

# ISSA Activity Brief

Issue\_09 April 2023

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



My fellow members of ISSA,

The pandemic of COVID19 has been raging for more than three years, but it has finally calmed down. Although it is not completely over, people in every country are regaining the vitality of their daily lives “with Corona.”

Now, what about the current state of ISSA? ISSA's operations have gotten on track, holding annual meetings and issuing journal and activity briefs, but we still cannot see a bright future.

The number of associations belonging to ISSA has not increased from 6 in Japan, Korea, and Indonesia. Partly because of this, financial difficulties continue, and we have never been able to hold a face-to-face annual meeting, and the number of submissions to the journal is very small.

There are various factors behind them, and they must be different for each country. Among them, what I see as the most problematic is the idea that there is no benefit to presenting at ISSA annual meetings or submitting to JSSEA. I think it is the view that the ISSA has already been completed, and ISSA members are merely consumers and beneficiaries of JSSEA.

The actual ISSA/JSSEA has only been established for a few years, and if compared to a human being, he/she is barely an elementary school student. Each member must grow up into a fine adult as his/her guardian. So instead of asking what the ISSA/JSSEA can do for you, you should ask what you can do for the ISSA/JSSEA.

You don't have to be good at giving oral presentations or writing papers in English. What counts is your willingness to publish and discuss your thoughts and practices. I believe that the active participation of individual members will enable the development of ISSA and the quality improvement of JSSEA.

President of ISSA  
HARADA TOMOHIRO

## ANNOUNCEMENT FROM OUR MEMBERS

### 1. THE SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (ESSDRA)

On February 18th, 2023 (Sat), the 34th annual conference was held online. The conference consisted of Three parts: “Symposium,” “Problem Research,” and “Paper Session.” In the Symposium held on February 18, about 130 researchers and educators outlined his/her opinions and proposals to the theme, “Can social studies subjects play a role in the creation of a sustainable society?” The Problem Research was divided into two subcommittees and the participants discussed specific aspects of lesson planning. In the Paper Session, held in on-demand mode, we had 48 total wide-ranging presentations. Although this conference was held online, finally 238 people attended the symposium or visited the

conference website.

At of now, we plan to have the next conference at Hyogo University of Teacher Education. We are looking forward to seeing you in Hyogo!

## **2. THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL STUDIES (JASS)**

### 1) 2022 Annual Online Conference

On October 22 and 23, 2022, the 72nd annual academic conference was held at Shinshu University in Nagano prefecture. It was held online via Zoom. Its theme was, "What can Social Studies Education do to Bring up Children who can Face Local Issues?" More than 100 presenters presented for the free research presentations. More than 20 sessions were held. Despite being held online, many participants gathered, and such active discussions were held at each session.

The theme of the symposium was "Children and Social Studies Education Facing Community Issues."

### 2) JASS International Exchange Seminar (collaborated with Kettering Foundation)

On December 3rd, 2022, in Tokyo and online via Zoom, its theme was "The Development of Deliberative Democracy in the United States: Learning from the Citizenship Education of the Kettering Foundation."

The presenters were:

- Kettering Foundation
- Sharon L. Davies (President and Chief Executive Officer)
- Maxine S. Thomas (Vice President, Secretary, and General Counsel)
- Paloma Dallas (Director of Special Projects and Senior Editor; Cousins Research Group, Program Officer)

### 3) "Diversity Square" 1st Assembly 2022 (collaborated with Japan Association of Universities of Education)

On January 21st, 2023, the Diversity Committee held "Diversity Square" 1st Assembly 2022 in Tokyo

and online via Zoom. The theme was "Manga Artist Rune Hoshino Talks about Diversity" The speaker Mr. Rune Hoshino was born in Cameroon and raised in Japan. He is drawing a cartoon from the perspective of a person who looked at two countries. Mr. Hoshino shared his own experiences and understandings, and the audience exchanged their opinions; the meeting was very productive.

