

INSTITUTE FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

**2019 IJS SPRING
LECTURE SERIES
PRESENTS:**

**INNOVATION AND EXPERIENCE IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
BY SMALL-TO-MEDIUM SIZE FIRMS IN MODERN MANUFACTURING
- A CASE STUDY OF NEW REVERSE LOGISTICS**

**Hajime Miyazaki, Department of Economics and IJS Director
Yoshihiro Sasaki with Ai Collins, and Nim Chen, Funai Service Corporation**

The challenge to modern manufacturing is to transform its mentality and modus operandi to the brave world of new automation, robotics, AI and IoT. Many Japanese firms have invested overseas, and Ohio has been a prime site of their FDIs in the U.S. The Japanese transplants, not only large firms but also many small-to-medium size firms, have done well in their human resource and supply chain management in the U.S. In the face of the radical shift from the analog regime to digital regime, how can small to-medium size firms orchestrate their human resources and knowledge capital not only to survive but to grow successfully in ever changing marketplaces? After Professor Miyazaki surveys modern manufacturing and the interface of U.S.-Japan management and human resource practices from an economic perspective, Yoshihiro Sasaki and his associates, Ai Collins and Nim Chen, present how their firm, Funai Service Corporation, does it in the line of business known as “reverse logistics”.



Free and Open to the Public
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**Tues
February 19
5:00-7:00 PM
Cunz Hall 150**