

Prof. Dr. Kaoru Sekiyama

Professor, Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability (GSAIS), Kyoto University



Kaoru Sekiyama is a Professor of Psychology at the Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability at Kyoto University. She received her doctoral degree from Osaka City University, and joined GSAIS in May 2017 after teaching in Kanazawa University, Future University Hakodate, and Kumamoto University. Through her career, her research interest has been in plasticity of the human cognitive system.

Her research methods are based on psychology and cognitive neuroscience, and her papers have appeared in international journals such as *Nature*, *Scientific Reports*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Experimental Brain Research*, *Neuroscience Research*, and so on. One representative research topic of her studies on plasticity is adaptation to reversed vision. She has been amazed by human remarkable ability to adapt to such a radical environmental change. In recent years, she has been engaged in transdisciplinary research examining what types of lifestyle or intervention have anti-aging (dementia prevention) effects on the brain. As Japan is the most advanced aging society in the world, she hopes that her research findings will contribute to finding solutions for our global society.

Prof. Dr. Kaoru Takara

Dean of the Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability (GSAIS), Kyoto University; Professor at the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University



Education:

B.Eng., Kyoto University 1979.3

M.Sc., Kyoto University 1981.3

D.Eng., Kyoto University 1990.1

Professor Kaoru Takara has been interested in physically-based stochastic hydrological analysis, using state-space modeling of river basins with advanced technologies such as the Kalman filter, rain radar, satellite remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) and computer intensive statistics (CIS). Modeling and forecasting of heavy rainfalls, floods and landslides are key to prevent and reduce disaster risks in river basins. His current interests include: probable maximum precipitation (PMP), probable maximum flood (PMF), frequency analysis of meteorological and hydrological extremes with parametric and non-parametric methods, climate change impacts, downscaling of global climate model (GCM) outputs for applications at basin scale, and disaster risk governance.

Prof. Takara has published 23 co-authored books, 194 peer-reviewed papers, and 132 articles in annuals and journals.

He has been contributing to international cooperation research activities through UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), Asia Pacific Association of hydrology and Water Resources (APHW), International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), International Water Resources Association (IWRA), International Consortium on Landslides (ICL), ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net), and Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI), as well as through a role as an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Flood Risk Management (JFRM).

In the Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto University, Prof. Takara has supervised 44 doctoral students (out of them 13 Japanese) who successfully completed their PhD degrees. His doctoral students include international students from the following countries: Brazil (2), China (5), Croatia (2), India (2), Indonesia (2), R. Korea (3), Lao PDR (1), Malaysia (4), Nepal (4), The Philippines, Taiwan (2), Tanzania, and Vietnam (2).

He is now leading two trans-disciplinary implementation science programs: “Inter-Graduate School Program for Sustainable Development and Survivable Societies” (GSS 2011-2018) in cooperation with nine graduate schools and three

research institutes of Kyoto University; and “Japan-ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Platform (JASTIP) Disaster Prevention Program (WP4)” implemented by Kyoto University and other Japanese and ASEAN universities (2015-2020).

Other Academic Activities:

Associate Member, Science Council of Japan (SCJ);

Member, Japan Academic Network for Disaster Reduction (JANET);

President, Japan Society for Natural Disaster Science (JSNDS);

Vice President, Japan Society of Hydrology and Water Resources (JSHWR);

Secretary-General, Asia Pacific Association of Hydrology and Water Resources (APHW);

Treasurer, International Consortium on Landslides (ICL);

Associate Editor, Journal of Flood Risk Management (JFRM)

Adjunct Professor, United Nations University (UNU);

Adjunct Professor, Sun Yat-sen University, China



John Crowley is Chief of Section for Research, Policy and Foresight in the UNESCO Sector for Social and Human Science. Since joining UNESCO in 2003, he has also been a programme specialist in social science (2003-05) and head of the communication, information and publications unit (2005-07), chief of section for ethics of science and technology (2008-11) and team leader for global environmental change (2011-14).

Before joining UNESCO, he worked as an economist in the oil industry (1988-95) and as a research fellow at the French National Political Science Foundation (1995-2002). From 2002 to 2015, he was editor of the UNESCO-published *International Social Science Journal*. He is the author of *Sans épines, la rose. Tony Blair : un modèle pour l'Europe ?* (Paris: La Découverte, 1999) and editor of *Tony Blair, le nouveau travaillisme et la troisième voie* (Paris: La Documentation française, 1999), *Pacifications, réconciliations* (special issue of the journal *Cultures & Conflits*, Paris: L'Harmattan, 2001), and *Rethinking Human Security* (Paris/Oxford: UNESCO / Wiley-Blackwell, 2008, with Moufida Goucha). He has published a further 100 academic articles and book chapters, mainly on political theory and comparative politics.