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- Special Issue-A deep memory of Dr. Yuji Ijiri -
ABEST21

THE ALLIANCE ON BUSINESS EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOMORROW,
a 21st century organization

URL: <http://www.abest21.org> TEL. 03-3498-6220 E-Mail: ABEST21@abest21.org
Editor: Fumio Itoh

A deep memory of Dr. Yuji Ijiri

Dr. Yuji Ijiri Former Carnegie Mellon University Professor

Dr. Yuji Ijiri was born February 24, 1935. In 1952, before even graduating the Nara High School of Commerce, he passed a test that allowed him to take the CPA examination without a college degree. He passed the CPA exam in 1953, while attending Doshisha Junior College at night. He finished three years at Ritsumeikan University, also in Kyoto, with a Bachelor of Law degree. After that he worked at a small accounting firm and then with Price Waterhouse & Co. before leaving in 1959 to attend the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota, where he received his Master's degree in 1960. After that he joined Carnegie Mellon University where he earned a Ph.D. in Industrial Administration in 1963, and after four years at the Stanford Graduate School of



Business he joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Industrial Administration (now the Tepper School of Business) at Carnegie Mellon. He remained a central Carnegie Mellon figure from 1967 until his death.

He was a vital force among the community of ABEST21.

Fumio Itoh, ABEST21 President

We announce with deep sadness that Dr. Yuji Ijiri, Former Carnegie Mellon Professor, passed away on the 18th of January 2017 at the age of 81 in Oberlin, Ohio, USA. He was a vital force among the community of ABEST21, and with his passing, many have lost a friend and a colleague. Although we did not spend much time with him, we always enjoyed our lively conversations. He had a very good sense of humor, though always took his responsibilities seriously. We will remember him for his hard work and dedication during the founding of ABEST21, for his collegiality, for his forward-looking thinking, and his keen ability to engage with and collaborate with international members of ABEST21. His contributions were invaluable with respect to the launching of ABEST21, and he leaves us with fond memories and a mandate for ABEST21 to endure and become even stronger over time.

Dr. Yuji Ijiri was a Founding Member of Global Classroom International Conference held on 28th October 1994.

ABEST21 was founded in 2005, but its origins go back to 1994. The first Global Classroom Conference was organized by Dean Fumio Itoh on 28th October 1994. "Global Classroom International Conference" was a consortium of 7 business schools around the world which promoted the sharing of management education at business schools by setting up a "virtual classroom" on the Pacific Ocean via online teleconference system using the cutting-edge information technology.



Dr. Yuji Ijiri named the creation of a virtual classroom on a global scale, using modern computer and telecommunication technologies as the "Global Classroom."

As transnational and multinational corporations are the dominant participants in international trade, it becomes even more incumbent upon management schools to train students to assume future roles as their executives. Realizing this need, business schools have opted for courses and streams in international business. But too often these are taught by faculty who are ill-trained in international affairs and who employ secondary source texts, lecture materials, and case studies. Information on current economic



and political developments in foreign countries as well as differences in their social customs and business conventions is dealt with by these secondary sources and perhaps anecdotes furnished by international students in the classroom.

The concept of a “global classroom” presents an exciting opportunity for management schools to bring the principles, problems and prospects of managing international business and transactions vividly into the lecture room. Joining classrooms throughout the world through modern communication media enables students and teachers of diverse backgrounds to interact with and learn from one another. Specifically, they can jointly engage in case discussions, listen to lectures from visiting distinguished professors and executives, be exposed to the latest thinking in a particular discipline regardless of the physical locations of the current experts, and be introduced to the diversity of management thinking and practice throughout the world. Add to this the ever present shortage of faculty members in highly specialized and technical disciplines who can now virtually lecture worldwide, and it is easy to see that the “global classroom” concept is not only useful to but vital in keeping management education timely.

But the “global classroom” involves more than the physical thinking of facilities and personnel through case discussions, lectures, and simulations. It also consists of faculty members throughout the world *jointly* developing teaching materials reflecting the interconnections and interactions of various countries in the global economic scene. It brings educators from all over the world closer together, promotes joint work among them, and assures that the materials given to the students represent the most modern teaching elements available. Further with the technology of simultaneous translation, interchange among faculty and students is not only possible but feasible. Thus, the “global classroom” will undoubtedly lead to better case studies, lectures, management games and simulations, all of which will assure that students learn the international characteristics of managing a business in a very effective manner.

