



ICC  
*Newsletter 2019*

 Kyoto International Conference Center

KYOTO

# What it means to be the President of an international conference center that takes on topics shared by all humankind

Shunichi Uchida was appointed as the seventh president of the Kyoto International Conference Center in July 2018. We spoke to him about his thoughts on the International Conference Center, his future aspirations for managing the Center, and asked him about the newly opened New Hall.



## Shunichi Uchida

President, Kyoto International Conference Center Public Interest Incorporated Foundation

### President Uchida's history with the International Conference Center and his aspirations as the new President

From 1990 to 1995, I was dispatched to work at Kyoto City Hall under the auspices of the organization known as the Ministry of Construction at that time. In what I believe was part of the bevy of memorial projects commemorating 1,200 years since the construction of Heian-kyo, the city which went on to become Kyoto, an event was held at this very Kyoto International Conference Center and graced by the presence of the Imperial Couple of Japan. I remember looking at the magnificent view of the main hall filled to the brim all the way to the second floor with numerous visitors and being overwhelmed by the roaring applause that rose up in greeting the entrance of the Imperial Couple. However, even more impressive than the sound of applause, I remember being overwhelmed by the sheer wind force that was generated from all of that clapping. That was my first time experiencing the International Conference Center. And now my relationship with the

Center has been further solidified as I am honored with the immense responsibility that is the position of Kyoto International Conference Center President. Whenever I hear event sponsors both from here and hailing from elsewhere say that holding conferences in Kyoto will result in more conference participants, this always makes me keenly aware that this must consistently be a conference space that does not undermine expectations, and can provide the ideal service for our sponsors. I am constantly committed to listening to the feedback of sponsors, the desires of guests who participate in conferences, the thoughts of directors and trustees participating from every different industry or standpoint, and most importantly, the feelings of Center staff members who devote their lives to the calling of serving here.

Half a century has passed since the first Japanese international conference center managed by the national government was built in Kyoto. It was the national Japanese government which decided to communicate to the globe Japan's contributions to the international community by constructing a

hub for Japanese international conferences in Kyoto, a city that has captured the eye of the entire world. Additionally, local Kyoto residents felt very strongly about wanting Kyoto to develop in brand new ways. These two driving forces resulted in the birth of the Kyoto International Conference Center. It was because Kyoto is what it is that this Center was born. And being located in Kyoto is what has allowed it to continue being an international conference center capable of representing Japan. Contributing to the ongoing development of the city of Kyoto: that is the important role of the Center. And I will always continue to ask myself if there is more we can do to inspire those who visit the International Conference Center to go out into the city and learn firsthand about Kyoto history, culture, lifestyles, and industry.



New Hall exterior



Experience nature at the "Byobu Garden" with seasonally changing forest-village beauty



The lobby area boasts a "wipe-lacquering" finished lounge chair set for a sophisticatedly relaxing ambiance

### The opening of the New Hall, with its ability to adapt to diverse usage formats

The New Hall opened in October 2018. It was immediately used for "The International Forum concerning Science and Technology for the Future of Humankind (STS Forum) 15th Annual Meeting" and "The 31st Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Radiation Oncology," allowing multitudes of visitors coming from around and outside of Japan to experience firsthand the brand new feel of the New Hall.

Against the backdrop of constant expansion in convention facility floor space within Japan and internationally, there has been an increase in our inability to attract sponsors for events due to a lack of space, and many potential clients have expressed regret over not being able to hold their events in Kyoto. This inspired a call-to-arms for the adding of facilities able to house five thousand people. And so this New Hall was finally actualized. It is still only half of the originally desired scale, but I do feel that it was constructed incredibly well within strict financial conditions. This Center was made possible through the powerful support of everyone involved and the wise decisions of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and the Ministry of Finance. I am immeasurably grateful. The interior design has traditional Kyoto craftwork at every turn. The result is the kind of high quality hall possible only in Kyoto. It was actualized through immense contribution from Kyoto City.

