOV
President, Far Eastern Federal University

XU Ningsheng
President, Fudan University

David GARZA
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President, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Santa J. ONO
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Carol T. CHRIST
Chancellor, University of California, Berkeley

Abdul Rahim Hj HASHIM
Vice-Chancellor, University of Malaya

Ian JACOBS
President and Vice-Chancellor, UNSW Sydney

Aiji TANAKA
President, Waseda University

Yonghak KIM
President, Yonsei University (until February 2020)

Christopher TREMEWAN
Secretary General

Sherman CHENG
Director (Administration and Finance)

Welcome New Presidents



Margaret GARDNER AC, President and Vice-Chancellor, Monash University

Professor Margaret Gardner AC became President and Vice-Chancellor of Monash University on September 1, 2014. She obtained a first-class honors degree in Economics and a PhD from The University of Sydney. In 1988, she was a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow spending time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, and the University of California, Berkeley. In 2018, she was elected a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Professor Gardner AC aims to further the university's vision to be among the top research universities in the world, support its brilliant staff and outstanding students to succeed, and make a distinctive contribution to the Asia Pacific and to the world.

Moo Hwan KIM, President, POSTECH

Professor Moo Hwan Kim became President of POSTECH University on September 1, 2019. Professor Moo Hwan Kim holds a bachelor's and master's degrees in Nuclear Engineering from Seoul National University and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

As an expert in the field of nuclear safety technology, Professor Kim has held leadership positions in various departments at POSTECH. As President, his vision is to fully realize POSTECH's founding tenets, leveraging the strengths of the small elite institution as it evolves into a global university.



Zhongqin LIN, President, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

As President and Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Professor Lin received his bachelor's degree in Naval Engineering and PhD in Ship Structural Mechanics from Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Professor Lin continues the university's vision of encouraging its faculty and students to join a common search for answers to the fundamental and pressing questions facing society.



Dawn FRESHWATER, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Auckland

Professor Freshwater was awarded her PhD at the University of Nottingham, UK. Her contribution to the fields of Public Health – specifically Mental Health and Forensic Mental Health – and in researching leadership practices won her the highest honor in her field, the Fellowship of the Royal College of Nursing.

Professor Freshwater began her tenure as President of The University of Auckland in March 2020. Her vision is to continue the university's global civic responsibility, striking a balance between serving its communities, serving the region and the nation, and also serving the globe in terms of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Peter HØJ, Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland (Retirement effective June 30, 2020)

Professor Peter Høj was educated at the University of Copenhagen, majoring in Biochemistry and Chemistry. He has a Master of Science in Biochemistry and Genetics, and a PhD in Photosynthesis.

In his leadership role, Professor Høj furthers the university's vision of providing knowledge leadership for a better world and transforming students into game-changing graduates, ensuring that they are not only prepared to succeed in their chosen pathway, but will also provide the leadership necessary to create meaningful change.



Alejandro GAVIRIA, President, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

President Alejandro Gaviria graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering from the School of Engineering in Antioquia. He also has a master's in Economics from the Universidad de los Andes, and a PhD in Economics from the University of California, San Diego.

As President, Professor Gaviria works towards his vision of realizing a humanistic university that promotes ideas of social change and acts as an instrument of social mobility. He aims to increase creative and research efforts, which are also part of a permanent exchange with colleagues around the world to address everyday problems and long-term challenges.

Carlos MONTÚFAR, Rector, Universidad San Francisco de Quito

Rector Carlos Montúfar studied undergraduate and graduate programs at the University of Notre Dame where he earned his PhD in Physics. He was one of the founders of Universidad San Francisco de Quito, which has grown to become the leading higher education institution in Ecuador.

As Rector, he strongly believes that education is essential for the development and future of a country. He considers that education in science and technology is the only way in which a country can move into the future.



Ari KUNCORO, Rector, University of Indonesia

Rector Ari Kuncoro obtained his bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Indonesia, Master of Arts from University of Minnesota, and PhD in Economics from Brown University.

Rector Kuncoro aims to further the University of Indonesia's vision to conduct education, research, and community service capable of meeting national and global challenges.



Kim A. WILCOX, Chancellor, University of California, Riverside

Chancellor Kim Wilcox received his bachelor's degree in Audiology and Speech Sciences from Michigan State University and his master's and doctorate degrees in Speech and Hearing Science from Purdue University.

As Chancellor, Professor Wilcox, aims to leverage the university's unique resources and community to fulfil its responsibility to society and ensure the world benefits from the knowledge created in colleges and universities.

Cynthia K. LARIVE, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Cruz

Chancellor Cynthia Larive holds a doctorate in Analytical Chemistry from University of California, Riverside; a master's in Inorganic Chemistry from Purdue University; and a bachelor's in Chemistry from South Dakota State University.

As Chancellor, she aims to foster a more diverse campus, from the faculty to the student body, and to leverage the many advantages that diverse teams can bring to education and learning.



Carol L. FOLT, President, University of Southern California

Dr Carol Folt earned her bachelor's degree in Aquatic Biology and a master's degree in Biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She received her doctorate in Ecology from the University of California, Davis, and did postdoctoral work at the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station of Michigan State University.

In her role as University of Southern California President since July 1, 2019, Dr Folt has a strong commitment to immigrant students and plans to position the university as a leader against climate change and a force for sustainability.

WANG Shuguo, President , Xi'an Jiaotong University

Professor Wang Shuguo was admitted to the Harbin Institute of Technology in 1977, where he majored Mechanical Engineering, and he obtained his bachelor, master, and doctorate degrees. He then went to the École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers in Paris, France as a senior visiting scholar from 1987 to 1989.

In his role as President, he continues the institution's vision to become a Chinese university recognised internationally for its unique features in learning and teaching, research, social service, and education management, as well as one that conducts research in areas where humanity faces severe challenges.



Seoung-Hwan SUH, President, Yonsei University

Professor Seoung Hwan Suh became the 19th President of Yonsei University in February 2020. He received his bachelor's and master's degree in Economics from Yonsei University (1981), and his doctorate degrees in Economics from Princeton University in 1985.

During his term as President, Professor Suh prioritizes efforts to provide education that nurtures "innovative leaders with a communal self" and a multi-dimensional approach to innovating education by utilizing cutting-edge technology and learning systems. He has also reformed administrative support, campus space, and university policies to initiate more pioneering knowledge and technology on campus. Under his leadership, Yonsei University is pursuing a New Future for a New Yonsei under his leadership.

New Members

We are delighted to welcome new members into the APRU network. We look forward to working with these prestigious institutions to strengthen the organization's impact in connecting research and education to international policy development and building partnerships to find solutions suited to the diversity of the Asia-Pacific region.



**President and Vice-Chancellor
Margaret GARDNER,
Monash University**

From a single campus at Clayton with fewer than 400 students, Monash has grown into a network of campuses, education centers, and partnerships, spanning the globe to become Australia's largest university. With approximately 60,000 students (and 350,000 alumni) from over 170 countries, a commitment to collaboration with industry, government, university, and community partners across the world is key to the university's commitment to maintaining its reputation as a platform for excellence in teaching and research.

The University offers a broad selection of courses within ten faculties: Art, Design and Architecture; Arts; Business and Economic; Education; Engineering; Information Technology; Law; Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences; Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Science.



**LIN Zhongqin,
Shanghai Jiao Tong University**

Established in 1896, SJTU is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in China. Reflecting SJTU's research prowess, 25 subjects ranked among the top 100, with 10 making it into the top 50 in the QS World University Rankings.

SJTU undertakes a range of research that closely aligns with APRU's efforts, including its cross-university platform for urban governance that focuses on sustainability solutions for megacities such as Shanghai, and ocean engineering and ocean science, which have long been priority areas for SJTU. Currently, SJTU has students from 116 countries and more than 150 institutional cooperation agreements with well-known universities around the world.



**Vice-Chancellor and President
Peter HØJ,
The University of Queensland**

The University of Queensland (UQ) is one of Australia's leading teaching and research universities. For more than a century, UQ has educated and worked with outstanding people to deliver knowledge leadership for a better world. Ranking among the world's top universities and with a strong focus on teaching excellence, UQ has won more national teaching awards than any other Australian university.

UQ's six faculties, eight globally recognized research institutes and more than 100 research centers attract an interdisciplinary community of 1500 scientists, social scientists and engineers who champion research excellence and continue UQ's tradition of research leadership. UQ is also one of only three Australian members of the global Universitas 21; a founding member of the Group of Eight (Go8) universities; a member of Universities Australia; and one of only three Australian charter members of the global edX consortium for massive open online courses (MOOCs).



**Chancellor Kim A. WILCOX,
University of California, Riverside**

UCR is an institution powered by an entrepreneurial spirit, a record of innovation and results and a commitment to excellence and collaboration across disciplines. Home to more than 25,000 students and 1,100 faculty members – including two Nobel Prize winners and 13 members of the National Academies of Science and Medicine – UCR pioneers research with economic, scientific and social impact on real-world challenges faced in California and beyond. The university ranks among the top 1 percent of universities worldwide in the 2019--20 Center for World University Rankings. In 2020, the institution jumped 20 positions to rank 12 among all US universities by Money Magazine.



**President Alejandro GAVIRIA,
Universidad de los Andes, Colombia**

Founded in 1948 and conceived as a study and research center, Universidad de los Andes was the first private university in Colombia. Focusing, its activities on excellence, it is currently the only private university in the country that has been awarded a 10-year institutional accreditation for quality by the National Ministry of Education.

Universidad de los Andes was ranked eighth by the QS University Rankings 2015/2016 in Latin America, and occupied the 283rd spot globally. The Faculty of Management holds the prestigious "Triple Crown," which consists of three accreditations (EQUIS, AMBA and AACSB) and is only held by 1% of business schools around the world. Additionally, eight undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Engineering have the International ABET accreditation.



**Chancellor Cynthia K. LARIVE,
University of California, Santa Cruz**

Since its founding in 1965, UCSC has earned international distinction as a university with high-impact research and a commitment to teaching and public service. The campus was welcomed into the Association of American Universities in 2019, while also being ranked second for social mobility. A commitment to environmental stewardship and community engagement are central to UCSC's core values, and the university offers rigorous academic programs and cutting-edge research opportunities that teach students how to think, not what to think.

From 652 students in 1965, the campus has grown to its current enrollment of more than 18,000 students. Undergraduates pursue bachelor's degrees in 59 different majors and are supervised by divisional deans of arts, engineering, humanities, physical and biological sciences and social sciences. Graduate students work toward graduate certificates, master's degrees or doctoral degrees in more than 40 academic programs under the supervision of the divisional and graduate deans.



**Rector Carlos MONTÚFAR FREILE,
Universidad San Francisco de Quito**

Founded in 1988, USFQ is Ecuador's first private university. The university has much-noted research stations in the Galapagos Islands (GAIAS) and in the Amazon rainforest (Tiputini Biodiversity Station) – both unique sites for research in the life sciences in one of the most biodiverse places on the planet, offering APRU researchers and students a new dimension to current world challenges. Reflecting its research prowess, the USFQ is ranked first in Ecuador and 51st in Latin America in the 2019 QS World University Rankings. The university aims to develop new research partnerships, joint research and grant proposals and plans to increase the number of visiting faculty through the development of joint courses led by a USFQ professor and an international partner.



**President WANG Shuguo,
Xi'an Jiaotong University**

One of the oldest universities in China, XJTU is a comprehensive research university with 10 major categories of disciplines: science, engineering, medicine, economics, management, humanities, law, philosophy, education and art. It comprises 26 schools (departments/centers), nine university colleges for undergraduates and 20 affiliated teaching hospitals. The Western China Science and Technology Innovation Harbor has established eight major research platforms, 25 institutes and more than 100 scientific research bases to serve major scientific research in China, including interdisciplinary research and military and civilian integration research. XJTU has had relationships and exchanges with 300 universities and research institutions in 44 countries and regions. In 2019, there were more than 3,000 international students from over 141 countries studying at XJTU.



APRU RESPONDS TO COVID-19

APRUplus.org

With the ongoing threat to public health presented by the novel Coronavirus, Covid-19, APRU has an important role to play as a facilitator and network in proactively sharing information among member institutions.

To assist members, APRU continues to take steps to share best practices, expertise and knowledge among its member institutions, as well as to consolidate resources towards our common goal of curtailing Covid-19.

“

With such a rapidly developing situation, sustained efforts to work collectively in knowledge-sharing and research collaboration through university alliances are vital. Some of us have met the challenges from the beginning of the outbreak while more and more are joining to address the issues now. With global alliances we can proactively share best practice among institutions.

”

President Wei Shyy,
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

APRU STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2021



With the theme, *Leading the Asia-Pacific Region, Contributing to the Global Common Good*, the APRU strategic plan sets out the organization's priorities and a path to attain them.

Our Mission

APRU is dedicated to international cooperation in higher education and research and to public engagement for the well-being and sustainability of our societies and the global ecosystem by:

- Providing international platforms for collaboration on education, research and innovation
- Promoting the generation and sharing of knowledge related to Asia-Pacific challenges
- Communicating the critical role of research universities in society
- Strengthening the collective international leadership and impact of member universities, their faculty, students and staff
- Creating partnerships with international organizations, business, governments and NGOs to contribute to international policy development, capacity-building and solutions to common challenges

Our Values

We value:

- Excellence in teaching, research and public engagement

- Trust and cooperation among the Asia-Pacific academic community
- Academic autonomy, diversity, equity and the global common good

Strategic Priorities

The following strategic priorities align with members' international aspirations and focus APRU's activities in order to deliver to its members the impact and influence of a highly functioning international organization operating as a multi-nodal network.

Build Global Impact

Raise the profile and impact of APRU to ensure that it is a dynamic and effective international network of research universities which offer global leadership in key areas of international public policy and scientific leadership including sustainable development, gender equity and other Asia-Pacific challenges.

Increase the Value to Members

Provide increasing reputational benefits and collaborative opportunities to members, their faculty and students, to ensure that APRU is a key network for contributing to the well-being of the Asia-Pacific region.

Create High-Value Partnerships

Establish and deepen partnerships with international organizations, governments,

business and industry and communities to increase policy impact on critical global challenges.

Generate Resources

Attract increasing resources of people and funds with the objectives of deepening engagement across sectors and sustaining impact at scale.



APRU will advance these strategic priorities through focused program initiatives and effective network organization.

1 Focused Program Initiatives

Advancing international excellence in education, research and innovation through:

- Presidential dialogues and joint statements
- Forums for sharing policies and practices
- Research collaboration on common themes
- New forms of student and faculty interaction across borders

Maximizing network effects by partnering with international organizations, governments, NGOs, business, industry and local communities finding on solutions to Asia-Pacific challenges through:

- Policy development in cooperation with UN agencies, APEC and other international organizations
- Collaborative actions on specific Asia-Pacific challenges e.g. global health, multi-hazards, women in leadership, population aging, digital economy and artificial intelligence, sustainable cities and landscapes, sustaining the Pacific Ocean.

Leveraging the dynamism and diversity of the Asia-Pacific region to create global leaders through

- Prioritizing gender equity, entrepreneurship and innovation
- Increasing faculty and student exchange and mobility e.g. focused on the UN SDGs
- Providing international leadership opportunities
- Promoting cultural awareness

Building interdisciplinary platforms for collaboration on emerging frontier issues such as

- SSH-STEM models for engagement
- Ethical and equitable development and use of digital technologies
- Capacity-building for data science skills development
- Achieving the SDGs including the sustainability of the Pacific Ocean (SDG 14)
- Communicating scientific knowledge through innovative media
- APRU International Secretariat's location in the Greater Bay Area as it is developed as a hub for technology, innovation and entrepreneurship
- The elevation of esports through Asia-Pacific collegiate cooperation on education, research and student intercultural interaction.

2 Effective Network Organization

APRU aims to align its organizational strategy with its strategic priorities. Due to its limited resources to pursue substantial international objectives, the effectiveness of the network ultimately rests on the commitment of its members to engage and to lead. It is crucial that this engagement is supported by effective governance and management which demonstrates a positive return on investment.

APRU will maintain effective governance and advisory bodies to provide:

- a. Visionary international leadership and representation of APRU
- b. Forward-looking policy in a fast-changing environment
- c. Substantive review and evaluation of activities to ensure tangible outcomes

APRU will support effective management by the International Secretariat through: Strategic leadership and international representation, Dynamic program coordination, and Communications and fund-raising

- Consolidating constituency support
- Attracting external partners
- High-performing virtual media presence
- Advancing and measuring international impact
- Active brand management

Professional Administration

- Building an organization fitted to a network strategy
- Maintaining high professional standards as an employer
- Ensuring efficient use of resources

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR

55

universities

from 19 economies around the Pacific

8

Program Initiatives

22

meetings in exchange of knowledge and ideas

in 12 economies of the Pacific Rim



Supporting Asia-Pacific Leaders

As a founding partner in the **Asia-Pacific Mayor's Academy**, experts in the APRU network are developing a curriculum to support Asia-Pacific city leaders to promote sustainable urban development.



