

# LONELINESS, ISOLATION, AND DIVERSITY: PURSUING JUSTICE THROUGH OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL SCIENCE

In the fields of occupational therapy and occupational science, there has been a long-standing discussion about how the structures of society and communities impact our health and occupations. However, the exploration of how we can specifically contribute to addressing issues of loneliness and isolation in society is just beginning. This symposium focuses on the impacts of these issues in today's society, where diverse identities and social challenges intersect, and proposes new inclusive approaches.

We, Takashima, who works on the issues of loneliness and isolation among older people, and Hoshino, who addresses these issues among individuals with mental illness, have established a platform based on scientific evidence to explore how occupational therapy and occupational science can promote social justice and inclusion.

This symposium brings together 16 experts from five countries. Going beyond the academic realm, we collaborate with practitioners, governmental and other agencies, and the general public to contemplate concrete methods for building a more just and healthy society. We sincerely hope that your participation will bring fresh perspectives to this vital discussion and help deepen understanding.

## Date

**November 4, 2024**  
(Monday, Holiday)

9:30 Reception/9:50 Opening Remarks

## Face-to-face

Hokkaido University Open Innovation Hub "Enreiso,"  
1F, Main Lounge (Maximum capacity: 50 people)

## Online

Zoom (with Japanese interpretation)  
(Maximum capacity: 900 people)

## Application

<https://otos-international-symposium.peatix.com>  
(Deadline: September 30, 2024)



## Entry fee

free of charge

\*There is a fee for networking and social events only  
(4,000 yen: payable in cash at the venue).

## Keynote

**Dr. Gail Whiteford**

(Emeritus Professor, Charles Sturt University, Australia)

## ■ Session 1

**Empowerment and Advocacy**

Dr. Shu-Ping Chen (University of Alberta, Canada)

Dr. Risa Takashima (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Dr. Eric Asaba (Karolinska Institute, Sweden)

## ■ Session 2

**Designing Connected Communities**

Dr. Barry Golding AM (Honorary Professor, Federation University, Australia)

Dr. Hiroki Okada (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Dr. Aiko Hoshino (Nagoya University, Japan)

## ■ Session 3

**Navigating Occupational Transitions**

Dr. Kim Walder (Griffith University, Australia)

Dr. Mari Sakae (Sapporo Medical University, Japan)

Mr. Yosuke Suzuki (Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan)

## ■ Session 4

**Building Evidence for Social Inclusion**

Dr. Terry Krupa (Queen's University, Canada)

Dr. Takako Chikenji (Hokkaido University, Japan)

Dr. Junichi Uemura (Nagoya University, Japan)

## ■ Session 5

**Diversity and Occupational Justice**

Mr. Niall Kirrane (National Gender Service, Ireland)

Mr. Takeshi Matsumoto (Nagoya University, Japan)

Dr. Ted Brown (Monash University, Australia)

## ■ Social Gathering (registration required)



\*Each speaker's title  
be fo can und at:  
<https://x.gd/qf0ee>



## Organizers

- Risa Takashima, Group Leader of the "RISTEX Citizen Support Project," Hokkaido University
- Aiko Hoshino, Fellow of "T-GEx Tokai Pathways to Global Excellence," Nagoya University
- Research Team for "JSPS KAKENHI Open Solicitation Area in Grant-in-Aid for Transformative Research Area (A) in Human Behavioral Science for Subjectification: The Narrativity of LGBTQ+ Healthcare Professionals and Its Impact on the Professional Development" (Open call research)



Risa Takashima



Aiko Hoshino