

# Seminar on University Globalization “How to Improve English Quality of Japanese Students”

於東北大学片平キャンパス さくらホール, 2014年6月23日

Sakura Hall, Katahira Campus, Tohoku University, June 23, 2014

Sponsored by 2014 RIEC Collaboration Project Research (Unlicensed Band Wireless Communications)  
and Institute for Excellence in Higher Education, Tohoku University

The first seminar on the topic, “University Globalization” started four years ago tried to identify the root causes of the current weak Japan by focusing on the differences between “Japanese university education and employment systems” and those in other countries. Through this seminar, we will discuss **how we can foster graduates with a good command of English in globally competitive environments** through our keynote speech (by Ms. Mariko Nagai), speeches categorized in **three tracks** and a **panel session**.

Track I: Expectations on Communication Capability in English from Industry’s Point of View

Track II: How English Communication Skills are Taught in High Schools

Track III: How English Communication Skills are Taught in Universities (compared with other countries)

Panel session: “How to Foster Globally Competitive Students Mandating a Good Command of English?”

## Seminar on “University Globalization: How to improve English Quality of Japanese Students”

- Time (date): 10:30 – 17:35 (June 23, 2014)
- Who should attend: English Teachers, Students, Profs., and Anybody interested in English Education
- Working language: English (Questions in Japanese are welcome)
- Participation fee: free

### Agenda

- 10:30 – 10:35 **Opening: Prof. Takashi Hata** (Vice Dir., Inst. for Excellence in Higher Education, Tohoku Univ.)  
(1) **Mr. Kazuyoshi Hayase** (Executive Officer, Rakuten Inc.)  
**“Englishnization in Rakuten”**
- (2) **Ms. Seiko Matsumoto** (Anesaki High School and District Governor, Toastmasters 2010-2011)  
**“Speak Your Way to the Global Excellency: Practice Makes Perfect”**
- (3) **Mr. Cory Koby** (Sendai Chapter President of JALT, Sendai Shirayuri Gakuen)  
**“Challenges to Achieving Communicative Competence in Japanese High School”**
- 12:05 – 13:00 Lunch break
- 13:00 – 14:00 **KEYNOTE SPEECH: Ms. Mariko Nagai** (Simul International, Inc.)  
**“The Power and Art of Communication  
- For an Effective Leadership in a Globalized World -”**
- (4) **Prof. Timothy J. Phelan** (Miyagi University)  
**“Clarifying the Role of the University in Helping Japanese Gain a Good Command of English”**
- (5) **Prof. Tadao Miyamoto** (Prof. Emeritus, International Cultural Studies, Tohoku University)  
**“A Distinctive Difference in English Competence between Two Groups of Undergraduate Students”**
- (6) **Prof. Michio Katsumata** (Akita International University)  
**“How Lectures and Class Works are conducted in English at Akita International University”**
- (7) **Prof. Yuka Tachibana** (Institute for Excellence in Higher Education, Tohoku University)  
**“How Technology Enhanced Language Learning Effectively Improves Japanese University Students’ English Skills and Global Awareness”**
- 16:00 – 16:15 Coffee break  
(8) **Panel “How to Foster Globally Competitive Students Mandating a Good Command of English?”**  
Moderator: **Prof. Shu Kato** (RIEC, Tohoku University)  
Panelists: **All speakers**
- 17:30 – 17:35 Closing

• Reception 17:40-19:10 Fee: ¥1,000 (¥500 for students)

• Registration/参加申込: Please email to Ms. Naomi Aizawa at [kato@rieic.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:kato@rieic.tohoku.ac.jp) (Tel:022-217-5477)  
(Due to limited hall capacity, advanced registration is suggested: on a first-come-first-served basis)

## Keynote Speaker

**Ms. Mariko Nagai** Advisor/Conference Interpreter, Simul International, Inc.. Born in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture Japan in 1943, Ms. Mariko Nagai was a student at the International Christian University in Tokyo, when she had her first experience working as an interpreter for the Tokyo Olympic Games held in 1964. This experience set the stage for her career choice of becoming an interpreter after graduating from university. In 1967, Mariko joined Simul International, which had just begun its operations as Japan's first simultaneous translation agent. A pioneer of conference interpretation in Japan, she has interpreted at G7 summit meetings, and numerous other international conferences.



