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The 2018 Thirteenth Northeast Asia Economic Forum Young Leaders Program

Overview
The 13th Young Leaders Program organized by Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF) and University of Hawai‘i, College of Social Sciences was held during July 24 – August 10, 2018. The Program was hosted by Tohoku University with the support from the Freeman Foundation (which started 13 years ago at its inception), and contributions from China Asia Pacific Institute, Korea Asia Pacific Institute, and other cooperating institutions in Northeast Asia.

Because of the importance of the internationally recognized Sendai Framework for disaster due to the 2011 Fukushima tsunami, the 2018 Young Leaders Program was preceded this year by joining the activities of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities - Multi-Hazards (APRU-MH) Summer School, for two days.

Program Goals and Outline
The main goals of YLP are to:

1. Enhance knowledge of the social, economic and political institutions of the individual countries in Northeast Asia and North America.
2. Encourage young leaders to consider a wide range of perspectives on regional and multi-lateral economic cooperation.
3. Prepare YLP fellows to work collaboratively and internationally.
4. Provide them with practical education in policymaking through opportunities of direct dialogue with policymakers and other experts.
5. Foster a sense of community among young leaders.
6. Promote a better understanding among individuals, countries and cultures in Northeast Asia and the United States.

Number of Countries Represented and Qualifications of YLP participants
There were 31 participants from countries of Northeast Asia: China (8), Japan (2), Korea (4), Mongolia (3), Russia (5), USA (8), and a Kenyan PhD student from Tohoku University. Forty-two percent of them are female. The detailed qualifications are tabulated in Appendix 1.

The participants were young professionals, junior faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate students pursuing advanced degrees in economics, business, law, sociology, political science, environmental sciences, or related disciplines. In the recent past, most of the participants were either PhD students matriculating or who had completed their graduate degrees at major prominent universities. For example, a couple of Rhodes Scholars from Oxford University in the UK were participants.

The summary of Agenda and activities included the following:
• Opening of the 13th YLP.
Introduction to Tohoku University by Dean Nobuhiko Terui of Graduate School of Economics and Management, Tohoku University.

Program Introduction by Sen. Stanley Chang, State Senator, State of Hawaii, Former YLP Fellow; Brice Park, Global Supply Manager, Apple Japan; Former YLP Fellow.

Introduction of YLP Fellows by Partners: For better understanding of each other and promoting acquaintance.

Sign-up for Area & Thematic Presentations.

Preparation for Area & Thematic Presentations.

Participants are divided into six groups to introduce member countries Northeast Asia Economic Forum: China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Russia and the USA with an understanding that a participant cannot be in a group introducing his own country. This way participants are encouraged to learn about another country in the region in an objective way, thereby reducing the nationalistic tendencies and lowering state sovereignty walls and thus called “area presentation”.

Beginning July 27th through August 8th, there were organized sessions for invited faculty presentations, area and thematic presentations, and individual presentations.

2. Demographic Perspective of Northeast Asia by Stuart Gietel-Basten, Associate Professor, Division of Social Science, Division of Public Policy, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
3. Environmental Challenges for Northeast Asia Asuka Jusen, Professor, Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University
4. Industrial Development in Developing Economy under the International Economic Integration: The Case of Iron and Steel Industry in Viet Nam
   Nozomu Kawabata, Professor, Graduate School of Economics and Management, Tohoku University
5. Role of Accounting in Northeast Asia Economic Cooperation
   Wonkee Pae, Secretary General, API Korea; Professor, Hongik University
6. The Future of Northeast Asia Economic Community - Issues and Lessons from EU
   Glyn Ford, Director, Track2Asia, European Union
7. Comparison of the Economic Development of North Korea and South Korea
   Hyunghwan Joo, Former Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea
8. Session 9: Energy and Environment
   Stephen Cowper, Former Governor of Alaska
   Nori Tarui, Associate Professor of Economics, College of Social Sciences, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
   Terry Surles, Senior Advisor, California Institute for Energy and Environment, UC/Berkeley followed by a discussion by Kenji Sumida, Former President, East-West Center; Secretary General, North American Committee, Northeast Asia Economic Forum
Pavel Minakir, Academician and Director, Economic Research Institute, Far East Branch, Russia Academy of Sciences

9. Northeast Asia Economic Community and Functional Economic Cooperation
   Sergei Sevastianov, Director, Asia Pacific International Institutions and Multilateral Cooperation Studies Center, School of Regional and International Studies, Far Eastern Federal University

10. Physical Connectivity and Marine Transportation Networks
    Inoue Satoshi, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan

11. Policymakers Meeting with YLP Fellows
    Stephen Cowper, Former Governor of Alaska
    Hong Jae Hyung, Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Republic of Korea
    Glyn Ford, Director, Track2Asia, European Union
    Pavel Minakir, Academician and Director, Economic Research Institute, Far East Branch, Russia Academy of Sciences
    Hyunghwan Joo, Former Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Republic of Korea