Inspiring Future Generations

We continue to **inspire and equip students with the skills they need** to contribute to the betterment of societies worldwide through challenges, summer schools, and partnerships like The New York Times-APRU Case Competition.



Uniting Science and Development Agendas

APRU Multi-Hazards Program's published **30 Innovations for Disaster Risk**, supporting an integrated science approach and increased application of innovation and technology in disaster risk reduction.



Technology for Social Good

We deepen our partnership with UN ESCAP and Google to create the **AI for Social Good Network**. The initiative will help governments respond to transformational technologies to ensure we harness their potential for good and reduce possible harm.



Strengthening our Commitment to Gender Equity

The APWiL Program created the **APWiL Core Group to champion gender equity among APRU members and externally**. It supports the development of aspiring women leaders and includes the **APWiL Mentoring Program**.



Committed to the Pacific Ocean

Through the Pacific Ocean Cluster Project, by contributing to major publications like UN ESCAP's *Ocean Cities Policy Brief and A Better World Volume 6*, APRU is meeting its **voluntary commitment to SDG: 14 Life Below Water**.



Responding to Urgent Challenges

With the launch of the **APRU Sustainable Waste Management Program**, we pave the way to foster collaborative research projects, new initiatives, and support policymaking to develop an effective sustainable management agenda.



Improving Health & Wellbeing on Campus

The Global Health Program's **Workplace Wellness Report** shares best practice and case studies of member initiatives to improve university employees' health and wellbeing.



Tackling Aging Population Challenges

APRU supported the **Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference** to share expertise and recommendations for realizing more active aging societies.

SHAPING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

ANNUAL PRESIDENTS' MEETING 2019

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERS' MEETING 2019

VICE PRESIDENTS FOR RESEARCH MEETING 2019

FORUMS FOR SHAPING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ASIA PACIFIC



ANNUAL PRESIDENTS' MEETING 2019

June 23-25, 2019 | University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Universities in an Age of Global Migrations

At the 23rd APRU Annual Presidents' Meeting (APM), Presidents and higher education leaders in the network came together to discuss important issues of the day. The APM coincided with UCLA's Centennial, and a Centennial Dinner was held in celebration of the university's past 100 years and its public service mission.

Each year, presidents of the APRU network gather at the Annual Presidents' Meeting (APM) to affirm common goals, hear from expert speakers, and align APRU's enduring mission with future opportunities and strategic imperatives.

Gene Block, APRU Chair and UCLA Chancellor, welcomed over 130 educators, university presidents, senior university leaders and other academics—from 17 Pacific Rim economies to this year's meeting.

Over the three days, delegates had the chance to discuss how to best respond to migration in the Asia-Pacific region. Keynotes and discussions from a range of experts honed in on this challenge in relation to climate change, social justice concerns, the drive to equity and diversity on university campuses, and rising barriers to international collaborative research.

Globalization at the Heart of Education and Work

Suzanne Boda, American Airlines Senior Vice President, gave a keynote address emphasizing the role of diversity, inclusion and equality in making better decisions in the workplace. Emphasizing that education plays a key role in instilling a sense of understanding and a celebration of differences, she urged universities to broaden students' horizons through required coursework in languages and other cultures, international student exchange and for universities to function as safe havens for immigrant students.

Fighting Climate Change

Ram Ramanathan, Professor of Applied Ocean Sciences and Atmospheric Sciences at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, UC San Diego, delivered a thought-provoking keynote on the potential role of universities in fighting climate change. With lack of action from national leaders, he urged universities to play a bigger role, citing his *Bending the Curve: Climate Change Solutions*



curriculum to empower one million students as climate champions across the world to reduce global warming.

Migration and Immigration Policies

Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Professor Jared Diamond, UCLA, delivered the event's final keynote address on immigration policies in seven countries worldwide, predicting immigration would increase in the future as the result of demographic factors alone, and encouraging universities to create centers on migration.



Universities, Diversity and National Policies

Professor Thomas F. Rosenbaum, President of California Institute of Technology, and Professor Ian Jacobs, President and Vice Chancellor of UNSW Sydney spoke on the panel *Global Migration and Prospects for Higher Education*. Speakers shared insights regarding restrictions on research and technology cooperation and the rise of intellectual property rights issues and social pushback against foreign students and faculty.



"Knowledge is not effective if constrained in a box," said Rosenbaum, arguing that research values and modes cut across national boundaries. Speakers urged university leaders to stand up to this social resistance, calling on them to explain that the university's responsibility is not simply to "the nation," but to the world.

Universities from different countries around the Pacific Rim are making efforts to create and respond to more diverse communities on their campuses. Vice Chancellor and Principal Michael Spence of The University of Sydney and UCLA Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Jerry Kang, said that universities need to seriously consider diversity in the hiring process through coherent policies and not "adds-ons" to existing policies.

Professor Cindy Fan, Vice Provost for International Studies and Global Engagement of UCLA, shared the university's experience in creating a special advisory council on immigration policy and an interdisciplinary center to study migration. President Ana Mari Cauce

of the University of Washington emphasized that diversity is critical to excellence. Cauce also stressed that one critical component of diversity should be supporting students of lower socioeconomic status, recommending that the network focus specifically on helping international students from low-income backgrounds.

President of Tecnológico de Monterrey, David Garza observed that current migration flows of immigrants from Central America towards the U.S present Mexico and its universities with new challenges, as many remain do not reach their final destination, but stay in the country. President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Rocky Tuan, identified cultural approaches in particular as a promising strategy for navigating the social and cultural impacts of immigration.

Closing the meeting, Presidents reaffirmed APRU's commitment to international student and researcher mobility, collaboration, and cooperation through the APRU Presidential Statement.

Media coverage

Writing for University World News, Yojana Sharma reported on events, discussions, and outcomes from the APM. In-depth articles from APM sessions can be found below:

Scant progress on women becoming university leaders

<https://apru.org/scant-progress-on-women-becoming-university-leaders/>

How universities can achieve inclusive campus diversity

<https://apru.org/how-universities-can-achieve-inclusive-campus-diversity/>

The role of universities in an era of heightened migration

<https://apru.org/the-role-of-universities-in-an-era-of-heightened-migration/>

University leaders fear curbs on free flow of scholars

<https://apru.org/university-leaders-fear-curbs-on-free-flow-of-scholars>

Publications

24th Annual Presidents' Meeting Report

<https://apru.org/resource/annual-presidents-meeting-2019-report>



It may be tempting to try to protect ourselves by putting boxes around our researchers and our countries to attempt to constrain the transfer of scientific discoveries and technological innovation... however, research depends on talent and interaction and the challenges of ideas, all of which may arise anywhere in the world.



*– President Thomas Rosenbaum,
California Institute of Technology*

APRU 23rd Annual Presidents' Meeting

Universities in an Age of Global Migrations

June 23-25, 2019

APRU Presidential Statement

UNIVERSITIES IN AN AGE OF GLOBAL MIGRATIONS: APRU COMMITMENT TO ACTION

The Asia-Pacific region is at the leading edge of higher education, research and innovation. In building and sustaining world-class research universities, APRU members benefit from the flow of people around the region whether as academic researchers or students or as migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.

Not only do we gain from attracting the best intellects from many countries, we also gain deep human insights from people with a wide diversity of backgrounds and experience. This enables us to contribute strongly to our own societies with fresh understandings of ourselves, discoveries and innovations in science and technology, and collaborations across borders to solve the pressing issues confronting our region.

We understand that we have a responsibility to assist in the formation of public policies that accord with the humanitarian values of the academe and which support the mutually beneficial exchange of human talent for the betterment of our societies and the advancement of education and research.

We further understand that the neutral platform of APRU as a leading university consortium has increasing salience for pursuing multilateral initiatives in a time of rising tensions.

To this end, APRU and its members express our commitment:

- to advocate migration policies which accord with international humanitarian standards and reflect our values
- to ensure our internal policies promote equity and diversity, enabling migrants to gain the full benefits of higher education and to rise to leadership of our universities
- to act collectively across the region where appropriate to engage with international and multilateral policy processes on migration
- to further enhance collaboration for faculty and student mobility among our institutions, finding ways to continue to cooperate despite increasing obstacles.

We will do this in the interest of academic excellence and to build trust across borders for the global challenges ahead.



SENIOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERS' MEETING 2019

September 18-20, 2019

This year's Senior International Leaders' Meeting (SILM) showcased how APRU members leverage their collective strengths to address the pressing needs of our planet. Under the theme, *Advancing a Just, Sustainable, and Prosperous World: University Impact and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)*, attendees planned and evaluated how to implement APRU's new Strategic Plan 2019-2020.

Each year APRU senior international leaders join the SILM to review and plan APRU initiatives, develop partnership opportunities, and learn how APRU activities can align and support their work.

Welcoming Address

As the host of this year's meeting, University of British Columbia (UBC) President and Vice-Chancellor, Santa Ono, extended a warm welcome to delegates and spoke on the importance of leveraging the collective strength of APRU members to advance future leaders to build a just, sustainable, and prosperous world.

New Members and Co-Chairs

During the meeting, APRU welcomed new members to the network, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, The University of Queensland, and the Universidad San Francisco de Quito. The network also

welcomed the new IPAC Co-chairs Kathy Belov of The University of Sydney and Alan Chan of Nanyang Technological University, who will be taking a leadership role in the development and outputs of the APRU Senior International Leaders' Meeting in the coming years.

The Role of Universities in Serving the UN SDGs

Lauren Sorkin, Asia Pacific Director of The Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities, a global network with 83 chief resilience officers, gave a keynote address to delegates on the role of universities in serving the UN SDGs. She pointed out that as a network of knowledge and innovation, APRU universities could play an important role in generating and sharing knowledge with policymakers, the public and private sector, and other stakeholders – from identifying and assessing policy priorities to implementing solutions.

Attendees then heard from Satyaatya Tripathi, UN Assistant Secretary General and Head of New York Office at United Nations Environmental Programme, who emphasized the connection between social mobility, health and well-being. He reiterated the importance of cooperation to make an impact at scale instead of success with one-off ideas.



We are not only at a new stage in our development as a network; every year that passes places us in a new context of increasing urgency and peril. We face abnormal challenges in abnormal times.



– Dr Christopher Tremewan,
APRU Secretary General

Setting the Agenda: A New APRU Strategy

At the meeting, Christopher Tremewan, APRU Secretary General, presented the APRU Strategic Plan, which was approved at the Annual Presidents' Meeting in June 2019. The strategy, *Leading the Asia-Pacific Region: Contributing to the Global Common Good*, set out priorities for building global impact, creating high-value partnerships, and generating the resources to achieve these priorities in a time when humankind is facing unprecedented crises.

Tremewan outlined the challenge of generating the political will and implementing technical solutions at scale, and the urgency for APRU members to work collectively to educate what is possibly the last generation that has a chance to fix the planet.



The Role of Universities in Serving the UN SDGs

Dr Murali Chandrashekar, Vice-Provost, UBC, delivered a keynote address and moderated a session on the role of universities in meeting the SDGs. Chandrashekar emphasized that universities have the capacity to take their knowledge and strengths to come together and address challenges in a more holistic way. Through the APRU network, universities can cooperate across nations to ask the question, what can we do together to make the world a better place?

Directors of APRU research-related programs and Senior International Leaders (SILs) then presented on a wide range of APRU projects and programs currently underway – from the Pacific Ocean and Digital Economy Programs to the newly launched Mayors’ Academy for Sustainable Urban Development.

Student Mobility and the SDGs

The second component of the SILM moved away from the traditional conference model to lead participants in active workshops exploring greater cross-institutional student experiences focused on widespread, global challenges.

An experiential learning panel led to new ideas to increase student mobility and engagement in addressing the UN SDGs. Suggestions for APRU universities to collaborate on building courses on SDGs and flexible schemes to facilitate students joining these courses across geographical borders were raised.

Participants also said that student mobility would be greatly advanced by the creation of a three-week internship program in which all member universities are obliged to pitch in jobs or projects.

During breakout sessions, participants called for the crafting of a shared curriculum among universities for students to enhance their understanding of the SDGs; more self-reflection to reduce the carbon footprints of campuses and networks; and the development of means to find out how exactly policy papers are utilized by governments and policymakers.

“
Real problems require cross-disciplinary and diverse perspectives, as the gaps between different disciplines do not really exist in the real world.
 ”

– Parsa Chani,
**Civil Engineering and Urban Studies Student,
 The University of British Columbia**





Vice Presidents for Research Meeting 2019

October 28–30, 2019
Chulalongkorn University

At the fifth annual meeting, Vice Presidents for Research alongside senior research administrators, came together under the theme Strategic Research Partnership for Better and Sustainable Societies.

With the aim of sharing best practices for collaborative problem solving, delegates from over 20 member universities joined with participants from government, academia, and the wider research community.

“We have stewardship of the education of future generations who will have the political will to act. Our institutions are at the forefront of understanding society as well as leading beneficial technological discovery. We must work together to ensure solutions are implemented in partnership with citizens and with their informed consent.”

– Dr. Christopher Tremewan, APRU Secretary General.

Opening Address

After an introduction by Professor Kiat Ruxrungham, Vice President for Research and Innovation of Chulalongkorn University, President Bundhit Eua-arporn delivered a welcome address in which he emphasized the university’s commitment to creating demand-driven research, innovation, and curriculum. He emphasized that in preparation for the future, education should be transdisciplinary, take a life-long learning approach, and be relevant to global challenges and opportunities.

Following the opening address, Christopher Tremewan, APRU Secretary General, gave attendees an update on APRU’s current initiatives and new areas for collaboration, which align with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals to measure impact. He reiterated the

organization’s new Strategic Priorities, approved by the APRU Steering Committee in 2019: Build global impact; Increase APRU’s value to members; Create high-value partnerships, and; Generate resources to achieve these priorities.

Keynote Speakers

Keynote speeches at the event set the tone and delivered insights into future opportunities for collaboration. Hongjoo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) spoke on Sustainable Development Challenges for the 21st Century and the necessary steps to attain concrete outcomes across the region. This was followed by a presentation by John C. Warner, President and Chief Technology Officer from Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry, LLC on Green Chemistry.

Discussion Panels

The meeting featured six discussion panels composed of Vice Presidents for Research and senior research administrators from different geographic and academic backgrounds. Panelists discussed a wide range of research-related topics of common interests and concerns, including the role of APRU members in United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)–related research, measuring the success of multidisciplinary efforts and research impact, and how to conduct collaborative research in a changing landscape.

At the end of the meeting, participants resolved to translate their discussions into action and resolved to set up working groups to follow up on best practice and knowledge sharing among APRU members. Outcomes of these working groups will be shared in the meeting in 2021 which will be hosted by the University of Science and Technology of China.

2019 Meeting Outcomes

APRU Vice Presidents of Research agreed to set up and lead Working groups on the following themes:

1 Research Integrity

Creating best practice guidelines and proposals for subsequent actions.

2 Measurement of Impact

Creating best practice guidelines and proposals for subsequent actions.

3 Developing

an inventory of unique research facilities among APRU universities and best practices in innovation.

“It is critical for APRU to think together and work together for real impact.”

– Professor Kiat Ruxrungham,
Vice President for
Research and Innovation,
Chulalongkorn University

Forums for Shaping Higher Education in the Asia Pacific

We live in a world out of balance, facing a multitude of challenges, from a warmer planet and rising seas to inequality and threats to human security. While the challenges facing us seem immense, as a membership of research universities, APRU has the ability to connect experts within the network and beyond to policymakers and decision-makers, and an important role to play as a super-connector to work on a scale appropriate to the challenges we face today.

Throughout 2019 and 2020, APRU participated in a number of international forums to advance its mission and vision.

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Alliance Annual Meeting and Presidents' Forum 2019

JUL 19, 2019
MACAO

Sherman Cheng, APRU Director (Administration and Finance) attended the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Alliance Annual Meeting and Presidents' Forum 2019 with a delegation of The Chinese University of Hong Kong representatives, including President and Vice-Chancellor Rocky Tuan, Professor Fok Tai-fai, Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Professor Tang Sze Wing, Department Chairman of the Chinese Language and Literature; Professor Shelly Tse, Acting Director of The Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care; Dr. Chung Pui-hong, Clinical Professional Consultant of The Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care; and Ms. Wing Wong, Director of Academic Links (China). More than 150 participants from the alliance member universities and government offices across Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao exchanged views on the advancement of higher education in the three regions.

APRU Exploring Development of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) at World Philanthropy Forum, "Philanthropy in the Bay Area for A Better Life"

SEP 5-6, 2019
SHENZHEN, CHINA

APRU reinforced its engagement with the Hong Kong and the GBA's research and innovation ecosystem at The 4th World Philanthropy Forum.

