



UNISEC-Global The 61st Virtual Meeting

October 18th, 2025, 22:00-24:00
(Standard Japan time GMT +9)

61st Virtual UNISEC-Global Meeting

Theme: Next Venue Presentation for UNISEC-Global Meeting 2026

Host: UNISEC-Global Date: October 18, 2025 Time: 22:00-24:00(JST)

Moderator: Charleston Ambatali, University of the Philippines Diliman

Moderator

Charleston Ambatali,
University of the
Philippines Diliman

Candidate presentation for the next UNISEC-Global Meeting

Vesselin Vassilev,
UNISEC-Bulgaria

Jim Hefkey,
UNISEC-New Zealand

Opening Remarks

Hiraku Sakamoto,
Institute of Science
Tokyo

Jyh-Ching Juang,
UNISEC-Taiwan

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The following report was prepared by UNISEC-Global Secretariat
October 18, 2025
Japan

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1 Opening Remarks

Hiraku Sakamoto, Institute of Science Tokyo

Prof. Hiraku Sakamoto received the B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1999, the M.S. degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering from The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, in 2001, and the Ph.D. degree in Aerospace Engineering Sciences from the University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA, in 2004. Prof. Sakamoto is a professor at the Institute of Science Tokyo, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering's Structural Dynamics Design Laboratory (SSDL). His research interests include the design and analysis of space-deployable structures and the development of small satellites. Prof. Sakamoto is the Chairperson of University Space Engineering Consortium, Japan and has won several national and international awards for his contribution in space technology.



Pictured: Prof. Sakamoto giving the opening remarks

Highlights:

- Today's topic is next venue presentations for UNISEC Global Meeting 2026 (UNIGLO 2026)
- **UNISEC-Global is an international non-profit and non-governmental organization**
- Composed of UNISEC-local chapters established around the world
- **In 2017, UNISEC Global granted observer status to the UN COPUOS**
- Currently, 28 local chapters have been established
- POCs in 71 countries or regions
- An annual meeting of UNISEC-Global dedicated to
 - Expanding the model of Japan's inter-university to the international community
 - Promote hands-on space projects by university students to institutions around the world
 - Aims to build a global community of universities offering practical space engineering
 - By 2030, the goal is for universities in every country to have access to hands-on space programs
 - Aims to ensure that efforts serve the cause of global peace and the benefit of all humankind
- Conference will feature
 - Activity reports from the local chapter
 - Thematic workshops and student-led sessions
 - **Official ceremony to welcome newly approved local chapters**
- This year, in 2025, the meeting will be in Tokyo, along with the 9th Mission Idea Contest
- **Dates will be Nov 1-4, 2025**
- Venue is Koshiba Hall, Hongo Campus at the University of Tokyo
- Nov 1, 2025: Opening ceremony, **9th Mission Idea Contest (Lunar Mission)** and reception
- Nov 2, 2025: Sponsor presentation and regional report
 - **Nano-Satellite IoT Constellation Mission Workshop**
 - Cyber Security panel discussion
- Nov 3, 2025: Sponsor presentation, regional report, deep space workshop, student session,
 - Will also include POC meeting

- Nov 4, 2025: The final day will have a panel discussion, closing ceremony, and gala dinner
- Hope to see everyone in Tokyo in November 2025

2 UNIGLO Candidate Presentation by UNISEC-New Zealand

Jim Hefkey, University of Auckland

Mr. Jim Hefkey is the Director of the Auckland Program for Space Systems – an undergraduate program that challenges students from all disciplines to identify and solve a problem using satellites. CubeSat's being built from this program will be launched into orbit through New Zealand's own launch provider. With a lifelong interest in space, Mr. Hefkey's goal is to establish space education programs throughout New Zealand. He is a graduate of the CLTP in Japan, NZ POC for UNISEC Global, active in the New Zealand Rocketry Association, and a foundation member of the KiwiSpace Foundation. He currently holds the position of Professional Teaching Fellow at the University of Auckland and has been part of a team working with the University and Government to establish the Space Systems Institute for NZ. He lectures in Engineering Systems, Technology Management, and Engineering Management.



