

## RIIC invited two outside guest speakers in 2019.

高橋 宗瑠



On 27 November, Dr James Gomez, Regional Director of the Asia Centre (Thailand and Malaysia), introduced the work of the Asia Centre, a thinktank specializing in human rights, development, and peace issues in Southeast Asia. The Asia Centre was established in 2006 in Bangkok, and has provided an important space for policy oriented academic research, holding conferences bringing together academics, government and intergovernmental officials, and NGO practitioners. The Asia Centre's publications include *The Universal Periodic Review of Southeast Asia: Civil Society Perspectives (2017)* and *National Human Rights Institutions in Southeast Asia: Selected Case Studies (2020)*.

Their current project focuses on hate speech and fake news inciting racial hatred, in particular in the context of elections. At his seminar, James noted the increase in hate speech and fake news in many Southeast Asian countries, and outlined the legal and administrative measures taken by Southeast Asian governments. Of course, Southeast Asia is ethnically and religiously extremely diverse, and the respective situations of each country meant they faced different constraints in addressing these issues. Though hate speech and fake news naturally give rise to legitimate concerns, the compatibility of many of these government measures with obligations under international human

rights law are questionable, and James noted that this would remain a difficult issue for the foreseeable future.

During James' trip to Japan in November 2019, OJU and the Asia Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding, to further joint research and contribute to international policy debates. The MOU is notable in that it is OJU's first agreement with a solely research oriented institution, i.e. it does not aim for student exchange with another university.

On 4 December, Daniel Broudy, Professor of Rhetoric and Applied Linguistics of Okinawa Christian University, gave a seminar titled 'Framing the War on Terror: A Study of Peace and Security of Okinawa as a Launchpad to the Middle East'. A former combat veteran himself, Daniel is committed towards investigating deceptions and falsehoods manufactured by powerful institutions and organizations, and besides publishing in academic journals such as *Media Theory*, *Fast Capitalism*, and *System: An International Journal of Educational Technology and Applied Linguistics*, he is also a frequent contributor to important alternative news sites such as Truthout.

Examining the Global War on Terror and Okinawa's emplotting in imperialist war efforts, Daniel noted the importance of looking closely at both 'concepts of security in defense doctrine in both the US and in Japan, as well as in political communications meant to manufacture public consent for war'. He argued forcefully that 'concepts of security and peace framed by elite power holders and their mythmakers in the media have become a plague to people everywhere', and warned that not only our rights but the world itself was at risk of destruction through perpetual war.

In 2017, Daniel co-authored *Okinawa Under Occupation: McDonaldization and Resistance to Neoliberal Propaganda*, an important volume examining the linkages between cultural conditioning and militarism in Okinawa. The book is available in the OJU library.

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## 大阪女学院大学国際共生研究所 公開研究会

奥本 京子

実施日時：2019年12月2日(月)

タイトル：「教育による平和構築—大虐殺後のルワンダで平和学教員として取り組んできたこと」

講師：佐々木 和之 氏  
プロテスタント人文社会科学大学  
平和・紛争研究学科 学科長

1980年代から国際NGO職員としてエチオピアで農村自立支援に従事、2005年からルワンダの人々と大虐殺後の和解と共生プロジェクトを展開、2011年にプロテスタント人文社会科学大学の教員となり、ルワンダ初の平和・紛争研究学科の発展を進めてきた講師は、25年前の内戦とジェノサイドからの「アフリカの奇跡」とも呼ばれるルワンダとは、開発独裁の国、報道の自由度ランキングは155位(日本は

67位)、フツ・ツチ・トゥワ各民族が「みんなルワンダ人」とされているが、実際はそう簡単なものではないと言う。現在、新しい世代を育成するための教育・ネットワークづくりに力を入れ、11か国ものアフリカ大湖地域ほかの出身者が在学しており、日本からの留学生もいる。教育による平和構築の成果とは、理論と技能の習得、偏見の克服、共感と信頼の醸成、和解の希望の継承、非暴力社会変革のビジョンの創造である。困難・課題・希望についての深い対話が行われた。