APRU Secretary General, Christopher Tremewan, moderated a panel with speakers Professor Xiao Haipeng, Vice President of Sun Yat-sen University; Professor Wong Suk-ying, Associate Vice President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong; and Mr Cheung Leong, the Executive Director, Charities and Community of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, discussing what can be achieved with new models of collaboration between research universities, business, government, and local communities.

APRU Shaped Asia Pacific Education Framework at 15th APEC Future Education Forum, "Enhancing ICT Utilization, Social Integration, and People-to-People Connectivity for Future Education"

SEP 25-27, 2019
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

Participants contributed to diverse and in-depth thematic discussions related to education in the digital age. APRU has a long history of working with the APEC Human Resources Working Group. APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), Christina Schönleber, shared insights, knowledge, and expertise to help shape the education framework across the Asia-Pacific.





Leading Universities of China Committed to APRU's Mission to Develop Solutions for Asia-Pacific Challenges

OCT 14-23, 2019

For the second time in the year, APRU Secretary General, Christopher Tremewan and APRU Director (Administration and Finance) Sherman Cheng, APRU Director (Administration and Finance) met with the leaders of nine universities in China to enhance collaboration and accelerate collaborations to solve Asia-Pacific challenges. They also participated in a number of roundtables, commemorative celebrations, and bilateral meetings. The itinerary included a visit with Xi'an Jiao Tong University which was subsequently invited to join APRU.

Visits were made to the following member universities:

- Fudan University
- Nanjing University
- Peking University
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Tsinghua University
- University of Chinese Academy of Sciences
- University of Science and Technology of China
- Xi'an Jiaotong University
- Zhejiang University

APRU Challenged Top Universities to Act Together on Climate Change at the 8th International Conference on World Class Universities

**OCT 15-17, 2019
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY, CHINA**

With humanity having crossed many thresholds of irreversible climate change, the planet faces an unprecedented crisis. Speaking at the 2019 Symposium on World Class Universities, APRU Secretary General, Christopher Tremewan, called upon the global flagship research universities in attendance to help generate the political will in their societies to address climate change and to implement solutions at scale. As the difficulties of international cooperation increase, he stated that APRU becomes more important as a cross-border, trans-Pacific platform for collaboration.

The Shanghai Rankings were released at the conference which also shed light on World Class Universities' challenges, opportunities, roles and strategies in response to the changing landscape of higher education and our society as a whole.

APRU underscores the important role of research universities in addressing the Common Good at the 2019 C9 and HK3 Annual Meeting of Presidents

**OCT 17-20, 2019
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY**

The 2019 Symposium on Building World Class Universities and the Annual Meeting of the Association of University Presidents of China focused on the role of leading higher education institutions in the social development, mechanisms of moral education in the new era, and the assessment and sustainable development of double excellence universities.

Presidents and leaders from the Ministry of Education, C9 Universities, and HK3 universities met to exchange ideas and inform the future direction of their institutions. APRU Secretary General, Christopher Tremewan, delivered a keynote address, Leading the Asia-Pacific Region: Contributing to the Global Common Good, calling on universities to lead in the development of solutions to address Asia-Pacific challenges.

APRU Congratulated FEFU on its 120th Anniversary and attended the Asia-Pacific Universities Presidents' Roundtable in Vladivostok, Russia

OCT 18-19, 2019
FAR EASTERN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY

Dr Tremewan delivered greetings and congratulations to President Anisimov and his colleagues at a celebration of FEFU's 120th anniversary.

In a keynote at the Roundtable, Education in the Asia-Pacific: Looking Back, Looking Ahead, Christopher Tremewan, emphasized the importance of universities coming together to demonstrate their commitment to the public good by being externally engaged with solving global issues, particularly in a time when many national governments are not taking enough action.

During a roundtable discussion, participants discussed strategies for universities to contribute to the social and economic prosperity of the region, how the international higher education landscape will look a generation from now, and how universities should respond to a knowledge-intensive economy.

APRU joined UN ESCAP, USAID, and UKRI Highlighting Importance of the Dissemination of Research Outputs 2nd Annual Workshop on Increasing Research Impact

OCT 21-22, 2019
BANGKOK, THAILAND

APRU joined leading organizations in highlighting the importance of planned and focused dissemination of research addressing key global challenges.

Speaking on the panel Communicating Research for Impact in the South and South East Asia Region, Christina Schönleber, emphasized that research is most useful when it can be communicated widely to influencers and policymakers to make an impact.

Calling on Universities to Lead in the Fight Against Climate Change
2nd Global Vision Week

NOV 9, 2019
NANJING UNIVERSITY

At the 2nd Global Vision Week, representatives met under the theme Innovation and Sustainable Development of Universities in a Changing World. Christina Schönleber, APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs) called for greater and more focused external international and multilateral collaboration to address the existential challenges we face today.



Presidents of HKUST, HKU, and CUHK Welcome APRU Chair, Chancellor Gene Block, UCLA, to Hong Kong

DEC 2-4, 2019
HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

President Wei Shyy, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, President Xiang Zhang, The University of Hong Kong, President Rocky Tuan of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, welcomed APRU Chair, Chancellor Gene Block, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), to Hong Kong on his visit to the city's top universities.

Chancellor Block expressed gratitude to the presidents and senior university members for their support of APRU programs and for their leadership in the region.

The 12th Hong Kong Workshop on Academic Foreign Exchange Further Promoting the Understanding of Internationalization Best Practice for China

JAN 13, 2020
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

The meeting emphasized strategies to further enhance the level of international exchange to promote the long-term cooperation and development of universities in China.

The forum was welcomed by Prof Wong Suk-Ying of CUHK. Dr Chen Heng, the Liaison Office's Director of Department of Educational, Scientific, and Technological Affairs, spoke on the Central Government's continuous support of the HKSAR's education segment. Mr Lee Esmond Chung-sin, Deputy Secretary of the Education Bureau of the HKSAR, gave an overview of higher education in Hong Kong. APRU Secretary General, Dr Christopher Tremewan, delivered a keynote address.



CREATING GLOBAL STUDENT LEADERS

THE APRU-*THE NEW YORK TIMES* ASIA-PACIFIC STUDENT CASE COMPETITION

UNDERGRADUATE LEADERS' PROGRAM 2019

2019 APRU-IRIDES SUMMER SCHOOL

GLOBAL HEALTH STUDENT LEADERSHIP

YOUNG RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO POPULATION AGING STUDIES

GLOBAL STUDENT DESIGN IDEAS COMPETITION

THE APRU-THE NEW YORK TIMES *The New York Times* ASIA-PACIFIC STUDENT CASE COMPETITION

Reaching out to over two million students across the Asia Pacific, this year's APRU–*The New York Times* Case Competition aimed to raise awareness of the threat to health presented by air pollution.

Competition Background

This year's Student Case Competition challenged participants to write an 800-word policy brief for public officials in their economy outlining the threats to health from air pollution and promoting a solution to make an impact. The students were challenged to evaluate the global health policy ecosystem in the Asia Pacific and its potential to address United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UNSDG) 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Winning Entry

Cherie Hiu Yu Leung (Life Science, Ocean Sciences) and Veronica Qin Ting Li (MPhil, Public Policy) of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) were the winners of this year's competition.



"We would like to thank the New York Times, the judging panel, and APRU for selecting us as the winners. This competition has been such a fun and educational project for us and we are thrilled to accept the win"

– 2019 competition winners

Their entry, entitled *Air Pollution in Hong Kong: A Market-Based Approach to Infrastructural Change* included a number of policy brief recommendations:

1. Increase market penetration of less polluting alternatives for shipping and road transport
2. Encourage urban greening
3. Impose an air pollution tax on the commercial, industrial, and transport sectors
4. Establish a cross-sector network on air pollution

The winners had their entry published in the International Edition of *The New York Times* on November 18, 2019, and received a trophy, gifts from *The New York Times*, and a profile article in a booklet of the Top 10 winning entries.



First Runners Up

Candice Chan and Feifei Zhang
of The University of British Columbia (UBC)



Second Runners Up

Yi Ming Ng, Damon Lim and Lucy Kuo
of Yale-NUS College

During the award-giving ceremony, President Wei Shyy, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, presented the trophy to the winners and expressed his pride at students representing the university in this international competition. APRU Secretary General, Dr Christopher Tremewan added, "While the challenges of pollution and climate change appear overwhelming, we have a chance if we act now and act together. These students have shown us how."

“ I was heartened to see so many excellent submissions and was impressed with the problem-solving and critical reflection that went into the proposals. The winning teams demonstrated a thorough understanding of the context and that they had considered the challenges to implementation of their proposals. ”

– Dr Mellissa Withers,
Program Director, APRU
Global Health Program

UNDERGRADUATE LEADERS' PROGRAM 2019

July 1-12, 2019
University of Oregon



For its ninth international leadership conference, the Undergraduate Leaders' Program (ULP) continued to bring participants together in experiential and interdisciplinary learning and problem-solving in a student-led way alongside training and lectures.

The ULP supports emerging undergraduate leaders in becoming real-world change-makers by driving awareness, action, and change, and by supporting them in their academic and personal goals. By providing cultural exchange experiences and unique learning opportunities, the Program seeks to equip the next generation of leaders with the skills they need to contribute to positive change for the betterment of societies worldwide.

Ground-Breaking Program on Global Problem-Solving

With the theme *Fresh Approaches to A Gordian Knot: Student Leaders Untangle Pacific Rim Environment, Health, and Inequality Challenges*, 52 undergraduate students from 28 APRU universities embarked on an innovative program designed to boost their leadership skills and test their problem-solving know-how.

Over the 10-day event, activities challenged students to come together to find fresh solutions for three intertwined and pressing social dilemmas: environmental degradation, public health, and social inequality.

Finding Solutions to Pressing Issues

Through a range of activities, students explored what leadership means and how they might enhance their home communities with such skills. After a series of skills-building workshops exploring the concept of designing products, services, and systems that retain their human-centered focus, students were split into small groups to listen to presentations from three Eugene-based community organizations that set the groups the challenge.

The University of Oregon partnered with BRING Recycling, Lane Education Service District, and HIV Alliance, focusing on the challenges of environmental degradation, social inequality, and public health concern.

“ We want to help these students build up skills that will hopefully be applicable in whatever field they go into, to help create the next generation of leaders and problem-solvers around the Pacific Rim. ”

—Will Johnson, Assistant Vice Provost of Operations and Innovation, University of Oregon

Interdisciplinary Challenges

This year's program host intentionally selected challenges with interdisciplinary perspectives. For example, while some students focused on a specific public health problem, the ULP has a built-in structure to strongly encourage participants to view that challenge through a social inequality or environmental perspective. Groups were paired with those from other disciplines to consider the health, social inequality, or environmental aspect of their problem that they might not be considering.

Taking a Human-Centered Approach to Problem-Solving

A workshop on 'human-centered design' helped students ally their intellectual research skills with empathy and practicality, and always to consider the end-user when coming up with solutions. As the program progressed, students were challenged to express their thoughts and the assumptions. Not only did each student become a teacher of other students, they also engaged in purposeful learning themselves.

“ We're so passionate over so many different issues that in our home countries may be very different logistically but that also are more general, just like these three topics we faced here. ”

—Maria Arteaga, UC Davis

WINNING SOLUTIONS

The three participating community organizations selected a winning solution from among the groups. Common characteristics between those selected included affordability and easy implementation using resources that were already in place. Each solution would start with a pilot program, which could be practically scaled-up to serve larger population areas as resources increased.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION SOLUTION

BRING Recycling selected the group that devised a two-day summer program designed to teach elementary school students about how to be more mindful of their food consumption.

PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTION

The HIV Alliance chose the solution which focused on training partners already providing public health services to rural communities in providing discreet HIV testing and education.

SOCIAL EQUALITY SOLUTION

Lane Education Service District chose a solution focusing on addressing unequal access to education through a workshop to train teachers to redefine parental involvement.

Media Coverage

Coverage of the Undergraduate Leaders' Program was featured on *University World News* by Vanessa Salvia.

Ground-breaking programme on 'global problem-solving'
<https://apru.org/ulp2019>

Learning a 'human-centred' approach to problem-solving
<https://apru.org/learning-a-human-centred-approach-to-problem-solving>

Student leaders present scalable community solutions
<https://apru.org/student-leaders-present-scalable-community-solutions>

2019 APRU-IRIDES SUMMER SCHOOL

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF REGIONAL DISASTER EXPERTS

July 22–25, 2019, Tohoku University

Now in its seventh year, *The APRU Multi-Hazards Summer School* seeks to enhance participants' knowledge of disaster risk reduction (DRR), discuss recent projects and ideas, and draw lessons from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

In his opening speech, Tohoku University President, Hideo Ohno, welcomed 60 participants and highlighted the role that the university has played in the recovery of the region and why that continues to be important.

The first two days of lectures and sessions with local governments, external partners and non-governmental organizations, as well as academics from Tohoku University, University of California, Davis and National Taiwan University, gave participants an update on current research work at Tohoku University's International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – a roadmap to make communities safer and more resilient to disasters.

“

I really liked the field trip. Even though we've heard so much about the disaster, it was different being there, seeing the places and meeting the people. I was really moved by what I saw.

”

– Nur Zainul Arifin,
PhD student,
University of Malaya

Field Trip and Final Project

A field trip to the ruins of Arahama Elementary School and a walk around Onagawa Town – both devastated by the 2011 tsunami, showed participants the recovery efforts first-hand. It was also a chance to learn about the decade-long effort to monitor marine life restoration in the area through scientific research with the Tohoku Ecosystem-Associated Marine Science (TEAMS) project.

On the final day, participants were put into groups and tasked with developing a DRR project proposal that included perspectives from both the natural and social sciences. By participating in the project with students of different cultures and academic backgrounds, such as engineering, public health, economics and social sciences, participants were able to realize commonalities between their fields and how different disciplines contribute to DRR efforts.



GLOBAL HEALTH STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Promoting regional partnerships, fostering leadership, and encouraging students' critical thinking and creativity for real-world global health challenges.

Student Poster Contest

Encouraging young talent to showcase their research skills and develop their scholastic and digital creativity, the APRU Global Health Advisory Group members judged 54 excellent submissions from 24 universities in Australia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, and the United States.

Undergraduate Winners

1st Place

Lei Huang, University of Macau

2nd Place

Cynthia Sin Nga Lam, The University of Hong Kong

3rd Place (tie)

Ida Ayu Gede Jyotidiwy and Nur Rachmat Satria, University of Indonesia

3rd Place (tie)

Wonjun Jang, Sangeun Je, Ahra Cho, and Do Yun Kim, POSTECH

Graduate Winners

1st Place | Chia-pei Lin, National Taiwan University

2nd place | Gina L. Leipertz, The University of Sydney

3rd Place | Malia E Skjefte, Harvard University

"As well as showcasing innovative solutions that could be used by sponsors, these competitions give students and faculty from low-middle income countries the opportunity to attend international scientific conferences."

– Dr Mellissa Withers,
APRU Global Health Program
Director

Student Virtual Case Competition

The 4th annual APRU Global Health Case Competition, *Social Networking Intervention to Promote Physical Activity Among Young People in Urban Environments*, challenged student teams to develop a hypothetical intervention to increase physical activity rates among young people in urban areas using popular online social networking sites. Teams presented their plans in a 10-minute video. Congratulations to our finalists and winners.

Winners

JAJA team, The University of Hong Kong

Other Finalists

- University of Indonesia (Makara team)
- University of California, Los Angeles (The Gamechangers team)



Winners, The University of Hong Kong Jaja Team: Hoi Chi KWAN, Kwan Yat LAM, Mei Sui Adeline MAK, and Amy YEUNG (not pictured)

Global Health Distance Education Course 2019

Through 10 weekly live sessions, graduate students heard from globally renowned health leaders from the World Health Organization, government, NGOs, and the private sector. Managed by the University of Southern California, each course features small group discussions, case studies, and readings. Course offerings include:

Global Health Leadership

Focuses on the relationship of health, foreign policy, and global health leadership. Participating Universities: University of Southern California, Fudan University, Osaka University, Peking University, and the University of Malaya.

Global Health Ethics

Focuses on cultural perspectives versus international ethics standards, and the practical application of ethics and emerging ethical issues. Participants: University of Southern California, National Autonomous University of Mexico, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and University of the Philippines.



YOUNG RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE TO POPULATION AGING STUDIES

During the 10th APRU Population Aging Conference hosted by Keio University, early career researchers and students had the opportunity to present innovative and fresh ideas to tackle aging-related challenges in the region.

Participants submitted abstracts on population aging-related themes, including healthcare and technology, economy and society (policy), and a multi-sectoral approach to dementia. An international review panel assessed 69 abstracts received from the APRU network and non-APRU institutes across Asia-Pacific and Europe.

