A Note about the Otani Panel at the 2017 IASBS

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＊The following three papers by Kawaguchi Atsushi 川口 淳, Azuma Shingyō 東 真行, and Inoue Takami 井上 尚実, were originally presented at the 18th biennial conference of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies at Musashino University on July 2nd, 2017, in a panel entitled "'Benefiting Others' in Modern Shin Buddhist Doctrinal Studies of the Ōtani-ha," which was organized by the International Buddhist Studies Group of the Otani Universiy's Shin Buddhist Comprehensive Research Institute. This panel presentation was part of the Otani University's project entitled "The Formation of the International Research Hub and the Promotion of Humanistic Studies based on Buddhism"（仏教を基軸とする国際的研究拠点の形成と〈人間学〉の推進）, which is funded by a Private University Research Branding Project Grant（私立大学研究ブランディング事業, 2017-2021）from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

The theme of the Otani panel at the 18th IASBS was the following:

> Beginning with the *Seishinshugi* movement in the early 20th century, modern Shin Buddhist doctrinal studies of the Ōtani-ha has tended to focus on individual awakening of Other-Power faith through the realization of one's finite nature. Critics of this approach have argued that it is lacking in social consideration of "benefit for others," which is an essential aspect of Mahāyāna Buddhism. Through a reexamination of the issue of "benefiting others" in the works of representative modern Ōtani-ha thinkers Kiyozawa Manshi 清沢満之（1863-1903）, Soga Ryōjin 曽我量深（1875-1971）, and Kaneko Daiei 金子大榮（1881-1976）, the panel demonstrates the hitherto unrecognized importance of and capacity for altruism in modern Shin thought.

In the original panel, Dr. Jeff Schroeder（University of Oregon）also presented his paper, "Behold the Man: Soga Ryōjin and Postwar Buddhist Reform," which is going to be published in the near future as part of his monograph on modern Jōdo Shin thought and politics.