Pictured: Mr. Hefkey showcases how UNISEC-New Zealand will organize UNIGLO 2026

Highlights:

- Represents the University of Auckland, POC for UNISEC Global in New Zealand.
- Privilege and honor on behalf of the people of Auckland, NZ to extend an invitation
- **Beautiful Māori values such as**
 - Manaakitanga, care and respect, hospitality
 - Kaitiakitanga, to be guardians and protectors to keep you safe
 - Aroha, kindness, compassion, and positive energies
- Auckland is New Zealand's largest city, track record of successfully hosting large-scale events
- A temperate climate that is free from extreme weather conditions
- An extensive range of accommodation options with 8,000 rooms
- **New Zealand is a safe destination, ranking third out of 163 nations in the Global Peace Index**
- New Zealand space sector has grown by 53% since the 2019 report
- **Goal of doubling the size of New Zealand's space and advanced aviation sectors by 2030.**
- Flight connectivity and visa exemptions for over 60 countries
- **The University of Auckland is the venue to host the UNISE Global Meeting 2026**
 - Located in the heart of Auckland City
 - Walking distance to the cultural and entertainment precincts, business HQ, and hubs
- The Faculty of Engineering is a 12-story modern and spacious venue
- Two 250 seat-tiered theaters together with several smaller rooms for parallel sessions
- Professional event team that looks after the management of conference operations
- **Support for visa application through the team**
- Undergraduate CubeSat program successful, now expanding the program nationwide
- **Proposed to host the UNISEC-Global meeting and Mission Idea Contest over three days**
- **Involve islands and small nations from the South Pacific**
- Bring the UNISEC Hepta-Sat training team to New Zealand, offering it to university students
- Investigate the possibility of hosting a Nanosatellite symposium

- Expect to budget between NZ \$250-\$350/day for hotels, transport, and entertainment
- **Budgeted cost for the event shows the possibility of holding a quality event without incurring a loss**
- Top-class dining experience paired up with world-class wine, great food, and Waiheke Island is nearby
- **Group tour to Rocket Lab facilities and National Satellite Testing facility at UA**

Additional Attendee Costs

- Mid-range accommodation and expenses would be from about NZ\$ 250 to NZ\$ 350 per day. 5 Star is also available for those with larger expense accounts.
- Budget friendly accommodation can be found from about NZ\$ 100 per day. The University of Auckland halls of residence would be available at this time of year also, but have not yet been costed.
- There are plenty of low-cost activities available by bus and on foot in Auckland, from free up to NZ\$ 100.
- If you are staying longer or want to explore further afield many day trips are avail to the like of Hobbiton movie set, Waitomo glow worm caves, Rotorua thermal wonderland. These can range from between NZ\$250 to NZ\$500 depending on inclusions.
- Attractions in our region
 - Well



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Pictured: Overview of cost of attendance as estimated by Mr. Hefkey

Q&A Session:

Participant: *I couldn't see the proposed dates for the meeting.*

Jim Hefkey: At the moment, we're proposing probably from mid-November to early December somewhere in that time period. We don't have the dates nailed down exactly. Second part of November 2026. Thank you.

Participant: *You mentioned that you probably could organize a one-day Nano Symposium, is it right? One day?*

Jim Hefkey: Uh, yes, to run alongside. I mean it could be longer. Unfortunately, I haven't really had time to investigate. So, just I only talked to Rei-san about this about a week and a half ago. And then I thought I had till the beginning of November and then found out that I had till tonight. So, it's uh it's been very rushed. When I when I look at the Nanosatellite symposium, I believe that we can do something. I also believe that there's a need for it. We have the New Zealand Aerospace Summit, but it is very commercial and prescribed and it does not allow opportunity for academic poster presentations. To put something like that on is very doable, to put it on at that time of year is also very doable because our academic year finishes now. Lectures finish next week actually. And then we're into exams and then the university is shut for the summer. So, we have the space available. I actually think that it would be a good thing. I just did not have time to prepare at the moment. I apologize.

Participant: *Another thing I would ask Now you said 60 nationalities does not require visa, but considering the members of Global. What is the case? And uh would there be some nations that may not be able to visit?*

Jim Hefkey: As far as I know at this point in time, I do not believe that there would be any nations in the UNISEC Global organization that would not be able to visit. We have a pretty open policy in New Zealand, as far as allowing other nationalities in. It's the concern in New Zealand is more about criminal record. I think we're okay on that.

Participant: *Mr. Hekey, I have a question. How is the summer in uh New Zealand? So, I guess November or maybe early December is transitioning to summer already. Can you tell us a bit a bit more?*

Jim Hefkey: Yeah, you are transitioning into summer in that period of time. So, you don't have to bring your snow boots unless you want to go to the mountains in the South Island. It's one of the reasons why I would probably push it out to maybe mid-November. So this time of year, October is spring and the weather can be quite variable. We have

some beautiful days and then we have some really rainy days. Moving it just a few weeks further along, makes quite a difference in the weather.