24 abstracts were recommended to be developed for oral presentations and 25 were showcased via posters, giving young researchers the opportunity to engage. Keio University awarded the best four oral presentations, who each received a scholarship prize from APRU funding.

BEST PAPER AWARDEES

Dr Indri Hapsari Susilowati | University of Indonesia
Dr Chadatan Osatis | Chulalongkorn University
Mr Paolo Miguel Vicerra | Chulalongkorn University
Dr Hom Nath Chalise | Population Association of Nepal

GLOBAL STUDENT DESIGN IDEAS COMPETITION

CHALLENGING STUDENTS TO IDEATE SOLUTIONS FOR CHALLENGES FACING CITIES AND REFUGEES

August 29, 2019 – September 1, 2019 | UNSW Sydney

By the end of 2017, around 68.5 million people were forcibly displaced and some 60% of these people live in cities. A major challenge for the first half of this century is the assimilation of forcibly displaced people into cities in ways which create healthy and equitable living places for all. Due to the impact of climate change, the world needs to prepare for millions of people being driven from their homes. It is essential we develop the sustainable development of our cities and architecture to accommodate the change in the movement of people. -Brett Moore, *Keynote, Chief of Shelter and Settlements, UNHCR.*

The Challenge

How could the lives of refugees in cities around the world be meaningfully improved? How could we solve some of the challenges faced by displaced people living in urban environments? In 2019, UNSW Sydney, APRU and our partners set participants the challenge of designing a physical intervention to meaningfully improve the lives of refugees in the city, in the short, medium, and/or long term.

Competition winners were announced on the first day of the 2019 APRU Sustainable Cities & Landscapes Conference. Prior to the announcement and to provide context to the competition, guest speaker, Brett Moore, Chief of Shelter and Settlements, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), presented on the topic *Cities and Refugees: Complexity and Conflict* and he also judged the competition.

Academics from across universities, experts from ARUP, the Australian Red Cross, UNHCR, and respected Australian architect, Alexander Tzannes, had the tough job of selecting the winners of the competition.

“

The economic facts are clear, the research shows hosting refugees is an economic net benefit.

”

*– Brett Moore,
Chief of Shelter and Settlements,
UNHCR*



2020 Competition Prize winners

Winner Announcement

29

Entries

8

Countries

1st place (AUS \$5000)

Yale-NUS College

Lucy Madeline Davis, Sharan Kaur Sambhi, Ernest Tan Sze Shen, and Nguyen Ngoc Luu Ly

2nd place (AUS \$2500)

Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture et de Paysage de Bordeaux & Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Strasbourg

Cécile Elbel and Ipek Erker

3rd place (AUS \$1000)

UNSW Sydney (APRU member university)

Samuel Jones

One of the three honorable mentions in the competition went to participants from the University of Auckland: Dennis Byun, Angela Lai, Harry Tse, Todd Min, Sungoh Choi, John Woo, Scott Ma, and Jingyuan Huang, studying Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS), representing Portal Studio.

Competition Hosts



SOLVING ASIA-PACIFIC CHALLENGES

ASIA PACIFIC WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP (APWIL)

DIGITAL ECONOMY

GLOBAL HEALTH

MULTI-HAZARDS

PACIFIC OCEAN

POPULATION AGING

SUSTAINABLE CITIES & LANDSCAPES

SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP (APWiL)

IMPROVING THE GENDER BALANCE

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/asia-pacific-women-in-leadership/>

The APWiL Program supports APRU universities in contributing to gender equality, strives to improve the position of women in member institutions and promotes diversity and equal opportunities while considering the various contexts in which the pursuit of gender equity takes place across APRU member universities.

APRU APWiL Program

Gender equality is one of the key challenges facing society today. The APWiL Program aims to drive change in gender equality by sharing best practices and enhancing the discussion on gender diversity and inclusion across the APRU network. The Program is co-chaired by Prof Joanna Regulska, Vice Provost and Associate Chancellor of Global Affairs, University of California, Davis, and Prof Sabrina Lin, Senior Advisor to the President, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.



APWiL Gender Gap Report 2019

Developed by The University of Sydney, the results of the report were revealed at the 2019 Annual Presidents' Meeting (APM) and an APWiL meeting taking place at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). The report provides insights into the current gender gap across member institutions and explores the progress made to address gender equity since the first APRU gender gap survey was conducted in 2013.

Overall, key trends remained similar to those in the 2013 survey, with females under-represented in university leadership positions. Despite a number of initiatives at the university level, there has been little progress with women moving into university leadership positions over the past five years.



One hundred percent of our [member] universities have policies around gender and around childcare, but there is absolutely no relationship between the number and type of policies and gender equity in the university.



— Prof Katherine Belov,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement),
The University of Sydney

The Gender Gap Report 2019 recommendations to APRU Presidents include:

- Review relevant policies and implementation practices within their institutions.
- Create a panel pledge for all APRU meetings to ensure women are represented.
- Create a shadowing or mentoring program for women, from post-doctorate to university executive.
- Identify an APRU Presidential Champion to take action towards gender equality.

Member Survey on Strategic Priorities

All APRU members were invited to participate in a survey to identify key focus areas for the development of the APWiL Program. The survey was widely distributed to APRU Senior International Leaders and participants of APWiL activities.

APWiL received a total of 25 responses, with 84% identifying women's advancement in higher education as a prime concern. Leadership and development were selected as the two top priorities for the APWiL Program going forward. Fifty-two percent strongly agreed that the Program should develop specific initiatives such as training or mentorship.

Presidential Champion for APWiL and an APWiL Core Group

In responding to the recommendations outlined in the APWiL Gender Gap Report 2019, an APWiL Core Group was created.

Serving as an APWiL ambassador, the Core Group will act as a champion for APWiL at external events and internally within universities to solicit engagement and support across all levels.

President of Far Eastern Federal University, Prof Nikita Anisimov, will serve as the Presidential Champion for APWiL, strengthening the commitment to gender equity among APRU members and acting as a direct link between APWiL, APRU leadership and the Steering Committee.

Presidential Champion

Prof Nikita Anisimov, President, Far Eastern Federal University



APWiL Core Group

University of California, Davis, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Far Eastern Federal University, Keio University, Osaka University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The University of British Columbia, The University of Sydney, UCLA, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, University of Malaya, University of Melbourne and University of the Philippines.



APWiL Mentoring Program Pilot

Launching in 2020, the APWiL Mentoring Program Pilot supports the growth of a pipeline of aspiring women leaders among APRU universities. The Program will provide mentoring, seek to advance gender inclusion and equity at member universities, and provide intercultural opportunities for the professional growth and development of aspiring women leaders.

The initial framework of the mentoring program pilot and its evaluation plan was developed by APWiL Co-Chairs, Prof Joanna Regulska and Prof Sabrina Lin as well as core group members representing UBC, CUHK and The University of Sydney.

APEC Healthy Women Healthy Economies Research Prize 2019

OCT 1, 2019 La Serena, Chile

This prize aims to spur and spotlight research to improve women's health, identify gaps in policies and support policymakers and business leaders to prepare and implement needed action. The award was won by Dr Veronica Ramirez, Assistant Professor at the University of Asia and the Pacific and Bank of Philippine Islands Professional Chair for Migration and Overseas Filipino Work, for her research article investigating common health problems of women Overseas Filipino Workers. Leading researcher, Dr Hong Jian, Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Global Health Institute at Fudan University was a runner-up and APRU Global Health Program Director served as a judge in the Prize selection process. See more information about the winners and the Prize on page 40.

Publications

2019 APRU Gender Gap Report

The University of Sydney and APRU APWiL Program

Published May 2019

<https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-APRU-Gender-Gap-Report.pdf>

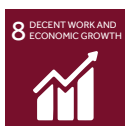
DIGITAL ECONOMY

BALANCING THE BENEFITS FOR ALL

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/digital-economy/>

Digitalization and automation are transforming the world and impacting all levels of society. It is essential that we reverse trends of widening inequalities to ensure balanced and fair distribution of the gains from the digital economy.

APRU Digital Economy Program mobilizes the expertise of the APRU network to identify and address key impact areas of disruptive technologies on societies, supporting governments and policymakers in shaping national and international policy agendas.



Activities 2019 – 2020

Transformation of Work: APRU-HKUST Project Dissemination Series

A series of five events enabled project leads and authors to share the *Transformation of Work* project findings in open dialogue with policymakers, leading thinkers and researchers. The content for each event was tailored to the specific needs of the host economy, drawing on the insights developed through the project.

The final project report analyzes the impact of AI on work and the workforce in the Asia Pacific, creating policy recommendations that draw on insight from diverse national contexts to deliver a holistic view on this important topic. The report also informed APEC in a number of discussions and was widely disseminated among policymakers.

Report Findings

- Labor market shifts are leading to income disparity between high and low skilled workers.
- By incorporating STEM/STEAM education across primary and secondary school curriculums, we can prepare a new generation to be adaptive to technology changes.
- Unprepared labor markets will result in a society unable to achieve full productivity growth due to a lack of high-skilled workers and an excess of low-skilled workers, resulting in increased income disparity between these two groups.

Dissemination Events

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
March 11, 2019 | Hong Kong SAR

Asian Institute of Management (AIM)
March 20, 2019 | Manila

Institute for Future Government, Yonsei University
April 12, 2019 | Seoul

Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Singapore
July 11, 2019 | Singapore

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Co-organized with Employment Policy Forum (FKK), Jakarta
December 3, 2019 | Jakarta, Indonesia

(See page 58 for a case study on the Transformation of Work project.)

Kick-off for AI for Social Good – A United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)-APRU-Google Collaborative Network and Project
Keio University, Tokyo

APRU, UN ESCAP and Google have come together to create the AI for Social Good Research Network. This multi-year platform enables scholars and experts to collaborate with policymakers, generate evidence and cross-border connections to promote an enabling policy environment.

Keio University hosted face-to-face and virtual project sessions to support participating academic experts in creating policy papers for government, industry, NGOs and academic institutions. Eight leading scholars encompassing broad academic backgrounds from computer science to philosophy from APRU member universities engaged with the Project Advisory Board and collaborated on project papers.

AI For Social Good Participating Experts

Dr Caitlin Bentley,
Research Fellow,
Australian National University

Prof Mark Findlay,
Singapore Management University

Arindrajit Basu (team leader),
Senior policy officer,
Centre for Internet & Society, India

Elonnai Hickok,
Chief Operating Officer, Centre for
Internet & Society, India

Amber Sinha,
Research Director,
Centre for Internet and Society, India

Prof Soraj Hongladarom,
Chulalongkorn University

Prof Kyoung Jun Lee,
Kyung Hee University

Prof M. Jae Moon,
Yonsei University

Associate Professor,
Wai Ho Wilson Wong,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Associate Professor,
Masaru Yarime, The Hong Kong
University of Science and Technology



AI for Everyone Publication: Benefitting From and Building Trust in the Technology

Published on January 28, 2020, this open-access book is part of the AI for Everyone Project led by project co-chairs and AI experts, Professors Jiro Kokuryo (Keio), Toby Walsh (UNSW) and Dr Catharina Maracke (Keio).

The AI for Everyone project itself exemplifies the necessity of a multinational interdisciplinary research approach in addressing issues such as AI governance, accessibility, transparency and development. The diverse viewpoints and academic disciplines of the project team members have helped deepen trust between human and new technologies in different Asia-Pacific contexts. The publication highlights the need to better understand the potential and implications of technologies early on in the developmental stage.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Social Good Forum

The AI for Social Good Forum will take place in September 2020. At the event, the AI for Social Good report will be launched to policymakers and stakeholders, alongside discussions on how to translate the research findings into sound policy.

The aim of the forum is to disseminate the findings of the project and engage regional policymakers with experts to drive forward discussion and implementation of findings from the project.

“ The title of our book reflects the belief that access to the benefits of AI should be transparent, open and understood by and accessible to all people regardless of their geographic, generational, economic, cultural and other social background. ”

– Prof Jiro Kokuryo,
Keio University

Publications

AI for Everyone

Jiro Kokuryo, Keio University. Catharina Maracke, Keio University. Toby Walsh, UNSW Sydney, Data61 & TU Berlin.

AI Access

February 2020

<https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/AI-for-everyone-contents.pdf>

Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century

Kar Yan Tam, Jamil Paolo S. Francisco, Stephen Frenkel, Kikyoeing Kang, Sunghoon Kim, Jungwoo Lee, M. Jae Moon, Namgyoo K. Park, Hideaki Shiroyama, and Faizal Bin Yahya

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

February 2019

https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/G18965_final.pdf

GLOBAL HEALTH

WORKING TO REDUCE GLOBAL HEALTH INEQUALITIES

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/global-health/>

Using the skills, resources, and expertise of the APRU network and its partners, the Global Health Program seeks to positively transform and safeguard the health of the global population.

APRU Global Health Program

Launched in 2007, the Global Health Program (GHP) is managed by the University of Southern California and led by Program Director, Dr Mellissa Withers. Its purpose is to foster the discussion of global health as APRU institutions respond to global and regional needs for capacity building, education and research.



Activities 2019–2020

Workplace Wellness Report

https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Workplace-Wellness-Survey-Report_final.pdf

APRU Global Health Program released its report on Workplace Wellness based on an online survey completed in 2018 by 29 APRU member universities in 13 Asia-Pacific economies.

Survey Respondents

29 universities
13 Asia-Pacific economies
Representing 300,000+ staff and 500,000+ students.

The report suggests that although many universities have implemented a range of programs designed to promote employee health and well-being, these are often not designed in a strategic or comprehensive way.

Report Recommendations and Case Studies

Alongside recommendations to further improve health and wellness activities, APRU members contributed a spectrum of case studies to the report detailing on-campus initiatives. From fitness challenges to health screenings and stress reduction, case studies help to fill knowledge gaps and provoke a knowledge base to improve the performance of university health and wellness activities.

Launch of the Journal of Global Health Science (JGHS)

APRU Global Health Program advisory group leader, Dr Juhwan Oh, Seoul National University launched this online journal published by the Korean Society of Global Health. The journal aims to advance research to support policy, practice and education and unite diverse stakeholders in the field of global health.

APEC Healthy Women Healthy Economies Research Prize 2019

Congratulations to Dr Hong Jiang, Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Global Health Institute, Fudan University, for being awarded runner-up in this inaugural prize. As one of the top three finalists, Dr Jiang presented her research to members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Women and the Economy Forum in September in La Serena, Chile.

The prize aims to spur and spotlight research to improve women's health, identify gaps in policies, and support policymakers and business leaders to prepare and implement needed action. The 2019 prize theme was based on the APEC Healthy Women, Healthy Economies Policy Toolkit, and included five research topics: workplace health and safety; health awareness and access; sexual and reproductive health; gender-based violence; and work life balance.

Due to her work and expertise in health and wellness, Dr Mellissa Withers, GHP Program Director, was chosen to be one of the judges of the 2019 contest. The competition will run again in 2020. The award was won by Dr Veronica Ramirez, Assistant Professor at the University of Asia and the Pacific and Bank of Philippine Islands Professional Chair for Migration and Overseas Filipino Work, for her research article investigating common health problems of women Overseas Filipino Workers.

APRU Global Health Student Case Competition 2019

The JAJA team from The University of Hong Kong won the 4th annual APRU Global Health Case Competition. This

international virtual competition challenged teams to prepare a 10-minute video proposing an innovative solution to increase physical activity rates among young people in urban areas using popular online social networking sites. (See report on *Global Health Student Leadership* on page 32.)



The dissemination of research is critical to building an evidence-base, sharing lessons learned...The JGHS will expand the opportunity to share high-quality scientific work through an open-access format.



– Dr Mellissa Withers,
GHP Program Director

The APRU– The New York Times Asia-Pacific Student Case Competition 2019

This year's Student Case Competition challenged participants to write an 800-word policy brief for public officials in their economy outlining the threats to health from air pollution and to promote a solution likely to make an impact. (See more information on page 29.)

APRU Global Health Conference 2019

APRU Global Health Conference at the University of Hong Kong has been rescheduled to 2021. The Conference is a platform for scholars to exchange ideas on urban health challenges and brainstorm solutions to support policymakers and practitioners.



Publications

Tobacco Use and E-cigarette Regulation: Perspectives of University Students in the Asia-Pacific

Wipfli, H, Bhuiyan, MR, Qin, X, Guiyllana, J, Palaganas, E, Jimba, M, Saito, J, Ernstrom, K, Raman, R, and Withers, M.
Addictive Behaviors
Accepted Jan 2019

<https://apru.org/resource/tobacco-use-and-e-cigarette-regulation-perspectives-of-university-students-in-the-asia-pacific/>

Workplace Wellness Survey Final Report

University of Southern California
APRU Global Health Program
Published October 2019

https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Workplace-Wellness-Survey-Report_final.pdf

Congratulatory Comment from Association of Pacific Rim Universities Global Health Program

Withers, M.

