

LECTURE 29



Prof. Monte Cassim

- **President and Chair of the Board of Trustees, Professor, Akita International University**
- **Chancellor, University of Moratuwa**
- **Invited University Professor, Kyoto University and Principal Investigator, Biophotonics & Spectroscopy Laboratory, Graduate School of Medicine**
- **Governing Council Member, Vietnam-Japan University**
- **Chair, Board of Councilors, and Member, Board of Governors, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology**
- **Advisor to the President, Nara Institute of Science and Technology**

Date: 2024.11.4

The poster is for the Tamkang Clement and Carrie Chair 2024 event. It features a background image of the Hsu Shou-chien International Conference Center. The top section has the title 'TAMKANG CLEMENT AND CARRIE CHAIR 2024' in large, bold letters. Below the title, on the left, is a location pin icon and the text 'Hsu Shou-chien International Conference Center' and 'Chang Yeo-lan International Conference Hall'. To the right of this is a circular portrait of Dr. Monte Cassim, President of Akita International University. Below the portrait, his name and title are listed. The bottom section of the poster has a dark blue background with the topic 'The Value of Sound Scholarship' in large yellow letters, followed by the subtitle 'Shaping the Future with Hope, Creativity and Honor'. Below this, there are two columns of text: '2016' and '2017', each followed by a description of an award or honor. A QR code is located to the right of the 2017 text. At the very bottom, small text indicates the organizing and hosting departments.

TAMKANG CLEMENT AND CARRIE CHAIR 2024

Hsu Shou-chien International Conference Center
Chang Yeo-lan International Conference Hall

November 4, 2024
Mon. 13.10-15.00

Dr. Monte Cassim
President of Akita International University

Topic:
The Value of Sound Scholarship
Shaping the Future with Hope, Creativity and Honor

2016
Awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure by the Emperor of Japan

2017
Honored with the Sri Lankan National Hero title (Vidya Nidhi)

Organized by: College of Foreign Languages and Literature Hosted by: Department of Japanese Literature

INTRODUCTION

- Prior to his current appointment on 1 June 2021, he was President and Trustee of Shizenkan University, a Postgraduate Professional University in Leadership and Innovation and Professor (Science and Technology Innovation). He is also Professor Emeritus and Emeritus Executive Trustee of Ritsumeikan Trust, where he was Vice-Chancellor (2004-2012), and President of Ritsumeikan Asia

Pacific University (2004-09). He is also on the Governing/Advisory Boards of several leading Japanese universities, including Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Nara Institute of Science and Technology, National Institute of Advanced Graduate Studies, Sokendai, and Kyushu University, as well as the Vietnam-Japan University. He is also on the selection boards of some

prestigious international awards for scholarship and practical pursuits in domains that bridge the natural and human sciences. He has long been an advocate for Japan's increased engagement to strengthen science capacities in developing and emerging economies, including the promotion of citizen science.

- His current research focus is on health, environment and life sciences, applying these scientific findings in real-life situations. He does this by drawing from the principles of Inclusive Innovation, which he presented to the G7 Ministers of Science and Technology in May 2016 at the invitation of GoJ's Cabinet Office.
- At Akita International University, where he has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 2014, taking up the appointment of President and Chair of the Board of Trustees in June 2021, he established a university-wide institution, the Institute for Applied International Liberal Arts (AILA Institute). This institute will have 3 Centers which will work together when necessary. Two of them are AIU's new research drivers and the third is a pedagogic system development initiative.
- Cassim was Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka (Science and Technology; JCP with Japan) from 2015-2019, when he

established the Japan-Sri Lanka Innovation Platform, J-SLIP, incubating around 20 STI projects. Many of these projects have been consolidated into operational propulsive projects of the Sri Lanka-Japan Collaborative Platform (SL-JCP), a not-forprofit General-Purpose Association ("Shadan Hojin"), legally incorporated in Japan in July 2019, where Cassim is the Representative Executive Director. In May 2019 he co-founded the Emerging and Developing Economies Network Seminars with Dr. Nassrine Azimi to promote the values of sustainability, inclusion and reciprocity in charting development paradigms. In 2016 he was selected by the Cabinet Office to represent Japan on Inclusive Innovation, a concept and field he has pioneered, at the G7 Science and Technology Ministers Meeting. He is also a Founder Member and the current Chair of Tools for Self-Reliance, Japan (www.tfsr.jp), established in 1993 with friends and his wife, Professor Julia Cassim, who works in Inclusive Design. TFSR Japan is a NPO that has been sending refurbished tools and dispatching artisans to work with impoverished communities in developing and emerging economies. The aim here is to improve lives and livelihoods through the development of small

