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**Another Interdisciplinary Transformation: Beyond an Area-studies Journal**

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## **Another Interdisciplinary Transformation: Beyond an Area-studies Journal**

Han Woo Park<sup>1</sup>

Dear Readers,

In the past, most publishers have owned the right to scholarly articles. Since the advent of the Internet, scholars have been steadily free from copyright laws due to Creative Commons License. The number of open access journals is also increasing. A new ‘Altmetrics’ is emerging to measure the impact of research based on various (in)formal channels: newspapers, blogs, syllabi, policy documents, and social media (Holmberg, 2016; Priem, 2014).

While the academic climate is rapidly changing, journals in area studies tend to remain silent and untouched. To cope with this changing environment, however, the Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia (JCEA) intends to take a lead on new scholarship in Asia. In the past, the JCEA was dedicated to the study of current political, social and economic trends in East and Southeast Asia. But now, the JCEA finds unique aspects of Asian scholarship by expanding its scope to (socio-technical) convergence and future (network) studies.

I am pleased to call your attention to our new editorial team from the Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia available here <https://jceasia.org/> First of all, we have to mention Christian Schafferer who founded the journal about twenty years ago (c.f. <https://jceasia.org/about-journal/>) and has served as co-Editor. We owe him many thanks for his pioneering and valuable service. Now, let us move to our new team. Drs. Kyujin Jung and Weiai Wayne Xu play the role of managing editors responsible for journal maintenance and for the actual publication of accepted papers. Next, Drs. Jesus N. Valero, K. Hazel Kwon, Sejung Park, and Wei-Ning Wu are Associated Editors who actually handle papers from submission to review. Dr. Leslie Tkach-Kawasaki will continue in the role of book review editor.

The journal is still published by Yeungnam University in South Korea and the World Association for Triple hElix and Future strategy studies (WATEF). Furthermore, we have acquired a new URL with various interactive features for the general public as well as researchers and connected old URLs (<http://jcea-online.net/> <http://eastasia.yu.ac.kr>) to our archive site, Korea Science Platform,

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<sup>1</sup> Han Woo Park, Editor-in-chief, Professor at Yeungnam University, South Korea.

hosted by Korea's Institute of Science and Technology Information (<http://www.kisti.re.kr/>). Both submission and review processes are now conducted under the Editorial Management System (<https://jceasia.org/submission/>)

The JCEA editors are working very hard to boost the scholarly presence of new Asian scholarship around the world and secure its reputation as an emerging world-class publishing outlet. Our current issue includes a total of eight papers. The contribution by Hua Feng deals with Chinese knowledge workers based on a case study of Huawei. Both Carol Soon and Howard Sanborn address political participation issues in Hong Kong and Singapore using survey data. Sookeung Jung examines South Korea's media and popular culture industries. Robert Bedeski's summarizes past and present paradigms in Korean studies. Jiwon Kim and Hyejin Bang examines social capital in terms of the sharing among young adults using the Gangnam Style. James Danowski and Kenneth Riopelle introduce a new tool that analyzes Chinese texts using semantic network analysis method. This issue concludes with an Editor's corner written by K. Hazel Kwon who shared a critical self-observation during the recent North Korean nuclear threat period.

Finally, please do consider the JCEA as a venue for your own research. We are quick in terms of review turn-around time and free from print back-log for publication

## **References**

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