12. Area Presentations by the YLP participants: China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Russia, and USA

13. Thematic Presentations by the YLP participants:
    a. Cross-Border Trade in Northeast Asia
    b. Infrastructure Development for Physical Connectivity in Northeast Asia
    c. Demography and Population Movement (Tourism) in Northeast Asia
    d. Energy and Environment in Northeast Asia
    e. The Northeast Asia Economic Community

14. Individual Presentations by the YLP participants:
    a. A Temporal and Spatial Analysis of China’s Infrastructure Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts
       Xi Hu, LWP Post-doctoral Fellow, Harvard University
    b. High-Speed Rail, Regional Economic Performance, and Economic Structure: Evidence from 18 Cities along China’s Beijing-Guangzhou High-Speed Railway
       Wentao Zhou, PhD student in Economics, University of Wisconsin – Madison
    c. And other nine topics relevant to Northeast Asia

15. Participation in the 27th Annual Conference of Northeast Asia Economic Forum

Program Evaluation
The anonymous 3-page, 11-item evaluation was administered as the final activity of the YLP. Their responses indicated a very high level of overall satisfaction and appreciation with about 92% saying that the program either met or exceeded their expectations. Almost all participants said that the administration of the program was sufficiently responsive to their interests and needs while only one participant said otherwise.

When asked which part of the program is the strong in which they gained the most, they mentioned most of the YLP components as follows:

* Area presentations
• Lectures by invited experts/speakers
• IRIDeS Summer School and Field Trip
• Individual presentations
• Policymakers’ meeting with YLP participants
• NEAEF Conference
• Group interactions/discussions
• Mutual introduction of participants

A sample of their unedited comments is provided below:
• “The team is very strong and considerate, under the leadership of Dr. Cho. The preparation work is well designed, organized, and carried out. The system and mechanism of managing the whole projects are effective. My interest and need are well met.”
• “It was excellent! I have been to few conferences abroad and I can say from my previous experience that the YLP was the best in terms of logistics. Thank you.”
• “I’m glad there are so many experts from different fields. I’m grateful and it’s my honor to join in this program. And at the end of YLP, we, young people, can have interview with policymakers. This is the most impressive part of the program.”
• “The strongest part of the program for me was the group presentations. I developed further my team working skills and group management abilities. I also engaged myself in topics completely new to me.”
• “The coordination by the program administrators was superb. The program was also accommodating especially with time for comments and discussions. Everyone had time to communicate their interests.”

NEAEF Conference Evaluation
Most of the YLP Fellows indicated that the NEAEF conference met their expectations. The conference presenters provided the YLP Fellows a broad perspective on regional cooperation.

In conclusion, the 2018, 13th Young Leaders Program has received highly positive response across all aspects covered by the evaluation and resulted in an outstanding success.

