Keynote Lecture (Webinar)
11:00-12:00 JST
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“Virtual Kyoto Project: Discovering Integrated Knowledge in Digital Humanities”
Title:
Virtual Kyoto Project: Discovering Integrated Knowledge in Digital Humanities

Abstract:
Virtual Kyoto is one of the large-scale research projects being developed at the Art Research Center of Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto since 2002. Kyoto, the capital of Japan from 794 until the early modern period, was the political and cultural center of the country. Virtual Kyoto is a superimposition of geospatial information (maps, drawings, photographs, films, paintings, classical books, excavations, etc.) of Kyoto, a historical city of over 1,200 years, based on its location in time and space, using cutting-edge GIS and VR technologies. This project aims to create new comprehensive knowledge from the perspective of digital humanities.

In this lecture, I will introduce the outline of Virtual Kyoto and its application cases. In addition to the current three-dimensional city model, Virtual Kyoto is based on large scale maps and aerial photographs taken by modern surveyors since the modern era, as well as large-scale surveys of Kyō-machiya (Traditional wooden townhouses) and Western architecture that have survived since before World War II.

In the reconstruction of Kyoto in the early modern period, pictorial materials such as Rakuchu-Rakugai-zu folding screens (views in and around the city of Kyoto) and Ukiyoe were used as a base. For the reconstruction of the Heian period (8th to 12th centuries), a three-dimensional model was constructed based on archaeological excavation data and a diorama created by Kyoto City for the 1200th anniversary of the Heian-kyo Capital in 1994. Recent progresses such as the construction of a digital museum of the Gion Festival, a world intangible cultural asset that has lasted for more than 1100 years, the construction of a portal site for Japanese old maps, the comparison system of Rakuchu-Rakugai-zu folding screens, panoramic photographs of 1960s streetscapes, the database of Heian-kyo sites, and examples of the use of AR will also be introduced.

Biography:
Keiji Yano (B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D (D.Sc.)) has been Professor of Human Geography and Geographic Information Science at the Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan since April 2002. Before joining Ritsumeikan in 1992, he was at the Tokyo Metropolitan University as Assistant Professor of Geography, where he also earned his Master and PhD degrees in Geography.

His professional roles include being the former president of GIS Association of Japan, Member of Science Council of Japan, and Program Officer of The Research Center for Science Systems, JSPS.

His research interests are grouped around the use of Geographical Information Systems and quantitative methods in urban analysis. This includes information integration within GIS, geodemographics, geodesign, spatial interaction models, urban modelling, virtual cities, history of quantitative geography, and history of GIS.

(https://keijiyanocom.wordpress.com/home/)