

**US-Japan Digital Brain Arc Forum:
Building a Brain Arc Between the U.S.A., Japan and Beyond for the Digital Future**

1. Summary

The Midwest region, once the heart of manufacturing in the 1960s, has been called the Rust Belt due to deindustrialization and economic decline in the region. In parts of this region, however, various advanced industries and universities have collaborated to adapt and to take advantage of the digital revolution in fields such as Data Science, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Cyber Security. With an innovative eco-system being developed via smart city initiatives and digital human capital development, certain areas of the Rust Belt have successfully been emerging as hotspots of global innovation. Antoine van Agtmael and Fred Bakke call this region the Brain Belt in their book and have done research on what conditions, innovation and ecosystems could transform the Rust Belt to the Brain Belt.

On the other hand, once boasting overwhelming industrial competitiveness by quality control skills that Dr. Edwards Deming brought, Japan has lagged behind global competition in adopting the digital revolution and fallen into the lost decades of economic stagnation. Prime Minister Abe's administration, however, puts his highest priority on developing human capital and strengthening university governance. Under this political agenda, some universities try to establish innovative eco-systems in cooperation with local industries and governments, introducing Data Science, AI, and Cyber Security into their regions. These universities, in collaboration with local industry and governments, are eager to learn successful models from leading U.S. universities and industries in the digital field. These developments are an example of a burgeoning of Brain Belt in Japan. The Abe administration is committed to support strongly these university efforts especially in collaborative activities with U.S. universities and industries.

A strong bridge into the digital future by connecting the Brain Belts in both countries, through university active collaborations, could be called a Brain Arc. In this Forum, stakeholders from industries, universities, and governments in the US and Japan meet together to discuss issues, potential areas of collaboration, and the next steps to build this Brain Arc between the U.S.A., Japan and beyond.

2. Date and Time 13:00 to 14:10 on Friday, April 13th, 2018

3. Venue Page Hall PA (Room #130), Building 061, The Ohio State University
1810 College Rd
Columbus, OH 43210

Parking available at Ohio Union South Parking Garage
1759 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43210

4. Target Audience University, industries, local governments from Japan and U.S.
Total number of the participants expected: 40-60 people

5. Agenda

13:00 Opening Remark Ohio State Government

13:05 Keynote Dr. Shuzaburo Takeda, President of Takeda and Associates

- Digital Era: exponential, convergence, and connected
- Digital technology-based industry, digital-based society, digital-based human capital
- Data as the most valuable resource
- Digital mind set leading to innovation
- From Rust Belt to Brain Belt; Value of Brain Arc
- From Midwest and South East to West to Japan to Southeast Asia to India and to Africa
- New pedagogy in digital era; developing humanity; new safety net
- Future of US and Japan via Brain Arc

13:20 Hub1 Dr. Christopher Hadad
Dean of Natural and Mathematical Sciences
Ohio State University

- Ohio State University as the regional hub of innovation
- Regional economic development and Brain Arc by OSU

13:35 Hub2 Japanese Universities and Industries

- Nagoya University: NU-PRACTISS (The Nagoya University Project to Renovate A City into a Tech Innovative Smart Society)
Dr. Kazuya Takeda
Presidential Adviser, Professor, Graduate School of Informatics
- University of Tsukuba: Innovation in Tsukuba
Dr. Kenji Suzuki
Director, Center for Cybernics Research
- Tohoku University:
Dr. Hiroaki Kobayashi
Professor, Graduate School of Information Sciences
- Efforts and comments by Japanese Universities and Industries (TBD)

14:10 Closing remark Consulate General of Japan in Detroit (TBC)

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