I know that he's writing an article to capture the kind spirit, intellect and impact of Yuji's life. He was the instrument for us to meet - now decades ago. He was the glue that brought CMU to Aoyama. He helped to enable all the other relations and innovations. And he was so humble and unassuming! We will remember his warm heart and significant contribution to ABEST21 forever.

May his soul rest in peace.

Dr. Yuji Ijiri was a Founding Member of ABEST21 established on 1st July 2005.

Global Knowledge Network considered it an urgent issue to develop a system to enhance the quality of management education at the business schools. With this idea in mind, on June 28, 2004, at the Hakone Conference, the establishment of network aiming at the enhancement of management education at member schools was discussed, and the preparation to establish THE ALLIANCE ON BUSINESS EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOMORROW, a 21st century organization (ABEST21) was started. A year later, on July 1, 2005, assisted by 16 business schools from the world, the Network decided to establish ABEST21 as a mutual evaluation institution.



Dr. Yuji Ijiri was a Founding Member.



Dr. Yuji Ijiri was a Mentor of ABEST21.



It was the first time for me to meet him in Aoyama Gakuin University when he was appointed as a Visiting Professor of Aoyama Gakuin University from July, 1967 to June, 1968. When I served as a Dean of School of International Politics, Economics and Business (SIPEB) of Aoyama Gakuin University on 1986, I established Graduate School of International Business (GSIB) as a business

school in SIPEB on 1990. I developed nine Company-sponsored courses in the GSIB, and I invited him as a Visiting Professor of Toshiba-sponsored course "Financial Reporting" which he taught for 15 years from 1990 to 1994, from 1996 to 2000, and from 2001 to 2005. During his stays in Aoyama as a Visiting Professor, we had an opportunity to discuss how to develop the concept of "Global Classroom" that implies joining classrooms throughout the world through modern communication media, enabling students and teachers of diverse backgrounds to interact with and learn from one another. The aim of the global classroom is the creation of a virtual classroom on a global scale,



June 30, 2006

using modern computer and telecommunication technologies, to teach universal knowledge and scientific laws which are common to the entire world. He named this educational system the "Global Classroom."

Dr. Yuji Ijiri was a founder of the transitional momentum accounting practice.

Prof. Ilker Baybars, Ph.D.

ABEST21 Vice President and ABEST21 Founding Member

Dean and CEO, Carnegie Mellon University-Qatar, Qatar

Professor Yuji Ijiri, founder of the transitional momentum accounting practice, also known as triple-entry accounting, died on January 18, 2017. He was 81.

Dr. Ijiri was educated and employed as an accountant in his native Japan. He came to the Graduate School of Industrial Administration-GSIA (now the Tepper School of Business) in Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA, USA in 1959. He earned his Ph.D. degree in industrial administration in 1963 and, after four years at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, joined the faculty of GSIA. He remained a central Carnegie Mellon figure from 1967 until his death.



May 23, 2008

Dr. Ijiri retired in 2011 after serving as the R.M. Trueblood University Professor of Accounting and Economics. During his time in this position he collaborated and taught alongside notables such as economist Herbert A. Simon, Nobel laureate, behavioral economist Richard M. Cyert, former president of Carnegie Mellon University, global operations research and accounting visionary William W. Cooper, Ijiri's thesis advisor, James March, political scientist and behavioral theorist, and macroeconomist Allan Meltzer.

Professor Ijiri played an instrumental role in the history of the Tepper School and is considered one of the intellectual giants of his era. Throughout his career, Yuji was an intellectual leader who had

the intellectual giants of his era. Throughout his career, Yuji was an intellectual leader who had

tremendous impact on the field of accounting, his colleagues, and the legions of Ph.D. students he worked with over the years. His influence and contributions have left an enduring legacy of research productivity and impact that sets one of the highest standards for academic achievement.

Dr. Ijiri was named to The Accounting Hall of Fame in 1989, an honor afforded just 94 people through its 67-year history. He authored more than 200 published papers and 25 books, some translated into Spanish, French and Japanese but none more important to him than his 1989 work about triple-entry accounting. He was among the founding members of the Journal of Accounting and Public Policy in the early 1980s, as well as the only four-time winner of the American Accounting Association (AAA) Notable Contributions to Accounting Literature Award: 1966, 1967, 1971 and 1976. Ijiri served the AAA as vice president in the mid-1970s and president in the 1980s.