Amidst an accumulation of history and culture and the bountiful nature of Takaragaike, we have Japan's sole authentic international conference facility. And that is why this Center is so wonderful. This new addition has also enabled us to provide an extremely flexible service framework for all sorts of different event formats with the option to combine Halls with their differing characteristics: the Main Hall, Annex

Hall, Event Hall, and of course the New Hall. It is my wish to make full use of these facilities to attract an even greater number of people from within and outside of Japan and contribute to the expansion of the Kyoto reputation worldwide. Additionally, I want the amassing of a solidly successful track record concerning that kind of Center usage to bring us the understanding of those who can make expansion possible, and to thus actualize growth to our originally sought scale as quickly as possible.



Hall interior

### A conference space for discussing and resolving the problems of humanity

Through the success of the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Japan joined the ranks of the developed nations both in name and in fact. This sparked a bevy of different endeavors designed to fulfill Japan's newfound responsibilities within the international community as a developed nation. And the construction of the Kyoto International Conference Center in 1966 was a part of this. In December of 1997, COP 3 (Framework Convention on Climate Change, Third Session of the Conference of the Parties) was held at this Kyoto International Conference Center, and the Kyoto Protocol was signed. This Protocol precisely defined global warming prevention as a problem shared by all humankind, and was the first document in the world to lay out a concrete path to making advances in resolving this problem. Japan took a leadership role in coordinating difficult negotiations from beginning to end. And that was exactly the sort of success that our predecessors

dreamed of when originally constructing the Kyoto International Conference Center. In 2019, the Kyoto Conference for the 25th International Council of Museums (ICOM) will be held, and the Center will host under one roof worldwide specialists engaged in activities to transmit culture to the next generation. Then, in 2020, we will host the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as a UN sponsored conference and an event with a level of importance equivalent to COP 3. These conferences each guide the world towards an essential ideal in their own individual fields, and firmly supporting them so that they attain important results has been the unchanging role of this Center since its inception. It is my goal to continually and completely fulfill that role.

Recently, uncharted domains like regenerative therapy and gene splicing are being explored in medical and scientific technology fields. Also, we are hearing of wavering in the capitalist market economy and democratic institutions, the fundamental frameworks that have supported the growth of developed nations in the 20th century. It appears that in addition to global environment issues, many other issues in many other arenas that must be resolved by a unified entire international community are also arising. We will most likely see an even higher level of increase in conferences designed to gather together wisdom from all over the world and seek out the paths we must take.

With its history exceeding one thousand years as a capital, Kyoto is also a city unique even on the world stage as having accumulated one thousand years of wisdom. There is no better city for providing a space to discuss issues that affect all humanity. As a conference space that enables conferences which do not shy away from difficult discussions and debates aiming to work out better pathways for the future and conferences that even exude an atmosphere of stressful tension at times, my goal is to continually improve our facilities, environment, and service while establishing the reputation of, "If a conference is important, it must be held at the Kyoto International Conference Center."



# The New Hall is ready to go!!

After undergoing construction work for approximately two years, the New Hall is finally complete. As with the adjoining Event Hall, this hall was blessed with an exterior design that harmonizes with the brilliantly green Hiei mountain range and also provides a luxurious space for relaxing a bit between conferences.

September 19, 2018

## New Hall Completion Memorial Ceremony



The magnificently luxurious Completion Memorial Ceremony for the New Hall hosted approximately three hundred local and central visitors involved with the hall from various fields including politics, administration, economy, academia, and cultural pursuits.

The Memorial Ceremony started with a string quartet presentation performed by Kyoto City University of Arts graduates. Representing the sponsors, Kyoto International Conference Center Vice-Chairman Junichi Murata said in his welcome address, "I am overwhelmed with joy at being able to experience with all of you the completion of this New Hall, Kyoto's long-held wish come true. I want to enhance the bridge of knowledge about Kyoto to the rest of the world."