### 4) JASS Spring Seminar 2022

On March 21st, 2023, JASS Spring Seminar 2022 was held in Tokyo and online, both via Zoom. The theme was "What Skills Should Be Developed in Social Studies Education? The Skills Consistent through Elementary to High School Social Studies."

The presenters were:

- Geography: Yoshiyasu Ida (Tsukuba University)
- History: Shinichi Tajiri (Mejiro University)
- Civics: Yasuhiro Hashimoto (Fukui University)

The commentators were:

- Elementary school/ Geography: Keiko Nakaya (Elementary School Affiliated to the Faculty of Education Chiba University)
- Junior High school/ Civics: Nobuko Mason (Junior High School Affiliated to Tsukuba University)
- High school/ History: Tadao Ooki (Fuchu High School)

#### 5) 2023 Annual Conference

On October 28th and 29th, 2023, the 73rd Annual Academic Conference will be held at Ibaraki University in Ibaraki prefecture. Details will be posted on the official website as soon as it's decided. (<http://socialstudies.jp/ja/index.html>)

### **3. THE JAPANESE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL STUDIES (JERASS)**

#### 1) The 71st Annual Conference

The 71st Annual Conference of the Japanese Association for Research in Social Education (JERASS) was held from October 8-

29, 2022, with Fukuoka University of Education as the organizing committee.

The symposium was conducted as a webcast of studio discussions. The theme was "Where Should Social Studies Go? Has the Debate over the Nature of Social Studies as Citizenship Education Been Settled?" Twenty years have passed since the so-called "New Wave Debate," and it is necessary to continue to examine what is still new and what is old among the issues raised in that debate. It is also necessary to discuss a new vision of "NEO New Wave" social studies following the "New Wave." These issues were therefore addressed by three keynote speakers from different generations of scholars, Kazuhiro Mizoguchi (Kagoshima University), Tatsuya Watanabe (Tokyo Gakugei University), and Yuichi Furuta (University of Tsukuba).

To further explore the theme of the symposium, the following three research subcommittees were established:

1: What can be done for social studies students?

2: What can social studies teachers do?

3: What can future social studies researchers do?

The symposium and research project attracted more than 300 online participants. The most popular concurrent session received over 1,000 hits to on-demand research presentations via electronic bulletin boards. In total, more than 10,000 research presentations were accessed.

#### 2) The 72nd Annual Conference

The 72nd National Research Conference in 2023 is scheduled to be held at Okayama University on October 14-15, 2023. Details will be announced as they become available.

#### 3) 2022 JERASS-ISSA Forum

A collaborative online forum between JERASS and ISSA was held on October 9, 2022. The theme was "How should Social Studies Connect with Society Outside the Classroom?"

No social studies education is complete within the classroom. Engaging with society constitutes an important part of citizenship education. What kinds of engagement are possible? What kinds of engagement have been created during the recent COVID-19 pandemic, when it was difficult to make practical connections outside the classroom? This forum shared initiatives from different countries and discussed future perspectives.

Although it was held on a Sunday, more than 40 people attended the forum. The speakers and the title of each presentation are listed below.

Dr. Eric King-Man Chong: How should social studies connect with society outside the classroom? - Hong Kong experience (Hong Kong Metropolitan University)

Dr. Seung-Yun Lee: Metaverse, human factors and the role of social studies: What do we have to do? (Hanshin University)

Lecturer. Kihachiro Sakai: The relationship between super teacher's gatekeeping and social studies lesson foster the citizenship

in elementary school in Japan and U.S. (Minami Kyushu University)

The discussant was Toshinori Kuwabara (Okayama University). The coordinators were Hidekazu Yamada (Okayama University) and Noboru Tanaka (Gifu University).

