

学位授与記録簿
Degree Registry (Ph.D)

アジア太平洋研究科
Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies

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Last Institution Attended	September, 2014 Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Prospective Completion		
Degree Type	Doctor of Philosophy in Asia Pacific Studies	Date of Award	September 20, 2014
Requirement for Degree Conferral	Refer to the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University Degree Regulations Article 13 Section 1 [Degree Regulation Article 4 Section 1]		
Title of Dissertation (日英)	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Times of Global Financial Crisis: A Study of CSR Reporting Practices (世界的金融危機時代におけるCSR : CSR報告方法に関する研究)		
Examiners	(Supervisor) YOKOYAMA Kenji	KIM Rebecca Chung-hee	
	NISHI Michihiko (University of Nagasaki)		
Summary of Dissertation Contents	<p>Recent events in the last decade have evidenced the important of Corporate Governance practices, increasing the relevance of corporate strategies such as, CSR and their impact to the profitability of a firm. In the present study we focus on the relationships between the financial crisis and CSR reporting practices. While in the literature review section we identify the linkages between corporations responsibilities and the causes of the Financial Crisis and the evolution of CSR communication, the main objective of the present study is to analyze the relationships between the Financial Crisis and CSR and Ethical behavior, in addition to identifying how these events affected CSR reporting practices during the 2007-2011 period, analyzing whether corporations acting conservatively diminish their CSR practices (Cheney et al. 1990), or rather seize the opportunity to improve their corporate image and generate competitive advantages (Freeman, 2009). The present research utilizes Content and Archival analysis comparing scores for Report type, Adherence of Application Levels, and report status for 2,790 companies that published CSR reports following the GRI guidelines during the period 2007-2011. Using Analysis of Variances Tests (ANOVA) as the main statistical method in an before-after event design, corporations reports were coded and processes to determine the relationships between scores in the above mentioned variables and other grouping variables such as company region, size and industry type. Contrary to Neoclassical or traditional views of CSR critics, it was concluded through the findings of this research that the Global Financial Crisis of the 2007-2011 period, had a positive effect in CSR reporting particularly for corporations in the Financial, Energy and Utilities sectors. In other words businesses increased the quality and amount of reporting as a strategy to regain trust in businesses, as represented by the increasing scores in Report Type, Report Status, and Application of the GRI Framework. These trends proved to be statistically significant. According to these results we can say that the Global Financial Crisis, actually worked as a temporary boost to CSR and Sustainability reporting, as there was an all industry and market clamor for higher standards in transparency and corporate governance.</p>		

Summary of Dissertation Screening Results	All the examiners at first pointed out an insufficiency of discussion about the topic. Even though the examiners expected, from the title, in-depth discussion and analysis about how companies tried to promote their CSR activities in their reports, the dissertation did it in an unsatisfactory manner. The discussion of the author on the theme improved drastically and reached the level that was high enough to be a decent dissertation.
Summary of Exam Result or Academic Skills	How the author set up the topic, chose the research methodology, did literature review and analyzed it are appropriate for a Ph.D. holder.