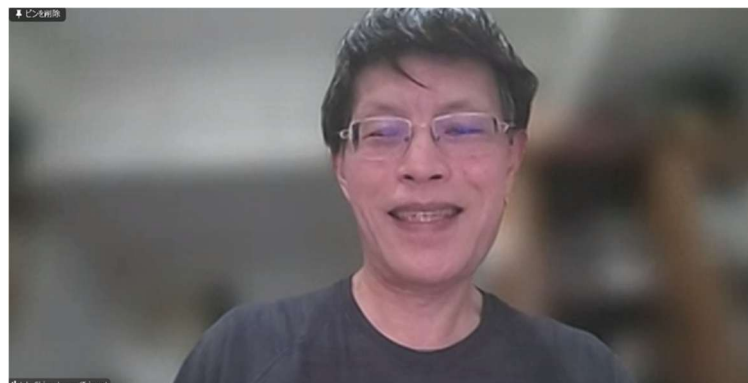
***Participant:** You mentioned the South Pacific Islands, you're going to include them or have you already been in contact with them in developing their space capability?*

Jim Hefkey: No, so we had a two-day seminar on Space Mission Operations that was held by the Space Institute at the University of Auckland. They're a different group to me. They had one member from Tonga and that member expressed an interest in getting more Tongans into the program. And the Cook Islands are protectorate of New Zealand. Now, in at IAC in Sydney last week or the week before, I was talking with Rei-san. I was also talking to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise. They have an office in Tokyo. I was talking to Zia there. It's not a trade and enterprise activity, but it is a Ministry of Foreign Affairs and trade activity and I'm trying to reach out to them now. Unfortunately, my contact Zia has come to New Zealand and is on holiday. So, I don't want to disturb her. But I'll be reaching out. I want to see if there's any funding if we can the universities in the islands in New Caledonia, the Cook Islands, Tonga, but the issue there is they mostly do not teach any technical programs. So, they don't have the opportunity to experience these things. So, I'm just going to see if I don't know if I can do anything there or not- but if we can get some foreign affairs money to bring those people here, it would be good.

3 UNIGLO Candidate Presentation by UNISEC-Taiwan

Jyh-Ching Juang, National Cheng Kung University

Prof. Jyh-Ching Juang received the B. S. and M.S. degrees from National Chiao-Tung University, HsinChu, Taiwan, in 1980 and 1982, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from University of Southern California, Los Angeles, in 1987. He was with Lockheed Aeronautical System Company, Burbank before he joined the faculty of the Department of Electrical Engineering, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan in 1993. His research interests include satellite navigation and control, sensor networks, GNSS signal processing, and software-based receivers. He is coordinating a nano/micro-satellite development team at National Cheng Kung University



Pictured: Prof. Juang during his presentation

Highlights:

- The Ministry of Education has started Master's Degree program in space technology and system engineering
- **A push to incubate young talent to participate or to get into the space technology and space industry**
- Involved with UNISEC Global for so many years, honored and feel also obligated to host this meeting
- Taiwan International Assembly of Space Science, Technology and Industry (TASTI)
- **TASTI is a bi-annual program and can be held together with UNISEC Global Meeting**
- Hosted by TASA, Taiwan Space Agency
- **Conference in November 8th to 11th 2026, UNISEC Global Meeting and Nanosatellite Symposium**
- TASTI will have over 100 exhibitions, can observe how Taiwanese companies working on

- In-depth interaction with academia and industry, abundant opportunities for discussion
- **TASA partial funding, UNISEC-Taiwan and Cheng Kung University will fund the program**
- Program includes regional reports, student section, POC meeting with workshops, sponsor presentations
- Reception and gala dinner with TASTI
- TAST to organize a cultural tour including sightseeing and Taiwanese food
- Insightful exploration of space technology, connect with some local researchers and enthusiasts
- Looking forward to everyone to Taiwan in 2026

Q&A Session:

Participant: *You mentioned you'll have some donations and support from the government and the industries. Which means, can you uh offer some scholarship to the students from the international students?*

Jyh-Ching Juang: Well, I could try to manage to do that, I could look or for have some for certain number of students so we'll try to arrange for that. And in Taiwan, since we have been looking for this kind of international networking, I believe I can try to secure some vacancies for international students to join the conference. Okay? So, I'll take that note and then I'll try to push for that.

Discussion Session:

Rei Kawashima: Yeah, for our conferences always the total fees and the registration fees are the issues for inviting the international students. So, I think if you could offer some support, financial support, it will be very much appreciated.

Jyh-Ching Juang: Okay. if I guess some for example, certain number of students that can get support based on selection or I will do the selection. What do you think?

