

Call for Papers

International Symposium on

“Globalism and Regional Economies”

Workshop on Economic Integration

Centennial Commemoration of

Otaru University of Commerce

Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan

August 26-27, 2011

An international symposium to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of Otaru University of Commerce (OUC) will be held in Otaru and Sapporo on August 26 and 27 of next year. The theme for this symposium is “Globalism and Regional Economies”. On **August 26, 2011** there will be six workshop sessions pertaining to the following topics associated with the main theme: economic integration, finance, management, medical care, tourism and urban design. The main panel will convene on August 27. OUC invites scholars from our partner schools to submit abstracts.

Three positions are open in the Workshop on Economic Integration for presenters who are affiliated with OUC partner schools. Our selection committee will notify submitters of the results. The lead author of each paper selected will be invited to present at the OUC centennial symposium. Selected presenters will receive reasonable travel and lodging expense reimbursement (please see (6) below) and will be invited to join fellow participants in a schedule of centennial celebration activities. Presentations shall be made only in English.

(1) Theme: Economic Integration

This session deals with the legal and economic impact of economic integration on local economies. We chose this topic to address emerging opportunities and challenges that we face in the Hokkaido region. Hokkaido is the 21st largest island in the world. It is the largest geographic prefecture in Japan, accounting for 22% of national land area. The Hokkaido economy has strengths and weaknesses. The island enjoys 100% food self-

sufficiency that contrasts with a national average of approximately 40%. Further, Hokkaido has a comparative advantage in tourism vis-à-vis other prefectures. Industrial promotion, however, has for some time been a major concern because unlike other regions in Japan Hokkaido consistently runs a trade deficit. Moreover, Japan's policy favoring Foreign Trade Agreements is not well received by the Hokkaido agricultural community.

The session entitled Workshop on Economic Integration will not be strictly limited to Hokkaido related issues. Rather the focus will be on the types of economic and trade factors that impact regional economies. These include legal and economic causes and effects of economic integration including FTAs and customs unions, the effects on regional societies and the academic and practical options for regional governments to address these challenges. It is therefore not necessary for presentations to specifically address the situation in Hokkaido. Nevertheless, constructive suggestions would be welcome.

Possible topics for presentations include:

- Legal and economic impacts of FTAs on local societies
- Conflict and complementarities between regional and global trade regimes
- The drivers, causes, and effects of regional trade agreements
- Theoretical and/or empirical analysis of economic integration
- Suggestions on how the experiences of particular regions/areas could provide useful perspectives for other regions (perhaps Hokkaido).

(2) Abstract Submission

You are cordially invited to submit for consideration an abstract for an unpublished paper. The abstract should not exceed 500 words. The abstract is for a full paper, the details of which appear below. Submissions should be sent as a single MS/Word or PDF file by E-mail to otaru100@office.otaru-uc.ac.jp. Please include the words, "OUC Symposium" in the subject line of your E-mail. Submissions should be received by OUC not later than **midnight, October 15, 2010**. The abstract, the presentation material used at the symposium, and the final paper must all be in English.

(3) Contents of the abstract

The abstract submission must contain the following:

1. Title of the Paper
2. Name(s) of author(s) (The surname in CAPITALS)
3. Affiliation(s), post(s), postal address(es), telephone/fax number(s), and E-mail address(es) of the authors

4. Abstract of 500 words or less)
5. Three key words or phrases
6. A statement that the paper has not been previously published

(4) Selection process

Selection of presenters based on the abstracts will be determined by a selection committee. Submitters will be notified by **December 20, 2010**.

Submitters are required to provide a full length paper not later than **June 30 2011**. The paper should be more than 3,000 words in length.

(5) Full paper submission

In the event of revisions, the deadline for a final version of the paper is **October 20, 2011**. Papers that are presented and submitted prior to the deadline will be published in a commemorative publication of papers of the Otaru University of Commerce Globalism and Regional Economies Centennial Symposium.

(6) Reimbursement

Your travel expenses for economy class air fare and hotel charges (not including additional charges for a companion) will be promptly reimbursed. Presenters will also receive an honorarium.

(7)Organizers

Tomohiko KOBAYASHI Chisato SHIBAYAMA

the Conference secretariat, Makoto ANAZAWA Kyosuke Maruyama Ayako OWADA

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