J Glob Health Sci. 2019 Dec;1(2):e37

<https://apru.org/resource/congratulatory-comment-from-association-of-pacific-rim-universities-global-health-program/>

The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Planetary Health

Withers, M, Cousineau, M, Wipfli, H, Rampal, S, and Naqiah Hairi, N.
Malaysian Academy of Science

Accepted Dec 2019

<https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/2020-The-Kuala-Lumpur-Statement-on-Planetary-Health-from-the-Association-of-Pacific-Rim-Universities-Global-Health-Program.pdf>

The Manila Declaration on the Drug Problem in the Philippines

Pimentel Simbulan, N, Estacio, Jr., L, Dioquino-Maligaso, C, Herbosa, T, and Withers, M. Annals of Global Health, 5;85(1), 2019
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331532147_The_Manila_Declaration_on_the_Drug_Problem_in_the_Philippines

The Manila Declaration on Migration and Health: Commentary of the APRU Global Health Program

Withers, M, Wipfli, H, Schenker, MB, Jahingir, T, Herbosa, T, and Tigno, JV.

Withers et al. Globalization and Health (2020) 16:12

<https://globalizationandhealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12992-020-0544-0>

University Students' Perspectives on Tobacco Control in the Asia-Pacific: A Content Analysis of a Case Competition

Withers, M, Nguyen, A, and McCool, J.

Nicotine and Tobacco Research

Accepted Feb 2020

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14635240.2020.1760118>

MULTI-HAZARDS PROGRAM

IMPROVING FRAMEWORKS FOR DRR IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/multi-hazards>

As one of the regions most affected by natural disasters, the APRU Multi-Hazards Program aims to respond to the needs of the Asia Pacific by promoting interdisciplinary and collaborative disaster risk reduction (DRR) research and informing policymaking for more resilient communities.

The APRU Multi-Hazards Program is hosted by the International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) at Tohoku University and led by Program Director, Dr Takako Izumi. It aims to build safer, more disaster-resilient societies through strengthening research capacity in disaster science, fostering collaboration across the region, and contributing to the international policymaking process.



Activities 2019 – 2020

The 3rd APRU-IRIDeS Campus Safety Workshop
February 12–15, 2020
Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan

For the first time since the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030, the workshop focused on human-made hazards, such as chemical, transport, and industrial, in addition to natural hazards and how to prepare for and respond to these disasters within universities. The workshop also aimed to support participants in learning how to conduct a comprehensive disaster risk assessment using an all-hazards approach in their universities.

30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction—Second Edition

<https://apru.org/resource/30-innovations-linking-drr-with-sdgs>

Published by APRU Multi-Hazards Program, the first version of 30 Innovations for DRR received highly positive feedback and was downloaded 1074 times, making it one of the top three publications registered in the UN library in 2019.

Due to its positive reception, the second edition in the series was released in March 2020. This edition is unique in that it links disaster risk reduction with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and highlights sector-based DRR innovations. In addition, it provides even more examples of innovative solutions, good practices, and new ideas that will propel progress in reducing disaster and climate risk.

APRU DRR Collaboration Led by Tohoku University Featured at the World Bosai Forum
November 9 – 12, 2019
Sendai, Japan

This globally renowned conference takes place on a bi-annual basis in Sendai, Japan, and is the key international event advancing the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR

APRU Secretary General, Dr Christopher Tremewan, delivered a keynote highlighting APRU's new collaboration between UCLA and Tohoku University. The *Architecture and Urban Design for DRR* project will draw on the APRU network to bring together design labs and scientists focused on disaster risks.

Dr Denise Konan, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, delivered a keynote at the event, and APRU members Keio University, University of the Philippines, and University of Malaya contributed to the forum by sharing lessons learned within the region.

Progress in Disaster Science: New Multi-Hazards Journal

<https://apru.org/resource/progress-in-disaster-science>

APRU Multi-Hazards Program and Elsevier jointly launched this new journal at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May 2019 in Geneva. Now in its sixth volume and edited by Prof Rajib Shaw, Keio University, the journal reports on progress in the disaster research field for the purpose of better-integrating disaster research and policy.

The 15th APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Symposium
October 29–31, 2019
Tecnológico de Monterrey

The Symposium aimed to further understand how DRR can be best applied to the sustainable development of society. It explored the role of universities in delivering the objectives of the Sendai Framework for DRR and the SDGs.

90 participants
6 key actors
53 panelists
10 panels
1 special panel

Prof David Garza, Rector, Tecnológico de Monterrey, welcomed participants to the Symposium in his opening address and delivered a presentation on the university's response to the impact of the 2017 earthquake and its collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders from government, education and disaster response.

“ Today's societies not only require citizens who have humanitarian and resilience capacities, but that are also able to gather and build new knowledge under a global vision. We have the opportunity to gather and share our experiences and expertise in mitigating the danger in countries most vulnerable to disaster risk, to strengthen our communities, and build a more resilient Asia Pacific.

— Rector David Garza,
Tecnológico de Monterrey



Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of Secretary-General for DRR, and head of the United Nations Office for DRR, delivered a keynote address. Speaking on the role of the scientific community in the implementation of the Sendai Framework, she encouraged universities to participate in prevention programs in their communities.



Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of Secretary-General for DRR, and head of the United Nations Office for DRR.

APEC Resilience Week
September 30–October 1
Chinese Taipei

Organized by the APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center (EPCC), the event series featured case studies and good practices on capacity development on preparedness, climate change adaptation and food security, disaster risk financing, and more. Dr Izumi was invited as a keynote speaker to present on the Multi-Hazard Program's Capacity Development initiative.

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Summer School
July 22, 2019 - July 25, 2019
Tohoku University

This year, attendees participated in lectures, took a field trip to Onagawa town, and had the opportunity to learn about the decade-long marine life restoration initiative, the Tohoku Ecosystem-Associated Marine Science (TEAMS) project. *(Read the Multi-Hazards Summer School Report on page 31.)*

Multi-Hazards Data Science Workshop June 2019
June 26–28, 2019
The University of California, Davis

The workshop explored current and future applications of new techniques in data science to the field of multi-hazards research and practice. Prof John Rundle, University of California, Davis, formed part of the local organizing committee and acted as a panelist and moderator in a number of the sessions.

Publications

30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction – Second Edition
March 2020
Izumi, T.; Shaw, R.; Ishiwatari, M.; Djalante, R.; Komino, T., Sukhwani, V., Adu Gyamfi, B. IRIDeS, Keio University, the University of Tokyo, UNU-IAS, CWS Japan, Japan, 97 pages
<https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/30-innovations-linking-DRR-with-SDGs-final.pdf>

Multi-Hazard Data Science Workshop Report
<https://apru.org/resource/apru-data-science-workshop-report/>

2019 Report of the APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Program Summer School
<https://apru.org/resource/2019-report-of-the-apru-irides-multi-hazards-program-summer-school/>

The 15th APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Symposium Results Report 2019
<https://apru.org/resource/the-15th-apru-irides-multi-hazards-symposium-results-report-2019/>

Progress in Disaster Science
Journal launch May 2019
Editor-in-Chief, Professor Rajib Shaw
Elsevier
<https://apru.org/resource/progress-in-disaster-science/>

PACIFIC OCEAN

BALANCING ECONOMIC USE AND PROTECTION

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/pacific-ocean-program/>

While representing huge economic value, the Pacific Ocean is a sensitive ecosystem that needs to be protected. APRU capitalizes on the expertise of its network to study and protect this delicate marine environment and help promote a balance between its conservation, governance and use.

Since 2017, the APRU Pacific Ocean Program has had a voluntary commitment to support United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14: Life Below Water. Through the Pacific Ocean Program, APRU supports the sustainable governance of the ocean and its conservation and management.

CALL FOR OCEAN EXPERTS

APRU is inviting ocean experts to leverage the reach and influence of the Program by taking the lead on key issues threatening the Pacific Ocean.

For more information, contact:
christina.schoenleber@apru.org



APRU Policy Development and Implementation with Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

APEC Workshop on Marine Debris and Microplastics
December 3–5, 2019
Xiamen, China

APRU experts Dr Deo Florence Onda, University of the Philippines, spoke on the role of microbes on the fate of plastics in the marine environment, and Dr Christelle Not, University of Hong Kong, presented her evaluation of plastic pollution in Hong Kong and its link with the global plastic issue.

APEC Third Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM3)
August 2019
Puerto Varas, Chile

The APEC Ocean and Fisheries Working Group invited APRU expert input at the 13th OFWG Working Group meeting on findings and results from Phase One of The Pacific Ocean Cluster Project: Advancing SDG 14 for the Sustainable Future of the Pacific Ocean.

The project is jointly undertaken by the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the University of Washington (UW) and aim to deliver an economy-specific analysis of how United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contribute or detract from SDG 14 throughout the Pacific and provide policy pathways to reach the goal.

Dr Gerald Singh, former researcher at UBC alongside project instigators and leads, Dr Yoshitaka Ota, UW and Prof William Cheung, UBC, updated APEC delegates on project progress and outputs. Initial results indicate that fully achieving the goals of eliminating SDG 1 on poverty and SDG 2 on hunger by the 2020–2030 achievement dates may prevent the achievement of SDG 14 in the Pacific.

The next steps include discussions on the possibility of future collaboration with APEC partners, international organizations and APRU members.

APEC Recognizes APRU Contribution in Marine Sustainable Development Report 2

With the theme of *Implementing SDG 14 and Related Goals in APEC*, the report reflects on the endeavors of APEC economies in achieving SDGs. In the report, APEC Oceans and Fisheries Working Group and the China Institute of Marine Affairs acknowledged APRU's policy-relevant research contributions as economies strive towards ocean-related goals.

UN ESCAP Ocean Cities Policy Guide

July 2019

APRU experts delivered a series of policy briefs feeding into the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) Ocean Cities Policy Guide and Ocean Cities Snapshot for Policymakers. These briefs provide policy recommendations on urban climate resilience, the sustainability of ocean resources and the integration of landscape and seascape planning. UN ESCAP thanked APRU and all other members of the Friends of Ocean Cities network for their contributions.



By working with an organization such as APRU, not only has this collaboration provided a means by which to study and help act upon the modern challenge of sustainable ocean development, but it has also provided a forum of capacity building with which a research institute can engage with a larger interuniversity network and policymakers.



— Yoshitaka Ota, Assistant Research Professor, University of Washington and Nippon Foundation Nereus Program and Gerald Singh, Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Nippon Foundation Nereus Program



United Nations Communities of Ocean Action: From Commitments to Action, Implementing SDG 14.

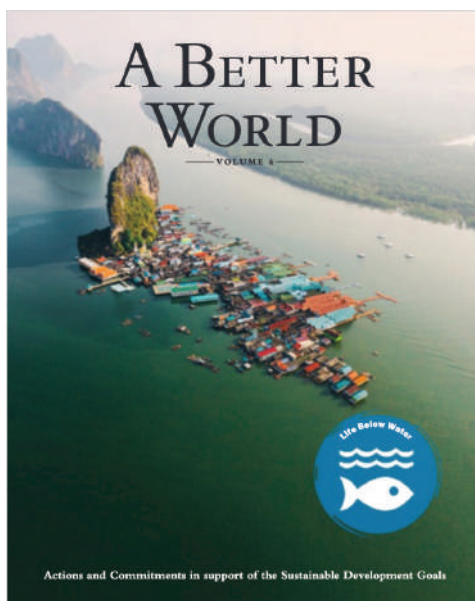
May 30–31, 2019 | Incheon, South Korea

Since making its voluntary commitment to SDG 14 in June 2017, the APRU Pacific Ocean Program has undertaken a number of initiatives to meet its aims, including:

- The Pacific Ocean Cluster Project;
- Contributing to major publications;
- Involvement in the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Centre and APEC Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG);
- Partnering with *The New York Times* on the inaugural Case Competition, *The Future of the Pacific Ocean*, rallying future leaders to address ocean challenges.

APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), Christina Schönleber, shared details on the progress made so far in regards SDG 14 and reaffirmed APRU's commitment to the SDGs by continuing to build connections with experts and support policymaking, expanding partnerships with UN ESCAP and APEC OFWG, and assisting with capacity building by involving academics in projects to tackle illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, ocean acidification, and de-oxygenation.

Publications



A Better World

Academics in the APRU network, Gerald Singh, Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Nippon Foundation Nereus Program, Yoshitaka Ota, Assistant Research Professor, University of Washington and Nippon Foundation Nereus Program, contributed to Volume 6 of the *A Better World* publication. The article, *A partnership for the Pacific – Sustainable Ocean Development 2020*, discusses APRU's pledge to SDG 14, the establishment of the Nereus Program and the wide-reaching benefits of institutional cooperation in meeting goals for sustainable oceans.

POPULATION AGING

WORKING TO BALANCE THE CHALLENGES OF AGING POPULATIONS

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/population-aging>

Populations around the Pacific Rim are aging—a trend set to proceed rapidly into the next half-century. The demographic impact of aging is not as simple as a growing number of senior citizens, but instead challenges all aspects of individual life and society. In this context, APRU has a special responsibility to expand the intellectual horizon to find solutions as well as train future leaders.

APRU Population Aging Program

Hosted by Keio University and led by Program Director, Prof Hiroki Nakatani, the Program exists to provide and share ideas, bring together experts and support policymakers to tackle the challenges of aging societies.



Activities 2019–2020

The 10th APRU Population Aging Conference

October 13–14, 2019
Keio University, Tokyo

A new paradigm in the Era of the 100-Year Life Span: The Search for Social and Scientific Solutions was the theme of this year's Conference, attended by over 100 experts from across the region from a variety of disciplines. The Conference was designed for governments, academics and researchers to share evidence, build partnerships and work towards a common agenda as regions begin and continue to tackle the challenges of aging societies.

Neuroscience of Aging Keynote Address

Prof Hideyuki Okano, Dean, Graduate School of Medicine, Keio University, presented research on longevity, from the viewpoint of health science. Okano shared insights on dementia and neurodegenerative diseases, and the study of supercentenarians—essential fields of study as more nations around the world confront the challenges of an aging society.



Prof. John Piggott, Director, ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR), UNSW Sydney chairs panel of policymakers on *Toward a Life-long Active Society: The case of Japan and implications on the APRU community*

Supporting Political Decision Making

During two plenary sessions, Prof John Piggott, Director, ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Aging Research (CEPAR), UNSW, Dr Takeshi Kasai, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for the Western Pacific, and Christina Schönleber, APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), facilitated discussions with a range of policymakers as well as young scholars and students. Each session was an opportunity for governments, academics, and researchers to share evidence, build

partnerships, and work towards a common agenda as regions begin and continue to tackle the challenges of aging societies.

Poster Session

The Conference poster session gave attendees the opportunity to share research on topics including Healthcare and Technology, Economy and Society (Policy) and a Multi-sectoral Approach to Dementia.

See page 33 for more information about the Poster Session.

Policy-makers in Attendance

Her Excellency Ms Valentine Eurisouke, Minister for Sport, Health and Youth, New Caledonia
His Excellency Mr Kalani Kaneko, Minister of Health and Human Services, Republic of the Marshall Islands
Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific
His Excellency Dr Jacques Raynal, Minister of Health, French Polynesia
Dr Yasuyuki Sahara, Assistant Minister, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Prof. Atsushi Seike, President, Promotion and Mutual Aid Corporation for Private Schools of Japan
Prof Keizo Takemi, Member of the House of Councillors, The National Diet of Japan
His Excellency Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete, Minister for Health and Medical Services, Republic of Fiji

Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference October 15, 2019 | Tokyo

APRU experts joined leading figures in government, industry and academia at the first Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference, organized back-to-back with the 10th APRU Population Aging Conference to discuss the challenge of super-aging populations and the role universities play in shaping these societies across the Asia-Pacific region.

APRU Population Aging Program Director, Prof Hiroki Nakatani, the Conference's Secretary General, initiated the link between APRU and the first Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference. The event generated numerous proposals and recommendations for realizing a more active aging society.

APRU Population Aging Steering Group member Prof John Piggott, UNSW Sydney, outlined the importance of welcoming immigrants for population and productivity as well as the elderly and women for participation in a lecture titled, *The Impact of Demographic Change on Labor Supply and Economic Growth: Can APEC Meet the Challenges Ahead?* Prof Atsushi Seike, former president of Keio University, delivered the keynote speech, *Towards a Super Active Aging Society*.

The Nikkei conference was supported by APRU in collaboration with Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare; the Financial Services Agency; and the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific. Prof Hiroki Nakatani, APRU Population Aging Program Director was the Conference's Secretary-General.