Rei Kawashima: Yeah, yeah, selection is a very difficult question. However, for example, if we could say one local chapter, one student or student representative will be invited. Well airfare could be difficult, but for example, the accommodation, free accommodation will be available or free registration fees will be available, it will be not sufficient, but it's still a good offer to motivate international students to come.

Jyh-Ching Juang: Okay, I'll take that note and then I'll try to push for that.

Rei Kawashima: Yeah, I think it's in many cases, the financial issues are very important. So, well, but this is my opinion and I want to hear other people and we have Mexico, we have Egypt. Please raise your hand and please say your opinion. What makes you easier to come? It's a good opportunity. Charlson, what do you think?

Charleston Dale Ambatali: I guess the visa issues are also the first thing that I think about when traveling for some for a meeting like this. So, for example, if it's Taiwan, the Philippines is visa free, makes it easier for our students to join if it's in Taiwan. But for Japan, we need a visa to enter from the Philippines. So, it takes processing time, we need to pay equivalent of 5,000 yen just to apply for a visa that's not guaranteed to be approved, especially if you don't have any history of travel and for our students here in the Philippines, not everyone has a history of travel. So, they have a more chance of getting rejected. That's what I think is one of the barriers. I think the funding can easily be obtained at least from our university. Our university encourages our students to attend these meetings, these conferences but because of the overhead work that we need to do just to be for them, to be clear to travel, it makes it harder. That's just it, yeah. That's my opinion. It's not the money. just the paperwork basically, the bureaucracy.

4 UNIGLO Candidate Presentation by UNISEC-Bulgaria

Vesselin Vassilev, CASTRA

Dr. Vesselin Vassilev is the CEO of the Cluster Aero-Space Technologies, Research and Applications (CASTRA) in Bulgaria and is affiliated with the Space and Solar-Terrestrial Research Institute (SSTRI) of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He received his M.Sc. in Applied Physics – Microelectronics and Optoelectronics from the University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, in 1994. He did his Ph.D. in Electrical

Engineering from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium in 2004 while being affiliated with IMEC. From 2005 to 2009, he worked at Texas Instruments, Dallas, USA as part of the product reliability team in the field of ESD design for advanced integrated circuits. In 2009, he founded Novorell Ltd., providing EDA software tools and consultancy services for ESD design and reliability. In 2010, he initiated the establishment of CASTRA, bringing together over 20 organizations in aerospace technologies and applications.



Pictured: Dr. Vassilev announcing the withdrawal of UNISEC-Bulgaria's bid to host the meeting

Highlights:

- Thank very much on behalf of UNISEC-Bulgaria the opportunity to be part of this small competition
- Bulgaria already was the host of UNISEC-2016 event and MIC-4 in 2016
- Accommodated more than 150 attendees from different parts of the world
- Excellent presentations of our colleagues from New Zealand and Taiwan,
- **Announce that UNISEC-Bulgaria is willing to withdraw from the competition with honor**
- Will provide additional support if needed for UNISEC in the future
- Support for both applications from Taiwan and New Zealand, both have very strong potential
- Looking forward to attending either of these two places next year

5 Announcement and Acknowledgment

Haruka Yasuda, UNISEC-Global



Pictured: Yasuda-san announcing the latest updates from UNISEC-Global

Highlights:

- **Nano-satellite IoT Constellation Program**

- A new program launched by UNISEC-Global
- Jointly design satellite bus (3-6U) with online guidance
- Each satellite will be developed by each country with its own funding
- If difficult, we will jointly search for international funds
- All the satellites have the **same mission payload** to contribute to solving global problems
- Or local problems as a constellation
- Each country can have **one specific mission payload** for its own interest
- Web: <https://unisec-global.org/iot.html>
- Interested ones can submit the form here: <https://forms.gle/WcdvQ9GiQV9rxssj6>
- **The IoT workshop is scheduled on November 2 at the 11th UNISEC-Global Meeting**
- Contact: iot@unisec-global.org

- **The Mission Idea Contest**
 - The 9th Mission Idea Contest : to the Moon
 - Theme: Lunar Mission
 - <https://www.spacemic.net/>
 - 25 abstracts were submitted from 15 countries
 - 10 finalists and 4 semi-finalists were selected
 - **Important Dates:**
 - Full Paper submission due : August 25, 2025 (Finalists and Semi-finalists)
 - **Final Presentation** : **November 1, 2025 at the 11th UNISEC-Global Meeting in Tokyo**
 - Contact: info@spacemic.net

