

## The list of activities in 2011-2012

\* Titles of people (professor or Dr. are omitted)

### 1. Symposia

- (1) October 1, 2011: “Make it more scientific: Improving the forensic interviews based on the scientific evidence”

The symposium was held at the annual meeting of Japanese Society for Psychology and Law. The importance of interviewing methods, which is to prevent false confessions and allegations was emphasized. The content was cited in Japanese Journal of Law and Psychology, 12 (1) 10-30.

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- (2) October 19, 2012: “The overview and future tasks in academic research in Law and Human Sciences”

The symposium was held at Aoyama Gakuin University. To solve the problems in court (e.g., supporting the vulnerable), Y. Matsumura (then Hokkaido University) talked on the approach from forensic sociology, Y. Nakatani (Tsukuba University) talked on psychiatric approach, and M. Naka (Hokkaido University) talked on psychological approach.

- (3) January, 12, 2013: “The future that ‘Law and Human Sciences’ leads to”

The symposium was to present the significance of Law and Human Sciences to the public. Five members, M. Naka (Hokkaido University), T. Sato (Ritsumeikan

University), S. Ishizuka (Ryukoku University), K. Karasawa (Tokyo University), and M. Ibusuki (Seijo University) gave talks on the history of Law and Human Sciences, the current status, and the future tasks and goals to accomplish. S. Hamada (Ritsumeikan University), the senior researcher in this field, and M. Fujita (Kansai University), a promising young researcher gave comments on the talks.

## **2. Mock trials with professionals and citizens.**

We conduct a mock trial every year to share the outcome from research with professionals/practitioners and citizens, receive feedbacks from them, and to promote further collaboration with them.

### **(1) February 26, 2011 “Child testimony and expert testimony”**

A mock trial involving a child testimony and an expert testimony was held by Naka Group (Hokkaido University) at Sapporo Shiryokan (Former Sapporo Court of Appeals). The trial was on a fictional case, where a child was allegedly physically abused to death. The victim’s sister, a five-year old girl gave a testimony, which was evaluated by lay judges. Lay judges gave deliberation and made a legal decision. Then there was a discussion between scholars, professionals and citizens.

### **(2) March 3, 2013: “Ijime (school bullying)”**

A mock trial and a workshop based on “A project against “ijime” :Ijime, human rights, and law” was held under a leadership of M. Ido (Akita University) of Kuboyama Group at Akita University. In the morning session, five groups of undergraduates presented their paper on their research on Ijime, followed by a talk “Ijime viewed from conflict resolution and ‘living law”” by R. Kuboyama. In the afternoon session, a civil trial on PTSD caused by ijime was played, followed by discussion.

## **3. Tutorial seminars or training for practitioners**

### **(1) May 27, 2011: “Why eyewitness testimony can be mistaken?: The cause, and how to evaluate an eyewitness testimony” by Y. Itsukushima (Nihon University).**

Causes of mistaken eyewitness testimony were explained with some real examples that Y. Itsukushima had analyzed. Researchers, law enforcement, and students attended.

### **(2) September, 18, 2011: “The effect of video recorded interviews with suspects: Improving the interviewing techniques” by R. Bull (Lester University, U.K.)**

Studies on the analyses of real recorded suspect interviews, interviewing guidelines,

and the importance of training were shown. Lawyers, prosecutors, and family court investigators attended.

(3) June 1, 2012: “Legal education for citizens” by N. Toyama (Tsudajuku University), M. Yoshioka (Seisen University), H. Umeda (Yokohama Educational Board of Committee), and T. Muramatsu (Yokohama Bar Association) gave talks on the psychological research on legal and moral education, curricula on legal education, and the practices in school. Researchers, lawyers, prosecutors attended.

(4) September 14, 2012: Investigative techniques for the vulnerable: The basics of gathering information approach by K. Takagi (Aoyama Gakuin University) and M. Naka (Hokkaido University)

The problems in the current forensic interviews, and the better ways of interviewing techniques (e.g., forensic interviews, PEACE models) were presented, followed by role-plays and practices. Law enforcement, prosecutors, and family court investigators attended.

#### **4. Colloquiums**

(1) Dec. 13, 2011: A new direction on eye witness testimony in American Law: State v. Henderson. By Y. Matsumura (then Hokkaido University)

(2) February 2, 2012: Information gathering approach in PEACE model. By M. Naka (Hokkaido University)

(3) March 5, 2012: Law of Criminal Procedure, and psychological expert testimony in France. By Y. Shiratori (Hokkaido University)

(4) April 23, 2012: The outcome of forensic interviews, and Hearsay law: Evidence in Criminal court. By D. Midori (Hokkaido University)

(5) May 16, 2012: The lay-judge system (Saiban-in Seido) and the lay-judges’ perception: The comparison of the outcomes between 2004 study and 2010 study. By E. Okada (Nanzan University)

(6) June 27, 2012: A “schema approach”: A Psychology and Law problem of suspect interviews in Japan. By K. Takagi (Aoyama Gakuin University)

(7) September 26, 2012: Four essentials of psychological expert testimony. By M. Naka (Hokkaido University)

(8) October 10, 2012: What is the knowledge in need to conduct a psychological expert testimony on statements.

(9) November 23, 2012: A special symposium held as a seminar in the theories in law

- Empirical studies on the effect of victim’s participation to criminal court on the sentence judgment. By M. Saeki (Chiba University)

- The development of social judgment on freedom of speech: Why young children do not support the freedom of speech? By M. Hasegawa (Yokohama Shiritsu University)
- (10) December 19, 2012: The statement analysis of a testimony in the case of appeal for retrial: A primary offender or an accessory? By N. Mori (Sapporo Gakuin University)
- (11) February 6, 2013: A report on DDW (Drunk-Driving While Intoxicated) Court. By Y. Matsumura (Meiji University)
- (12) Answer to only what you were asked: The practice and theory of witness interrogation in Criminal court. By D. Midori (Hokkaido University)
- (13) February 28, 2013: The effect of method of interrogation (Open-ended questions or closed questions) on judgment of reliability of testimony and the legal judgment: From an questionnaire study. By E. Okada (Nanzan University), M. Naka (Hokkaido University), and M. Fujita (Kansai University)

## **5. Circulations and report**

(can be downloaded from <http://law-human.let.hokudai.ac.jp/newsletter/>)

- (1) Publication of News Letter No. 1, 2, and 3.
- (2) Electronic circulars No. 1, 2, and 3.
- (3) Biannual report of Law and Human Sciences. (attached)