Camtree
CAMBRIDGE TEACHER RESEARCH EXCHANGE

HUGHES HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

# Lesson Study for Schools as Learning Communities

*exploring a phenomenon*

## Symposium Conference

**10-11 July 2025**

**9.00am-3.30pm**

## In person

*Hughes Hall*
*University of Cambridge*

*Cambridge*
*CB1 2EW*

***We can only achieve "the simultaneous pursuit of quality and equality" if schools and classrooms become democratic public spaces where the dignity of each individual is respected through listening relationships and where everyone is the protagonist (main actor) through learning***

*(Sato, 2025)*

Lesson Study originated in Japan as a collaborative, classroom-enquiry based approach to developing better learning and teaching. It has been in constant use there for 150 years, uniquely contributing to Japan's much envied success in comparative studies; and this century it has been growing in use in the West, now acknowledged as a powerful form of professional learning and a driver of school improvement with potential to raise the bars and close gaps.

Inspired by the ideas of Dewey and Vygotsky, and focusing on schools and pupils facing complex and challenging circumstances, Professor Manabu Sato proposed an extended approach, designed to promote learning as a whole school community endeavour, i.e. Schools as Learning Communities (SLC), in which all actors (teachers, leaders, parents and pupils) have choice, agency and responsibility for each-others' learning, well-being and success. Pupils in SLC schools have opportunities to be challenged and take risks in the safety of a culture where *no child is left alone* and where teachers collaborate through learning-focused and open-classroom-based lesson study community.

Thirty years-on, SCL ideal has attracted a following of 3,000 schools across east Asia. The track record of his SLC team in transforming protractedly troubled schools into happy, industrious, and proud learning communities (whilst retaining the majority of existing leaders and staff) is not only remarkable but highly enviable.

**Professor Sato and his team are visiting Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge, on 10th of July 2025 to share their model at the first national SLC Symposium held outside East Asia**. They will be joined by leading lesson study practitioners and leaders from the UK and Europe.

**You are cordially invited to attend the symposium** led by this Japanese team with lesson study experts from the UK and Europe - all with an interest in harnessing lesson study's potential to promote quality, equality and learning community

**To book**: please follow the link: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lesson-study-for-schools-as-learning-communities-tickets-1329865346049?aff=oddtdtcreator

Symposium / Conference (either day; including lunch) Cost: £99 / £89 (Discounted rate)
Both Days Cost (including lunch): £139 / £129 (Discounted rate)

**Early bird booking closing at midnight on Sun 1st of June**

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# Symposium (10 July 2025)

| Starts | What | Who |
|---|---|---|
| 09.00 | Welcome and introduction | Peter Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 09.15 | Keynote: Wide overview of Japanese Lesson Study | Pr. Manabu Sato |
| 09.45 | How SLC manifests in the classroom: benefits for learning and community | Pr. Kiyomi Akita |
| 10.15 | Q and A plus Discussion 1 | Chairs: Peter Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 10.45 | *Break* | |
| 11.00 | Forces behind the spread of SLC across the world | Kanako Kusanagi |
| 11.30 | Organizational Learning of SLC in Japan: An Action Research Perspective | Yuta Suzuki |
| 12.00 | Q and A plus Discussion 2 | Chairs: Peter Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 12.30 | *Lunch* | |
| 13.15 | School as Learning Community in Cambodia and beyond | Takayo Ogisu |
| 14.15 | Growing a community of Lesson Study-active schools through ITE | Sui Lin Goei |
| 14.45 | Discussion 3. Whole day focused. (Discussion groups) | Chairs: Peter Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 15.05 | What we can learn from SLC | Stephane Clivas |
| 15.20 | A look forward to Friday's conference | Gosia Marschall<br>Peter Dudley |
| 15.30 | Symposium closes | |



**Prof.**
**Manabu Sato**



**Prof.**
**Kiyomi Akita**



**Ass. Prof.**
**Yuta Suzuki**



**Dr.**
**Kanako Kusanagi**



**Ass. Prof.**
**Takayo Ogisu**

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# Conference (11 July 2025)

| Starts | What | Who |
|---|---|---|
| 09.00 | Welcome and introduction | Pete Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 09.15 | Keynote: Lesson study for *School as Learning Community* – characteristics, practicalities and benefits for schooling in East Asia and Central America. | Manabu Sato & Kiyomi Akita |
| 10.00 | Global SLC practices: lesson study for building equitable and caring learning communities | Kanako Kusanagi, Yuta Suzuki & Takayo Ogisu |
| 10.45 | Break | |
| 11.15 | Keynote: Bansho, classroom community through talk and pupil learning in Japan | Shirley Tan |
| 12.00 | Lesson study and oracy: building learning community and curriculum in a challenging secondary school through times of crisis | Maliki Konteh |
| 12. 30 | *Lunch* | |

| | Option 1 | | Option 2 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13.30 | LS building learning community through initial teacher education | John Mynott | Round Table:<br>A case of Japan and lesson study<br><br>Report about the lesson: Manabo Satu<br><br>A video case of lesson in Japan (English Subtitles)<br><br>Discussion | Chair: Kanako Kusanagi<br><br>Commentary: Yuta Suzuki |
| 14.00 | Growing teacher professional learning communities through lesson study | Jessica Chapman, Kelly Stock, & Gosia Marschall | | |

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|---|---|---|
| 14.30 | Using LS to build curriculum and teacher learning community | Rob Drane (UCPS) |
| 15.00 | Plenary panel: How can schools get involved in SLC and learn more? | Chairs: Pete Dudley & Gosia Marschall |
| 15.30 | | |



**Prof.**
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