## Speakers

**Prof. Takashi Hata** Vice director, Institute for Excellence in Higher Education, Tohoku University

•Major: Historical research of Higher education

•Research Topics: Academic development, Educational Reform after WW2 in Japan, Governance and Management in Higher education

•Recent paper presentation and books: "On the Development of Faculty in Japanese Universities" *Nagoya Journal of Higher Education*, Vol.11, 2011. *Qualification System for Academic Profession in Foreign Countries (research report of advanced project for university reform)*, 2011.

**Mr. Kazuyoshi Hayase** Executive Officer

March, 1994. B.Sc (Bachelor of Science), Information Science, Kyoto University

March, 1996. M.Sc (Master of Science), Information Science, University of Tokyo

April, 1996 – October, 2000 Research staff, R&D, NTT

November 2000 – Present, Rakuten Inc.

**Ms. Seiko Matsumoto** worked in a trading company in Tokyo for eight years after graduating from Aoyama Gakuin University. She teaches English at Anesaki High School in Chiba Prefecture while studying at Chiba University, Graduate School of Education. She learned communication and leadership skills through Toastmasters activities. During her 14-year-long membership, she served as the District Governor of Japan 2010-2011.

**Mr. Cory Koby** graduated from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada with a BA in Law, and is currently completing his MA (ELT) at the University of East London. He is President of the Sendai chapter of JALT (Japan Association for Language Teaching). After a 20-year career in business, he moved to Japan 7 years ago and has been teaching communication and academic writing in high school ever since.

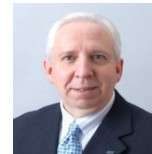
**Prof. Timothy J. Phelan** is Professor of Global Studies and Executive Director of Miyagi University's Center for International Exchange and Overseas Students (CIEOS). He has been closely involved in higher education and business in Japan for over 35 years, having held positions teaching English at Meiji University, Keisen University, Ferris University, and Tsuda College. At Miyagi University, along with many administrative duties, he is pioneering methods for teaching large content classes in English.

**Prof. Tadao Miyamoto** is professor emeritus at the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies at Tohoku University. He did his second B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

**Prof. Michio Katsumata** Graduated from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Tokyo Gaidai) majoring Anglo-American studies in 1972. Worked as a newspaper reporter for 32 years at Nihon keizai shimbun, including Stanford University journalism fellow in 1981 and Los Angeles Bureau Chief during 1987-1990. As a founding member of AIU, he has been a full-time professor in North-American Studies and Japan-US Relations as well as serving as Director of Library since 2004 till today.

**Prof. Yuka Tachibana** is a Professor for the Center for Culture and Language Education, Institute for Excellence in Higher Education at Tohoku University. She received an M.A. from California State University, in Humanities with a US-Japan History and Foreign Relations emphasis, and a PhD from Tohoku University in Information Science with an emphasis in Applied Linguistics. She coordinated the development of a multi-media, web-based English language-training curriculum. She continues to serve as lead curriculum coordinator for this project. Also, she conducts English acquisition workshops and FD for the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Institute of Fluid Science. These training sections focus on technology enhanced learning as it relates to language acquisition. She is currently a committee member for the Center for Professional Development, and the Educational Development Core in International Cooperation. She serves as a negotiator in the effort to develop educational relationships between Tohoku University and American universities.

**Prof. Shu Kato** graduated with a Ph.D from Tohoku University and joined NTT Laboratory in 1977. In 1995, he established Pacific Communications Research Inc. and became President of Uniden in 1996. He became senior VP of Mitsubishi Wireless, Inc., (USA) in 1998, and established Omni Wireless, Inc., (USA) in 2001. He worked as VP, Teradyne Japan from 2002 to 2005 to learn why American companies are successful. In 2006, he joined NICT Japan to help Japanese wireless industry in global competition, and became Professor at RIEC, Tohoku University in 2008. He has interviewed over 1,000 candidates in USA and over 1,000 in Japan for hiring. He has held over 100 patents (including a patent which became DOD (USA) standard in 1998).



**Next Seminar on "University Globalization: How to Foster Skilled Students and Young Staff"**

• **Date:** June 28, 2014 , • **Place:** Tohoku University Tokyo Office

**Registration/参加申込:** Please email to Ms. Naomi Aizawa at [katolab@iec.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:katolab@iec.tohoku.ac.jp) (Tel:022-217-5477) (Due to limited hall capacity, advanced registration is suggested: on a first-come-first-served basis)