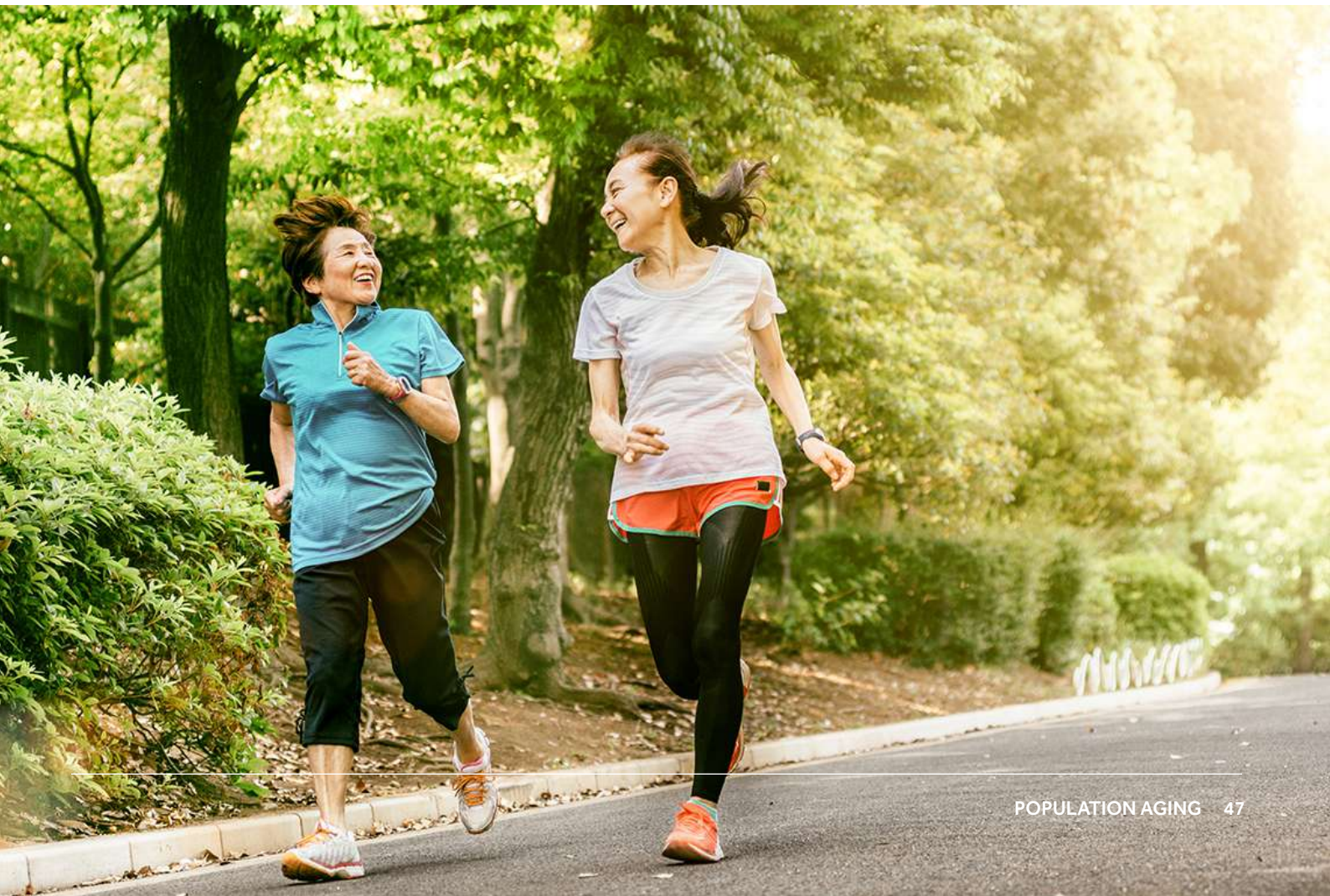
“ Prolonging the longevity of workers, consumers, investors and participants in the local community while extending healthy longevity in general will create a super-aging society with considerable vitality. ”

– Prof Atsushi Seike,
Former President of Keio University

Publications

The 10th APRU Population Aging Conference Report 2019

https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/apru_population_aging_conference_report.pdf



SUSTAINABLE CITIES & LANDSCAPES

FINDING A BALANCE BETWEEN HUMAN NEEDS AND NATURE

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/sustainable-cities>

As human cities around the Asia-Pacific region continue to expand, the stressors of resource depletion, population growth, and environmental degradation intensify. We need to address pressing sustainability challenges and find a harmonious balance with our surrounding landscapes.

Sustainable Cities & Landscapes (SCL) Program

The SCL Program is hosted by the University of Oregon (UO) and led by Program Director, Dr Yekang Ko, who is actively supported by the Program's Steering Committee, Chaired by Prof Bart Johnson. The program unites policymakers, researchers, and practitioners from across disciplines to find answers to the pressing social, urban, and ecological questions of our time.



Activities 2019–2020

APRU Joins Forces with UN ESCAP, UN-Habitat, and Partners to Launch the Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy

With the rapid rate of urbanization in Asia-Pacific Cities, the decisions made by today's mayors will determine the success of global development conventions such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement and the New Urban Agenda.

During the 7th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in October 2019, UN ESCAP and UN-Habitat—in cooperation with APRU, United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC), and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)—officially launched the Asia-Pacific Mayor's Academy. The aim is to assist newly-elected and newly-appointed Asia-Pacific city leaders to promote their commitment to sustainable urban development, grow their commitment to the global agenda of sustainable urban development, and strengthen the regional resources available to them. The inaugural cohort included mayors of 12 cities in the Asia Pacific including: Afghanistan, Kiribati, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, and Solomon Islands. Three convenings took place in 2019: Session 1, Asia Pacific Urban Forum, Penang Malaysia; Session 2, UN Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand; and Session 3, World Urban Forum (WUF), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Mayors presented their concept project during the WUF and engaged in advanced discussions with industry and policy leaders.



APRU Involvement

APRU is a founding member of the Asia-Pacific Mayor's Academy, a permanent member of the Academy Advisory Board, and was actively involved in the delivery of the inaugural pilot cohort. Dr Yekang Ko is a member of the Academy's Faculty Committee which includes Dr Yizhao Yang, University of Oregon, Dr Jennifer Marie S. Amparo, University of the Philippines, and Dr Anne Taufen, University of Washington who have supported the development of the action and solution-oriented curriculum.

Next Steps

- New cohort of Asia-Pacific Mayor's Academy
- APRU network experts contribute to the implementation of 2020 Mayor's Academy.
- The APRU SCL Conference develop an agenda for ongoing research output.



2019 APRU Sustainable Cities & Landscapes Conference

August 29, 2019 – September 1, 2019 | UNSW Sydney

- 78 participants • 14 economies • 24 universities
- Working groups saw 60% new participation.

New Conference Features

New aspects of this year's conference included a public opening event, featuring guest speaker Brett Moore, Chief, Shelter and Settlements, United National High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), who spoke about the opportunities for planners and designers to engage with the complex challenges refugees experience, particularly in relation to the concepts and delivery of urban development. The APRU Global Student Design Ideas Competition also took place with a corresponding theme.

Conference Outcomes

Significant progress was made on the Routledge Handbook of Sustainable Cities and Landscapes edited by SCL members Dr Anne Taufen and Dr Yizhao Yang with publication scheduled for 2021.

At the conference, the SCL Advocacy Committee was formed, with Adam DeHeer, University of Oregon, and Sara Padgett Kjaersgaard, UNSW Sydney, as Co-Chairs. The Committee aims to increase advocacy to inform policy, make research tied to impact, and give universities presence at scale through strategic engagement, a project-led approach, election-specific campaigns, and submission responses.

Student Participation at the SCL

Thanks to strong support from academic staff and their institutions, one-third of participants at the 2019 SCL Conference were students. Student engagement was encouraged through the Global Student Design Ideas Competition, challenging students to identify meaningful ways to engage refugees in cities. To encourage and sustain student engagement, the 2020 SCL Conference in Auckland, New Zealand will introduce a PhD Symposium.

See more about Sustainable Cities & Landscapes student activities on page 34.



APRU SCL is such an exciting, vibrant Hub. By participating it becomes clear what you can bring to the table and bring back to your university as well as the contribution you can make to the APRU network itself.



***– Dr Jennifer Amparo,
University of the Philippines,
Los Banos***

SCL Working Groups (*new group in 2019)

Sustainable urban design
Vulnerable communities
Food and nutrition security*
Transitions in urban waterfronts
Landscape and human health
Urban renewable energy
Infrastructural ecologies
Smart cities
Urban biodiversity
Water and wastewater

Publications

APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Hub 2019 Conference Report
https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/APRU-SCL-2019-Report_resource-page-version.pdf

APRU SCL Program Hub Declaration of Climate Emergency and Call to Action
https://apru.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/SCL-Declaration-of-Climate-Emergency-2019_final-final.pdf

SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

TOWARDS AN EFFICIENT SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT AGENDA

<https://apru.org/our-work/pacific-rim-challenges/sustainable-waste-management/>

Sustainable waste management has become one of the most pressing issues of our time. It is essential we find a balance between social, environmental and commercial benefits in the recycling and recovery of waste material.

The Sustainable Waste Management (SWM) Program

With conventional practices placing increasing burdens on the environment, APRU launched the Sustainable Waste Management Program, a new collaboration to tackle challenges and find solutions. The Program is spearheaded and led by Prof Yong Sik Ok, Korea University, and brings together academics, industry experts and policymakers to formulate strategies at the national and regional level.



Introducing the Sustainable Waste Management Program

Through its participation and attendance at relevant events, APRU aims to contribute to discussions, foster knowledge exchange, generate political will and implement projects and initiatives that contribute to sustainable development.

Program Overview

The Program focuses on the recycling and recovery of waste material including food and organic waste recycling, biochar/compost production and application and life cycle assessment and cost-benefit analysis on biological waste management while paving the way towards soil, land, and groundwater remediation with water and wastewater treatments.

Through collaborative research initiatives, the Program will respond to the needs of stakeholders in tackling sustainable waste management challenges at a national and regional level. The aim is to provide ongoing support for the development of an effective sustainable management agenda, delivering insights to governments and policymakers to satisfy environmental compatibility, financial feasibility and social needs.

A Solid Foundation

The establishment of the Program followed a series of meetings between Prof Ok, the APRU Secretariat, senior colleagues from Korea University, and experts as well as close collaborators of Prof OK in Seoul and Hong Kong.

In less than a year since its founding, the Sustainable Waste Management Program has taken major strides. The Program appointed two Co-Chairs, Prof David Wardle, Nanyang Technological University, and Prof William Mitch, Stanford University, and eight Core Group members who support Prof Ok to lead development and output. The Program also signed a Memoriam of Understanding (MoU) with a key partner, and hosted its first conference—a significant achievement in such a short time, showing the strength of the APRU network to work collectively on issues of critical importance.

Core Group

Chair

Prof Yong Sik Ok, Korea University

Co-Chairs

Prof David Wardle, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Prof William Mitch, Stanford University

Core Group Members

California Institute of Technology

Chinese University of Hong Kong

Korea University

Nanyang Technological University

National University of Singapore

National Taiwan University

Stanford University

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The University of Auckland

The University of British Columbia

The University of Hong Kong

The University of Sydney

Tsinghua University

University of California, Berkeley

UNSW Sydney

Yonsei University



Our new program will provide a platform for the sharing of current scientific and technical knowledge, identify limitations and prioritize key challenges, and review existing international policies, agreements, and frameworks.



—Prof Yong Sik Ok,
Korea University, Program Lead

Activities 2019–2020

Partnership with The American Institute of Chemical Engineers – Institute of Sustainability

In June 2019, APRU Sustainable Waste Management Program signed an MoU with The American Institute of Chemical Engineers – Institute of Sustainability (AIChE IFS), in the co-organization of the Conference on Engineering Sustainable Development 2019. The MoU establishes a significant, ongoing strategic partnership for the Sustainable Waste Management Program and outlines shared goals of improving STEM education, supporting sustainability science, and the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).



Engineering Sustainable Development Conference 2019 December 12–13, 2019 | Korea University

Engineers, scientists, and policymakers gathered at Korea University to discuss the technical and engineering challenges of addressing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Prof Ok, SWM Program Director, introduced the Program at the conference and invited member academics to join the core group. The 2020 conference will be held in Bangkok, once again co-hosted by AIChE and APRU.

Conference Speakers

Dr Seong Jun Lee, Chief Technology Officer of SK Innovation, South Korea's first and largest energy-chemical company, presented on the efforts to invest in innovative business models and collaboration to move towards sustainable development. Prof William Mitch, Stanford University, presented on the different methods for wastewater reuse and the development of low-cost processes for drinking water.

APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), Christina Schönleber, spoke on the critical role of sustainable waste management in the region and the benefits of universities engaging externally and collaboratively to support Agenda 2030.

“ The shortage of clean water represents a critical challenge for the next century, and has necessitated the recycling of wastewater. We seek to understand ways to engineer this process to minimize harmful by-product formation. ”

**– Prof William Mitch,
Stanford University**

Sustainable Waste Management Workshop: Microplastics in the Environment January 7–9, 2020 | National University of Singapore

Experts in various disciplines gathered under the leadership of SWM Core Group Members and Conference Chairs Prof Chi-Hwa Wang and Prof Xiaonan Wang to discuss the formulation of an efficient, sustainable management agenda for plastics and microplastics, as well as the global remediation of soil, land and groundwater.

SWM Program Meeting June 12, 2019 | APRU International Secretariat, Hong Kong

Prof Ok, SWM Program Director, led a visit of waste management experts and industry partners at the APRU Secretariat to further the development of the Program.

In the past year, individuals from APRU member universities joined other international experts at a number of relevant conferences, including:

- **The 3rd International Conference on Bioresources, Energy, Environment, and Materials Technology 2019 (BEEM)**
June 12–15, 2019 | Hong Kong
- **International Biochar Initiative (IBI) Biochar World Congress**
November 10–14 2019 | Korea University, Seoul, Korea
- **3rd International Institute for Environmental Studies (IIES) Graduate Student Forum**
November 11–12, 2019 | Korea University, Seoul, Korea
- **CleanUp Korea 2019**
December 5–6, 2019 | Seoul, Korea
- **International Environmental Engineering Conference (IEEC) and International Conference on Biological Waste as Resource (BWR)**
December 10–13, 2019 | Busan, Korea

INFORMING INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY

POLICY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS
POLICY ENGAGEMENT WITH ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION
CASE STUDY: APRU POLICY PARTNERSHIPS

APRU Policy Engagement

APRU collaborates and engages with various intergovernmental agencies, disseminating research, contributing to policy discussions and formulation, and supporting the international development agenda by aligning its research activities and sharing expertise.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Through various activities, APRU's wider aim is to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDG) framework for global cooperation and action to address today's most pressing global challenges.

COLLABORATION WITH UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA (UN ESCAP)

APRU–UN ESCAP Sign MoU for Enhanced Cooperation May 2, 2019 | UN ESCAP Headquarters, Bangkok, Thailand

This memorandum of understanding (MoU) enhances cooperation and calls for the joint initiation, management, and promotion of research programs in fields of mutual interest and concern. It provides a platform to increase the engagement of scientists and academic experts in pursuing the UN SDGs, facilitates the capacity to utilize data for quality research and evidence-based policy recommendations, and integrates the writing and peer-review of papers for publication in UN ESCAP journals.

The MoU also builds upon APRU's partnership with UN ESCAP, which includes the AI for Social Good project and the newly established Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy; activities where APRU offers its knowledge, expertise, and research capabilities, as well as its network of experts to drive the UN agenda forward.

As APRU strives to support the UN SDGs, the MoU lays the groundwork for cooperation in UN ESCAP's Ocean Accounts framework, including data compilation, analysis, and capacity building through pilot studies to better address SDG14: Life Below Water. Other areas of common interest include: the digital economy and emerging technologies; multi-hazards and disaster risk reduction; the Pacific Ocean; sustainable cities and urban development; population aging and statistical geospatial data management.



UN ESCAP partnership activities include:

- Mayor's Academy
- AI For Social Good
- UN ESCAP Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum
- Increasing Research Impact: Research Translation
- Ocean Cities Project

UN ESCAP Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum

June 12-14, 2019 | Bangkok, Thailand

The Forum aims to elevate awareness and ensure effective implementation of the Business and Human Rights and Responsible Business Conduct agendas in Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Drawing on insights from the AI for Social Good project, APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), Christina Schönleber, spoke on the challenges and risks affiliated with AI.

APRU is currently working with UN ESCAP and Google to develop research on AI for Social Good project. Focusing on policy frameworks and governance, the project builds on research within member institutions to propose the implementation of a framework certification system for trustworthy AI.

Increasing Research Impact: Research Translation

October 2019 | Bangkok, Thailand

UN ESCAP, in partnership with The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), invited APRU to present at this second annual workshop addressing challenges in translating research to practice and policy. The workshop highlighted the resources and tools participants can use to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and share examples of effective practices from their own experiences or institutions.

