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Datasection Inc.

PRESS RELEASE

**Keio University and Datasection Launch “DSAI STAR Labo,” an Industry–Academia  
Collaboration Hub for the Social Implementation of AI  
Initiative Commences on 3 March  
— Designing AI for a Sustainable Future —**

Datasection Inc. (Head Office: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo; President, Representative Director and CEO: Norihiko Ishihara; hereinafter “Datasection”), a company engaged in AI infrastructure development, held the inauguration ceremony for its new collaborative hub, “DSAI STAR Labo,” on 3 March 2026 at the Mita North Annex of Keio University.

The new hub has been established in partnership with Keio STAR (Sustainable and Transformative Actions for Regenerations).

The laboratory will focus on key research areas including AI governance, energy efficiency, security architecture, and the integration of AI with public policy. It will develop proof-of-concept and demonstration projects designed to accelerate the social implementation of AI technologies.

By combining Datasection’s large-scale GPU infrastructure for AI deployment with the academic expertise of Keio University, the initiative aims to advance integrated research that bridges technology, policy frameworks, and sustainability.

The initiative also seeks to position Japan at the forefront of global AI infrastructure development while addressing sustainability challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration.



Distinguished guests and speakers at the DSAI STAR Labo Inauguration Ceremony

**Back row (from left):**

- Professor Tomoyuki Furuya (Keio University)
- Professor Kohei Ito, President of Keio University
- Professor Norichika Kanie (Keio University)
- Professor Kota Minamizawa (Keio University)

**Front row (from left):**

- Professor Yu Xiong, Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, FAcSS, University of Surrey, UK
- Pablo Casado Blanco, Chairman of the Board, Datasection Inc.
- Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Former Prime Minister of Denmark and Former Secretary General of NATO
- Norihiko Ishihara, President, Representative Director and CEO, Datasection Inc.

## Background and Future Vision of “DSAI STAR Labo”

### Opening Remarks:

**Professor Kohei Ito, President of Keio University**

**Norihiko Ishihara, President, Representative Director and CEO of Datasection Inc.**

At the opening of the ceremony, Professor Kohei Ito, President of Keio University, presented a compelling vision from an academic perspective.

Professor Ito reaffirmed the founding spirit of Keio University, established in 1858 by Yukichi Fukuzawa—the vision of opening Japan to the world through knowledge while cultivating individuals who embody independence, self-respect, and a deep sense of responsibility to society.

He reflected on the university's more than 160-year history of remaining at the forefront of social transformation.

Professor Ito also highlighted Keio's increasing commitment to sustainability initiatives in recent years, noting that Keio STAR represents a major milestone in these efforts. The initiative aims to function as a practical sustainability hub transcending disciplinary and national boundaries.

He further announced Keio University's ambitious initiative to establish a world-leading “AI Campus” within the next three years.

In closing, Professor Ito expressed his expectation that DSAI STAR Labo will serve as a new model of transdisciplinary collaboration to address sustainability challenges in an era of transformation.



Norihiko Ishihara, President, Representative Director and CEO of Datasection Inc., then took the stage to outline the background of the partnership between Datasection and Keio University and its strategic significance in the global AI market.

Mr. Ishihara articulated the mission of DSAI STAR Labo in shaping the next generation of an AI-driven society.

He stated that “intelligence (AI) will become foundational infrastructure for society,” presenting his vision for the future.

Emphasising that the AI era has already begun, he highlighted the critical importance of building sustainable AI infrastructure, while also outlining key areas in which Japanese companies can strengthen their global competitiveness and technological leadership.



## **Keynote Address: “Who Will Own the Future?”**

### **Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Former Prime Minister of Denmark, and Former Secretary General of NATO**

The highlight of the event was a keynote address delivered by Anders Fogh Rasmussen, who spoke under the theme “Who Will Own the Future?”

Rasmussen delivered a powerful and thought-provoking speech on the future trajectory of AI and democracy.

He began by emphasising that the world now stands at what he described as a “decisive turning point in history.”

“Today, the future is no longer an abstract horizon; it is a battlefield. Whether the future will belong to democratic nations or authoritarian regimes depends entirely on the decisions we make in the years ahead.”

Reflecting on his experience negotiating with Russian President Vladimir Putin during his tenure as NATO Secretary General, Rasmussen shared an insight from those conversations.

“On almost every issue, President Putin and I strongly disagreed. But on one point we had no choice but to agree: whoever controls artificial intelligence will ultimately control the world.”

He argued that while the twentieth century was defined by competition in industrial capacity, the twenty-first century will be defined by competition in the power of algorithms.

Describing AI as “the new strategic high ground,” he emphasised that those who control AI infrastructure, computing power, and semiconductor supply chains will shape military capability, economic competitiveness, societal resilience, and political influence.

“This is the hard truth: if democracies do not control AI infrastructure, they will not control the future.”

Rasmussen concluded by outlining three priorities for democratic nations:

1. Investment in defence and deterrence
2. Establishment of democratic technological sovereignty
3. Creation of a new democratic alliance, the “D7”

The proposed D7 alliance, comprising the EU, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, and Japan, would represent more than one quarter of global GDP and serve as a model for free and open societies aligned in both values and technology strategy.

His address concluded to enthusiastic applause from the audience.



## Panel Discussion: AI and Sustainability

In the latter half of the programme, a panel discussion on AI and Sustainability brought together:

- Professor Yu Xiong (University of Surrey)
- Professor Tomoyuki Furuya (Keio University)
- Professor Kota Minamizawa (Keio University)
- Professor Norichika Kanie (Keio University) serving as moderator.

The discussion explored two dimensions of sustainability in the age of AI:

- Economic and environmental sustainability, including AI's role in business innovation and environmental protection
- Human-centred sustainability, focusing on how AI can expand human capabilities and experiences

Panellists exchanged perspectives on both opportunities and challenges, including AI's potential to reduce inefficiencies, support environmental protection, and augment human physical capabilities, while also addressing critical concerns such as energy consumption associated with AI technologies.

The session concluded with a lively exchange of ideas on how AI can contribute to building a more sustainable global future.



**From left:** Professor Norichika Kanie (Keio University); Professor Yu Xiong (University of Surrey); Professor Tomoyuki Furuya (Keio University); Professor Kota Minamizawa (Keio University)

## **Future Outlook**

The event, which commenced at 16:00, concluded after the completion of the full programme featuring distinguished experts from Japan and abroad.

In the closing remarks, Pablo Casado Blanco, Chairman of the Board of Datasection Inc., addressed the audience. Drawing on his international policy experience, he expressed his appreciation to all participants and shared his expectations for the global impact of the newly established hub.

The event concluded on a note of optimism regarding the future role of DSAI STAR Labo in advancing AI-driven innovation and international collaboration.



### **\*\*Disclaimer\*\***

The information contained in this press release is based on information available as of the date of announcement and is subject to change without notice.

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