Dr. Eric King-Man Chong's presentation showed us that to develop active citizens, it is important to bring children into direct contact with society and the activities of its citizens. Dr. Seung-Yun Lee suggested that digital technology has the potential to allow children to experience society through virtual space. Lecturer. Kihachiro Sakai's presentation showed us that as social studies play a greater role in citizen development, the social and cultural contexts in which learners and teachers operate have a significant impact on learning. All three speakers offered different perspectives on social studies while showing how the discussion on the ideal state of social studies within the Japanese academic community

has evolved over the last 20 years.

#### **4. KOREAN SOCIAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (KSSA)**

##### 1) 2022 Fall Conference

- Date: Saturday, December 10, 2022

- Place: Gong National University

- Topic: Directions and Challenges of Social Studies Education in the Convergence Era

- Contents: Social studies subjects, elective courses, new teaching strategies, and research methodologies in the 2022 revised social studies curriculum.

- Participants: President Yongkyo Chung and 10 others

##### 2) 2023 Plan

###### (1) The 194th Spring Conference

- Date: June 10, 2023

- Place: Korea National University of Education

- Contents: Academic exchange under the theme of "Asking the Way of Social Studies Education"

###### (2) 2023 Regular Board Meeting

### and Annual Conference

- Date: August 19~20, 2023
- Place: Yeungnam University
- Contents: 2023 Achievement and Accounting Report, '2023 Social Studies Education Award' Ceremony, Academic Exchange under the theme of 'The Role of Social Studies Education in Reestablishing Social Relations in the Post-Corona Era', and Cultural Property Tour in Gyeongbuk and Daegu

### (3) The 195th Fall Conference

- Date: December 9, 2023
- Place: Seoul National University of Education
- Contents: Presentation and exchange of thematic academic papers, planning of academic events in 2024

## **5. THE KOREAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION (KASSE)**

### 1) 2023 Annual Online Conference

On January 14th, 2023 (Sat), an annual academic conference was

held at Korea National University of Education. The theme was “Co-existence, Solidarity, and Social Studies Education.”

Through this conference, excellent domestic researchers gathered and presented research findings relevant to the subject of the conference.

Presentation Details are as follows:

- 1st Group: The Citizenship and Social Studies
- 2nd Group: Social Studies and Geography Education
- 3rd Group: Educational Methods of Social Studies
- 4th Group: 2022 Revision of the 7th National Curriculum and Social Studies
- 5th Group: Human Rights, Globalization, and Social Studies
- 6th Group: Democracy and Social Studies Textbooks

### 2) KASSE International Academic Exchange Seminar (collaborated with ISSA)

On October 15, 2023, KASSE held an online international academic seminar via Zoom,

collaborating with ISSA under the theme of “Curriculum for Justice and Harmony.”

Key Speaker: Prof. Dr. Keith Barton (Indiana University – Bloomington)

### 3) The 11th Korea-Japan Academic Exchange Conference

On August 26th, 2023 (Sat), the 11th Korea-Japan Academic Exchange Conference will be held at Kagoshima University, Japan under the theme of “Teaching Complex and Difficult Topics in Social Studies Class”

\*We are looking forward to hearing from the **Indonesian Social Studies Association (APRIPSI)** next time!

## **OUR MEMBERS’ NEW PUBLICATION (WRITTEN IN ENGLISH)**

- Dong-min Lee (2022). The potential and merits of narrative-based virtual fieldwork in preservice geography teacher education.

*Education Sciences*, 13(3), 259.

● Dong-min Lee (2022). The potential and reality of postgraduate education in geography for improving primary geography teachers' professionalism: A focus on South Korea. In *Geography Teacher Education and Professionalization*, Eds. E. Artvinli, I. Gryl, J. Lee, and J. T. Mitchell, pp. 87-99. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

**\* Do you want to share your research written in English with ISSA colleagues? Send necessary information (abstract, reference, URL, etc.) to your association's ISSA board member or [dr.dongminlee@gmail.com](mailto:dr.dongminlee@gmail.com) directly.**

---