

| Oral Presentation

📅 Thu. Aug 6, 2026 1:30 PM - 2:50 PM JST | Thu. Aug 6, 2026 4:30 AM - 5:50 AM UTC | 🏢 J215(Main Bldg, 2F)

[SS-18] Bridges Not Barriers: Building Inclusive Communities with International Students

This session will be held in English

◆ English Presentation

1:30 PM - 2:50 PM JST | 4:30 AM - 5:50 AM UTC

[SS-18-01] Bridges Not Barriers: Building Inclusive Communities with International Students

*Guy Francis PERRING¹ (1. Etio)

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| **[SS-18-01] Bridges Not Barriers: Building Inclusive Communities with International Students**

*Guy Francis PERRING¹ (1. Etio)

Keywords : Community acceptance、 Social integration、 Economic engagement、 Institutional leadership

Broad, timely relevance: The topic addresses global trends (ISB 2025) affecting universities, municipalities, employers, and civil society on international student acceptance which is key to Japan's success in future recruitment of international students.

High-impact implications: International-student integration influences local economies, labor markets, social cohesion, and long-term talent pipelines, making the issue strategic rather than just niche. This is a call to action for all Japanese institutions.

Evidence-informed and actionable: The presentation pairs data-driven insights with concrete, scalable interventions with a range of clear case studies globally as well as across Japan and Asia.

By reframing international students as community assets, I hope this presentation will inspire the audience to see their role beyond simple recruitment and marketing, but to really hold in their hands the ability to change society for the better. It should also set the stage for more granular conversations and action.

受講者に求められる 事前の知識・経験等
なし

受講者が受講前に取り組む 事前課題等
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概要

International students offer substantial cultural, intellectual, and economic benefits, yet acceptance by local communities varies globally and current global issues have exacerbated tensions. Drawing on broad trends reported in the International Student Barometer (ISB) 2025 and complementary global observations, this presentation offers a practical, evidence-informed framework to increase community acceptance and convert international-student presence into shared local value.

ISB 2025 highlights point to persistent gaps: many students report positive academic experiences but uneven feelings of belonging and mixed perceptions of local community welcome—patterns that correlate with language support, visible institutional commitment, and opportunities for civic and economic participation.

The framework rests on four integrated pillars: institutional leadership, language and academic supports, social and civic integration, and economic engagement.

Institutional leadership requires clear inclusion policies, centralized coordination, and public-facing commitments that normalize international students as community partners.

Language and academic supports—ranging from conversation partnerships to faculty training in inclusive pedagogy—address day-to-day barriers to connection and academic

success.

Social and civic integration deploys structured mentorships, shared cultural programming, and service-learning to build interpersonal ties.

Economic engagement facilitates internships, local hiring pathways, entrepreneurship supports, and volunteer placements that create measurable community benefit.

Global case studies illustrate scalable approaches. In Japan, we focus on how institutions outside the main cities in rural areas have reached out to local communities. In New Zealand, EduNZ measures social licensing across the country every year detecting trends. Canadian campuses with co-designed community internship pipelines show improved employer attitudes and higher post-study local employment. German models linking vocational pathways and industry partnerships help international students contribute directly to local labor needs, improving community perceptions.

Measuring impact requires a balanced dashboard: sense-of-belonging surveys (student and community), participation in mixed activities, internship and employment placements, volunteer hours, retention/completion rates, and qualitative community feedback.

This presentation synthesizes the ISB 2025-informed trends and global case examples into an actionable roadmap for higher-education leaders, municipal officials, and community partners.

Attendees will gain a prioritized checklist, templates, and measurement indicators to foster inclusive, mutually beneficial relationships between international students and their host communities—transforming diverse arrivals into sustained civic and economic assets.