- **The 11th UNISEC-Global Meeting**
 - Date: November 1 - 4 2025
 - **Venue: Tokyo, Japan (registration until 24th October 2025)**
 - <https://www.unisec-global.org/meeting11.html>
 - **Tentative Program**
 - November 1: Opening Ceremony, The 9th Mission Idea Contest: to the Moon, Reception
 - November 2: Nano-satellite IoT Constellation Program Workshop
 - November 3: Regional Report, Deep Space Workshop, Student Session, POC Meeting
 - November 4: Supporter Presentation, Industry Visit, Gala Dinner

- **Call for proposal for 15th Nano-Satellite Symposium and the 12th UNISEC-Global Meeting 2026**
 - Next 11th UNISEC-Global Meeting will be held in Japan 2025
 - Venue of Nano-Satellite Symposium and UNISEC-Global Meeting in 2026 announcement
 - **Important Dates**
 - Proposal submission due : September 30, 2025
 - Proposal presentation : October 2025 (at Virtual UNIGLO meeting)
 - Local Chapter voting : October 2025
 - Notification : 11th UNISEC-Global Meeting
 - Download the format here: <https://unisec-global.org/support.html>

- **Launch Opportunity: J-Cube**
 - Special Discounted opportunities
 - 1U, 2U, 3U, deployment from International Space Station
 - Collaborate with UNISEC-Japan's University
 - Technical support will be provided
 - Contact: info-jcube@unisec.jp , <http://unisec.jp/serviceen/j-cube>

- **Next Virtual Meeting**
 - Date: Nov 15, 2025
 - Theme: T.B.D
 - Host: T.B.D.

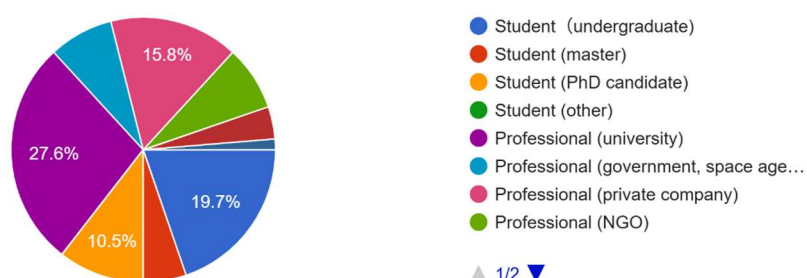
6 Participant Statistics

76 registered participants from 31 countries and regions for the 61st Virtual UNISEC-Global Meeting.

Country/Region	Registrants	Country/Region	Registrants
Argentina	1	Paraguay	1
Bangladesh	2	Peru	2
Bulgaria	9	Philippines	4
Burkina Faso	4	Portugal	1
Chile	1	Taiwan	6
Côte d'Ivoire	1	Tanzania	3
Dominican Republic	1	Tunisia	1
Egypt	6	Turkey	1
India	4	Taiwan	1
Israel	1	UAE	1
Japan	8	Uganda	1
Kenya	1	UK	1
Mexico	1	Uruguay	1
Napal	1	USA	2
New Zealand	1	Zambia	4
Nigeria	4		

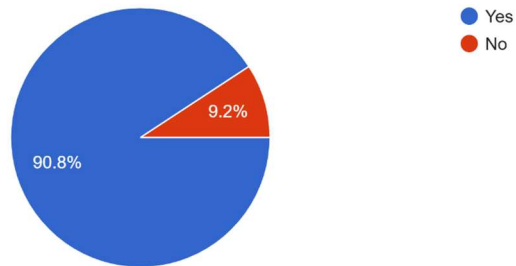
Student or professional?

76 responses



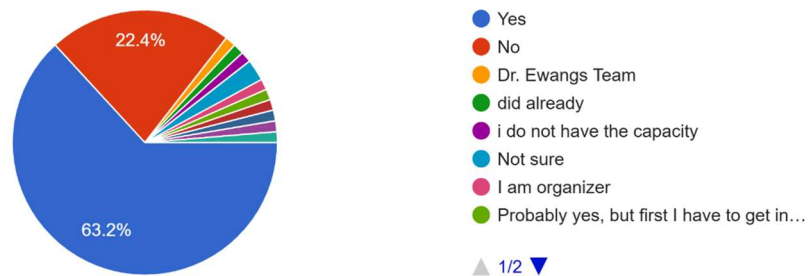
Have you participated in the UNISEC-Global Meeting previously?

76 responses



Are you interested in hosting the UNISEC-Global Meeting and Nano-Satellite Symposium in your region?

76 responses



Talking: Rel

UNISEC-Global Social network accounts



@uniseccglobal
<https://www.facebook.com/uniseccglobal/>



@unisecc_global
https://www.instagram.com/unisecc_japan/



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8982613/>

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Thank you