

“How to Build Smart Society”

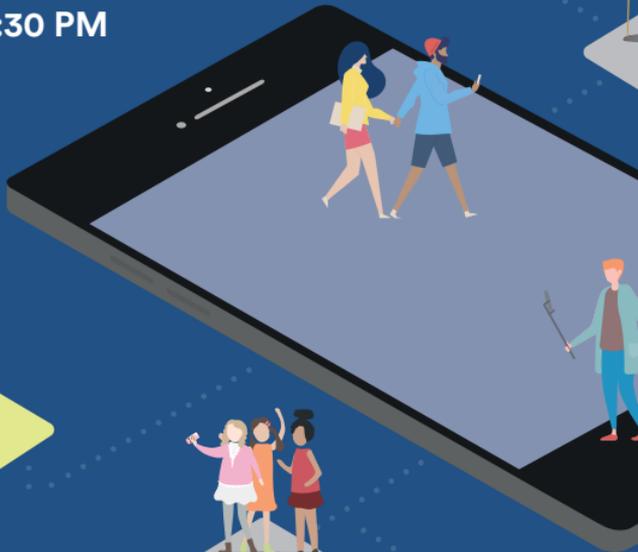
INTERGENERATIONAL CARING

Prof. Lai On Kwok

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AAB 1312, HKBU



About the Speaker



Prof. Lai On Kwok is Professor at Graduate School of Policy Studies, Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan, honorary professorship in Social Work & Social Administration (2004-now) and honorary fellowship in Urban Planning & Environmental Management (1991-2010), The University of Hong Kong; Visiting Professor at United Nations University – Institute of Advanced Studies (2010-14), Visiting Lecturer for School of Medicine, Kumamoto University (2014-now).

About the Lecture

The maximal use of information and communications (ICT) in every nano-timing of super-modern social life epitomizes the 21st century digital capitalism. Intensive mobile new media communications are not just spinning ubiquitous intensive social re-networking, but also creating phenomenal creativity in the informational age! The ubiquitous also enhance positive social reciprocities: reinforcing socio-familial intergeneration communication between parents and kids, senior adults to their younger family members. Yet, the diffusion of mobile communication is much (path-dependent) socio-economic differentiated, so do the beneficiaries for mobile digital gadgets user-creators. Facing glocal transformation - hyper-economic development and rapid demographic change, this presentation examines comparative advantages of ICT functionality and their dynamic new media-driven creativity - social innovations. New media in e-clouding regime are indeed creating the “smartness” of super-modern societies. Yet the new “smartness” should be guided by ethical and normative considerations, compatible to people needs, for enhancing humanity as well as sustainability. Focusing on civic activism, this brief examines, comparatively, Japanese experiences and their functional interfacing between old social virtues, new media and social innovations: how these intertwined new media and people initiatives in the advanced informational age contribute to building smarter societies towards sustainability?

About Smart Society Research at HKBU

HKBU's Faculty of Social Sciences is the first in Hong Kong, China to launch an integrated programme of research and exchange on Smart Societies. Smart Societies are those where technology assists people to lead improved lives. We research the possibilities, actions, and consequences of smart societies. We share our original research on-line and through open lectures.

Our approach is global and transdisciplinary. We collaborate internationally and draw best practice from around the world. We are problem-driven, and integrate knowledge in an ecosystem that focuses on areas of key significance to China and Asia including:

- **Environmental and Urban Systems** (including, for example, smart cities, smart energy, smart heritage, smart home, resilient cities, global change and evolution, planetary urbanization)
- **Well-being** (including, healthy living, food and nutrition, active ageing and cognition stimulation, digital health care systems, evergaming and esports)
- **Populations** (including, digital divide, intergenerational caring, ethnic and racial studies, digital access, transnational networks, digital family hood)
- **Learning and Praxis** (including, e-governance, smart schools, disintermediated education, citizen science, data analytics application)

For further details, access to our outputs, and collaboration opportunities, please visit us:

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