AI for Social Good Project Kick-off Meeting



AI For Social Good Research Network and project partners.

APRU Contributes to the UN ESCAP Ocean Cities Project and Regional Policy Guide

APRU together with members of the Friends of Ocean Cities network produced the Ocean Cities Regional Policy Guide and Ocean Cities Snapshot for Policy Makers. APRU produced a series of policy briefs informing the UN ESCAP project.

AI for Social Good — A UN ESCAP-APRU-Google Collaborative Network and Project

APRU, UN ESCAP and Google came together to create the AI for Social Good Research Network. This multi-year platform enables scholars and experts to collaborate with policymakers, as well as, generate evidence and cross-border connections to promote an enabling policy environment for good AI governance which supports the SDGs.

Please see page 38, for more information about the AI For Social Good project.

Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy

The Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy was launched in October 2019 by APRU, UN ESCAP, UN Habitat, the United Nations University's Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), United Cities and Local Governments Asia-Pacific (UCLG ASPAC) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

The Academy assists newly-elected city leaders in the Asia-Pacific region to become regional advocates of sustainable urban development and increase understanding of how cities contribute to the SDGs.

Experts from APRU's Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program are involved in developing a curriculum in relation to sustainable urban development and planning, green finance and sustainable governance, thereby contributing to key sessions during various modules.

Please see page 48 for more information about the Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy.

Outcomes

30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction received highly positive feedback and was downloaded 1074 times, making it one of the top three publications registered in the UN library in 2019.

Due to its positive reception, the second edition in the series was released in March 2020. This edition is unique in that it links DRR with the UN SDGs and highlights sector-based DRR innovations.

■ ***The need for increased application of innovation and technology for DRR has never been greater, but we have found that many relevant research results and findings are either not shared, inaccessible, or barely recognized by actual users and practitioners. To improve this situation and create a mutually cooperative environment, we developed 30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction for use at training sessions, seminars, and classes.***

— Dr Takako Izumi, Tohoku University



SUPPORTING UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVES

APRU contributes to progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by raising awareness and encouraging the involvement of future leaders in the Asia-Pacific region, supporting capacity building by developing a network of research centers and experts across disciplines, and building an effective platform to connect the latest research and experts with policymakers to facilitate policy development and implementation.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2019 May 13–17, 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland

The 2019 APRU Multi-Hazards Program's publication, *30 Innovations for Disaster Risk Reduction*, was launched at the event, which details the innovative applications and approaches considered to be extremely effective in reducing disaster risks.

In addition to high-tech solutions, the publication also provides contextual and traditional approaches and offers recommendations that do not require large budgets or advanced technology. Through its engagement, APRU's Multi-Hazards Program seeks to enhance policymakers' and practitioners' understanding of how to manage disaster risk reduction (DRR) through the practical application of science and technology. Making science and technology available and applicable to key stakeholders will develop closer links between the UN SDGs and scientific bases.

Communities of Ocean Action – From Commitments to Action: Implementing SDG 14 May 30–31, 2019 | Incheon, South Korea

As a platform, APRU seeks to align its programs and activities with the UN SDGs and engage experts and academics from within the network in support of these international objectives.

APRU reaffirmed its voluntary commitment to SDG 14: Life Below Water with Christina Schönleber, APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs) presenting a mid-way report card on APRU's strides towards its goal since making its voluntary commitment in June 2017.

APRU has undertaken a number of initiatives in support of SDG 14, including the Pacific Ocean Cluster Project, contributing to UN ESCAP's Ocean Cities Policy Brief alongside other publications and the development of international standards for the measurement of the economic, social and environmental aspects of the ocean and coasts through involvement in the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Centre and the APEC Oceans and Fisheries Working Group.

Senior International Leaders Deliberate on Strategy to Create Impact and Address UN SDGs September 18–20, 2019 | The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

APRU encourages academics and university leaders to consider how they can support and drive forward progress on the UN SDGs. At the 2019 Senior International Leaders' Meeting (SILM), APRU members discussed ways to leverage their collective strengths to address the pressing needs of our planet.

Presenting via video conference, Satya Tripathi, UN Assistant Secretary General and Head of New York Office at United Nations Environmental Program, urged for attention on social mobility, health, and well-being. He reiterated the importance of cooperation to make an impact at scale instead of success with one-off ideas. (See page 22 for more information.)

The 2019 Global Student Design Ideas Competition

The competition challenged participants to create ideas which contribute to the sustainable development of our cities and architecture in order to accommodate the growing numbers of forcibly displaced people.

The competition was hosted by the Rapid Urbanisation Grand Challenge at UNSW Sydney, with the Australian Red Cross, ARUP International Development, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program Hub. Brett Moore, Head of Shelter and Settlements at UNHCR delivered a talk entitled, *Cities & Refugees: Complexity and Conflict: How can we Deliver Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development in Challenging Contexts?* (See page 34 for more information.)

The New York Times-APRU Asia-Pacific Student Case Competition

Participants were tasked with writing a policy brief for public officials in their economy, outlining the threats to health from air pollution and promoting a solution to make an impact. The challenge for the students was to evaluate the global health policy ecosystem in the Asia-Pacific and its potential to address UN SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. (See page 29 for more information.)

Policy Engagement with Asia-Pacific Economic Consortium (APEC)

By contributing expertise and aligning its research and activities, APRU contributes to APEC's goal of supporting economic growth and prosperity in the region.

APEC University Leaders' Forum 2019 - Canceled Santiago, Chile

Due to social and political events in the host country, the Chilean President, Sebastian Pinera, made the decision to cancel the 2019 APEC Leaders Week and CEO Summit, resulting in the cancellation of the APEC University Leaders' Forum, aligned with the APEC theme, *Women in Digital Society*.

While disappointed that the event was unable to go ahead, we are grateful to the university experts and business and policy leaders who committed to attend. We thank the University of Chile for its graciousness in hosting this Forum and for the considerable work preparing for it.

APRU Chair and UCLA Chancellor, Gene Block, was invited to participate in the **2019 APEC CEO Summit panel, Securing Talent for the Future: Skills, Women, and Diversity** alongside H.E. Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand; Dr Belén Garijo, CEO of Merck; and Francisco Silva, Chairman of Grupo Security, on November 16, 2019. Although the event was canceled due to Chile's social and political conditions, it was a considerable honor to be asked to participate in one of the Asia-Pacific's most influential meetings of business and government leaders to represent our members.

University of Malaya Takes the Lead on the APEC University Leaders' Forum 2020

Planning has begun for the 2020 APEC University Leaders' Forum, scheduled for November 9, 2020, in Kuala Lumpur. The event is an official side meeting of the APEC CEO Summit and Leaders' Week. With the theme *Optimizing Human Potential Towards a Digital Future*, the Forum will examine the role of technologies in shaping the future of work and discuss the predicted impact of technological developments on equality within the region.

Second Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM2)

May 2019 | Vina Del Mare, Chile

APRU presented project outcomes and findings from the Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century project to government delegates at the APEC Human Resources Development Working Groups (HRDWG) and Public Policy Partnership in Science and Innovation (PPSTI).

Over an 18-month period, experts from seven APRU members across six economies contributed to the project and final report, which was made possible through funding from Google.org. Insights from the project will help policymakers better respond to digital automation in their economies.

Meeting Outcomes

There was great interest from APEC delegates on the report findings and to share these with relevant political decision makers. Discussions with attendees focused on how the project can feed into future focus areas of APEC working groups.



Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) Education Network Meeting, May 5-6, 2019, Vina Del Mare, Chile

APEC Closing the Digital Skills Gap Forum

July, 2019 | Singapore

Representatives from 16 APEC economies explored policy options to strengthen digital skills and the digital economy with Project DARE (Data Analytics Raising Employment). APRU is involved in linking relevant academic experts with the project to continue to support skills development and reskilling programs across APEC. Participating APRU members explained how they leveraged APEC Data Science and Analytics Competencies to improve work training and education curriculums.

APRU Members Who Participated in the Forum

Bernard Tan, Senior Vice Provost, National University of Singapore

Fidel Nemazo, Vice Chancellor for Research and Development,
University of Philippines

Eugene Rex Jalao, Associate Professor, University of the Philippines

Kar Yan Tam, Dean of the School of Business and Management,
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

What's Next?

Following the finalization of the roadmap, APEC Project DARE will work with industry and higher education leaders to implement the plan envisioned for 2020-2025.

Third Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM3)

August 2019 | Puerto Varas, Chile

Marine experts and government officials gathered at the 13th APEC Ocean and Fisheries Working Group Meeting (OFWG) and were informed of early findings from the Phase I study of the *Advancing Co-Benefits of SDG14* APRU project. The project was developed by Professors William Cheung from the University of British Columbia and Professor Yoshitaka Ota from the University of Washington. Project implementation was led by Gerald Singh, who presented the first findings at the OFWG meeting.

NEXT STEPS include discussions on future collaboration with the delegations of China; the Philippines; the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security; the Ocean Conservation Administration Ocean Affairs Council (in Chinese Taipei); and The Nature Conservancy.

APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report 2

APRU supported the APEC Sustainable Marine Development Center in Xiamen, China, in the creation of the report, *Supporting Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and Related Goals in APEC*. The report reflects new and ongoing trends and endeavors of APEC and its member economies in fostering ocean-related sustainable development. The report was endorsed by the OFWG in September 2019.

15th APEC Future Education Forum

September 25–27, 2019 | Seoul, South Korea

APRU joined over 200 participants in discussions related to education in the digital age, helping to shape the education framework across the Asia Pacific.

Professor Dong Sung Park, Lead Shepherd, APEC HRD Working Group and Chairman, Institute of APEC Collaborative Education highlighted how the forum is an invaluable opportunity for policymakers from APEC member economies, education specialists, teachers, and officers from international organizations to discuss future education and cooperation to construct the power of collective intelligence.

Hamish Curry, Executive Director, Asia Education Foundation at Asialink, University of Melbourne, presented on using information communications technology to build school partnerships. APRU Senior Director (Policy and Programs), Christina Schönleber, moderated a session on innovation and connectivity for future education.

APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research, and Education (ASPIRE) Award

APRU supported the APEC ASPIRE Award – which recognizes young scientists demonstrating a commitment to excellence in scientific research – by encouraging the participation of individuals in member institutions, as well as through its efforts to enhance the link between research and innovation.

Dr Yun Hau NG, Associate Professor at the School of Energy and Environment, City University of Hong Kong, won the 2019 prize, themed *Smart Technologies for Healthy Societies*, for his research on the development of highly efficient photocatalytic systems which mimic natural photosynthesis to produce clean hydrogen from water. The ASPIRE Award 2020 focuses on the theme *Biodiversity for a Prosperous Economy*.

Healthy Women Healthy Economies Awards

With her expertise in health and wellbeing, Dr Mellissa Withers, Global Health Program Director, was a judge of the 2019 prize. Dr Hong Jian, Associate Professor in the School of Public Health and Global Health Institute at Fudan University was a runner up in the competition. For more details see the Global Health Program section on page 40 or the APWiL section on page 37.

APEC Workshop on Marine Debris and Microplastics

December 3–5, 2019 | Xiamen, China

APRU experts joined more than 120 representatives from 11 APEC economies at a workshop organized by the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center and Third Institute of Oceanography, to exchange ideas on policy, scientific research, and the public and private sectors' participation in addressing marine debris and microplastics.

Deo Florence Onda, an Assistant Professor at the University of the Philippines, spoke about the role of microbes on the fate of plastics in the marine environment, while Christelle Not, Assistant Professor at The University of Hong Kong presented her evaluation of plastic pollution in Hong Kong and its link with the global plastic issue.

Case Study: APRU Policy Partnerships

The *Transformation of Work in the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century* project pioneers a multi-stakeholder approach. It provides policymakers and leading thinkers with a platform to exchange ideas and collaborate with researchers to tackle challenges presented by the rapid digitalization of society.

As the second element in a series of multidisciplinary collaborations funded by Google.org, The *Transformation of Work in the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century: Key Policy Implications* Report informs policymakers to support the creation of relevant frameworks and policies.

Informing Policy: Marshalling Resources

With the publication of the report, APRU and The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) Business School undertook a series of dissemination events to brief policymakers on report findings applicable to their economies.

Part of APRU's continued efforts to extend policy impact and maximize its network effect, the briefings aimed to enable governments to react more quickly to the impact and influence of new technological developments, share best practices and find solutions to challenges emerging from the transformation of their economies and future of work.

The content for each event of the five dissemination events was tailored to the specific needs of the host economy, drawing on the insights developed through the project.

Dissemination Events Overview

- 5 events across Hong Kong, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, and Indonesia.
- 2 media-focused events that widely disseminated project outputs in Hong Kong and Singapore generating media coverage in regional and national publications.
- 3 multi-stakeholder events in Manila, Seoul, and Jakarta with attendees from government, academia, industry, and regional multilateral organizations.
- Participants from relevant institutes, such as the Department of Labour and Trade, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, and private sector companies and think tanks.

Outcomes from the Dissemination Events

- There was discussion on the potential role a Ministry of Aging could play in Singapore's strategies to retrain its workers.
- The importance of the report's Policy Recommendation chapter was recognized by Canada's Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development.
- The project provided new ideas for ongoing research endeavors across various disciplines, including a Fintech Manpower Study looking into the core competencies required in this new industry (the first stage of which is due for publication mid-2020 with a focus on Hong Kong).
- The report is being used as supplemental reading in relevant classes across the APRU network.
- A special edition of the Biz @ HKUST Magazine on Future of Work was issued, which gathered recommendations from different Hong Kong policy experts, and stimulated an informed discussion in society.

A Closer Look at the Dissemination Series: Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century Report

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
March 11, 2019 | Hong Kong

The *Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century* report was released during a media launch at the HKUST. Alongside the press briefing, participants discussed the need to cultivate an innovative workforce through STEM education and invest in technology and entrepreneurship infrastructure to provide agility in the market.



With our studies, we not only hope to stimulate an informed discussion in society, but also gather insights and recommendations from different regions, on ways to minimize the negative impacts and to protect and prepare the workforce for the future.

– Prof Kar Yan Tam, Project
Lead and Dean of HKUST
Business School



Asian Institute of Management (AIM)
March 20, 2019 | Manila

Dr Jikyeong Kang, President, Asian Institute of Management (AIM), hosted this event to share the results of the report. John Arnold Siena, Director of the National Educators Academy of the Philippines, Johannes Bernabe, Commissioner, Philippine Competition Commission (PCC), Dr Aniceto Orbeta of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Ahmma Charisma Satumba, Executive Director of the Institute for Labor Studies (ILS), and Nicki Agcaoili, Executive Director of the IT and Business Process Association of the Philippines (IBPAP) took part in a panel discussion moderated by Dr Federico Macaranas on the report's implications for the Philippines.



This project has helped stimulate public discourse on the topic, putting positive pressure on government, academe, and business to share... insights and start to seriously consider the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.



– Dr Jikyeong Kang
President, Asian Institute of Management (AIM)



Dr Tremewan, APRU Secretary General, Prof Kar Yan Tam, HKUST Business School, and Christina Schönleber, Senior Director, (Policy and Programs) at *The Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century* report launch, HKUST, March 11, 2019.

Institute for Future Government, Yonsei University
April 12, 2019 | Seoul

Co-organized by Seoul National University, the Institute for Future Government, Yonsei University hosted this dissemination event. *Transformation of Work* report project lead, Prof Kar Yan Tam, and project author of chapter two, *Technological Change and its Consequences: A Brief History for the Future*, Dr Sunghoon Kim, UNSW Sydney, joined participants in a panel discussion on the challenges and opportunities of AI governance in the Republic of Korea.



Governments should abolish relevant regulations to contribute to technology development. They must also prepare for increasing inequality and workforce casualization.



– Dr Sunghoon Kim,
UNSW Sydney

Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Singapore
July 11, 2019 | Singapore

Dr Faizal Bin Yahya, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), gave an overview of the report's sixth chapter, Preparing the Future Workforce – Reskilling, Retraining, and Redeploying and the Transformation of the Education System. A panel of experts discussed the potential role a Ministry of Aging could play and Singapore's strategies to retrain its workers. The policy recommendation of the chapter was recognized by Canada's Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development.



The process of education is no longer linear, but a continuous cyclical process that follows industry cycles. Links between industry and institutes of higher learning should be strengthened.



– Dr Faizal Bin Yahya
Senior Research Fellow,
Institute of Policy Studies,
National University of Singapore

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Co-organized by Employment Policy Forum (FKK), Jakarta
December 3, 2019 | Jakarta, Indonesia

Project authors, Dr Jikyeong Kang, Asian Institute of Management (AIM) and Dr Faizal Bin Yahya, National University of Singapore, introduced the findings of the report and how they can be applied to developed and developing economies relating to the impact of recent technological advances at the Employment Policy Forum's end-of-year summit 2019.