In his welcome address, visiting House of Representatives member Bunmei Ibuki said, "This Hall is half of the scale initially planned, and the joy it brings is also exactly half. I want to strive to expand it to a scale capable of hosting five thousand people."

Additionally, Kyoto Mayor Daisaku Kadokawa said the following in congratulation, "I am filled with gratitude that a New Hall has been added to Japan's first international conference center, an establishment which has marked out for itself a grand history already."



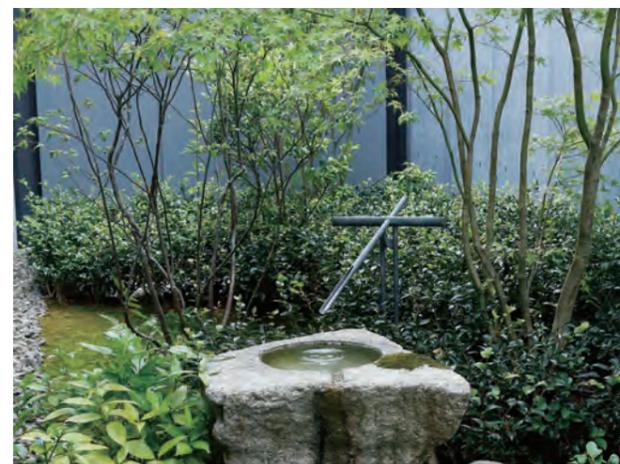
Foyer



"Kyoto ware & Kiyomizu ware" porcelain panel relief



A clock displaying fifteen traditional craft techniques like nishijin brocade on its panels



Suikinkutsu (a musical garden ornament)



A special garden viewable from the lounge



An illuminated folding screen made from "original Japanese paper"



"Aluminum processed board" art panels engraved with traditional patterning (genjikomon)

### Unique Kyoto interior

In coordination with the Kyoto City government, the local government agency of Kyoto, we have crafted and arranged furniture and furnishings brimming with Kyoto industrial and craft traditions. The "unique Kyoto interior" elements that harmonize with the building structure and are perfect for this New Hall with its multipurpose facilities work together to produce a comfortable and sophisticated Japanese ambiance.

When visitors use the New Hall, they will be able to closely observe numerous examples of traditional industrial products that live and thrive in Kyoto.

### Special Rooms



Restroom facilities: Kyoto ware and Kiyomizu ware hand-washing bowls and handmade Kyoto tatami stools



Ornament shelving: Sashimono woodcraft framing and lacquered door decorated with maki-e design and raden craftwork



Reception Room: Nishijin brocade coated cloth armchairs and a black lacquered central table

April 17 – 22, 2018

## 16th Urological Association of Asia Congress The 106th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Urological Association



16th Urological Association of Asia Congress and the 106th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Urological Association were held together with the shared theme of "Discover Tomorrow of Urology." Approximately 8,400 people came from 21 other Asian countries and regions. The opening ceremony on the first day started with an opening address from President Osamu Ogawa before moving on to a lively performance by the Kyoto Tachibana Senior High School Band. During the six day gathering

of science, an array of issues needing resolution, such as disparities among regions, especially amidst the advancement of globalization sparked by advances in medical technology and developments in information sciences like IT were discussed. In addition to speakers from all over Asia, speakers were also invited from Urological Associations representing the US and Europe. This truly was a chance to consider the future of the urological field from an international point of view.

July 1 – 6, 2018

## 18th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2018) and open public lectures



18th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2018) was held from July 1 to 6 in unison with The 91st Annual Meeting of the Japanese Pharmacological Society and The 39th Annual Scientific Meeting of The Japanese Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics. WCP is an event that has been occurring every four years since 1961 under the auspices of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR). It is the most time-honored and authoritative international conference in the field of pharmacology, and this was the second time it has been held in Japan,

37 years after the first Japanese hosting. The main theme of this installment was "Pharmacology for the Future ~Science, Drug Development and Therapeutics~." As such, the congress was a successful arena for presentations and information exchange in the latest research results in pharmacology, from the fundamentals to clinical and medicine development. July 1 saw public lectures on the themes of "The past, present, and future of medicines," "Opportunities to discover medicine ideas," and "Medicine aims at protein." Speakers provided explanations designed to be easy for the general public to understand.

