Sustainable Build Environment Academic Seminar

"EXPLORING THE FUTURE RESEARCH COLLABORATION "

26th February (Thursday) 2026

10:00-16:30 (Lunch Break 12:30-13:30)

Innovation creation floor (5F), KIBINOVE, Okayama University

Program :

1. 10:00-10:10 Opening Ceremony Speech
2. 10:10-10:30
   - "Introduction to the Graduate School of Environmental, Life, Natural Science and Technology"
3. 10:30-12:30
   - Guest Lecture/Speech by Prof. Bardhan

Lunch Break

4. 13:30-13:50
   - "Okayama University's Commitment to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment"

Tea Break

5. 14:20-16:20
   - "Status and challenges of building carbon-neutral pathways: Comparative analysis in major world economies" by Prof. Huang
6. 16:20-16:30 Closing Ceremony Speech

Prof.Ronita Bardhan
University of Cambridge
(United Kindom)

Prof.Beijia Huang
University of Shanghai for Science and Technology
(China)

岡山大学 工学部
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY

OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY

岡山大学大学院
環境生命科学研究科 附属低炭素・廃棄物循環研究センター

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SPEARKERS INTRODUCTION

Prof.Ronita Bardhan
University of Cambridge

Dr. Ronita Bardhan is a Professor of Sustainable Built Environment at the University of Cambridge and holds the office of Director of Research and Deputy Head of the Department of Architecture. Ronita leads the Cambridge Sustainable Design Group and has faculty roles (by courtesy) at Cambridge Public Health and the Cambridge Computer Laboratory. Ronita's research intersects the built environment, climate change, and health, focusing on data-driven strategies for precision prevention. Her seminal work on gender-inclusive climate adaptation in built environments is now shaping policies in the Global South. Ronita is ranked among the top 2% of scientists in her domain and was awarded the Top 50 Finalist Women in Engineering, UK 2024. She regularly advises policymakers on critical issues related to low-carbon transition and heat-health. Her research employs data-driven design strategies for precision prevention from health and energy burdens in the warming climate. She triangulates building physics, engineering, machine learning / AI and social science data to develop solutions for realising health and low-carbon energy potential in built environments.

Prof.Beijia Huang
University of Shanghai for Science and Technology

Dr.Beijia Huang is a professor in School of environment and architecture, University of Shanghai for Science and Technology. Her key research interests covers environmental assessment and management, life cycle thinking, regional sustainable development planning, etc. She has two years of visiting experience in Yale University and University of Tokyo. She was honored as Distinguished Shanghai Eastern Scholar and Shanghai Pujiang Talent. She is also an expert at the Basel Convention Asia-Pacific Regional Center Think Tank of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment; Member of the Energy and Resources Systems Engineering Branch of the Chinese Society of Systems Engineering. She has published over 50 high-impact articles in journals such as One Earth and Environmental Science & Technology. Four of her published papers were recognized as ESI Highly Cited Papers. She serves as Associate Editor of the journal Cleaner Waste Systems, and Carbon Footprint.

OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY

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SPEARKERS INTRODUCTION

Opening Ceremony Speech

Prof.Yukari Mimura
Okayama University

Professor Mimura serves as Director in charge of the Diversity Promotion Office, and also as an Executive Director for Planning and General Affairs at Okayama University. She holds a Ph.D. in Medicine and conducts research in school health care, clinical nursing, and metabolism. Her work includes advancing school health practices and teacher training, with numerous publications and contributions to the field of health education. Prof. Mimura began her career as a staff physician at Okayama University Hospital before moving into academia. She has served in a range of leadership roles at Okayama University, including Dean of the Faculty and Graduate School of Education and Vice President. With extensive experience in university governance, education, and research, she has contributed significantly to institutional management and academic development.

"Okayama University's Commitment to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment"

Emeritus Prof.Kenji Tomioka
Okayama University

Dr. Kenji Tomioka is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at Okayama University. His academic leadership includes serving as Dean of the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology from 2017 to 2018 and as Dean of the Faculty of Science from 2019 to 2020. He also serves on the editorial boards of several scientific journals, including the Journal of Insect Physiology and Physiological Entomology. Dr. Tomioka's research initially focused on the neural mechanisms underlying insect circadian rhythms and later broadened to encompass the molecular and physiological bases of both circadian rhythms and photoperiodism. In recognition of his significant contributions to insect chronobiology, he received the Zoological Society Prize from the Zoological Society of Japan, the Award of the Japanese Society of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, and the Sanyo Shimbun Award for Academic Achievement. He is currently serving as a specially appointed professor dedicated to promoting and empowering women researchers.

SPEARKERS INTRODUCTION

"Introduction to the Graduate School of Environmental, Life, Natural Science and Technology"

Prof.Yasushi Mori
Okayama University

Yasushi Mori is a Professor at the Graduate School of Environmental, Life, Natural Science and Technology, Okayama University. With a robust background in Eco-environmental Studies, his research primarily focuses on soil physics, hydrology, and sustainable land management. He is well-regarded for his work on soil structure conservation and the movement of water and solutes through porous media. His practical applications often address environmental challenges such as soil degradation and efficient irrigation in arid regions. Beyond research, he is an active educator committed to training the next generation of environmental scientists. His work bridges the gap between theoretical soil science and global sustainability goals.

Closing Ceremony Speech

Prof.Norikazu Takahashi
Okayama University

Professor Norikazu Takahashi received the Doctor of Engineering degree in computer science and communication engineering from Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan, in 1996. From 1996 to 2013, he was a Research Associate and an Associate Professor at Kyushu University. Since 2013, he has been a Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Okayama University. Since April 2025, he has been serving as Dean of the School of Engineering. His research interests include nonlinear systems, neural networks, machine learning, mathematical programming, multiagent systems, and graph theory. He served as an Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems II from 2008 to 2009, and the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I from 2010 to 2012. He is now a Secretary of the Nonlinear Theory and Its Applications, IEICE and a member of the Editorial Board of AEÜ – International Journal of Electronics and Communications.