## Organization

### Steering Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Specialty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>KUSABU Hisatsugu, Professor</td>
<td>Medieval Europe, Byzantine Empire, and History of religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Director</td>
<td>SAKON Takeshi, Associate Professor</td>
<td>Analytic Philosophy, Metaphysics, Temporality, and Philosophy of Mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean, Graduate School of Literature and Human Sciences</td>
<td>KOBAYASHI Naoki, Professor</td>
<td>Medieval Japanese Literature, Setsuwa-denshō Literature (Japanese Folk-Literature), and Japanese Buddhist Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member</td>
<td>OBA Shigeaki, Professor</td>
<td>Urban Policy, and German Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member</td>
<td>HASEGAWA Ken’ichi, Associate Professor</td>
<td>Modern German Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member</td>
<td>TSUIINO Kemma, Associate Professor</td>
<td>Educational Administration/Management, and School Management in Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member</td>
<td>YAMAMOTO Mayuko, Associate Professor</td>
<td>Heian Literature (Japanese Literature of the Heian period), and Wakan Comparative Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Member</td>
<td>ISHIKAWA Yu, Specially Appointed Research Associate</td>
<td>Studies of Culture and Representation, and Fan Culture Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2019 UCRC Research Fellows (51)

- Medieval Europe, Byzantine Empire, and History of religion
- Analytic Philosophy, Metaphysics, Temporality, and Philosophy of Mind
- Medieval Japanese Literature, Setsuwa-denshō Literature (Japanese Folk-Literature), and Japanese Buddhist Literature
- Urban Policy, and German Studies
- Modern German Literature
- Educational Administration/Management, and School Management in Germany
- Heian Literature (Japanese Literature of the Heian period), and Wakan Comparative Literature
- Studies of Culture and Representation, and Fan Culture Studies

## Contact Information

### Urban-Culture Research Center

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The UCRC supports research activities in literature and human sciences, forming an international base for promoting interdisciplinary inquiry into the multifaceted problems and questions to which cities give rise.

UCRC Activities

1. Promoting International Scholarly Exchange

Through rotating symposiums and researcher exchange programs with its many partner institutions, the UCRC fosters an international scholarly network that opens an important avenue for global cultural correspondence between the city of Osaka and the world.

Partner Institutions (2018)

- National University of Singapore
- College of Liberal Arts, Shanghai University
- Sun Yat-sen University
- Korean Studies Institute, Pusan National University
- Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Illinois
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- Chinese Culture University
- Peking University
- Shanghai Normal University
- University of Hamburg
- Gadjah Mada University
- Indonesian Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta
- Chulalongkorn University
- University of Indonesia
- National University of Singapore
- Yale University
- Kyoto University
- National Museum of Korea
- Chonbuk National University
- Awaji Institute for Asian Studies
- College of Social Sciences, Kyungpook National University
- College of Liberal Arts, Shanghai University
- Academic Sinica
- University of Hamburg
- Chulalongkorn University
- National University of Singapore
- Institute of History, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- NCBS, Indian Institute of Science
- Korea University
- Meiji Gakuin University
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Chulalongkorn University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Tokyo
- University of Nagoya
- University of Hawaii
- National Museum of Korea
- Tokyo Metropolitan University
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- University of Tokyo
- University of Tsukuba
- Tohoku University
- Waseda University
- Ritsumeikan University

2. Supporting Young Researchers

UCRC Research Fellows benefit from an excellent research environment, beginning with access to OCU’s research library and research assistance services, as well as registration in the Cross-ministerial Research and Development Management System (e-RAD). They can also receive help with funding applications to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)’s Research Fellowships for Young Scientists and Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research. In addition, they receive opportunities to present their research through a variety of media and can draw on support for overseas research trips, especially through the programs offered by OCU’s International School (assistance with giving presentations in foreign languages, etc.).

3. Publications

- "Studies in Urban Cultures" (yearly from 2002): A scholarly journal presenting articles by researchers in a wide variety of fields whose work takes up the themes of cities and culture, whether in Japan or around the world.
- UrbanScope (yearly from 2010): An online, open-access English-language journal for OCU’s Graduate School of Literature and Human Sciences to disseminate research on urban phenomena and cultures.

4. Collaborative Research

Every year, UCRC solicits special projects conducted by faculty members including “Faculty Research Project.” Additionally, to promote research activities among UCRC Research Fellows, the center began the UCRC Research Project in 2018. These endeavors involve multiple interdisciplinary themes and facilitate collaborative research.

OCU sends young scholars to academic institutions worldwide including Yale University, the National University of Singapore, Shanghai University, and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). In turn, it invites foreign researchers to Osaka. As a result, it is hoped that the following prospective projects will foster collaborative research from a comparative perspective:

- “Marginal Social Groups’ Experiences of Modernity,” supported by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS: I2902) (2017-2019)
- OCU International Symposium (2020)
- Annual OCU-UIUC Exchange Symposium (2019- )
- Prospective symposia with institutions worldwide, including Guangzhou University