Appendix 1: List of 2018 Young Leaders Program Fellows

Appendix 2: Cover of the Agenda for the Thirteenth Young Leaders Program
### Appendix 1: List of 2018 Young Leaders Program Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Current Affiliation</th>
<th>Role (and financing)</th>
<th>Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr. Hu</td>
<td>Xi</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Completed) PhD Environmental Economics</td>
<td>University of Oxford</td>
<td>LWP Post-doctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Chen</td>
<td>Zheqin</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Masters student in Economics</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>MA student in Economics</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Fellow University Fellow (self-funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ms. Jiang</td>
<td>Fangfei</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Ongoing) PhD Candidate in World Economy</td>
<td>National Institute of International Strategy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (NIIS, CASS)</td>
<td>Assistant Research Fellow / Foreign Affairs Officer</td>
<td>Institute of Literature, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr. Liu</td>
<td>Muzhen</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Masters student in Economics</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Masters student</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Fellow University Fellow (self-funded)</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dr. Miao</td>
<td>Ji</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Completed) PhD in International Studies</td>
<td>Waseda University</td>
<td>Assistant Professor / Research Fellow</td>
<td>Center for China-Japan-Korea Trilateral Cooperation, China Foreign Affairs University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ms. Wang</td>
<td>Hechong</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Completed) MA International Financial Markets</td>
<td>Central University of Finance and Economics/ University of Southhampton</td>
<td>Senior Associate</td>
<td>PICC Investment Holding Company Limited</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ms. Wu</td>
<td>Tiange</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Masters in Finance</td>
<td>Nankai University</td>
<td>Master student</td>
<td>Nankai University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mr. Zhou</td>
<td>Wentao</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Ph.D. in Economics</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin, Madison</td>
<td>Ph.D. student</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin - Madison</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mr. Shimosakai</td>
<td>Yoshinori</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>(Completed) Master of Business Administration</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Fellow (Self-paying)</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ms. Yanagi</td>
<td>Kyoko</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>(Completed) Exchange Program, Berlin School of Economics and Law</td>
<td>Berlin School of Economics and Law; Kobe University</td>
<td>Research Associate</td>
<td>Japan Electric Power Information Center, Inc.</td>
<td>Fellow (Self-paying)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mr. Siele</td>
<td>Kipkorir Weldon</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Masters student in Economics</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Masters student</td>
<td>Tohoku University</td>
<td>Fellow University Fellow (self-funded)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Mr. Choy</td>
<td>Weonbin</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>(Completed) Public Administration, English Translation and Interpretation</td>
<td>Hankuk University of Foreign Language</td>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>Ministry of Strategy and Finance</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ms. Lee</td>
<td>Hyorim</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Master of Business Administration</td>
<td>Kyoto University</td>
<td>Masters student</td>
<td>Kyoto University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Bachelor of Arts in Law, Jurisprudence, and Social Thought</td>
<td>Amherst College</td>
<td>Intern</td>
<td>API Korea Intern</td>
<td>Intern</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Park</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>(Completed) Masters in Business Administration</td>
<td>Kyoto University</td>
<td>Global Supply Manager</td>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>YLP Alumni</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Batjargal</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(Completed) MA International Relations</td>
<td>University of Westminster, London</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Department of International Relations, National University of Mongolia</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Damdinsuren</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(Completed) LLM in Civil and Commercial Law</td>
<td>Peking University</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
<td>Institute of International Affairs, Mongolian Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Ganzorig</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>(Completed) Bachelor of Laws</td>
<td>The National University of Mongolia</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Mongol Global LLC</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Lasmasheva</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(Completed) PhD in Political Science and PhD in International Economics</td>
<td>Khabarovsk State Academy of Economics and Law; Niigata University</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Pacific National University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Mukhin</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Post-graduate student in Politics and Public Administration</td>
<td>The University of Hong Kong</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
<td>The University of Hong Kong</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Petrova</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(Completed) MA, Disasters, Adaptation, and Development</td>
<td>King's College London</td>
<td>Manager</td>
<td>Higher School of Economics, National Research University (Moscow, Russia)</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Tolstoguzova</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(Completed) Master of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>Moscow State Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation</td>
<td>Chief Specialist of International Projects Center</td>
<td>Federal State Unitary Enterprise Rossiya Segodnya International Information Agency</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Tomilov</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Post-graduate student in economics</td>
<td>Economic Research Institute, the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Khabarovsk, Russia</td>
<td>Post-graduate student</td>
<td>Economic Research Institute, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Abraham</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Ongoing) PhD in Public Policy</td>
<td>Oxford University</td>
<td>PhD Student</td>
<td>Oxford University</td>
<td>YLP Alumni</td>
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<td>Se n.</td>
<td>Chang</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Completed) Juris Doctor</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>State Senator</td>
<td>State of Hawaii</td>
<td>YLP Alumni</td>
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<td>Mr. Ferrier</td>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Completed) MSc International Political Economy</td>
<td>London School of Economics</td>
<td>Director of Academic Affairs and Research</td>
<td>Korea Economic Institute of America (KEI)</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Mr. Giles</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Ongoing) PhD in Economics</td>
<td>Florida International University</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
<td>Florida International University</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Ms. Goodwin</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Ongoing) PhD candidate in Education Policy Studies</td>
<td>University of Hawaii at Manoa</td>
<td>Academic Affairs Program Officer</td>
<td>University of Hawaii at Manoa</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>Mr. Seltzer</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Ongoing) M.A., Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies</td>
<td>Middlebury Institute of International Studies</td>
<td>Masters student</td>
<td>Middlebury Institute of International Studies</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
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<td>Mr. Thulin</td>
<td>Walter</td>
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<td>(Ongoing) Bachelor of Arts in History</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>Undergraduate student</td>
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<td>Fellow (Intern - fully funded)</td>
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<td>Ms. Yennie</td>
<td>Wrenn</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>(Ongoing) Ph.D in International Relations</td>
<td>Stockholm University</td>
<td>Research Fellow</td>
<td>Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NIIPI)</td>
<td>Fellow (fully funded)</td>
<td>F</td>
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THE 13TH YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM (YLP)

July 24 – August 11, 2018

Organized by
Northeast Asia Economic Forum (NEAEF)
University of Hawai‘i, College of Social Sciences

Hosted by
Tohoku University
Graduate School of Economics and Management
IRIDeS (International Research Institute of Disaster Science)
Center for Northeast Asia Studies

With support from
Freeman Foundation

In cooperation with
China Asia Pacific Institute
Korea Asia Pacific Institute
KB Kookmin Bank