June, 29, 2026

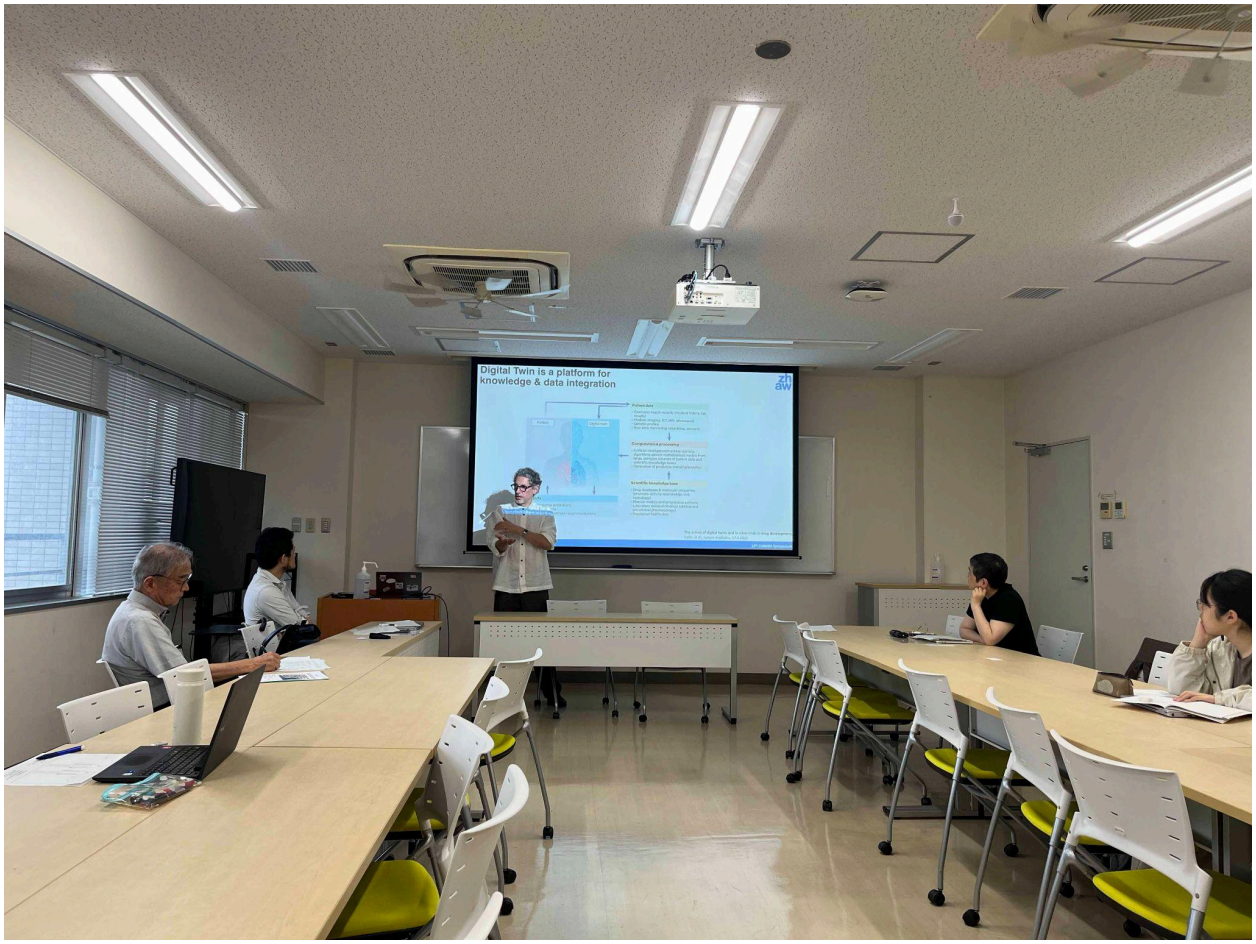
KOIAS Dialogues: On Boundaries | 際

On June 25 and 26, KOIAS hosted two dialogues under the title *On Boundaries* | 際 at the Graduate School of Humanities, Kobe University. Bringing together design, curatorial practice, atmosphere studies, and emerging technologies, the events explored boundaries as spaces of encounter, transformation, and relation.

The first dialogue featured Sven Hirsch (ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences) and Tomoko Mukai in conversation with KOIAS Director Yuho Hisayama. Drawing on Hirsch's research on digital twins in medicine and Mukai's work on the concept of *kiwa* (際), the discussion examined how emerging technologies might be understood through narrative, aesthetic experience, and bodily perception. Particular attention was given to the relationship between digital representations of the body and the fluid thresholds through which people experience atmosphere, environment, and change.

The second dialogue featured Mukai and Hisayama in a Japanese-language conversation centered on *kiwa* as a concept for thinking about boundaries, transitions, and points of contact. Reflecting on examples from spatial design, curatorial practice, and everyday language, the discussion considered how boundaries can be understood not as fixed divisions but as dynamic and often elusive sites of transformation.

Both events were followed by lively discussions with participants, extending the exploration of boundaries across disciplinary, cultural, and linguistic perspectives.


Digital Twin is a platform for
knowledge & data integration




Giving Digitals twin a face
Prof. Sven Hirsch, PhD
Director of Center for Computational Health
ZHAW – Zurich University of Applied Sciences
15th CABMM Symposium