APPLICATION GUIDELINES

for

The 1st SSI (Society for Socio-Informatics) International Workshop for Young Researchers

Adoption of Social Networking

The purpose of the SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers is to provide early career scholars who do not have fulltime teaching positions an opportunity to give presentations in English and to exchange opinions with peers from various parts of the world. The Organizing Committee of the SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers plan to hold a similar workshop during every Annual Congress of the Society for Socio-Informatics.

This year, we aim to focus on Social Networking and its adoption in society (or societies). Not only scholars but also ordinary people have begun to observe the impact of Social Networking Services (SNSs) such as Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc. on our societies. We may be able to take the so-called 'Jasmine Revolution' in the Arab world as a quintessential example and many Japanese know that Mixi (one of the biggest SNSs in Japan) and Twitter played an important role in peoples' survival after the Great East Japan Earthquake. We can also see our daily life has been gradually changed by SNSs.

What kind of change has SNSs created in our societies and our social relationships? This is our first question. In selecting the above theme for the workshop, however, we did not intend to limit the meanings of the words 'social' and 'society'. This is because their meanings are exactly what we have to consider in terms of the adoption of SNSs, especially from an international perspective.

For example, Facebook and Renren Network (literally "Everyone's Website" and the biggest SNS in China) both have similar roots as on-campus networks, and both have changed social relationships through being adopted in their targeted societies. However, the societies and the social relationships which they and their users refer to are quite different from each other.

So, when we say 'SNSs change our social relationships' or 'SNSs have become widespread in our society', at the same time we need to question the meaning of 'society' or 'social' relationships and their conditions. This question is probably one of the most fundamental issues in the field of Socio-Informatics. We are looking forward to hearing from a lot of applicants who are trying to examine this challenging theme through various methods.

I. Application Guidelines

1. Schedule for the 1st SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers:

Jun. 20, 2012 **Application Deadline for Submission of Application Form**

Jun. 30, 2012 Results of Screening Due

Jul. 30, 2012 **Deadline for Submission of First Drafts** (2,000 - 4,000 words)

Sep. 14, 2012 The 1st SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers

Dec. 15, 2012 **Deadline for Submission of Final Papers** (4,000 - 7,000 words, final version for the Workshop Proceedings. The Organizing Committee will prepare a style-sheet with instructions (MS-Word format) for papers)

Feb. 2013 Publication of Workshop Proceedings (tentative, from Global COE for "Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia", Kyoto University)

2. Number of Presenters: 1 or 2 presenters from overseas and 2 or 3 presenters from Japan (Maximum 4 persons)

3. Language: English

4. Venue: Aramaki Campus, Gunma University (Maebashi city, Gunma)

5. Travel and Accommodation Grants: **Only presenters from overseas** are eligible (**1 person per presentation**) (for details, please see note 7). These will be funded by the Global COE for "Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21st Century Asia", Kyoto University

II. Notes for the 1st SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers

1. Topics: Related to Social Networking and its adoption within the framework of Socio-Informatics

2. Number of presentations to be accepted: Maximum 4 persons (up to 2 persons from overseas)

3. Deadline for Application: **Jun. 20, 2012 (JST)**

4. Eligibility for Japanese applicants: Applicants (at least 1 person per presentation) should be both (1) Member of the Society for Socio-Informatics and (2) Ph. D. students, Ph. D. candidates, post-doctoral fellows, and similar positions. Master course students are also welcomed. However, those who have fulltime teaching positions are not eligible.

5. Eligibility for applicants from overseas: Ph. D. students, Ph. D. candidates, post-doctoral fellows, and similar positions. Master course students are also welcomed. However, those who have fulltime teaching positions are not eligible.

6. Application form and process: An English application form is available. Please email it to: ahattori_AT_ic.kanagawa-it.ac.jp (Please replace "_AT_" to "@")

 *Contact: Organizing Committee of the SSI International Workshop for Young Researchers

 *Please mark the beginning of your application: For attention: Ph.D. Akira Hattori (Kanagawa Institute of Technology)

7. Travel and Accommodation Grants: The Organizing Committee will arrange hotel accommodation for **presenters from overseas** (**1 presenter per presentation**) from the 13th to 16th of September maximum (check-out on the 17th). A round-trip air ticket and train ticket (Tokyo International Airport - Gunma University), for the most direct and economical route to Gunma University for **1 presenter per presentation from overseas**, will also be covered by the Organizing Committee.

If you extend your stay in Gunma or Japan, you should arrange additional accommodation individually at your own cost. The Organizing Committee CANNOT provide any fees regarding the obtainment of a visa and/or travel insurance. You will need to cover daily expenses such as food and local transport with your own funds.