

Call for Papers

International Session of the 58th Congress of the Business History Society of Japan (BHSJ)

Using history in uncertain times:

A Dialogue Between Business Historians and Business Leaders

Business History Society of Japan (BHSJ), founded in 1964, is one of the longest-standing and largest national organizations in the discipline. Since its 50th anniversary, the BHSJ has made it a priority to foment interaction and dialogue between business historians in Japan and those based elsewhere, and as a result it has organized international sessions in English on a biannual basis which take place concurrently with its Japanese sessions. In 2022, the congress will be held in **Osaka**, the vibrant city in the heart of the Kansai metropolis, former "Manchester of the East", home to Panasonic and many pharmaceutical companies. The congress will comprise two full days of paper sessions and incorporates a plenary session titled "A Dialogue Between Business History and Business Leaders" (in Japanese, with simultaneous interpreting) and a special commemorative session, 'The **Fuji-Conference** session'. This session honors the great tradition of the BHSJ's Fuji-Conference, a celebrated international meeting that dates back to 1974.

This year the session's theme is "Using history in uncertain times: A Dialogue Between Business Historians and Business Leaders". The current global business is contingent not only on recent world-shaking events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, but also on long-term structural transformations due to, for example, a shift in political and economic power and climate change. The profound instability of the contemporary world reminds us of the need for continuous adaptation to a constantly changing environment. This represents a major challenge for business leaders who are now positioned in a global market and therefore face a wide variety of risks. However, the instability of the world is not a new phenomenon. Therefore, we propose to the business history community to reflect on how business leaders have used - and still use today - the experiences of the past to guide themselves in times of uncertainty. What is there to learn from the past? How can business leaders make practical use of historical knowledge? What historical awareness do they have and what do they do with it when faced with an unstable world? By bringing together researchers working on these questions in case studies from diverse geographical, chronological and cultural backgrounds, the Fuji-Conference session 2022 hopes to generate fruitful discussions and suggest fresh avenues for future research.

Although this international session takes "Using history in uncertain times" as the main theme, reflecting the great diversity in business history the BHSJ welcomes submissions

on a whole range of topics, periods, regions, etc. We invite submissions of proposals by both individual researchers and complete panel sessions.

Conference Dates: September 16-17, 2022

Venue: Kansai University, Osaka, Japan

Deadline for submissions: June 15, 2022

Notification of abstract acceptance: July 5, 2022

Full or short paper submission deadline for pre-circulation: September 1st, 2022.

Please submit your abstracts and details to the following email address:
fujicon.japan@gmail.com

Requirements for proposals

The proposals should include the following parts:

- (1) Author(s) information: affiliation, short CV
- (2) An abstract of no more than 400 words
- (3) Additional information important to the program committee: clear statement of the research question (not more than 50 words), keywords on the major research areas to which the paper relates and theoretical/conceptual framework used.

Scientific Committee:

Andrea Colli, Bocconi University, Milan

Pierre-Yves Donzé, Osaka University

Rika Fujioka, Kansai University, Osaka

Takafumi Kurosawa, Kyoto University

Ken Sakai, Tohoku University, Sendai