

## Organization

### Steering Committee

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

### 2019 UCRC Research Fellows (51)

## Contact Information

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Urban-Culture Research Center



Osaka City University  
Graduate School of  
Literature and Human Sciences  
Urban-Culture Research Center

## What is the Urban-Culture Research Center (UCRC)?

### History

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)'s 21<sup>st</sup> Century COE (Centers of Excellence) Program, the UCRC was established as a base for "Humanities Research for the Creation of Urban Culture", a contributing project (2002-2007) organized by the Graduate School of Literature and Human Sciences at Osaka City University (OCU). The UCRC continues to carry on this mission of furthering research into cities and culture.

### Purpose and Sphere of Activities

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.

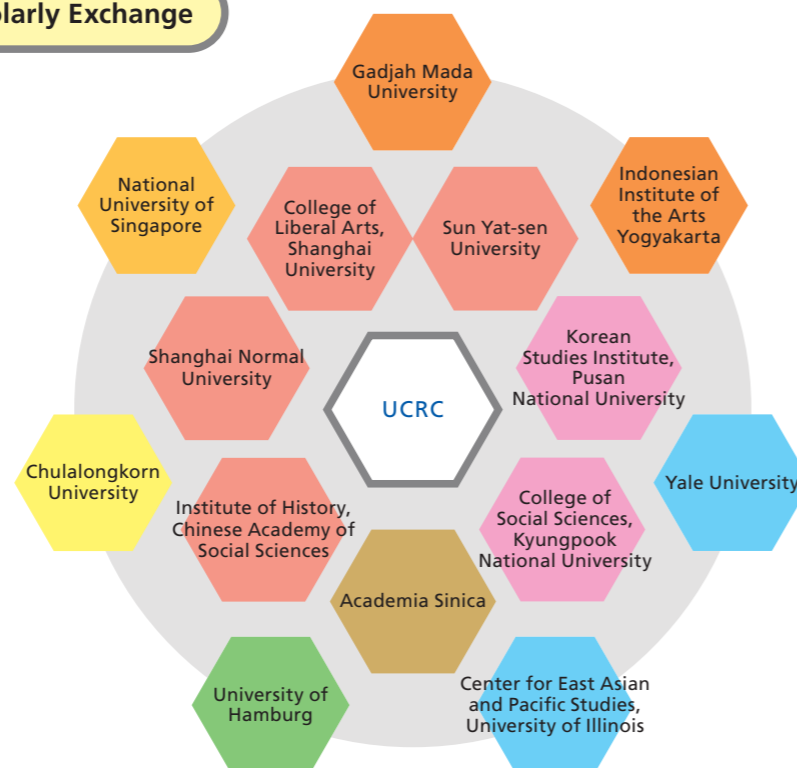
## UCRC Activities

### 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)



### 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

① *Toshibunka Kenkyū* ("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.

② *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: J2902) (2017-2019)
- OCU International Symposium (2020)
- Annual OCU-UIUC Exchange Symposium (2019- )
- Prospective symposia with institutions worldwide, including Guangzhou University

