

UrbanScope

e-Journal of the Urban-Culture Research Center, OCU

Editorial Note

It is our great pleasure to publish *UrbanScope* Vol.10 with two special topics and a research note. The first special topic is “Conference Panel: The Dismantling of the Status System in Nineteenth-Century Japan” which presents six papers, including an introduction by Timothy D. Amos. The second is “The Scope of Public Education in Japan and Germany with a Focus on ‘School Absenteeism’” which also presents six papers, including an introduction by Kemma Tsujino. The research note is “A bifurcation of rural gentrification?: An experience of Sasayama, Hyogo” by Natsuki Kawaguchi.

UrbanScope is an open access journal published by the Urban-Culture Research Center (UCRC) at Osaka City University (OCU), Japan. UCRC was founded in the Graduate School of Literature and Human Sciences in 2003 as a core institute of the Center of Excellence Project. UCRC’s research emphases have since been placed on historical, social, cultural, and international development of various issues in urban settings. We are proud that the electronic journal, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary, has served as a medium of development for urban culture studies throughout the world.

Finally but most importantly, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our contributors, translators, peer reviewers, and readers for their continuing support for and interest in *UrbanScope*.

Haruo Soeda
Editor-in-Chief, *UrbanScope*