

# COE-SEMINAR

(in English)



## The JAIST School: Continuity and Future

**Dr. Zhichang Zhu**

The JAIST Knowledge School is approaching its 10th anniversary, and the 21st Century COE project in the School is to complete soon. It is a good time to reflect on what we have done, where we are now and what we would like to achieve in the next 10 years.

A 'school' has at least two meanings. JAIST as an education and research institution will continue to exist and function in the foreseeable future. JAIST as an intellectual 'school of thought', however, deserves our considerations and decisions.

An intellectual 'school of thought' has internationally recognized philosophy, distinguishable approach and enduring influence: what the school believes, what it stands for, what are its unique features, what is its consistent track record of contribution? Examples of recognizable 'schools' may include: the Austrian School in (interpretive, dynamic and entrepreneurship) economics, the Carnegie School in behavioral economics and decision science, the Harvard School in case study teaching and learning, the Hull School in (critical) systems thinking, etc.

Can JAIST become, or continue to be, an internationally recognized intellectual school? What does it stand for? What is its unique approach? We are fortunate to have Professor Nonaka as the Founding Dean who lays down path-breaking work as the foundation for the School. His knowledge creation theory with key concepts such as tacit-explicit knowledge, ba, SECI process and distributed *phronesis* are immediately internationally recognizable, appealing and inspiring. Can we maintain the continuity of Nonaka's foundation work in the School, promote and increase its influence, achieve new innovation based upon it, and make a real, positive, practical difference for the society?

This seminar will invite and engage participants into the discussion of these issues. My attitude is positive: there are real possibilities that we can maintain and develop Nonaka's foundation work and make JAIST a unique intellectual school of thought. Particularly, I explore the Nonaka-Nakamori Link which has the potential to enable JAIST to become more inclusive and holistic, open and conservative, theoretically rigor and practically relevant. JAIST deserves to be an outstanding school of thought.

**Title:** *The JAIST School: Continuity and Future*

**Main Speaker:** **Dr. Zhichang Zhu**, University of Hull, UK; Visiting Research Professor at JAIST

**Date and Time:** May.11th ( Fri.), 14:00 – 16:00

**Place:** Collaboration Room K-6 (KS 3<sup>rd</sup> Building, 6FL)