Ijiri, by his own description a "constant gardener in education" once said, "Carnegie Mellon has indeed been 'small gardens' of learning blessed with exceptional teachers and students. Yet there seems to be something more. The gardens seem to have a special way of letting people grow."

Ijiri was 6 years old when he attended the Abacus Math School in Kobe, Japan, and by the 10th grade was doing the bookkeeping for his father's bakery. In 1952, before even graduating from the Nara High School of Commerce, he passed a test that allowed him to take the CPA examination without a college degree. He passed the CPA exam in 1953, while attending Doshisha Junior College at night. He finished three years at Ritsumeikan University, also in Kyoto, with a bachelor's of law degree. Thus, he had completed all requirements for a CPA certificate at age 21, the youngest on record in Japan.

He worked at a small accounting firm and then with Price Waterhouse before leaving in 1959 to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota, where he received a master's degree in 1960. From there, he attended Carnegie Mellon where he remained except for four years as a faculty member at Stanford University.

Ijiri also was recognized internationally in accounting for aggregation theory, firm size distributions, accounting measurement theory, computer languages, and quantitative models in business and economics. Fair value accounting in the early 2000s brought his concepts to the forefront again, and among his final papers were works exploring connections between triple-entry accounting and quantum physics and quantum computing.

He was the glue that brought CMU to Japan.

Prof. Robert Sullivan, Ph.D.

ABEST21 Vice President and ABEST21 Founding Member

Dean, Rady School of Management, University of California San Diego, USA

Recently I've been in communications with Ilker. I know that he's writing an article to capture the kind spirit, intellect and impact of Yuji's life. Yuji was the instrument for us to meet - now decades ago. He was the glue that brought CMU to Japan. He helped to enable all the other relations and innovations. And he was so humble and unassuming!

I know that this short note is long overdue. I appreciate Yuji's many attributes and



qualities. I particularly appreciate that he introduced us to each other. It's been a blessing. I fully appreciate this - in spite of my sometimes poor attention.

Yuji-san, we are grateful for your contributions.

Prof. Dr. Chet Borucki

ABEST21 Founding Member

Associate Dean for MBA Program, Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan

Although I did not spend much time with Professor Ijiri, I always enjoyed our lively conversations. He had a very good sense of humor, though always took his responsibilities seriously. I will remember him for his hard work and dedication during the founding of ABEST21, for his collegiality, for his forward-looking thinking, and his keen ability to engage with and collaborate with international members of ABEST21. His contributions were invaluable with respect to the launching of ABEST21 and he leaves us with fond memories and a mandate for ABEST21 to endure and become even stronger over time. Yuji-san, we are grateful for your contributions. You will be sorely missed.



July 3, 2005

He contributed significantly to the establishment of ABEST21.

Prof. Dr. Ming-Yu Cheng

ABEST21 Executive Secretary

Faculty of Accounting and Management, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia

We are deeply saddened by the news of the passing of Professor Yuji Ijiri. Prof. Ijiri passed away at the age of 81 on January 18, 2017. We extend our most heartfelt sorrow and condolences to the family of Prof. Ijiri for the great loss.

Professor Ijiri, a world renowned accountant, was a former professor at Carnegie Mellon University. He was also a founding member of ABEST21. He contributed significantly to the establishment of ABEST21 by providing



June 23, 2007

valuable ideas and resources, which laid the foundation for ABEST21 to grow steadily ever since its commencement in 2015. Even at later stage, Prof. Ijiri continued to support and promote the development of ABEST21. Prof. Ijiri will be remembered for his efforts to develop quality business management education in the region.

Cherish the Memory of Professor Yuji Ijiri

Prof. Dr. Kai LI

ABEST21 Founding Member

School of Business Administration, Northeastern University, China

Professor Yuji Ijiri was passed away on January 19, 2017. The news is not only known in the campus of Carnegie Mellon University, where was his workplace from 1967 until his death, but also is known in Abest21 organization and causes many memories of him from his friends.

