

Iwate University : Symposium on Adult Continuing Education

In order to be socially active throughout one's life in a society that is rapidly changing, it is no longer sufficient to acquire knowledge up until one obtains work, but to continue studying beyond that. Attention has been focused on universities as forums for lifelong learning in recent years in this social environment, and there is a shift in discussion for universities to become places of community learning open to the general public. Not only will the people who have gained additional knowledge by being returned to education in universities bring about solutions for the issues facing communities and societies, they will also play active roles in revitalizing and building up local communities.

It is said that we have reached an era in which people will live for 100 years, and the plunging of birthrates and the aging of society in East Asian nations foreground the importance of continued study in order to ensure prosperous lives. Governmental policies in various nations are calling on universities to accept this role, and work is advancing to substantiate learning support for adult students who have completed normal school education. Some examples of the advances made in expanding the number of adults accepted into university include China reforming its system of university entry examinations in favor of adults, South Korea introducing educational course aimed mainly at adults (educational support for people who already have jobs and people who moved onto university education at later stages in life), and Taiwan moving ahead with initiatives in which national open universities and community colleges provide degree courses and non-degree courses for adults.

Lecturers from various East Asian universities have been invited to speak at this symposium, during which they will report on governmental initiatives and the situations pertaining to accepting adults into universities in this age of drastic changes, and debates into the potential for this when seen from an international viewpoint will then be held.

We look forward to inviting as many people to the symposium as possible.

Date **February 22 [Friday]**

Capacity **First 100**
Deadline for Reservation: February 15 (Friday)

Venue **Iwate University**
Recovery Memorial Ginga Hall
[Faculty of Science and Engineering campus]

Target Participants **university personnel,**
lifelong learning personnel,
general public, etc.

Adult Continuing Education in East Asian Universities

Program	Doors Open at 12:30	Language Japanese (interpreters available)	participation free of charge but reservation required
13:30 to 13:40	Opening Speech	President, Iwate University: IWABUCHI Akira	
13:40 to 14:20	Keynote Speech	Relearning by Adults in 100-Year Life Society Director for Education Planning and Coordination, Lifelong Learning Promotion Division, Education Policy Bureau, MEXT: ITO Akiko	
14:20 to 14:50	Session 1	Policy Trends for Accepting Adults into Higher Education in China --Using the Reeducation of Elementary and Junior High School Workers as Examples-- China, Nanjing Normal University, Professor: HU Jian-hua	
15:00 to 15:30	Session 2	Initiatives for Creating an Environment in which Adults Can Study in South Korean Universities --Concentrating on Adults Entering University-- Korea, Korea University, Research Professor: JANG Ji-eun	
15:30 to 16:00	Session 3	Policy Trends for Accepting Adults into Higher Education in Taiwan --Initiatives Adopted by Regional National Universities-- Taiwan, National Taitung University, Professor: LIANG Chung-ming	
16:00 to 16:30	Session 4	Adoption of a Program for Adult Continuing Education in Iwate University Iwate University, Professor: SATO Kazunori	
16:40 to 17:20	Panel Discussion	Making Universities Attractive to Adults Coordinator: Iwate University, Organization of Revitalization for Sanriku Region and Regional Development, Lifelong Learning Department Director: PARK Hyunsuk	
17:20 to 17:30	Closing Speech	Iwate University, Organization of Revitalization for Sanriku Region and Regional Development Vice-Director: YASHIRO Hitoshi	
18:00 to 19:30	Reception (Participation Fee: 3,000 yen)		

Application Method Interest parties are invited to reserve in advance by e-mail or facsimile.
* It is possible to participate on the day without an advance reservation, although priority will be given to participants with reservations if the number of attendants exceeds capacity. (All personal information acquired will be used solely for symposium administrative purposes.)

Hosted by: Iwate University,
Organization of Revitalization for Sanriku Region and Regional Development, Lifelong Learning Department
Supported by: Iwate Prefectural Board of Education, Morioka Municipal Board of Education