

## Introduction

I am Noriyuki KAWANO of the Institute for Peace Science. Thank you, Prof. Maruyama, for your introduction.

On April 1st of this year, I succeeded former Ambassador to the UN Tsuneo NISHIDA as Director of the Institute for Peace Science. I thank you all for your support. Prof. NISHIDA continues to provide broad guidance as Honorary Director.

As you know, the Institute for Peace Science is a small organization, with one professor, one associate professor, and one teaching assistant, which makes it difficult to be involved in every aspect of peace science. As such, I wish to devote particular attention to advancing research in two areas: “Hiroshima-type research” on atomic bomb and radiation exposure and “Global Peace Research” on issues such as peace-building and refugee crises.

On August 2nd, we held the first symposium, which was about inheriting the experience of the atomic bomb and memories of the war. As the second symposium of the year, we are holding this international symposium devoted to the second research area, “Global Peace Research.”

Prof. Abe, who has taken time out from his busy schedule to come all the way from UCLA, will be giving the keynote speech. We will hear him draw on his experience in the East Japan rebuilding

efforts to discuss the current situation and ongoing issues. I also talk about the Great East Japan Earthquake in my lectures, but my students perceive this as something from long, long ago. However, in reality, rebuilding is far from complete even today, and many people are still forced to live in shelters. I very much look forward to hearing about the importance of community in the process of revitalization and the potential for such a community.

After the keynote speech, we will hear from Prof. Nishida, who has served on the front lines of diplomacy, with experience in all manner of prominent roles, such as Ambassador to the UN, Ambassador to Canada, and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. He will speak about today’s international society from a broad perspective, with “peace” and “revitalization” as guiding themes.

Continuing on, Prof. Hongkyu Park of Korea University will speak about the meaning of peace in East Asia and the possibilities for attaining it, with a focus on North Korea, which has everyone’s attention at the moment.

Then, we will hear from Kate Fearon about possibilities for peace-building, concentrating on peace talks between Ireland and the UK.

Finally, following all of the talks, I would like to hold a panel discussion, with Vice Director of the Institute for Peace Science

Mari KATAYANAGI serving as moderator. Prof. Katayanagi became Vice Director on July 10th. I appointed her as Vice Director to take on the great responsibility of leading the area of “Global Peace Research.”

Without further ado, I would like to proceed to Prof. Abe’s keynote speech. We have a long day ahead, but I hope that you

will all participate actively to enrich the discussions until the very end.

Thank you very much.

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