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Natalie Kauffman, Editor

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APCDA Conference Planning

by Soonhoon Ahn



The plans for the 2015 APCDA Conference in Tokyo have been progressing and a large number of people have registered. [Click here for a short version of the schedule](#) or [click here for an unedited version of the Program Booklet](#).

The Japanese Conference Organizing Committee (JCOC) has been working hard to make sure the guests have wonderful time in Tokyo. JCOC will be staffing a Hospitality table at the conference to answer any questions you may have about getting around Tokyo or finding restaurants and other interesting sights. At the reception on Tuesday evening, we hope to have a Rakugo performance in English. We are looking forward to enjoying this traditional form of comedy, performed in traditional costume. On Wednesday, when box lunches will be provided, the JCOC will organize discussions in each of the meeting rooms so that those who want to participate can learn from guests from other countries.

On Thursday, the JCOC has arranged two tour options. You may choose to visit the Hosei University Career Center or the Nippon Manpower Training Center. Hosei University is a large university and this tour should be of interest to all attendees from colleges, universities, or career centers. Nippon Manpower offers Career Development Advisor training throughout Japan and may be of interest to those who are implementing such training programs in their own countries.



The article below describes plans for the 2016 conference in Taipei, when we will return to our customary May conference time. In 2017, we will meet at Ateneo University in Manila, and the Board has now accepted a proposal from China to meet in Beijing in May of 2018.

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Welcome to the 2016 APCDA Conference – Discover the Beauty of Taiwan

by Hsiu-lan (Shelley) Tien

The 2016 APCDA Conference will be held in National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan on May 19-21, 2016. The Keynote Speakers are:

- Y. Barry Chung, Ph.D., is a professor at Indiana University, past president of the National Career Development Association, and past president of the Society of Counseling Psychology
- Shuh-Ren Jin, Ph.D., professor at Macau University, and past-president of Chinese Counseling and Guidance Association in Taiwan.



Night Market



Taroko Gorge



Palace Museum



Taipei 101

Plan now to broaden your intellectual journey to Taiwan with a pleasure one, too. Taiwan, or Formosa, has 9 national parks which preserve Taiwan's best natural ecological environment. For example, you can take a bus up the never-ending mountain with magnificent marble cliffs at Taroko Gorge or take a ride on

the Alishan Forest Railway and experience the breathtaking sunrise and sea of clouds. The conference will sponsor a tour of the Palace Museum, which holds many ancient Chinese treasures. Another "must see" near our conference is an amazing building called Taipei 101. Taipei 101 is the second tallest building in the world and both an international financial information headquarters and an outstanding city landmark. Its design resembles a pagoda with a sectioned tower inspired by the bamboo plant, which is a model of strength, resilience, and elegance. Through convenient transportation and friendly human touch, we believe you will find that travel in Taiwan is easy.

We very much look forward to seeing you in Taiwan.

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Considerations for Travel in Japan

by Anonymous

Consideration given for travel to the "land of the rising sun" will enhance the joy of meeting Japanese and experiencing Japanese culture. The following considerations will contribute towards a better understanding of Japan and a rich cultural experience in Japan.

Japanese reflect the values of politeness, kindness, honesty, and respect among other traditional values in their everyday living. Japanese etiquette is paramount to good interpersonal relationships. Greetings and expressions of humility are embedded in the acknowledgement of others. A simple handshake is appropriate, even a slight bow upon greeting. An exchange of business cards is proper during introductions. Business cards are studied and admired, allowing time to take in all the details.

Getting around Tokyo and all of Japan is an experience in and of itself. At first, it may seem overwhelming, especially during the rush hours with crowds of people. The transportation system is efficient. Ticket purchase and directional signs are in English. With a bit of study, it is not difficult to use the transportation system. The buses, subways, and trains are clean and on time. When using transportation, talking is kept to a minimum and cell phones are in silent mode. Upon taking and exiting a taxi, the back passenger door is opened and closed automatically by the driver. It is recommended that you carry a business card from your hotel which is in Japanese and English whenever you leave the hotel.

When asking for directions, Japanese are helpful and will try hard to assist you. Although some of the people you encounter may not speak English, they will make every effort to help you.

There are countless places to eat and going to small restaurants is a culinary experience. Outside the restaurants, plastic models of the food are displayed to help you choose the restaurant that interests you. Some restaurants also have English menus. When there are no English menus, it is acceptable to lead the waiter outside and point to the plastic model you want. Tipping is not a practice in Japan.

When entering a Japanese house or place with tatami (straw) mats, people take off their shoes. When visiting a Japanese friend or family, it is fitting to bring a small gift or souvenir.

While in Japan, there are useful Japanese words or phrases. The following few simple words are valuable to social interaction and display of politeness:

- Ohayo (Ohio) is an informal way to say "good morning." One may add "go-zai-ma-su" for politeness. Ohayo gozaimasu.
- Konnichi wa is "good afternoon." "Kon ni chi wa."
- Arigatou is an informal way to say, "thank you." One may add gozaimasu for politeness. Arigatou gozaimasu.

