

The Collaborative Symposium on “Urban Policies and Local Cultural Heritage in Global Cities”

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We are glad to announce that the Second International Symposium jointly sponsored by the Centre for Population and Urban Research, Melbourne, and Rikkyo Institute for Global Urban Studies, Tokyo, was held on February 29th and March 1st 2016. As with last year's event, the Conference venue was the Menzies Building, Monash University, Melbourne. It was a day of fine weather with few clouds, and on campus many students were busily preparing for the forthcoming semester. The collaboration of the two Research Centers has already brought forth a significant publication from Palgrave Macmillan co-edited by Drs. Ernest HEALY, Dharma ARUNACHALAM, and Tetsuo MIZUKAMI: *Creating Social Cohesion in an Interdependent World: Experiences of Australia and Japan*.

The program for the “The Urban Policies and Local Cultural Heritages in Global Cities,” symposium consisted of two parts: Seminars on February 29th and an Excursion on March 1st. The symposium got under way with an Opening Address from the Director of the Centre for Population and Urban Research, Professor Dharma ARUNACHALAM. This was followed by a session Chaired and Introduced by Professor Tetsuo MIZUKAMI, Director of the Rikkyo Institute for Global Urban Studies. The presentation of two papers followed: “Group Households in Metropolitan Melbourne - life style choice or a form of housing disadvantage?” by Dr. Ernest HEALY and “Indians in Australia” by A/Prof. Dharma ARUNACHALAM (Faculty of Arts, Monash University). A lively discussion followed raising issues arising from both papers, exploring the characteristics of group households and the expansion of some particular ethnic population in Australia. This continued for some time until the Chairman deemed it was time for a well-earned tea break.

A second session then followed, chaired by Dr. Ernest HEALY (Research Affiliate, Centre for Population and Urban Research). This consisted of four paper presentations: “Urban Renaissance Development and Municipal Renewal Projects in Inner City Tokyo, ” by Prof. Tetsuo MIZUKAMI (College of Sociology, Rikkyo University); “A Study of Lives of

Bangladeshi Returned Migrants from Japan,” by Prof. Yoshiaki Edwin NORO (College of Sociology, Rikkyo University); “Fukushima and the Center-Periphery Politics in Japan,” by Prof. Ariyoshi OGAWA (College of Law, Rikkyo University); and “A Place for Children in Community: Setting up ‘Children’s Café’” by Appointed A/ Prof. Yoshiya ICHINOSE (College of Law, Rikkyo University). This papers provided a focus for intense reflection upon possibility for further research collaboration and various possibilities were openly discussed. The symposium concluded with closing address by Prof. Ariyoshi OGAWA (Vice Director, Rikkyo Institute for Global Urban Studies). Most participants and a few guests joined together for an evening dinner at the “Tiamo” restaurant, Lygon Street in Carlton, an area well-known amongst Melburnians for its tasty Italian cuisine.

The next day, 1st of March, all the paper-presenters visited the Dean of Faculty of Arts, Prof. Rae FRANCES, at Clayton Campus for talk about the significance of collaborative research possibilities, our respective research affiliation and prospective exchanges of students. Since the College of Sociology, Rikkyo University has recently introduced a new system, inviting foreign lecturers to participate within the formal curriculum, it has also extended the opportunities for foreign students to enroll in Rikkyo University’s courses in various disciplines. The participants have committed themselves to further develop research collaboration.

Then, Dr. HEALY took the Japanese crew to the Elsternwick shopping center. The area has an old shopping mall with some cafés on Glen Huntly Road, which is only several kilometers from the city’s central area, and was developed in the mid-19th century. As well, the Jewish Holocaust Centre is nearby, and here we can meet volunteer guides, some of whom are elderly Holocaust survivors. They serve as guides for visitors to the Centre. Then the Japanese crew saw the recently developed areas of Melbourne’s inner city precinct, the former Docklands. During this excursion, we have been busy discussing further bilateral development of research projects between Rikkyo University, Tokyo and Monash University, Melbourne.