



## **The Peaceful University: aspirations for academic futures – compassion, generosity, imagination, and creation**

### **The 6<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC IDENTITIES CONFERENCE 2018**

Wednesday 19 – Friday 21 September 2018  
Higashi Hiroshima Campus, Hiroshima University

#### **1. ABOUT**

Building on the exploration of the effects of measurement in the university at the 2016 conference in [Sydney](#), the theme of the 2018 conference is inspired by the image of one thousand origami cranes. These cranes symbolise persistent aspirations for peace in Hiroshima and are a gentle expression of warm wishes for a better future. The 6th International Academic Identities Conference 2018 (IAIC2018) begins with this idea, opening a space to consider our hopes for the future, for compassion and generosity for/toward the university or the society through the university. Peace is a concept that invites us to imagine, restore, create, construct and interact. It is not only the absence of violence, but something more sustainable and empathetic (Galtung 1996). Peace building can take place at different levels and often starts to bear fruit only after years of everyday care, which must continue even after seeing the fruits.

This conference starts with an invitation: how can we envision a ‘peaceful’ future higher education and academic identities? What are we aspiring after as dwellers of the university and how are we going about it? Given the complexities that now characterize the university, and the resulting structural changes causing cultural and political conflict to the role and agency of dwellers of higher education, the well-being of both academic and non-academic staff has never been more urgent. Yet, the traditional domains of academic work, values, identity and culture, once was seen as the heartland of the university, seems to have been destroyed with the sheer diversity of academic appointments. What do we now share as academics? Where might our lived experiences be leading the university to? How our relationship with students and the society changing and how would those changes affect the role of the university? The university as an institution cannot exist without the people who constitute it and therefore we need to think about who we are, who we want to be and what kind of university we want to envision.

The Steering Committee invites you to join us in Hiroshima, Japan for IAIC2018. Submit your abstract and join us as a presenter or attend as an audience member at this biennial international event.

#### **2. SUBMISSIONS**

##### ***Themes***

The conference welcomes submissions from staff and students, across the full spectrum of disciplinary lenses on the following topics:

- Being and becoming academics: lived experiences, subjectivities, academic identities, and academic career paths
- Generosity and kindness in academic practices, work and life: research practices, teaching and learning practices, and academic citizenship and engagement



- Conflicts and aspirations: impact of socio-political changes on academic practices, identities, relationship with students and the society, and possible responses
- The idea and purpose of the future university, and role of academics
- Theories and methods for investigating the future academic work and the university

### ***Submissions types***

We welcome four types of conference submission. No matter which type you choose, aim to prepare no more than a 500-word submission (which should include no more than five scholarly references). The references can be excluded from your word count.

In the case of submitting a symposium abstract, please give an overarching abstract for the symposium as a whole (maximum 250 words) as well as titles and abstracts for each paper (maximum 300 words) within the symposium. Please nominate a contact person for the symposium.

#### *Paper/Symposium (30 /90 min.)*

Single paper presentations explore one or more dimensions of the conference themes. The goal of these sessions is to share work-in-progress and engage in dialogue with conference participants, so timing should be balanced between presentation and discussion (20m+10m is optimal). You should also aim to demonstrate how your paper/symposium contributes (or is likely to contribute) to the existing body of scholarly research. Where presenters have 2-3 thematically linked papers, you may propose a 90 minutes symposium. Timing should be balanced between presentation and discussion (35m+10m for 2 papers, 20 m+10m for 3 papers).

#### *Roundtable (60 min)*

Roundtable discussions provide the opportunity for a lively discussion around a particular topic or area of research. They are an ideal opportunity for networking and for building collaborations. If you wish to propose a roundtable discussion, the submission should include an overview of the topic, and pose some critical questions that the roundtable discussion will explore. These sessions will be chaired by the person who proposes the roundtable.

#### *Performance (30/60 min)*

Performance-based presentations provide an opportunity for presenters to draw on forms, expressions and traditions of arts-based inquiry as a vehicle for exploring the conference themes. We welcome performance in all its variety. Some possibilities include: readers' theatre, performance ethnography, and poetic representations of research. If you wish to propose a performance, your submission will need to be strong in both the idea (related to the conference themes), and in the description of the type of performance. If the performance involves audience participation, you will need to indicate that as well in your submission.



### *Review criteria*

All submissions to the conference will be double-blind peer reviewed according to the following criteria:

- It responds and contributes to the conference theme
- It is connected to, and in conversation with appropriate scholarly literature
- It demonstrates how and why it is of interest to the intended audience

Submissions are due on **Wednesday 28 February 2018**.

After 28 February, all proposals will be reviewed by the conference reviewer panel, and you will receive notice whether your proposal is accepted for presentation at the conference no later than **31 March, 2018**.

### **3. STEERING COMMITTEE**

The steering committee looks forward to welcoming you to Hiroshima:

- A/Prof Machi Sato (convener), Research Institute for Higher Education, Hiroshima University.
- Dr Tai Peseta, Senior Lecturer, Learning Transformation, Western Sydney University
- A/Prof Barbara Grant, Critical Studies in Education, Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Auckland
- Dr James Burford, Faculty of Learning Sciences and Education, Thammasat University
- Dr Jan Smith, Independent researcher in the UK
- Prof. Kiiko Katsuno, Vice-Director, Seikei Center for Higher Education Development, Seikei University
- Dr Shinji Tateishi, Researcher, Department for Higher Education Research, National Institute for Educational Policy Research of Japan
- Dr Kim Yangson, Research Institute for Higher Education, Hiroshima University

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Academic Identities Conference 2018 is supported by the Research Institute for Higher Education at Hiroshima University.

### **4. CONTACT**

For further information (local information, accommodation, conference fees, registration, etc.) please see the conference website, which will contain more detailed information as we approach the time of the conference. The website can be accessed through this link: [www.aic2018.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/doku.php](http://www.aic2018.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/doku.php)

If you have any questions or queries about the conference please do not hesitate to contact us at: [iaic2018@hiroshima-u.ac.jp](mailto:iaic2018@hiroshima-u.ac.jp)