

Towards an AUSTRALIA-JAPAN INNOVATION ALLIANCE FORUM

Thursday, 6 October 2022



Join a discussion on how Australia and Japan can partner to maximise the commercial impact of research translation at the cutting edge.

The inaugural one-day forum ***Towards an Australia-Japan Innovation Alliance*** will be held in **Tokyo on 6 October** at Google Shibuya Stream.

Australia and Japan have a large and enduring economic relationship built on trust, shared values and economic complementarity. Our scientific and technological strengths are also complementary. But neither country is currently a top-of-mind innovation partner for the other. This forum asks how we can change this as innovation and technology become ever more important in meeting new economic challenges.

The forum brings together movers and shakers in innovation, technology and translational research leading positive change in both Japan and Australia to discuss how our countries, long-standing economic partners, can build an alliance in this emerging field.

Participants will include leading figures from top Australian and Japanese startups, venture capital firms, businesses, industry peak bodies, universities and government who value collaboration, daring to make a difference and lead change in innovation and translational research.

This event is linked to the [59th Annual Australia-Japan Joint Business Conference](#)

Date:	Thursday, 6 October
Time:	9am – 5pm JST
Venue:	Google Japan Shibuya Stream, Tokyo
Language:	Headsets supplied for both English and Japanese by simultaneous interpretation



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PROGRAM

09:00	Registration Open Level 5
09:30	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION Richard Andrews CEO, AJBCC Peter Roberts OAM Chargé d'Affaires, Australian Embassy Tokyo Tim Romero Head of Google Startups Japan, Google Vivek Mahajan Global Chief Technology Officer, Fujitsu
10:20	PANEL DISCUSSION: AUSTRALIA-JAPAN INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS Moderator: Professor Veronica Taylor Australian National University Panellists: Professor Andrew Parfitt President and Vice Chancellor, University of Technology Sydney Professor Calum Drummond Vice President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, RMIT University Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise, University of South Australia Professor Kazuhiro Takanabe Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo
11:50	Standing Networking Lunch Pre-function area
12:40	PANEL DISCUSSION: COLLABORATION IN ACTION Moderator: Melanie Brock Panellists: Alexandra Clunies-Ross Portfolio Manager, Artesian Craig Priest Associate Professor, ARC IDEAL Hub, University of South Australia Takayoshi Udagawa CEO, IDOM Innovations Hideaki Yoshimura APAC Director, Hivery Yoshiki Yumbe General Manager of Research and Development Centre, Hitachi
14:00	SUMMARY: CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS Moderator: Professor Jenny Corbett Emeritus Professor, Australian National University Panellists: Professor Glenn Wightwick Vice President and DVC Enterprise, University of Technology Sydney Akifumi Nagatani General Manager, Global Business, NTT
14:30	Transfer to startup hub for matching session and tea/coffee Level 7
14:45	BUSINESS MATCHING SESSION: CREATING OPPORTUNITIES Tables: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Innovation Dojo• University of Technology Sydney• University of South Australia• University of New South Wales• RMIT University• IDOM Innovation• Hivery• Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre
17:00	End



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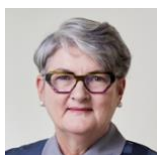
PARTICIPATING SPEAKERS



TIM ROMERO is Head of Google for Startups Japan and host of the Disrupting Japan podcast. He's deeply involved in Japan's startup community as an investor, founder, author and educator, and has founded several startups in Japan over the past 25 years. Tim has also taught entrepreneurship and corporate innovation at NYU's Tokyo campus and worked with TEPCO and other Japanese enterprises on startup engagement and innovation strategy.



VIVEK MAHAJAN is a global business leader as well as an innovation and technology executive with extensive experience working in number of global leading corporations including Tandem Computers, General Electric, Siebel Systems, Oracle and IBM. He joined Fujitsu in July 2021 as the Global Chief Technology Officer. His mission is to establish Fujitsu as a leading global technology company known for innovative technology leadership. Vivek has lived and worked globally including in the United States, Australia, Singapore, Japan and India, and is fluent in English, Japanese and Hindi.



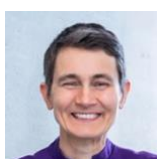
PROFESSOR VERONICA L. TAYLOR is Professor of Law and Regulation at the Australian National University in the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet). She is an Expert Advisor to the Regulatory Reform Division in Australia's Department of Finance and a non-Executive Director of ANU Enterprise. She serves as a Director of the AJBCC and a Director of the Foundation for Australia-Japan Studies (FAJS).



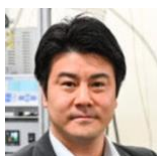
PROFESSOR ANDREW PARFITT is Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Technology of Sydney (UTS). He joined UTS in 2017 as the university's Provost and Senior Vice-President. Previously Andrew was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University of Newcastle, Australia and has held senior leadership roles at the University of South Australia and the CSIRO. Andrew has a distinguished career as an educator and researcher in telecommunications engineering, specialising in antennas and radio systems and has made contributions to satellite communications, radio astronomy technologies and space engineering.



PROFESSOR CALUM DRUMMOND Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Research and Innovation and Vice President at Melbourne's RMIT University, Professor Drummond has a leadership role in the development of discovery and practice-based research and in building and enhancing capability in research and innovation across the University. In particular, he has a role in educating and training the next generation of researchers and innovators. He has a strong interest and passion for the commercialisation of research outcomes.



