Opening Remark

The 5th International Conference of School as Learning Community in Korea

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5 years of International Conferences of School as Learning Community

- The 1st conference: Gakushuin University in Japan, 2013
- •The 2nd conference: Gakushuin University in Japan, 2014
- The 3rd conference: Gakushuin University in Japan, 2015
- •The 4th conference; Beijing Normal University in China 2016
- The 5th conference: Geyongsangnam-do in Korea, 2017





A brief History of SLC in the world

- 1992: Redefinition of learning and definition of learning community as a vision of school based on philosophy of social democracy. (Sato 1992)
- 1995: Ojiya Elementary School established School as Learning Community.
- 1998: The first pilot school, Hamanogo School, was founded.
- 2001: Gakuyo Junior School and Attached School of The Unicersity of Tokyo launched into the pilot schools of SLC.
- 2002: In the US and Mexico, some cities and schools adopted SLC conception as a policy of school reform.
- 2004: A presidential committee in Korea invited me to present SLC approach to innovate schools.
- 2003: The books entitled "Silent Revolution" and "Curriculum and Teachers" were awarded as publishing awards in China.
- 2005: Presidential invited speech on SLC in the American Educational Research Association.



A Brief history - continued

- 2006: Invited Speech at People Congress in China
- 2006: Presidential Invited Speech in Korea
- 2009: JICA started SLC project in Indonesia
- 2009: JICA launched SLC policy in Vietnam
- 2012: "Revolution of Learning" was published in Taiwan (Excellent Award of Asian Publishing Award, 2013)
- 2013: The First International Conference of School as Learning Community
- 2014: All the superintendents in Taiwan promotes SLC in Taiwan
- 2015: 15 among 17 superintendents supports SLC in Korea
- 2016: EDUCA2016 in Thailand entitles School as Learning Community



World Progress of School as Learning Community: Hi-lights 2017

- China: Establishing Chinese Center for SLC at Beijing Normal School
- Korea: Arranging The 5th International Conference of SLC.
- Indonesia: Indonesia Association of Lesson Study discussed about SLC in 2016 and 2017.
- Thailand: EDUCA issued SLC in 2015, 2016 and 2017.
- Mexico: My new book of SLC will be published in 2017.







Why SLC has captured hearts of teachers and students, in particular in Asian countries? Many reasons.

- First, SlC is the most powerful vision and philosophy for school reform which is able to transform educational practice from the traditional to the innovative one of 21st century style.
- Second, SLC has the most sophisticated approach being based on the highest level of educational theory and research both in academic and practical research in Asia.
- Third, SLC is the most robust base for defensing public education and its quality and equity against neo-liberal educational policy which has been dominant in Asian countries during the past 20 years.
- Finally, SLC is relied on social democracy, which is suitable to the democratic movement of civil society and its politics in Asian countries during the past 20 years.



Democratizing schools and classrooms

- This conference is issued with "Democratizing Schools and Classrooms". It might be the central core of SLC approach.
- As John Dewey defined, democracy is not a political procedure but a philosophy of "a way of associated living". In SLC approach, we regard each teacher and each child as "protagonist", so to speak, "main actor" in school and classroom through dialogic practice relied on "Listening Pedagogy".
- Inside SLC schools and classrooms, all the children and teachers must be respected. Establishing dignity of child and dignity of teaching profession, SLC transform the schools to "an embryo of democratic society" (John Dewey).
- Professional autonomy of teachers also should be taken into consideration. We will discuss about on what accounts we can assert professional learning community should be a empowered vehicle to transform schools more democratic.



Democratic Features of SLC

- Dignity of each child and each teacher. Dignity of learning.
 (Learning community is respect community)
- Human right of pursuit of happiness. (Learning is jumping.)
- "Protagonist" (main actor) at school and classroom.
- No child alone. (No teacher alone, No parent alone.)
- Caring community. (School should be a "second home".)
- Professional autonomy based on democratic "collegiality".
 (Teacher is a learning professional.)



Leadership and Partnership

	Principal	Parent	Board of Education	University	Supervisors Books
Japan		0	0	0	100 🔘
Korea		\triangle			140 🔘
China		Δ		0	5
Taiwan		\triangle		0	30 🔘
Indonesia	0		0		50
Thailand		\triangle	\triangle		50
Vietnam					10

SLC community is not like as coral, but like as orchestra.

We can learn from all the differences we embrace.