I met Professor Yuji Ijiri in 2002 when the Global Knowledge Network was established at that time. Yuji was the representative of Carnegie Mellon University, where as other members came from Aoyama Gakuin



University, Moscow State University, University of Texas at Austin, University of California at San Diego, Seoul National University, Fudan University, Northeastern University and Kwansai Gakuin University. The Global Knowledge Network, inherited from Global Class Room from 1994, became the origin of Abest21 later on. Yuji, and his colleague Ilker Baybars, former deputy dean of Tepper School of Business of GMU, were the leadership power of the organization. They assisted President Fumio Itoh to create the organization and made it stronger and stronger. Now, Abest21 becomes an organization with over 70 school members from Asia-Pacific region and has widespread impact in the region. We should always remember Professor Yuji Ijiri and other founding members of Abest21 and should appreciate their great contribution on the development of the organization.

In its early stage, cooperation between members was the main topic of Abest21. Members benefited from the cooperation programs. The universities like Carnegie Mellon University and Aoyama Gakuin University, did great job for promoting the members' cooperation. During that time of 2002, the School of Business Administration, Northeastern University, which I work for as the former dean, had established relationship with Tepper Business School, Carnegie Mellon University. When I visited Aoyama Gakuin University, President Fumio Itoh, dean of Graduate School of International Management at that time, introduced me Management Game, a competition-simulation course between international students created by Carnegie Mellon University. Then my school jointed the course and started the exchange with CMU. When I visited Tepper Business School with my colleagues in 2006, Professor Yuji Ijiri welcomed us with beers and told us many experiences in education and research. During the exchange with professor Yuji Ijiri and other Abest21's members, we learned more and more and gradually the school became more globalized in thinking and conducts. I greatly appreciate the help from other member of Abest21 like Yuji and miss the sincere feeling between the members.

Professor Yuji Ijiri was totally a gentleman and always to treat people with elder demeanor. While we talked, I fully felt his heart was so sincere and honest with no any discrimination to others. Like many elders burned in Japan, he loved Chinese traditional culture such as poem and handwriting. As a truly scholar and educator, Nothing could prevent him to see people equally and to see different

cultures equally. Besides of what he did, the manner of Professor Yuji Ijiri's conduct is also worth my respect.

Sincerely hope his soul rest in peace.

A Report on Teaching Materials Prepared for an International Education Project was addressed to our meeting held on 29th June 2006 by Dr. Yuji Ijiri.

“International Accounting and Accounting Standards”

“This report is written for an International Education Project at Aoyama Gakuin University's Graduate School of International Management through the initiative by GSIM Dean Fumio Itoh under the sponsorship of the Japan Ministry of Science and Education.”

Designing 45-806 “International Accounting and Accounting Standards” Course:

A Report on Teaching Materials Prepared for an International Education Project at Aoyama Gakuin University's Graduate School of International Management

Yuji Ijiri*
Tepper School of Business
Carnegie Mellon University
February 2005

This report is written for an International Education Project at Aoyama Gakuin University's Graduate School of International Management through the initiative by GSIM Dean Fumio Itoh under the sponsorship of the Japan Ministry of Science and Education.

The report is based on my experience at Tepper School of Business (TSB) in designing and teaching a course called 45-806 “International Accounting and Accounting Standards” offered in January and February 2005, an elective course for Tepper MBA students.

In the 1990's, I developed a course on international accounting, and taught it for several years under the same course number and name, but without International Accounting Standards (IAS). However, Spring 2000 became the last year in which I taught the course in part because of my wish to develop courses on newer and emerging issues in accounting.

Therefore, I was pleasantly surprised when TSB's Deputy Dean Ilker Baybars told me in October 2004 that students are asking for 45-806 to be reopened in Spring 2005 including the International Accounting Standards as one of the main course contents. I accepted the request right away as it is not frequent, though it may not be unusual, for students to request courses with specific contents.

With the heavy teaching load in Fall 2004, my concern was whether I can do a thorough job in developing course materials for a course that is to start in three months. Fortunately, a lucky break came from a totally unexpected place, Amazon! Not only its vast stock of books, but also its powerful search engine made the selection of textbooks very easy!

Choice of the “right” textbook is essential especially when the instructor does not have time to write his/her own textbook. There are three major constraints. One is price! No matter how good the textbook is, no matter how strongly the instructor requires it, students are not likely to buy a textbook that is expensive.

* The author is Robert M. Trueblood University Professor of Accounting and Economics, Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15213-3890, U.S.A.

Read more: http://www.abest21.org/pdf/r_2005.pdf