April 7 – 8, 2018

## Cherry Blossom Special Days 2018



The special spring public garden event "Cherry Blossom Special Days" was held again in 2018. Somei yoshino cherry blossoms bloomed earlier than usual, but weeping cherry tree blossoms and yaezakura cherry blossoms bloomed in succession, blessing visitors with an absolutely beautiful spring flower experience. In the main hall, visitors were greeted with the pleasant sounds of the Kyoto City University of Arts student string ensemble concert and the warm harmony produced by the vocal group "SANISAI." In addition to regional group, university, high school, and preschool sponsored participation activities, the event was also bustling with a wide array of activities that included fun for the whole family and centered on the theme of the beautiful nature surrounding the Kyoto International Conference Center, like the "Forest Panel Exhibit" and "Stag Beetle & Rhinoceros Beetle Corner." The event was successful in providing a bit of spring fun for a total of some 3,300 local residents across both days.

July 20 – 21, 2018

## Summer Garden Party 2018 ~Bonjour, France! ~



The customary mid-summer Kyoto International Conference Center sponsored event "Summer Garden Party 2018" commenced on July 20, and bustled with a total of approximately 3,800 local resident visitors across two days. 2018 marked the 22nd installment, and the theme was "France" in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Paris and Kyoto's Friendship Treaty.

The arena was set up with a "petit marche" (small market) displaying French food booths, trinkets, and wine. There was live French music at the water-top stage and a French language corner with French foreign students inside. The entire event bustled with fun. The finale was celebrated with a fireworks display in the midst of peak excitement during the popular lottery.

## Kyoto International Conference Center selected as a finalist!

### 2018 Global Digital Infrastructure Award



The IMEX 2018 KYOTO booth exudes a unique Kyoto feel



The "2018 Global Digital Infrastructure Award Ceremony" was held in accompaniment with the Frankfurt, Germany located IMEX2018 (International MICE (Meeting, Incentive Travel, Convention, Exhibition/Event) Exhibition) in May 2018. The Kyoto International Conference Center was selected as a finalist in the "Convention Centre" category and received a commendation.

The "Global Digital Infrastructure Award" was sponsored by "INCON," a federation of worldwide PCOs (professional conference organizers) and event management companies. It selects and commends facilities that offer digital infrastructures that are superior on the world stage. Awarded facilities are held as case studies for facilities worldwide to engage in friendly competition in an effort to provide even better services. The judging panel welcomes influential individuals well versed in digital infrastructure, and consideration is based on the "quality," "ease of use," "price," "trouble response ability," and "innovation" of digital infrastructures offered by facilities. Among all of the applying facilities, the Kyoto International Conference Center digital infrastructure garnered high praise for its technological redundancy and strong trouble response, particularly in consideration of our supply of a communications / network environment that responds to a wide array of customer needs and our superior technology and equipment.

At the 57th ICCA Congress  
The Kyoto International Conference Center received commendation in commemoration of our 40th anniversary as a member.

### 57th ICCA (International Congress & Convention Association) Congress

ICCA (International Congress & Convention Association) launched in 1963. Its Head office is based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

With over 1,100 members from almost 100 countries, ICCA is a prominent international organization to promote international exchange and international association meetings in the MICE (Meeting, Incentive Travel, Convention, Exhibition/Event) industry, offering unrivalled international conference statistics and database information.

