



Japan Local Government Centre
(CLAIR, Sydney)

UTS:CLG
CENTRE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

2011 CLAIR Forum in Sydney

Ageing society and local government - opportunity or challenge?

~ *Learning from experience in Japan and Australia* ~

< **When** > **Thursday 3rd of November 2011, 1.30pm ~5.00pm**

< **Where** > **Japan Foundation Multipurpose Room
Level 1, Chifley Plaza, 2 Chifley Square, Sydney, NSW**

< **Program** >

○ **Registration (1.30pm -)**

- Introduction to Japanese Culture : Tea ceremony

○ **Welcome (2.00pm -)**

- Opening address by the Consul General of Japan in Sydney, Dr. Masahiro Kohara
- Greetings from the Director of CLAIR Sydney, Mr. Shinsuke Takigawa

○ **Presentations (2.15pm-)**

- Dr. Yoko Kimura , Chairperson, CLAIR

Keynote speech: *An ageing society and local government in Japan – the administrative and financial response.*

- Clr George Capsis OAM, Deputy Mayor of Sutherland Shire, NSW

Case study: *Sutherland Shire's strategy for ageing well*

○ **Panel discussion (3.30pm -)**

- Panelists:

Prof. Graham Sansom, Director UTS Centre for Local Government

Clr George Capsis OAM, Deputy Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Ms Simone Schwarz, Director of Community Services, Marrickville Council

Dr. Yoko Kimura, Chairperson, CLAIR

Panel discussion chaired by Ms. Sarah Artist, Assistant Director UTS Centre for Local Government

○ **Special Presentation (4.30pm -)**

- Ms Sharon van Etten, Former CIR Iwate Prefecture and current Communications Officer, Sydney JETAA

Report: The Great East Japan Earthquake – Japan's reconstruction efforts

○ **Networking Drinks (5.00pm –6.00pm)**

☆ Keynote speaker and presenters ☆

Dr. Yoko Kimura, has been the position of Chairperson of the Board of Directors of CLAIR since 2010. She was a professor at Nara Women's University and guest professor at the Open University of Japan. Dr. Kimura has held membership of the Ministry of Finance Fiscal System Council, the Cabinet Office Gender Equality Conference Survey Committee, the Social Security Structure Advisory Council, the MIC Local Government Finance Council, the New Decentralization Framework Exploratory Committee, and the MEXT University Establishment and Educational Corporation Expert Panel.

Clr. George Capsis OAM, is Deputy Mayor of the Sutherland Shire Council. He is a long-term resident of the Shire and was a self-employed electrical contractor before entering the Ministry in the Baptist Church. In 1987 Clr Capsis established his charity, Community Outreach Ministries, dealing with the problem of youth homelessness, drug abuse and family disruption. More recently his organisation has been working for legislative reform in the aged care industry to improve conditions for the elderly. In 2006 his work in the community was recognised when he was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM). He was elected to council in 2008 and elected Deputy Mayor in September 2011.

Prof. Graham Sansom, is Director of the UTS Centre for Local Government and also the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government. He holds degrees in geography and urban and regional planning. His principal professional and research interests are in the areas of public policy, particularly issues relating to the fundamental role and purpose of local government, strategic and corporate planning, and inter-government relations.

Ms. Simone Schwarz, is the Director of Community Services at Marrickville Council. Marrickville Council spends more per capita on Community Services than any other council in the Sydney Metropolitan area. Simone has been a senior manager in local government for the last 15 years. She is currently a Visiting Associate at the UTS Centre for Local Government and a Board Member of Local Government Managers Australia. She is a former President of the NSW Local Government Community Services Association. She has an interest in social issues, community wellbeing and women in local government.

Ms. Sarah Artist, is Assistant Director for the UTS Centre for Local Government, where she has responsibility for the management of the Centre's operations as well as initiating and managing research, graduate and professional development programs, consultancy and international activities. In recent years she has worked as a research, planning and engagement consultant for many small and large council clients, as well as with peak industry bodies such as the Australian Centre for Excellence in Local Government, NSW Local Government Shires Association, Australian Local Government Women's Association, Local Government Managers Association, UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures and the Local Government Community Services Association of Australia.

☆ Special Presentation speaker ☆

Ms. Sharon van Etten, is a former JET Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) posted in Iwate Prefecture (2001-2004). In August this year Sharon was invited by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to return to Iwate Prefecture to see first-hand the recovery effort and to help Iwate efforts in boosting foreign tourism. Since her return from the JET Programme in 2004, Sharon has been an active member of the JET Alumni Association's Sydney chapter, serving as Treasurer from 2005 to 2007 and President from 2007 to 2011.

Please register by **October 20th** by email to Benjamin Trumbull at mailbox@jlgc.org.au or phone 02 9241 5033 for more information.