

Report on Ikeda Studies in Education

Purpose

The Report on Ikeda Studies in Education is compiled and circulated by the Ikeda Research Institute for Soka Education ([IRISE](#)) of Soka University. The Report serves as an information-sharing tool for scholars and researchers of this field of study, with the aim of facilitating on a global basis, further advances in the research of and activities relevant to Ikeda studies in education.

News Update

Canada

Canada's SERC-GC at the University of Guelph-Humber hosts lecture on value-creating pedagogy

On November 18, the Soka Education Research Centre on Global Citizenship ([SERC-GC](#)) at Canada's University of Guelph-Humber hosted its 4th Annual Special Lecture online. The lecture commemorated the 1930 publication of the first volume of Tsunesaburo Makiguchi's seminal work, *The System of Value-Creating Pedagogy*, and brought together 172 participants from 11 different countries, including Canada, Brazil, India, the UK, and the US, among others..

Following opening remarks from SERC-GC Director Prof. Paul Sherman, Prof. Hiroko Tomioka of Soka University gave the lecture, "Overview of Soka Education: Makiguchi's Pedagogy," in which she spoke on the value system Makiguchi developed that emphasizes the values of beauty, gain, and good. Participants then discussed a number of topics, including education as a means to foster the human capacity to overcome adversity.

Spain

Spain's IEDDAI at University of Alcalá holds symposium on 2021 Peace Proposal

The Daisaku Ikeda Research Institute for Education and Development ([IEDDAI](#)) at Spain's University of Alcalá hosted a symposium on Daisaku Ikeda's 2021 peace proposal, "Value Creation in a Time of Crisis," on November 19. The symposium was held both online and in-person, with more than 100 people, led by students of the University of Alcalá's faculty of education, taking part. IEDDAI Director Alejandro Iborra Cuéllar and Vice Director Ana Belén García Varela delivered opening addresses.

Next, legal scholar Prof. Vicente Garrido Rebolledo of Rey Juan Carlos University spoke on the need for education for nuclear disarmament to facilitate global peace given the manifold challenges and obstacles thwarting the path to the abolition of nuclear weapons. He was followed by Prof. María Jesús Salado García of the University of Alcalá, who examined the mission of educators in achieving SDGs and the importance of those who teach to persist in an inwardly directed process of reformation.

Participants agreed that by drawing insights afforded in the 2021 peace proposal, the symposium provided them with an opportunity to share views on the role of education in advancing and contributing to disarmament and sustainability.

USA

Ikeda Center in the US holds annual forum for intercultural dialogue

On December 11, the Ikeda Center for Peace, Learning, and Dialogue hosted its 17th annual Ikeda Forum for Intercultural Dialogue titled, “Becoming Wide Awake to Our Wisdom, Courage, and Compassion: Global Citizenship as Action and Identity.” Approximately 250 participants from 27 countries attended the virtual forum. It featured presentations by Prof. Awad Ibrahim from the University of Ottawa and Prof. Jason Goulah of DePaul University, and an intergenerational panel discussion with doctoral and graduate students from Harvard University, Tufts University, Boston University, and Indiana University.

Through the presentations and discussion, presenters and panelists examined Daisaku Ikeda’s approach to global citizenship and how his perspective provides a helpful framework for self-identifying and taking positive actions as a global citizen.

Prof. Goulah noted that Daisaku Ikeda’s “vision of global citizenship is both particular and universal. It recognizes and seeks to foster a deeper more fundamental and universal aspect of our shared humanity.” He invited forum participants “to begin to identify as a global citizen and to move your life toward taking action as a global citizen and asking yourself, ‘What kind of actions am I taking today, right now, as a global citizen?’”

Prof. Ibrahim introduced the idea of the “strong poet,” individuals such as Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Nelson Mandela and Daisaku Ikeda, who not only possess “a radical vision, but a language that enables them to articulate that vision.” He added that strong poets are “full of wisdom, they think beyond themselves and are courageous and compassionate.”

During the panel discussion, the emerging scholars—who had participated in a three-part seminar series organized by the Center earlier in the

year—explored the aspects of Daisaku Ikeda’s approach to global citizenship that were resonating with them the most. The panel also discussed the potential impact on people’s behavior and relationships if Daisaku Ikeda’s perspective on global citizenship were put into practice in our society today.

To conclude the main forum session, Ikeda Center executive director Kevin Maher gave his closing remarks, which was followed by participants joining small group discussions.

For a detailed report on the forum, click on this link: [Becoming Wide Awake to Our Wisdom, Courage, and Compassion | The Ikeda Center for Peace, Learning & Dialogue | Cambridge, MA](#)

Daisaku Ikeda on Education

[Thoughts on Education for Global Citizenship](#)

(Delivered at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, on June 13, 1996.)

This Issue’s Selected Writing

Sharma, N. (2020). [Value-creating global citizenship education for sustainable development: Strategies and approaches](#). Cham: Palgrave Macmillan/Springer Nature.

Postscript

- We welcome comments regarding this Report as well as suggestions on specific material that it should feature in future issues. Contact: Ikeda Research Institute for Soka Education (IRISE) of Soka University (IRISE-access@soka.ac.jp)
- This Report is issued on a bimonthly basis, with the next release tentatively scheduled for March 18, 2022