

第 13 回ユースフォーラム

報告書

ご挨拶

第 13 回ユースフォーラムは、2017 年 12 月 4 日に日本外国特派員協会にて開催されました。高円宮妃殿下のご臨席を賜り、柳井俊二会長、愛知和夫様、来賓の皆さまをお迎えして、社会人 50 名、学生 47 名の来場者を得て、成功裏に終了いたしました。

今回のテーマは「青年と考える人工知能との共生社会」。日本、アメリカ、中国、ドイツ、インドの 5 か国のパネリストと共に AI の功罪と人類の将来について討論致しました。質疑応答では会場が一体となって議論を深め、大変有意義なひと時となりました。また、数学者・鈴木雄二様からコメントを頂戴し、新しい気づきをたくさん頂きました。

高円宮妃殿下におかれましては、毎年素晴らしい英語のスピーチを賜り、パネリスト一人ひとりに向けた温かいお言葉は深く心に残り、未来に進んでいこうとする私たちの大きなパワーとなっております。

ご支援くださる企業や個人の皆様、先輩方のお支えあって、こうして学生が、世界の問題に真摯に向き合い、彼らの未来を様々な切り口から考察し、意見を共有できる機会を与えて頂いておりますことは、大変幸運に存じます。

今後とも、Youth Forum JAPAN の活動をお見守りいただき、お支えいただきますよう、何卒お願い申し上げます。

以下に、第 13 回ユースフォーラム報告書を掲載いたします。ご高覧くださいませ。

第 13 回ユースフォーラム実行委員長
伊達佳内子

The 13th Annual Youth Forum

Reflection

1. Masahiro Shingo
2. Brena Roets
3. Sho Hayashida
4. Xiaoxin Cai
5. Felix von Drigalski
6. Prachi Sharma

Moderator: Masahiro Shingo

I am honored to be a moderator of 13th Annual Youth Forum and was excited to organize the discussion on the stimulating topic with the wonderful panelists from diverse backgrounds. The topic for 13th AYF is “The possibility and threat of artificial intelligence”. The impact of the artificial intelligence comes bigger and bigger and it is not enough that only scientists consider the future of it. As a student, who has to dive into the society with this trend and survive in it, it is important to think, present, and discuss it.

In this forum, students from 5 different countries, which are Japan, U.S., China, Germany, and India, gave their presentations. Each presentation reflected their majors or interests and had unique viewpoints. The presentations are from scientific and technological analysis of AI to description trend on it in science fiction and philosophical question about not only AI but also human. The panel discussion after the presentations was also exciting. We discussed how we can fill the gap between hard and social science in terms of AI and how we can come together in future. Though discussion might be a bit idealistic, I think it was essential to share time and communicate with people from different backgrounds. Through this forum, I realized how different the way in which we perceive AI is based on how we had lived and what we got interested in.

In the speech of H.I.H Princess Takamado, she mentioned one of the presentations and claimed “The difference between AI and human is the capability of finding a meaning”. I am sure that this forum inspired us but we have to keep making use of this experience and attaching new meaning to this forum. This is the thing that only human can do.

Lastly, I would like to show my greatest gratitude to all those who made this year’s youth forum possible. Without each one of help, we cannot make this forum successful.

Brena Roets (United States of America)

It was an honor to participate in the 13th annual Youth Forum Japan. As a microbiologist I was a bit worried about my qualifications to present on the topic of artificial intelligence and its potential and possible danger, but with support from the event organizers and moderators, my fellow panelists, and the people at JUSEC who recommended me for the forum and encouraged me, I feel I was able to present a unique perspective on AI not through my area of academic expertise, but from a pop culture point of view. I greatly enjoyed my fellow panelists' highly diverse presentations, which spanned the breadth of topics relating to the overarching theme, and hope that mine was able to add to the discourse as well. I particularly appreciated the discussion following the presentations, as they allowed me to weigh in a bit more on issues relating to my field, as well as enjoying friendly debates with the other presenters and learn from them. The audience was engaged and asked probing questions, which enhanced the panel greatly, and I appreciated the opportunity to delve more deeply into not just AI issues, but questions ranging from the issue of educating with the goal of encouraging interdisciplinarity, to the nature of evolution and intelligence. Overall, I was happy to meet other young people from various backgrounds and at various places in their lives and engage deeply on a fascinating topic that will greatly impact us as human beings within the foreseeable future. I hope that the Forum continues for many more years, and if I am in Japan again for the next one, I would definitely love to experience it from the audience's perspective!

Sho Hayashida (Japan)

The Annual Youth Forum was a great opportunity to discuss a timely topic in this day and age, artificial intelligence, with speakers and guests from a truly wide variety of backgrounds. Both discussions and speeches were engaging, informative, and brought both answers and further questions to the topic discussed.

The subsequent discussion by panelists tackled questions that really do not have answers: Does artificial intelligence possess morality? Can self-driving AI be held accountable for accidents on road? Is AI ultimately a friend, or an enemy? Such questions from the audience gave panelists new ideas about the coexistence of humans and AI, so panelists were able to keep discussing more deeply while answering these questions.