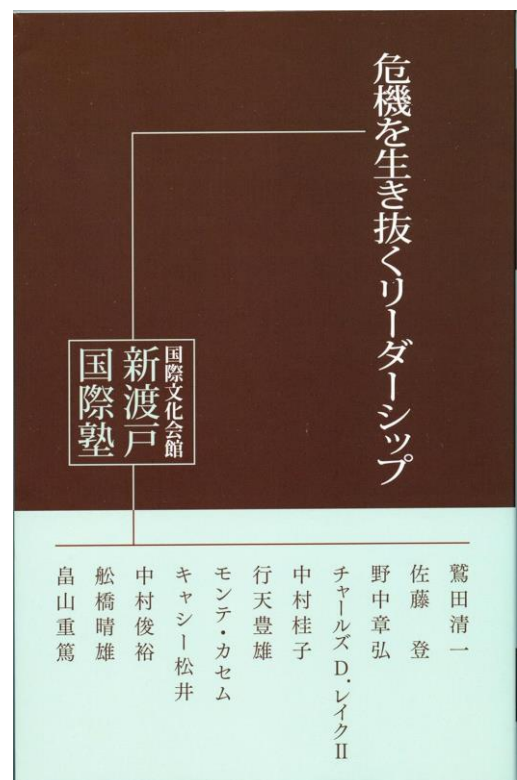
community-driven renewable energy power plants, water purification systems, energy-efficient hearths and biofuels, whilst enhancing skills in the local artisan community through engagement in such practical initiatives.

- He has received the Order of the Sacred Treasure with Gold Rays and Neck Ribbon in 2016 from the Government of Japan for his work in private higher education and contributions to Japan-Sri Lanka relations, and a Lifetime National Honors Award (Vidhya Nidhi) for contributions to science from the Government of Sri Lanka in 2017. In 2023, he was awarded the Zaikai Special Award for contributions to higher education by Zaikai, a leading journal covering Japan's finance and business community over the past 70 years. He was a part-time farmer in Central Japan, growing rice and vegetables for eight years, which gave him many insights into the richness of traditional agricultural and ecological knowledge. A rugby player from his junior high school through to university years in Sri Lanka, he enjoys watching sports with a particular interest in Japan's national rugby and football teams and the Arsenal Football Club in the English Premier League. He is an

avid reader, a diehard fan of blues music, loves fast cars, enjoys slow food and the serendipitous insights from travel to unknown places.



President Monte Cassim of Akita International University meets with Dr. Y Yuan-Tseh. Lee. (Nov. 3, 2024)



Book: Leadership to Survive the Crisis

Publications available on I-House Press

**Topic : THE VALUE OF SOUND SCHOLARSHIP: Shaping the future
with hope, creativity and honor**

ABSTRACT

The presentation is divided into three parts, covering the following: (1) Sound scholarship is seen as humanity's hope for the future in this first part, with particular emphasis on creating a seamless enabling learning environment. Here the two-decade evolution of Akita International University (AIU) to rise up in the ranks of Japanese universities will be portrayed; (2) The value of trans-disciplinarity in solving complex problems will be taken up for discussion in the second part. How AIU's three transdisciplinary specializations of Global Studies, Global Connectivity and Global Business hope to creatively build new value in the economy, society and environment will be presented; (3) The third part will focus on the value of the liberal arts in shaping sound scholarship with honor and a higher sense of purpose. AIU's commitment to the concept of Applied International Liberal Arts (AILA) will be explained. The integration of profound thought with decisive action is central to AILA. The presentation will conclude with a call for further strengthening the ties with Tamkang University, a close partner of AIU from very early on. How best this can be done will be discussed, keeping in mind the significance of Tamkang University approaching its 75th anniversary in 2025.



