

Plenary Address 1:

Advancing English-Enabled Learning and Teaching with Open Education

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Abstract:

Over the last decade, the emerging Internet-enabled open education movement has been transforming the landscape of higher education both globally and locally. By making educational tools, resources, and knowledge freely and openly accessible to learners and teachers around the world, the movement is beginning to radically change the cultures, values, systems, ecology, and economics of higher education. In short, open education is enabling all of us to learn anything, anytime, anywhere.

As our knowledge-based society matures, the global needs for a new higher education system that can promptly respond to the rapid changes in the social structure continue to grow. Furthermore, in Japan, there have been increasing concerns about decreasing quality and non-substantial formalization of higher education.

This keynote addresses and discusses some of the new possibilities in how we learn and teach in relation to open education that helps build the foundation for providing more flexible and on-demand educational services. It also shares and examines some pioneer and exemplary efforts in realizing “Higher Education 2.0,” and explores how Japan higher education can start creating an ecosystem that enables universities and colleges to build necessary capacity for professional development and educational support, especially in terms of promoting the mobility and sustainability of human resources.

Finally, the following questions illuminate and guide us in our discussions during the session:

- How can we enable and encourage learners and teachers to participate in open education?
- How can learning communities take advantage of open educational resources?
- What support needs to be provided to make open education most effective?
- How can we promote and enhance “English-enabled” learning and teaching with open education?
- How can openness help further expand and advance higher education?

Biodata:

Over the past two decades, Dr. Iiyoshi has led, internationally, research and development in the areas such as educational innovation, open education, and the future of higher education systems. He served the director of the Knowledge Media Laboratory and a senior scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as well as a senior strategist in the Office of Educational Innovation and Technology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has also served as a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Technology and Education, and is a co-editor of the Carnegie Foundation's book, "Opening Up Education: The Collective Advancement of Education through Open Technology, Open Content, and Open Knowledge" (MIT Press, 2008).