- Sayonara is "good bye."
- Sumimasen is "excuse me." It is used when one wishes to call attention to someone or when one may have bumped someone accidentally. "Su mi ma sen."

Mid September in Japan is a time of transition from summer to fall. The weather is generally fine and may still be warm. However, the weather can be unpredictable. Japanese tend to be more formal in their dress when at a conference. Presenters may consider dress suits or similar business attire.

Please enjoy the sights and sounds of Tokyo and Japan. Experience the flavor and the taste of modern day Tokyo and savor the ambiance of ancient Japan during and after the conference. Please enjoy learning from the international career development practitioners at the conference.

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APCDA Members Featured in NCDA's Magazine

by Marilyn Maze



The Spring issue of Career Developments, the magazine which is sent free to all NCDA members, focused on international career development issues and included articles by a number of our APCDA members. Our Treasurer, Roberta Neault, wrote the lead article called "Career Development in a Global Economy: The Diverse Impact of Global Mobility." ([Follow this link](#) to a copy provided by Roberta's company, Life Strategies.) Our Membership Director, Satomi Chudasama, was an author on an article about the challenges international students face in the US. A third article called "The Dawn of Career Counseling Internationally" combined an article written by Past President Soonhoon Ahn and Executive Director Marilyn Maze with an article by Egyptian career counselor, Ahmad Mostafa Kamal, and features pictures from the 2013 APCDA Conference in Seoul showing the members of the Career Consulting Forum of Korea and Korea's Job World. Unfortunately, this magazine is only available in print format.

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Improving India's Career Literacy: Career Education and Guidance at School Level

by Prof. N.K. Chadha and Vandana Gambhir nee Chopra



The career choice of an individual depends on the interplay of a variety of socioeconomic, cultural and psychological factors. Young adults moving from academics to the world of work face a transition stage in which they feel disoriented and confused regarding their choice of career. They look for professional services intended to assist them to make educational, training and occupational choices and to manage their careers. India's youth also go through similar experiences where they need career guidance and support to plan their lives. There is a recent strong effort in India to improve its career literacy. Over the last few years, India government has focused its career education and guidance for youth at both the school and university levels. This has created a sound basis from which to launch further services tailored for more mature clients, in particular, for those for whom private career counseling is beyond reach.



A consensus has been utilized by academicians, teachers and professionals in India to introduce counseling interventions at school level as a means for career development and workforce development practice. Though some preliminary initiatives have already been taken in this direction by various

government and private schools of the country, much still needs to be done to ensure that career counseling is infused systematically at all levels of the 10+2 school system. Assumptions that career maturity may naturally increase with age or higher grades is steadily being replaced by the development of systematic intervention plans which integrate into components of the curriculum to provide the students with abundant opportunities and learning experiences to develop more mature career decision making attitudes and competencies. Sometimes career education and guidance is introduced as a separate subject. Other times it is subsumed into a broader subject or infused across the school curriculum syllabus. Alternatively, it may be provided in the form of seminars and workshops to enrich students with active experiences of the world of work. This planned and systematic programme, aiming at increasing the career maturity of students, is constantly reviewed and monitored to assess the effectiveness of the interventions and mold the strategies in alignment with received feedback. A focus on parents, not only as advisers to their children, but as potential clients of career guidance is also included. While parents may be aware of the career education their children are receiving, many would not consider career guidance relevant to them. Awareness-raising programs for parents are designed to disseminate information about diverse types of careers and innovative programs and practices. Through these well-designed intervention strategies, India will be able to reduce its skill-gap and enhance employability and meet the global challenges of fast-changing economy.

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National Career Institutes in Korea

by *Sungsik Ahn*



Providing recent and reliable labor market information to clients is critical for career counselors and specialists. In Korea, two national institutes provide a wide range of career related information, training and research. The Korea Employment Information Service ([KEIS](#)) is funded by the ministry of labor and provides reports on employment, occupation information and global employment issues. They also operate Korea's biggest employment database called [Work-Net](#) (similar to O*Net in US). This database is the main resource for regional/local government agencies. The highlight of KEIS for career specialists is the training opportunities on KEIS online assessments and KEIS' own career programs. Career specialists can learn about how to utilize KEIS online career assessments, like occupational interest tests, and can become instructors of career programs like CAP+(Career Assistance Program Plus – a five day career development program designed for use with young adults). KEIS also hosts national and global conferences. Recently it hosted a joint global conference with the World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES).

Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training (KRIVET), founded in 1997, is the second national institute for career related information, training and research. Specifically, KRIVET is a national policy research institutes and their research focuses more on vocational education, human resource developments and vocational/career education in K-12 schools. [Career-Net](#) is a career information online resource for K-12 students. The online resource teaches and provides career planning, career assessments, occupation and major information, online career counseling, and more with user-friendly interfaces. KRIVET also hosts an annual, 3-day Global HR Forum which typically attracts more than 5,000 participants. Career counselors and specialists in Korea can find recent and reliable labor market information and free online career assessment from both KEIS and KRIVET. For further information on these institutions, please see their websites (links provided are in English).

