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< CONTENTS >

● Articles

安部 静佳・On-Kwok Lai

The Magical Focus Group? Position the Qualitative Methodology onto the Policy Research Contours

安部 静佳・On-Kwok Lai

Envisioning the Research-Evidence based Policy Making in 21st Century: Comparative Perspectives on Policy Learning for Active Ageing Initiatives

Richard T. A. Irving

Kusakabe Revisited: The Demise of a Village Community in the Tamba Uplands (II)

野島 章吾・久野 武

指定管理者制度導入からみる都市公園マネージメントの研究 —ステークホルダー間におけるパートナーシップの意義—
A Study of City Park Management by Designated Manager System -Meaning of Partnership among Stake-holders-

関根 孝道

環境影響評価制度をめぐる法的諸問題(4) ～米国の環境影響評価制度について～
Legal Issues Relating to Environmental Impact Assessment System (4) -Environmental Impact Assessment in US under NEPA-

長谷川 司

戦後地方博覧会における地域イメージの再構築 —南国宮崎博(1954)のケーススタディー—
The Reconstruction of Regional Images in Postwar Japan -A Case Study on The Nangoku-Miyazaki Exposition, 1954-

● Policy Topics

村岡 浩爾

水循環概念からみた武庫川の利水と水質
Water Utilization and Quality of Muko River Viewed in the Water-Circulation Concept

〈 ABSTRACTS 〉

● Articles

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	オン・クオック・ライ On-Kwok Lai 関西学院大学 総合政策学部 教授(2009年11月1日現在) Professor, School of Policy Studies, Kwansai Gakuin University (as of November 1, 2009)
Title	The Magical Focus Group? Position the Qualitative Methodology onto the Policy Research Contours
Abstract	Using Focus Group (FG) for academic and policy research becomes a phenomenal one to understand the complexity of real life and the matrix of policy making in the last two decades. This paper attempts to critically discuss the comparative advantages of FG investigation, with particular reference to the research on ageing society. After an introduction on FG, the creative FG dynamics and the group processes will be examined in Part 2. Part 3 discusses the discovery process for policy knowledge. The paper ends with critical remarks on the use of FG for academic research and policy learning.
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Title	Envisioning the Research-Evidence based Policy Making in 21 st Century: Comparative Perspectives on Policy Learning for Active Ageing Initiatives
Abstract	Developed from several decades of policy sciences and their experimentation in liberal democracies, contrasting that of the demising socialist central planning, the 21 st century public policy making and the related processes are increasingly sophisticated not just with the highly differentiated yet inter-related policy models deriving from different (inter-) disciplinary knowledge inputs at various stages of policy making, but also many stakeholders' advocacies, representing the interests of citizens (as consumers) and the implementing governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). With a comparative policy study on Active Ageing Initiatives, promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO), particularly the case of the United Kingdom (U.K.) this paper examines the emerging policy paradigm in terms of the research-evidence informed policy making; exploring the question "How can scientific inter-and-multi-disciplinary research make contribution for policy making and good governance? A discussion on the accepted policy wisdom (paradigm?) for all stakeholders is provided.
Author	リチャード T. A. アービング Richard T. A. Irving 関西学院大学 総合政策学部 教授(2009年11月1日現在) Professor, School of Policy Studies, Kwansai Gakuin University (as of November 1, 2009)
Title	Kusakabe Revisited: The Demise of a Village Community in the Tamba Uplands (II)
Abstract	This is the second part of a study of severe rural depopulation (<i>Kaso-ka</i>) in a broad community of 51 villages in the Kanbayashi Valley, in the Tamba Upland region of Kyoto Prefecture. Having viewed the mechanism of population change in one of these villages, Kusakabe, in considerable detail, this paper focuses attention on the neighbouring villages in the valley to assess how widespread is the threat of complete village abandonment caused by severe population loss.
Author	野島 章吾 Shogo Nobata ㈱クロス・クリエイティブ・コア 代表取締役、関西学院大学 総合政策研究科 久野研究室研究員(2009年11月1日現在)
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Title	指定管理者制度導入からみる都市公園マネージメントの研究 —ステークホルダー間におけるパートナーシップの意義— A Study of City Park Management by Designated Manager System —Meaning of Partnership among Stake-holders—
Abstract	Recently, role of city parks have been diversified following the change of citizen's need. This thesis studies the role of city parks through researches in the past, interpretation of city park law, and case studies of city park management in other countries. Adoption of "public private partnership" is popular within local government. Management of city parks is not an exception; designated manager system is adopted after the revision of city park law in 2004. This thesis clarifies the current situation and tasks of this matter through surveys to designated managers and local government officers. I found that the establishing the system to realize "local VFM" within city parks, which is the introductory target of designated manager system, is not sufficient, and that establishing this is one of the major tasks. In this thesis, "construction of partnership among stake-holders in city parks" is proposed as one system. This aims for a higher effect of "city park VFM", as well as the realization of city parks that can contribute to improvement of citizen lives.

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Title	環境影響評価制度をめぐる法的諸問題(4) ～米国の環境影響評価制度について～ Legal Issues Relating to Environmental Impact Assessment System (4) -Environmental Impact Assessment in US under NEPA-
Abstract	First established in 1969 under the NEPA, environmental impact assessment system has now spread all over the world up to around 135 countries. The reason why this US-made system has been so widely accepted derives from the principle that environmental decision-making should be based on its scientific and democratic process. NEPA authorizes and mandates federal agencies to take into account environmental consequences prior to making administrative decisions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. By obligating the agencies to follow NEPA procedures, NEPA intends to promote environmentally rational decision-making through the inquiry of reasonable alternatives. Although NEPA has only procedural effect the meaning of which implies that agencies are not obligated to adopt environmentally better or the best decision as long as there is rationale not to do so, its achievements so far having demonstrated still indicates the necessity of introducing such system for the environmental protection. This forth article introduces the environmental assessment system under the NEPA mainly focusing on its major provisions and related CEQ regulations. This article intends to identify why Japan's assessment system is not so effective by comparing it to that of US under the NEPA. Also it is intended that this article in some way contributes to revising the Japan's assessment law after its full-fledged enactment of 10 years for the better system.

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Title	戦後地方博覧会における地域イメージの再構築 —南国宮崎博(1954)のケーススタディ— The Reconstruction of Regional Images in Postwar Japan -A Case Study on The Nangoku-Miyazaki Exposition, 1954-
Abstract	From the nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries, expositions were important events for nations and regions. Municipalities demonstrated their regional identity in local expositions. This paper analyzes a local exposition in order to clarify a process of altering the regional image in the postwar period of Japan. In 1954 Miyazaki Prefecture along with Miyazaki City held an exposition named Nangoku Miyazaki Sangyo Kanko (Industries and Tourism in Tropical Miyazaki). Through the exposition, the image of "Nangoku-Miyazaki (Tropical Miyazaki)" was created. By examining the expression techniques adopted to form such a tropical image, this paper discloses the hidden image of "Sokoku-Hyuga (Fatherland Hyuga)", which was closely related to fascism in prewar Japan. It concludes that the new image of "Nangoku-Miyazaki" represented in the postwar exposition was reconstructed from the past image of Miyazaki.

● Policy Topics

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Title	水循環概念からみた武庫川の利水と水質 Water Utilization and Quality of Muko River Viewed in the Water-Circulation Concept