PROFESSOR MARNIE HUGHES-WARRINGTON AO is Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Enterprise at the University of South Australia, and Honorary Professor of History at the Australian National University. She is strategic lead for discovery and translational research, partnerships, research advancement, research degree students, and impact and commercialisation. Previously she was Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic at the Australian National University, where she was strategic lead for education, educational advancement, and the student halls of residence.



PROFESSOR KAZUHIRO TAKANABE (高鍋 和広) is Professor in the Department of Chemical System Engineering, University of Tokyo. He previously worked at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) before joining KAUST, as Assistant Professor of the laboratory of Prof. Kazunari Domen in the Department of Chemical Systems Engineering at the University of Tokyo. At the University of Tokyo, he works on Green Hydrogen and is the Principal Investigator in the Catalysis for Energy Conversion Research Group in the Faculty.



MELANIE BROCK is one of Japan's most respected APAC specialists. She uniquely combines practical commercial business leadership and language skills to deliver consistently on business, regulatory and partnership outcomes for Japanese and foreign corporations both on global and domestic levels. Melanie has an excellent network in Japan's corporate, political and government sectors - her network of senior Japanese politicians and executives is unique.



ALEXANDRA CLUNIES-ROSS is a Portfolio Manager at Artesian. Alexandra leads Artesian's ClimateTech VC investment activities through the Clean Energy Seed Fund, which has invested in over 60 early-stage ClimateTech companies. Alexandra is also the Portfolio Manager for Artesian's \$100M Female Leaders Fund which invests in companies with female founders and executives. She is also the host of Artesian's ArteHouse podcast where she interviews founders and technical experts about their businesses and new trends in innovation.

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ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CRAIG PRIEST is a Professorial Lead at the Future Industries Institute (UniSA), Deputy Director of the ARC IDEAL Research Hub, and Director of ANFF-SA - a \$20M advanced manufacturing investment, located at the University of South Australia and Flinders University. Craig oversees teams of research and technical personnel working on interfacial, physical, and analytical science in micro/nanofluidic devices and other small-scale environments for new sensing and manufacturing applications.



TAKAYOSHI UDAGAWA "Uda" is CEO of IDOM Innovations. He began his career as a graduate with Gulliver, Japan's largest used car retailer and was promoted to company executive in 2016. Uda joined IDOM in 2015 as a board director, tasked with developing the Australian business, operational improvement of the dealership business, strategy and growth. In 2018 he was promoted to CEO of the IDOM Automotive Group and head of IDOM's Australian operations to drive business reform and overseas strategy. IDOM Innovations opened its global head office in Melbourne and will use it as its strategic base whilst developing its new Automotive tech.



HIDEAKI YOSHIMURA "Hidi" is an Australian-born Japanese national and heads the Sales and Client Service function across the APAC region (including Japan) from HIVERY's Sydney HQ. He previously spent 15 years in Japan in consulting and investment banking, often bridging Japan with international markets. Hidi supported HIVERY's entry into Japan, leading to the establishment of HIVERY Japan K.K. Hidi is passionate about capitalising on innovation that occurs through the fusion of region-specific needs.



YOSHIKI YUMBE is General Manager of Research and Development Centre, Hitachi Australia Pty Ltd. His previous position was Chief Researcher at Center for Social Innovation - Tokyo, Research and Development Group, Hitachi Ltd. He has worked for new business development by collaborative creation with customers and partners especially for energy and smart city spaces. Currently, he has responsibility for business opportunity finding and incubation of opportunities in Green x Digital spaces through collaborative creation with government, companies and academia in Australia.



PROFESSOR JENNY CORBETT has held executive leadership and educational positions including Distinguished Professor of Economics, Director of the Japan Institute and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training) at the Australian National University and Fellow of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies at Oxford University. Until recently she was the inaugural Tokyo-based Rio Tinto Fellow established under the established under the Foundation for Australia-Japan Studies (FAJS) In 2014 Jenny was awarded the "Order of the Rising Sun Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon" for services to the Australia-Japan relationship.



PROFESSOR GLENN WIGHTWICK is Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Enterprise at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) where he has responsibility for the university's entrepreneurship, enterprise learning, industry engagement and precinct strategy. Prior to this he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research. He spent 27 years working at IBM in Australia, the USA and China in a variety of technical and leadership roles in systems engineering, development and research.



AKIFUMI NAGATANI is General Manager in Global Business at NTT Australia, where he is in charge of global services, innovation and business engagement. Prior to this he was Vice President at NTT India for approximately 5 years. He majored in Entrepreneurship and Finance in his MBA at the University of Chicago, and is leading global business collaboration among Industry, Academia and Government in Australia.



JOSHUA FLANNERY is a recognised innovation ecosystem leader in both Japan and Australia, as the co-founder and CEO of Innovation Dojo Japan, where he leads the Kobe City government startup hub among other programs. His experience includes Country Manager for European open innovation firm Rainmaking, lead Director for the largest startup hub in the Southern Hemisphere, Sydney Startup Hub, and he was the first hire and leader of the University of New South Wales startup programs, which grew to become the leading university for entrepreneurs in Australia. He also has tech entrepreneur experience bringing an edtech startup into Japan.