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**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

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Public Keynote Lectures of 2009 UNU Global Seminar – Tohoku Session will be Held on 21 November

- Event:** UNU Global Seminars – 8th Tohoku Session
Theme: “Increasing Poverty and Rich-Poor Gaps: From Glocal Perspectives”
Date/Time: 21 November 2009 (Saturday), 1:00–4:45PM
Venue: Institute for Materials Research (IMR), Tohoku University, Sendai
Organizer: United Nations University (UNU)
Co-Organizer: Tohoku University
Supporters: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Miyagi Prefectural Government, City of Sendai, Tohoku Economic Federation, The Tohoku Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Cooperating Universities: Hirosaki University, Iwate University, Miyagi University of Education, Akita University, Yamagata University, Fukushima University, Miyagi University, Tohoku Gakuin University, Tohoku Institute of Technology, Ishinomaki Senshu University

- UNU Global Seminars are held annually to enhance awareness about contemporary global issues and the role of the United Nations in addressing them. This year, four sessions (Tohoku, Shonan Kobe-Hyogo and Hokkaido) are being held in Japan. Students and young professionals have the opportunity to interact with distinguished scholars and practitioners from Japan and abroad, and to explore a specific issue in depth through lectures and group discussions. This year’s 8th Tohoku Session will be the final session of the Tohoku seminar, which was started in 2002 in Sendai.
- The Opening Ceremony of the UNU Global Seminar – Tohoku Session will be held on 21 November from 1:00 PM.
- After the Opening Ceremony, there will be the keynote speech and two special lectures:
 - Keynote Speech: “What I Have Learned from UNESCO” by Wataru Iwamoto, Specially Appointed Professor of Tohoku University (Administrative Director of the Advanced Institute for Materials Research (WPI-AIMR)), Former Director of the Division of Social Sciences, Research and Policy in the Social and Human Science Sector, UNESCO
 - Special Lecture 1: “Solutions to the Poverty and Rich-Poor Gaps – Promoting ESD (Education for Sustainable Development)” by Masayuki Shibata, Director of International Affairs Division, Minister’s Secretariat, MEXT
 - Special Lecture 2: “Poverty in the World Community” by Kazuo Takahashi, Visiting Professor, UNU
- These lectures are free and open to the public. Media representatives are cordially invited to attend.

To reserve a space at the keynote speech and special lectures, media representatives may contact Naoko Tochibayashi Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).