An interactive panel brought representatives from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, industry, and policymakers together to discuss how to keep the education system up-to-date and relevant to industry demands. Continuous training of the existing workforce is also essential.

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SENIOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

APRU PARTNERS

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Katherine Belov, The University of Sydney
Fanny Cheung and Suk Ying Wong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Cindy Fan, University of California, Los Angeles
Sara-Jane Finlay, The University of British Columbia
Atsuko Iwanami, Keio University
Junko Kimura, Osaka University
Denise Konan, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Yvonne Lim Ai Lian, University of Malaya
Suat Yan Lai, University of Malaya
Derlie Mateo-Babiano, University of Melbourne
Victoria Panova, Far Eastern Federal University
Nathalie Verceles, University of the Philippines

Multi-Hazards

Osamu Muraio, Chair, Tohoku University
Takako Izumi, Program Director, Tohoku University
Fumihiko Imamura, Tohoku University
Denise Konan, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Hung Chi Kuo, National Taiwan University
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Hui Zhang, Tsinghua University

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Shicheng Zhang, Fudan University

APRU International Secretariat is an *ex-officio* member of all program committees usually relegated by Christopher Tremewan, Secretary General, and Christina Schönleber, Senior Director (Policy and Programs).

APRU Senior International Leaders

APRU Senior International Leaders (SILs) convene annually to review the development and implementation of activities of the APRU network.

* Member of the International Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC). The IPAC is a committee of selected Senior International Leaders which provides further guidance and leadership of the APRU International Secretariat future strategy and policy direction.

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APRU Partners



The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)

In June 2019, APRU Sustainable Waste Management Program signed an MoU with The American Institute of Chemical Engineers – Institute of Sustainability (AIChE IFS) in the co-organization of the Conference on the Technical and Engineering Challenges of Addressing Sustainable Development. In addition to the conference, the MoU establishes a significant, ongoing strategic partnership supporting sustainability science and engineering in the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

APRU collaborates on initiatives developed through APEC aiming to solve the diverse challenges facing the Asia-Pacific region. APRU is a guest member of the Human Resources Development Working Group, APEC Education Network, the Policy Partnership in Science and Technology and Innovation, and shapes the dialogue of other working groups that address the oceans, health and digital economy.

APEC Public Policy Partnership in Science and Innovation (PPSTI)

APRU collaborates with APEC PPSTI and DiDi Chuxing, a world-leading mobile transportation platform, on a cross-sector study to evaluate the benefit of industry-academia collaboration in science, technology and innovation. The APEC Public-Private Dialogue on Sharing Economy and Digital Technology Connectivity for Inclusive Development study assesses APEC priorities in relation to science, technology and innovation to inform members if this industry-academic approach should be extended to other topics related to the digital economy.



Didi Chuxing

APRU and Beijing-based mobile transportation platform, Didi Chuxing (DiDi), entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen collaboration and the development of activities and projects. Currently both organizations are contributing to the APEC Public-Private Dialogue on Sharing Economy and Digital Technology Connectivity for Inclusive Development, which aims to advance economic, financial and social inclusion in the APEC member economies. The two organizations are also exploring opportunities for collaborative research, joint projects, education and training, talent development, and academic exchanges, as well as technology transfer and innovation.



Elsevier

APRU works with Elsevier to identify the strengths of the network and of member institutions, to enhance the research collaboration between members, and to relate this strength to addressing challenges in the Asia Pacific. In particular, APRU would like to thank Elsevier for its support of its work and initiatives in the areas of gender equity, sustainability, health and the digital economy.



Google

APRU has been collaborating with Google on three projects: AI for Everyone: Benefitting From and Building Trust in the Technology, with the aim to inform and support policymakers of the region going forward; Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century, to analyze and address the affiliated economic risks and reservations of the Fourth Industrial Revolution; and AI For Social Good, in which APRU, United Nations ESCAP, and Google have come together to set up a new research network to enable experts to generate evidence and cross border connections while promoting an enabling policy environment at both domestic and international levels.



Our Hong Kong Foundation (OHKF)

OHKF is a leading non-profit and non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting Hong Kong's long-term interests and sustainable development by drawing upon the city's unique advantages and opportunities under the framework of 'One Country, Two Systems'. OHKF was founded in 2014 by Mr C.H. Tung, Vice Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. OHKF is a major partner in the Asia-Pacific Conference for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystems (APCIEE) which focuses on Hong Kong's role in the region as a center for research, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

The New York Times

The New York Times

In partnership with *The New York Times*, APRU annually hosts the Asia-Pacific Student Case Competition. Reaching out to over two million students across the Asia Pacific, the initiative raises awareness on issues of urgent importance and gives students the chance to be published in *The New York Times International Edition* and read by an audience of global thought leaders.



The United Nations (UN)

APRU actively engages with the United Nations and aligns its work with the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in regard to the sustainability of the Pacific Ocean and initiatives under its voluntary commitment to the goal. APRU worked closely with the Technical Advisory Group within the International Labour Organization on the Women and the Future of Work in the Asia-Pacific report. Under the Multi-Hazards Program, APRU cooperates with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, actively participating in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the recent publication, 30 Innovations for Linking Disaster Risk Reduction with Sustainable Development Goals.



UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)

APRU, ESCAP, and UN Environment are leading a global effort to develop statistical guidance towards UN SDG 14. The Ocean Accounts Platform is based on the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA). As a free-access mechanism for an ocean data platform, it will help prioritize and standardize data supporting regional action towards a healthy Pacific Ocean. APRU, UN ESCAP, and Google have come together to create the AI for Social Good Research Network, a multi-year platform enabling scholars and experts to collaborate with policymakers, generate evidence and establish cross-border connections to promote an enabling policy environment. APRU also joined forces with UN ESCAP, on the Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy assisting Asia-Pacific city leaders to achieve their commitment to sustainable urban development.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

PUBLICATIONS

APRU IN THE MEDIA

NETWORK MEETINGS 2019-2022

APRU INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Publications

Read APRU publications at <https://apru.org/resources>

Annual Presidents' Meeting 2019 Report
September 2019

APRU–The New York Times Asia Pacific Competition 2019: Top
10 Case Submissions
November 2019

APWiL

2019 APRU Gender Gap Report
May 2019

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Multi-Hazards

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October 2019

30 Innovations Linking DRR with SDGs

Takako Izumi, Rajib Shaw, Mikio Ishiwatari, Riyanti Djalante,
Takeshi Komino, Vibhas Sukhwani, and Bismark Adu Gyamfi
IRIDes, Keio University, the University of Tokyo, CWS Japan,
Japan
March 2020

Multi-Hazards Data Science Workshop Report
June 2019

APRU Multi-Hazards Program Leaflet
March 2020

Pacific Ocean

APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report 2
APEC Ocean and Fisheries Working Group
September 2019

A Better World: Volume 6

A Sustainable Partnership for the Pacific: sustainable ocean
development 2030
pp 20-23
Gerald Singh and Yoshitaka Ota
Human Development Forum

Population Aging

The 10th APRU Population Aging Conference Report 2019
Keio University
October 2019

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes

APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Hub 2019 Conference
Report
UNSW Sydney
September 2020

APRU Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Program Brochure
February 2020

APRU in the Media

March 2019–March 2020

In the past year, APRU secured coverage in a number of key media outlets, raising the profile of the organization and furthering the narrative on the important work it undertakes in the region to advance the global common good. Find the latest APRU news at apru.org/news.

Annual Presidents' Meeting 2019

UCLA Hosts Association of Pacific Rim Universities Annual Meeting
UCLA Newsroom | June 26, 2019

FEFU President Nikita Anisimov is Elected to the Steering Committee of APRU
FEFU News | June 27, 2019

President Ohno Attends the 23rd Annual Presidents' Meeting of APRU
Tohoku University | July 18, 2019

School Leaders Visit the United States and Attend the APRU Presidents' Meeting (modified)
Nanjing University | June 26, 2019

Universities Ride eSports Wave for a Stake in its Future
University World News | July 27, 2019

Scant Progress on Women Becoming University Leaders
University World News | July 20, 2019

How Universities can Achieve Inclusive Campus Diversity
University World News | July 13, 2019

The Role of Universities in an Era of Heightened Migration
University World News | July 4, 2019

University Leaders Fear Curbs on Free Flow of Scholars
University World News | June 28, 2019

University Leaders' Program

Ground-breaking Program on 'Global' Problem-Solving
University World News | July 13, 2019

Student Leaders Present Scalable Community Solutions
University World News | July 27, 2019

Learning a 'Human-Centered' Approach to Problem-Solving
University World News | July 20, 2019

Digital Economy

The Launch of the IPS-APRU Project Report on "Transformation of Work in the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century"
PUBLISHED by IPS Corporate Associates Programme | SEP 15, 2019

Commentary: It is High Time for a Ministry on Ageing Issues
Channel News Asia | AUG 17, 2019

Launch of the IPS-APRU Project Report on "Transformation of Work in the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century"
IPS Update Issue | August 15, 2019

Close the Digital Skills Gap by 2025 Through Collaboration: APEC APEC Human Resources Development Working Group Singapore | July 19, 2019

Call for a New Ministry of Aging to Deal with Emerging Challenges
The Straits Times | July 12, 2019

MOM and MOE combined, with new Ministry of Ageing, can help tackle future challenges: Report
The Straits Times | JUL 11, 2019

Report Proposes MOE and MOM Be Merged to Tackle Skills Gap Among Singapore's Workforce
Today | July 11, 2019

Developing Creative Solutions that Benefit the International Community
The Japan Times | June 27, 2019

Vice-President Professor Jiro Kokuryo Chairs Meeting of AI for Social Good – A United Nations ESCAP-APRU-Google Collaborative Network and Project
Keio University | June 13, 2019

A Future that Works for the Asia Pacific
South China Morning Post (Business) | May 24, 2019

Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century: Key Policy Implications
Maeil Business Newspaper | April 17, 2019

Transformation of Work in the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century: Key Policy Implications
Asian Institute of Management | March 19, 2019

HKUST and APRU Partner to Study Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific
OpenGov Asia | March 15, 2019

The Impact of Keda Research Technology on Future Work
Sing Tao Daily | March 12, 2019

Teachers are Hard to be Replaced by AI
Ta Kung Pao | March 12, 2019

Communication Creative Work Robot is Difficult
Wen Wei Po | March 12, 2019

Digitized and Automated Site Accounting or Eliminated by Robots
Oriental Daily | March 12, 2019

The Wave of Digital Transformation Asia-Pacific Should Strengthen STEM Education to Cultivate New Lines of Blood, Attract Different Talents
Hong Kong Economic Daily | March 12, 2019

Does AI Eliminate 85% of Existing Positions? HKUST Business School: Creating More New Jobs at The Same Time
HK 01 | March 11, 2019

HKUST and APRU Discuss the Impact of Technological Development on Future
LifeSupermedia | March 11, 2019

Digital Transformation Volunteers Asia Pacific Scholars Call for Hong Kong to Focus on Training Creative Talents
Hong Kong Economic Times | March 11, 2019

HKUST Joins Hands with APRU to Examine Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology | March 11, 2019

Multi-Hazards

30 Innovations Linking Disaster Risk Reduction with Sustainable Development Goals
ReliefWeb | March 9, 2020

"30 Innovations Linking with Disaster Risk Reduction with Sustainable Development Goals" was published in collaboration with IRIDeS, Keio University, University of Tokyo, UNU-IAS, CWS Japan, and the APRU Multi-Hazards Program
Designated National University | March 9, 2020

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes

Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy Sessions Held at the World Urban Forum
United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability | February 13, 2020

Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy Delivers Training on Sustainable Urban Development
United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability | December 16, 2019

UNU-IAS and Partners Launch Asia-Pacific Mayors Academy
United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability | November 1, 2019

Population Aging

Transforming Super Ageing Issues into Opportunities
Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference
Financial Times | Page 7, December 5, 2019

Transforming Super Ageing Issues into Opportunities
Nikkei Super Active Aging Society Conference
Nikkei Asian Review | <https://asia.nikkei.com/>

Supporting Aging Populations, Agriculture
The Japan Times | June 27, 2019

Network Meetings

**We continue to evaluate scheduled events and, where appropriate, postpone or cancel the event based on changing local and global conditions. The latest event information is available online at apru.org/events.*

2019

23rd Annual Presidents' Meeting

UCLA

June 23-25, 2019

Multi-Hazard Data Science Workshop

UC Davis

June 26-28, 2019

Undergraduate Leaders' Program

University of Oregon

July 1-12, 2019

Dissemination of the Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century Project Findings

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology | March 11, 2019

Asian Institute of Management | March 20, 2019

Yonsei University & Seoul National University | April 12, 2019

National University of Singapore | July 11, 2019

Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta | December 3, 2019

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Summer School

Tohoku University

July 22-25, 2019

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Conference

UNSW Sydney

August 29-September 1, 2019

Senior International Leaders' Meeting

The University of British Columbia

September 18-20, 2019

Population Aging Conference

Keio University

October 14, 2019

Vice Presidents for Research Meeting

Chulalongkorn University

October 28-30, 2019

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Symposium

Tecnológico de Monterrey

October 29-31, 2019

APEC University Leaders' Forum*

(Canceled)

University of Chile

November 14, 2019

Global Health Conference*

(postponed to 2021)

The University of Hong Kong

November 17-20, 2019

Asia-Pacific Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystems*

(postponed)

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The University of Hong Kong

December 2-4, 2019

APRU-AICHe Conference on Engineering Sustainable Development 2019

Korea University

December 12-13, 2019

2020

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Campus Safety Workshop

Tohoku University

February 12-15, 2020

Provosts' Forum

(canceled)

Tsinghua University

March 20-21, 2020

24th Annual Presidents' Meeting

(canceled)

The University of Auckland

June 21-23, 2020

Virtual Annual Presidents' Meeting

June 22, 2020

Undergraduate Leaders' Program

(canceled)

University of the Philippines

July 6-17, 2020

APRU-IRIDeS Virtual Multi-Hazards Summer School

Tohoku University

July 15, 22, 29, 2020

Artificial Intelligence for Social Good Forum

UN Conference Centre, Bangkok

September 2020

Population Aging Conference

(postponed to 2021)

University of Indonesia

September 7-8, 2020

Senior International Leaders' Meeting

Far Eastern Federal University

October 7-9, 2020

Virtual Global Health Conference

Fudan University

October 19-21, 2020

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Symposium

(postponed to 2021)

University of Indonesia

October 20-22, 2020

University Museums Research Symposium

(postponed to 2021)

National University of Singapore

November 7-9, 2020

APEC University Leaders' Forum

The University of Malaya

November 9, 2020

Haruki Murakami in International Literature

Waseda University

November 27, 2020

AICHe-APRU Conference on Engineering Sustainable Development 2020

Bangkok

December 6-8, 2020

Virtual Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Conference

The University of Auckland

December 2020

2021

Population Aging Conference

University of Indonesia

April 2021

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Summer School

Tohoku University

June 2021

25th Annual Presidents' Meeting

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

June 20-22, 2021

Undergraduate Leaders' Program

The University of the Philippines

Senior International Leaders' Meeting

The University of Sydney

September 2021

APRU-IRIDeS Multi-Hazards Symposium

University of Indonesia

October 2021

Vice Presidents for Research Meeting

University of Science and Technology of China

China

Global Health Conference

The University of Hong Kong

Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Conference

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

APEC University Leaders' Forum

The University of Auckland

November 2021

2022

Provosts' Forum

Tsinghua University

March 2022

26th Annual Presidents' Meeting

The University of Hong Kong

June 2022

University Museums Research Symposium

Zhejiang University

Zhejiang University

APRU International Secretariat

The APRU Secretariat is responsible for supporting the coordination, facilitation, and liaison of APRU activities and programs. Headquartered in Hong Kong, the Secretariat works with APRU members to set the organization's agenda and ensure it fulfills its mission as The Voice of Knowledge and Innovation.

To contact the Secretariat with suggestions, initiatives, or queries, please e-mail: apru@apru.org.



Back row (left to right):

Christopher Tremewan, Secretary General
Jackie Agnello Wong, Director (Network Programs)
Tina Lin, Senior Program Officer
Sherman Cheng, Director (Administration and Finance)

Front row (left to right):

Elaine Hung, Events and Relations Manager
Christina Schönleber, Senior Director (Policy and Programs)
Robert Qiao, Communications Officer
Florence Chan, Office Manager/EA to Secretary General
Ellen Yau, Administrative and Finance Officer



Takako Izumi
Program Director
Multi-Hazards Program



Yekang Ko
Program Director
Sustainable Cities &
Landscapes Program



Hiroki Nakatani
Program Director
Population Aging Program



Mellissa Withers
Program Director
Global Health Program



Yong Sik Ok
Program Director
Sustainable Waste
Management Program








ACTING TOGETHER

IN A WORLD OUT OF BALANCE

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