The final speeches by keynote speakers were encouraging, moving, and hopeful; through their words, we could tell that they had hope for the younger generations. They inspired us to keep pondering questions that may or may not have answers, and to not be afraid of advancement. It was through these speeches that I was reminded of the purpose of these youth forums: to

allow younger generations to strive for a better future.

I felt honored and humbled to be a part of a discussion surrounded by passionate youths from all over the world, and felt that with the right support from adults like the keynote speakers, the younger generations of this world will be able to build a better and brighter tomorrow.

Xiaoxin Cai (China)

As one of the five panelists of the 13th Annual Youth Forum, I feel lucky to be invited and honored to participate in this enlightening and well-organized event held on December 4th, 2017. To provide a comprehensive review on this event, I would like to talk about the basic process and situation of the forum, my contribution to the forum and what I have learned from the forum.

First of all, with the theme of The Possibility and Threat of Artificial Intelligence, the forum lasted for about two hours, starting with the commentator remarks and ending with the remarks by Princess Takamado. In between are the theme presentation within five minutes by each of the panelists and the panel discussion jointly by panelists and the audience. Even though the forum has not lasted for long, the committee and all the panelists have gathered together to discuss about the presentation topic and questions for panel discussion section for several times (online or offline) one month ahead of the forum. Thanks to the remarkable organization by the committee, we panelists get to know more about the forum and we are more aware of what we are going to contribute to the forum.

In terms of my contribution, with the assistance of the committee member, I start to try to figure what relationship would be between my research topic and artificial intelligence. In general, I am particularly interested in the sociology of labor. There is no doubt, the wide application of artificial intelligence will pose some threats to some positions in the current labor market, especially in manufacturing industry. It is also of interest that various countries reacted differently on this trend. Therefore, I was considering that it would be significant as well as interesting if I could introduce how different countries carry out their regulation on artificial intelligence and what focuses will be of these regulations. Later in the panel discussion, we also further discuss the legal status of robots and it is the basis when we talk about the regulation of artificial intelligence.

Last but not least, I have personally learned a lot from the princess, the entrepreneur and without doubt, other panelists. The remark of the princess is provoking and inspiring to make me think further on this topic. The opinions from the business make me consider artificial intelligence as a thing close to our daily life. I learned some professional knowledge from Felix, the practical application in aerospace industry from Sho, the psychological foundation

from Prachi and the images in literature and movies. I am honored to join them and contribute my own thoughts.

Felix von Drigalski (Germany)

It was a privilege to be able to participate in the 13th Annual Youth Forum as a panelist. I found the quality of the event, its preparation and the other speakers to be outstanding.

The topic of AI has a strong connection to my research in robotics, so it is of high relevance and interest to me. I frequently come in contact with it in my everyday work, but my interaction is normally limited to technical details and discussions, and these are usually had with colleagues and other students in my university, who are all in technical degrees.

At the YJF, both the other speakers and the audience came from varied fields and backgrounds, which made for a fruitful and engaging discussion. Due to the range of the speakers' educations, we were also able to structure the presentations in a coherent manner, which hopefully helped guide the audience. While I focused on the technical aspects and possibilities, other panelists explored the effects of AI on society and deeper philosophical considerations, such as questions about personhood and identity.

I particularly appreciated the input from the other panelists from the humanities, who I normally do not have the opportunity to meet, and who presented different viewpoints of this complicated and exciting topic. Both the presentations by the other panelists and the questions from the audience were all very thoughtful and engaging – a testament to the overall quality of the event.

In summary, the event gave me a priceless opportunity to engage in a dialogue not only with talented people outside of my field, but also with the broader public, and to gain valuable skills that will help me in my research and career. I am thankful for the experience and will be looking forward to staying in touch after I start my new job in Tokyo.

Prachi Sharma (India)

The annual youth forum 2017, was an inspiring event for young Researchers. Panelists comprised of various nationalities and disciplines, lively engagement with them was quite thought-provoking. I am an Anthropology research student and exposure to this event opened a new vista of ideas to me. My presentation was on "Being Human: In the Age of Artificial Intelligence", where I presented ideas on how human emotions and cognitive abilities have evolved with technology and would be further affected by evolving intelligent machines in near future. I also discussed steps, scientists need to consider while the machine learning gets better with time.

Post-presentation questions from the enlightened audience was an opportunity for all the young panelists to augment understanding of various nuances of the ever-evolving AI. It was a moment of learning where disciplines like Robotics, Computer Sciences, Biology, Law and Politics, Human Psychology, Economics, Anthropology, Social sciences etc. were explored for finding answers to solve problems and challenges our society is facing today.

The post-discussion dinner event was a great way to connect with people from various backgrounds. The forum really improved my own understanding of Artificial Intelligence in particular and Human Society in general. I am really glad to be a part of such a wonderful and encouraging event. I would like to thank the organizers for making us feel heard and comfortable throughout the event. I look forward to the forum in 2018 as well.