The Kyoto International Conference Center has been as an ICCA member from 1978 onward. In 2018, the annual congress in Dubai, United Arab Emirates was held in November, and the Kyoto International Conference

Center received a commendation in commemoration of our 40th anniversary as a member. Through opportunities available in ICCA, we will continue to contribute to the increased presence of Japan and Kyoto on the world stage, in addition to our Kyoto recognition endeavors within Japan itself.



## Swan were donated to the Kyoto International Conference Center

Two swans raised at Tokiwa Zoo in Ube City, Yamaguchi Prefecture were donated to the Kyoto International Conference Center by the Shimonoseki Hibikinada Lions Club. A presentation ceremony was held on August 21, 2018. The male and female mute swan breeding pair greets visitors as the new Kyoto International Conference Center mascots.



Due to the digitalization of our public relations magazine, publication in paper form will stop after this issue.

# 2019 Event Calendar

Information current as of February, 2019

Date	Event	Participants
Jan. 17- 20	Junior Chamber International Japan Kyoto Conference 2019	20,000
Feb. 7- 8	The 57th Kansai Economic and Management Summit	650
Feb. 9	THE 10th EARTH HALL OF FAME KYOTO	1,000
Mar. 1- 3	The 46th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Intensive Care Medicine	7,000
Mar. 17	The 32nd Annual Meeting of the Kinki Pediatric Society	800
Mar. 21- 22	2018 TPM Awards Ceremony	500
Apr. 15- 17	The 63rd Annual General Assembly and Scientific Meeting of the Japan College of Rheumatology	6,000
Apr. 23- 24	The 33rd Region Conference of Japan Chuo Region Soroptimist International of the Americas and workshop	2,500
May 8- 12	49th Session of the IPCC	500
May 15- 18	WONCA Asia Pacific Regional Conference 2019	3,000
May 17- 19	The 10th Annual Conference of Japan Primary Care Association	5,000
June 4- 7	The 5th World Parkinson Congress (WPC 2019)	4,000
July 5- 7	Foursome 2019 KYOTO	2,000
July 11- 12	The 51st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japan Atherosclerosis Society	2,000
July 18- 20	2019 the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology Annual Meeting	6,000
July 24- 26	The 4th International Symposium on Process Chemistry	800
Aug. 3- 4	The 29th Annual Meeting of Japan Academy of Nursing Education	2,500
Aug. 23- 24	The 21st Annual Congress of Japanese Society of Pressure Ulcers	5,000
Aug. 25- 30	39th International Symposium on Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants (DIOXIN 2019 KTOTO)	1,000
Aug. 26- 30	The VIth International Society for Biopharmaceutical Statistics	500
Sept. 1- 7	ICOM KYOTO 2019	3,000
Sept. 12- 14	The 59th Japan Society of Gynecologic and Obstetric Endoscopy and Minimally Invasive Therapy	2,000
Sept. 20- 22	The 24th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists	1,200
Sept. 26- 28	The 78th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Cancer Association	6,000
Sept. 29-Oct. 4	International Conference on Silicon Carbide and Related Materials 2019	700
Oct. 5- 8	STS forum 2019, The 16th Annual Meeting	1,400
Oct. 18- 20	The 12th World Congress of International Society for Apheresis/ The 40th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society for Apheresis	1,100
Oct. 24- 27	The 73rd Annual Congress of Japan Clinical Ophthalmology	6,000
Oct. 30-Nov. 2	The 72nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery	4,000
Nov. 10- 12	The 2019 Kyoto Prize Presentation Ceremony, Memorial Lectures, and Memorial Workshops	3,000
Nov. 13- 15	The 60th Battery Symposium in Japan	2,500
Nov. 21- 23	The 33rd Congress of Japanese Society of Endourology	3,000
Nov. 29- 30	The 14th Annual Congress of Japanese Society for Quality and Safety in Healthcare	3,000
Dec. 6- 8	Augmentative Talent & Acceptable Community Conference 2019 in Kyoto	900

(Events with more than 300 estimated participants)