

13:00 ~ 13:10 Opening Remark

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Thank you very much for your kind attendance at this open seminar. I am Suzumura, the director of the CRPC. I would like to make brief opening remarks. This Center was established in June 2003. It was our 56th year anniversary after the introduction of antimonopoly law in Japan (1947). Economists and law professionals together with the practitioners now conduct their research at the CPRC, but it took so many years to provide such a venue. The Center conducts a basic research in competition policies and it also conducts research in the evolution history of competition policy in Japan and relevant topics in competition policy in Japan and in other countries.

At the establishment of this Center, we held an inaugural symposium on competition policy, which was a sizable conference. Since then, international symposium and open seminars such as the one we are having today are held every year by the CPRC so that we can invite the most renowned researchers and practitioners in competition policy arena. And we would like to use these seminars and symposium as a place for networking among the professionals in this area and this open seminar is one of such attempts. We are looking at network externalities in competition policy. Under this topic, from Stern School of Business, New York University we have Professor Nicholas Economides and from UC Berkeley, Professor Richard Gilbert. And from the CPRC, actual planning of the seminar was done by Keio University's Associate Professor, Tatsuo Tanaka. Professor Tanaka will also be speaking and there will also be a panel discussion.

Briefly, I would like to introduce these speakers. The first speaker is Professor Tatsuo Tanaka, who is an Associate Professor at Keio University. After graduating from Tokyo University, Professor Tanaka was a research fellow at Center for Global Communications of International University of Japan, and then he was a visiting researcher at Columbia University, and he is currently Associate Professor at school of economics at Keio University. And as for his research area, information and communication industry and analysis of that industry, especially as important research topics, validation of network or verification of network externalities and contents industry structure and economic analysis of contents industry. At CPRC as a researcher as well, he is very active in his research. He is the actual promoter of today's seminar.

And the first speaker from overseas is Professor Nicholas Economides. Professor Economides is currently Professor at New York University's Stern School of Business. He is Professor at the faculty of economics. Professor Economides has certain research interests which are wide ranging, especially telecommunications, network industries, network effects and structure of financial markets, industrial organization, law and economics and so on. These are some of his research topics. He studied at London School of Economics and he obtained B. Sc and he obtained MA and PhD at UC Berkeley.

Currently, industry structure theory, especially telecommunications and network industry structure, is his research topic and he is very advanced and he has many papers. He is also influential in policy developments. Currently he is an editor of the International Journal of Industry Organization, which is a representative journal of this field. Therefore he is active in many fields and he is very productive in many fronts.

Next, as the third speaker we have Professor Richard Gilbert. Professor Gilbert is currently Professor at UC Berkeley and he is also Chair of the Department of Economics. Professor Gilbert's research area is also wide ranging and he has many achievements in important topics. As for policies, he is also quite influential in his research, which has a policy impact. From 1993 to 1995 for example, there was a task force between Department of Justice and FTC and this task force was for antitrust guidelines for the licensing of intellectual property, and as a member of the task force he has complied antitrust guidelines for the licensing of intellectual property. He is also serving as editor for journals in this field – for example Journal of Industrial Economics and Journal of Economic Theory which is a very important journal for theory and Review of Industrial Organization.

He also served as a past President of the Industrial Organization Society. His specialties are competition policy, intellectual property, Research and Development, Energy markets. He has achievements in wide ranging areas including these ones. We are fortunate to have these outstanding speakers in today's open seminar which gives us much gratitude and we look forward to listening to these speakers today.