A group photo with the Chairperson of the Board, Dr. Flora Chia-I Chang; Vice President Dr. Hsiao-Chueh Chen; and faculty members of the College of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

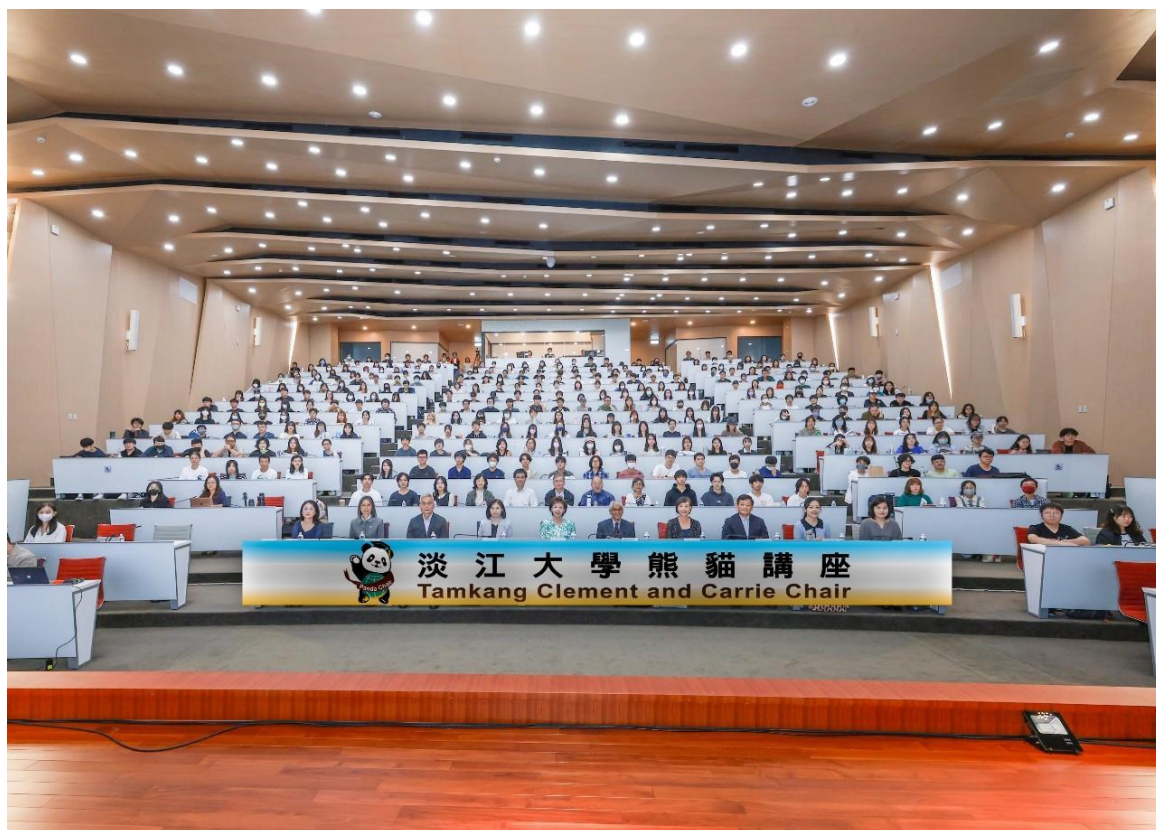
INUTE



Meet President Ge Huanzhao and TKU colleagues



Meet with the Chairperson of the Board, Dr. Flora Chia-I Chang



The Clment and Carrie Chair Giving a Public Talk on “THE VALUE OF SOUND SCHOLARSHIP: Shaping the future with hope, creativity and honor” on Nov. 4, 2024



Participated in the 74th Anniversary Celebration of Tamkang University, the Department of Japanese's Homecoming Event.



Visit Gallery of Tamkang History & The Founder Dr. Clement C. P. Chang's Memorial Hall



Group photo with Tamkang faculty and staff on campus.



Fort San Domingo in Tamsui

Links to reports and videos

1. The Clement and Carrie Chair Giving a Public Talk
<https://tkutimes.tku.edu.tw/dtl.aspx?no=58354>
2. Department of Japanese's Homecoming Event
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op6XePiTBrM>
3. Gallery of Tamkang History & The Founder Dr. Clement C. P. Chang's Memorial Hall
<https://archives.lib.tku.edu.tw/blog/20241104>