

**Digital Cultural Heritage Business and Open Data:
Bringing Rome to Japan
RENKEI Workshop at Ritsumeikan University, Japan
(Saturday, 24th June – Wednesday, 28th June 2017)**

The global society faces extraordinary challenges associated with profound globalisation trends, including population mobility and widening social inequalities, which are challenging national, regional, and individual cultural practices. The impacts of these cultural changes have broader implications for social stability and the economic and overall wellness of individuals, communities, and nations. Cultural (tangible and intangible) heritage preservation and interpretation plays a critical role in the social and economic development of regions and nations.

Traditionally different aspects of cultural heritage have been looked at separately by many fields of expertise (e.g. archaeology, history, cultural anthropology, education, museology, etc.), however, there is a growing emphasis on digital mechanisms for connecting and enhancing these disciplinary areas. In turn this digital activity supports community revitalisation, economic development, and social justice. This is particularly true in the case of open data. Activities by the Open Data Institute (UK) have demonstrated the global economic potential of monetising open data. In turn activities pioneered by Southampton are continuing to identify economic opportunities for businesses mobilising open education (e.g. via Massive Open Online Courses), open research data, citizen science and through connections to broadcast media.

Open scholarship needs to engage with new business models, considering complex issues such as licensing and cultural sensitivity. Whilst knowledge can and should be free, it must also be valued, exchanged and earned: this presents an opportunity for entrepreneurial cultural heritage industries and for the creative digital sector. It also requires sharing of practices around data governance, exemplified in the area of cultural property, and engagement with relevant authorities.

This workshop aims to assemble an expert network representing creative digital business and cultural heritage researchers in order to support digital business and museology in Japan. It will focus on the opportunities and challenges of open scholarship in this context, building on the example of the Portus Project, Italy, which has engaged millions of people via broadcast media, open education and other open scholarship approaches.

The network and exemplar together will support subsequent applications for funding, both in the UK and Japan, and deployment within the Japanese creative technologies and cultural heritage sectors. It will also stimulate further business collaboration within and between the two countries, and open partners to new markets.

The project builds from wide-ranging, ongoing creative business-focused activity by the Portus Project in Italy. This project, focused on the port of ancient Rome, has considered the role of communities, technology and open scholarship in the construction of cultural heritage knowledge – a theme at the heart of this proposal. The RENKEI project workshop funding is complemented by funding from the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) and other sources that is extending the number of delegates.

Date: Saturday, 24th June – Wednesday, 28th June 2017 (accommodation available until 29th June)

Place: Art Research Centre at Ritsumeikan University, Kinugasa Campus

Style of the workshop and programme:

The workshop will be facilitated in a way to stimulate and encourage creative thinking. Each delegate will present personal projects/ interests that fits with the theme on the first day, while the second day will be dedicate to engaging with Japanese cultural heritage in Kyoto. Participants will then be able to familiarise themselves with their respective cultural heritage and creative industries strengths before taking part in a “Thinkathon”. The brainstorm session will help to define theme to

be explored during the sandpits sessions. On the final day of the programme teams will have the chance to develop future projects and to feedback to the group.

Programme

Date	Contents	Location
Friday 23 June	(Arrival of participants to Workshop / Free time for pre-activities)	
Sat 24 June Workshop Day 1	(am) Conference (pm) Conference (evening) Public Lecture and reception	Kinugasa Campus
Sun 25 Jun Workshop Day 2	Activity day – visit to Kyoto Heritage sites	
Mon 26 June Workshop Day 3	(am) Cultural Heritage presentations (pm) Creative Industry presentations	Suzaku Campus
Tue 27 June Workshop Day 4	(am) Thinkathon (pm) Project and funding “sandpit”	Kinugasa Campus
Wed 28 June Workshop Day 5	(am) Project and funding “sandpit” (pm) Feedback session: Close 5pm	Kinugasa Campus
Thu 29 June	Departure (delegates may also depart on 28 th June)	

Who should attend this workshop:

Researchers at the RENKEI member universities who have a strong interest in some of the themes below connected to digital cultural heritage:

- open data and open education
- crowdsourcing
- virtual communities
- 3D graphical reconstructions
- public engagement

There is space for two representatives from each RENKEI university. Participants are welcome from any discipline – a major advantage of the RENKEI workshop is to mix disciplines as well as cultures – and they can be postgraduate students, early-career researchers or academics.

Cost

Cost to be covered by the RENKEI programme

- Lunch on Sat 24th, Mon 26th, Tue 27th and Wed 28th June and reception on Sat 24th June.

Cost to be covered by participants

- Transportation between your participants' place of residence and Ritsumeikan University
- Transports in Kyoto (eg. One day bus pass ¥500)
- Accommodation in Kyoto at the Ark Hotel Kyoto
- Meals not covered by the programme
- Any other personal expenses not included in the programme

For the accommodation in Kyoto, Ritsumeikan University has put on hold rooms at the Ark Hotel in Kyoto for all participants. The room rate is ¥6,200 a night for a single room + ¥1,000 for breakfast (optional). If you check-in on 23rd June and check-out on 29th, the total cost will be ¥43,200 with breakfast. (¥37,200 without breakfast). The rooms will be available from 23th June for 6 nights and are allocated to first come first bases. Participants are asked to pay directly to the hotel upon check-in.

Participants are invited to stay at the conference hotel to promote discussion and engagement after the end of the daily programme, however delegates living in Kyoto or surroundings can commute if they wish.