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Current Career Guidance of Higher Education in Taiwan

by Shu-Chen (Jean) Wu



The Taiwanese government has been investing huge resources in higher education. However, according to the Taiwanese Executive Yuan data, the unemployment rate of college graduates remains high. [Click here to find out what Taiwanese universities are doing to improve the job-readiness of college graduates.](#)

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Career Planning in Macao

by Elvo Sou



Macao (aka Macau), situated in the coastal area of southern China, neighboring Hong Kong, was a Portuguese colony for about 400 years starting from the 16th century. It was returned to China in 1999 and became the Special Administrative Region of People's Republic of China. It has a population of 636,200 (Macao Statistics and Census Service, 2014) and covers a geographic area of approximately 30 sq km. According to CIA World Factbook 2014, the population density of Macao stood at 20,673 per sq km, ranking number one in the world.

Since the liberalization of the gaming industry in 2002, Macao has benefited from a remarkable economic growth. It surpassed Las Vegas as the world's biggest gambling center in 2006, and the GDP per capita rose to USD 91,376 in 2013, ranking number four in the world according to the World Bank. In addition, the labor market in Macao is very tight. The unemployment rate stood at 1.7% (Macao Statistics and Census Service, 2014) and the labor market is skewed toward the gaming industry. Human resource development has become an economic as well as a social issue. The Macao government has taken a series of initiatives in response to the human resource development needs. For example, the government established the Tertiary Education Talents Database and the Talent Information Registration, aiming at forecasting the demand in different industries and the future needs for human resources. Furthermore, in the recent Macao Youth Policy 2012-2020, career counseling and development for youth was one of the major foci.

The government funded two local NGOs to establish career centers a few years ago to provide career planning and guidance to Macao residents with an emphasis on the school-age population. In addition, a couple tertiary education institutions have career centers that provide career services to their students. However, there is no formalized career education in schools. The number of people working in the field is very small. There are no formal reports on the number of career development practitioners, but according to the author's observation, the number is less than 30 and many of them are very young.

Another arena of career development is in the employment market. Employees receive pre-service and in-service training for advancement within their organizations. However, such training mostly focuses on skill development rather than career planning.

In summary, career counseling and development is at its infancy in Macao. Much work is to be done, such as incorporating career planning into the curriculum in school, professionalizing the field of career planning, and expanding career services to working adults.

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Australia Announces 2016 Conference Plans

by Andrew Rimington



The Career Development Association of Australia (CDAA) has announced its 2016 conference, "Inspiring Excellence through Evolution, Innovation, Transformation."

This conference will be held in Melbourne on Wednesday, May 25, through Friday, May 27. The CDAA Conference conveniently follows the 2016 APCDA Conference (Thursday, May 19, through Saturday, May 21 in Taipei).

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Juneteenth: Jubilation on June 19 in the United States of America

by Danita Redd



Juneteenth this year will be the 150th anniversary of the only celebration commemorating the ending of the enslavement of Black Americans/African Americans. All-in-all, it celebrates family and communication.

President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, but it took until June 19, 1865 for the State of Texas to acknowledge it. Only by enforcement of the U.S. Federal Government and its military did Texas free its slaves. On that day, the following was declared: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

Upon learning of the proclamation, Blacks reacted with amazement and jubilation (joyful celebration). Albeit, the biggest Juneteenth festivals continue to be in Texas, Blacks throughout the United States and former slaves around the world observe it. In the United States, the holiday is celebrated in a manner similar to what the US does on the 4th of July. Entire clans of family and friends gather to barbeque meat for a great feast and end the day with fireworks. In between feasting on food and watching fireworks, folks go to rodeo competitions, and play baseball or basketball. If there is a lake around, they spend the morning fishing. The most traditional aspect of this day is not just eating delicious barbequed meat, but the drinking of strawberry flavored soda pop which is a popular carbonated beverage in Texas.

The observance of Juneteenth continues to this very day not only through family gatherings but by observances sponsored by museums such as the Smithsonian and by religious institutions. The bottom line meaning of Juneteenth is family and communication. It represents the ending of one of the greatest cases of obfuscation (clouding the truth) in our history. Whether or not from Texas, whether or not Black American, whether or not from the USA, Juneteenth represents jubilation and the freedom of the human spirit. Visit the following website to learn more about [Juneteenth](#).

Danita Redd has worked for 30 years as a career and academic counselor in higher education. She has been a Professor of Counseling at Moorpark College in California since 1993. Also she is a volunteer

Ambassador for Shared Hope International, an organization committed to ending [Human Trafficking](#). To contact her: dredd@vcccd.edu and <http://sunny.moorparkcollege.edu/~dredd/>.

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Which Holidays are Special in Your Country?

by Natalie Kauffman



We made a great start with Holiday articles, so let's follow this with articles from other countries describing an important holiday in your county. Share something about the holiday's history, its cultural meaning, how and when the holiday is celebrated today, and why it is special. Please email your articles to: Newsletter@AsiaPacificCDA.org.

The deadline for our next newsletter is Friday, June 26th.

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