

Results Report:

SASE Conference Kyoto June 24th, 2018

This year's three-day conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio Economics (SASE) took place in Kyoto from June 23rd till June 25th. Our delegation consisting of Professor Masahiro Kotosaka, Pauline Debanes and Ibolya Belakova presented on the 24th.

SASE (Society for the Advancement of Socio Economics) is an acclaimed society founded in 1989 that is highly international and multidisciplinary. Its purpose is to advance the understanding of economic behavior across a broad range of academic disciplines, to support the intellectual exploration of economic behavior and its policy implications within the context of societal, institutional, historical, philosophical, psychological, and ethical factors, and to balance inductive and deductive approaches to the study of economic behavior at both micro and macro levels of analysis. Being chosen as a presenter at a SASE conference is a truly humbling experience.

Our research is about deepening our understanding of the challenged conservative views on institutional change in the Korean and Japanese business ecosystem. There has been many strategic alliances between new and/or relatively small ICT ventures and start-up companies and large companies, especially in the past 5-10 years. This study aims to reconcile two strands of the institutional literature and the organizational analysis of institutional change. Through the case of strategic alliances, we can discuss in details the potential institutional bottlenecks that have existed, and their transformation through time, in the corporate sector.

The presentation itself nevertheless had to be extremely brief and concise, with regards to the conference's schedule and the panels' time constraints. Me and Professor Kotosaka divided our slides and each presented a part of our research. The presentation was commenced with the professor's comments on the context of this research, afterwards I talked about the Macroscopic context of our study, and then Professor Kotosaka concluded with painting a picture of the typical dynamics between a large Japanese company and a small Japanese startup.

I was personally very grateful for the participants' comments and questions during our Q&A session directly after the presentation. Some highly acclaimed scholars, for instance from the University of Oxford, have attended our talk and listening to their insight has proved to be a valuable experience to me, as was this entire conference. Attending as the sole undergraduate student, while also being one of the speakers has been a humbling and extremely important experience.