



INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR
CONTEMPLATIVE
RESEARCH

ISCR 2027

Kyoto, Japan

4th Annual Conference of the International Society for Contemplative Research

SPONSORSHIP PROSPECTUS

18 – 22 May 2027 · in person

Tiered partnerships from \$2,000 · signature opportunities to \$60,000 · À la carte from \$750

Source: ISCR 2027 Kyoto Sponsorship Prospectus, 19 Aug 2026 (ISCR source deck) · [ISCR 2027 conference page](#)

A field-defining audience, once a year

What is contemplative research?

The scholarly and scientific investigation of meditative and other mind–body practices and their clinical and pedagogical applications — including practices that cultivate sustained attention, concentration, tranquility and insight, and the study of the many forms of consciousness, with the larger goal of promoting well-being.

The spectrum sponsors reach

- Compassion & prosociality
- Clinical mind–body health
- Buddhist science & textual study
- Phenomenology & psychedelics
- Neurobiology of meditation
- Philosophy of mind
- Contemplative education
- Ethics, equity & application

350+

members across the fields of contemplative research

4th

annual conference; Kyoto follows Padova and prior meetings

18-22 May 2027

four days: workshops, plenaries, panels, posters, roundtables

Sponsorship helps reduce registration costs — especially valuable for early-career researchers, student members, and delegates from historically underrepresented socio-economic backgrounds.

A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama



THE DALAI LAMA

International Society for Contemplative Research (ISCR)
2861 Quennwood Drive, Victoria, BC,
Canada, V8N 1X6

4 June 2026

Dear David Vago,

Thank you for your kind letter regarding the work of the International Society for Contemplative Research (ISCR). It is most appreciated.

I have been engaged in discussions with scientists from many countries over almost four decades. As these talks have increased, progress of modern science and Buddhist science have achieved significant mutual benefit. Having learned a great deal about the physical world, Buddhist scholars and contemplatives have acquired modern sciences with the qualities of the mind.

The Mind & Life Institute emerged from these interactions and in due course, as my long-time interpreter, Thupten Jigme Norbu, served the work for the International Society for Contemplative Research (ISCR). I am happy to know that this international academic society is dedicated to supporting the independent and collaborative work of scholars, scientists, clinicians, and contemplative practitioners focused on contemplative and other mind-body practices.

One purpose of this work is to extend human knowledge. Ancient Indian understanding of the mind — particularly the transformation of emotions — holds insights as relevant today as ever.

The second purpose speaks to the crisis of emotions we witness in the world today, reflected in the stark contrast between the peace enjoyed in some places and the anguish experienced in others. The remedy lies in greater concern for others' well-being, a deeper sense of our shared humanity, and the cultivation of warm-heartedness.

I am very happy to note that the International Society for Contemplative Research is dedicated to taking the dialogue between Buddhist science and modern science forward and that it is committed to making whatever benefits are revealed available to enhance the health and well-being of all.

With prayers and good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

“I am very happy to note that the International Society for Contemplative Research is dedicated to taking the dialogue between Buddhist science and modern science forward, and that it is committed to making whatever benefits are revealed available to enhance the health and well-being of all.”

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, letter to the International Society for Contemplative Research, 4 June 2026

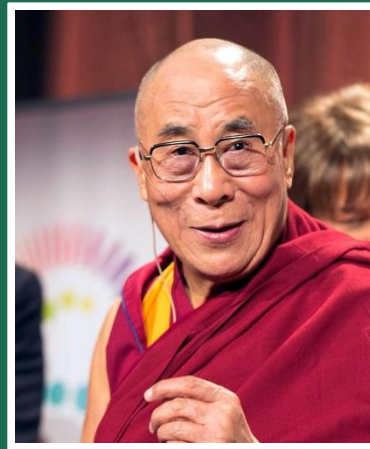


Photo: Christopher Michel, CC BY 2.0

What this means for a sponsor

Standing

A society recognised at the highest level of the Buddhist scientific dialogue

Rigour

Peer-reviewed programme; sponsorship never touches review or selection

Reach

Scientists, clinicians, philosophers, educators and contemplative teachers in one room

Source: ISCR 2027 Kyoto Sponsorship Prospectus, 19 Aug 2026 (ISCR source deck) · [HHDL portrait \(CC BY 2.0\)](#)



Connect-Collaborate-Build Relationships-Brand Positioning

Connect

Direct access to 350+ members from across contemplative research — the community itself, not a mailing list.

Collaborate

Networking built for interdisciplinary collaboration and community building across science, philosophy, clinical practice and education.

Build relationships

Partnerships with emerging leaders, academics, researchers and professionals from around the world in your areas of interest.

Brand & positioning

Visibility among the Society's members and delegates, increasing awareness with an audience that is otherwise hard to convene.

And it funds the field: sponsorship underwrites reduced registration, need-based scholarships and early-career participation, keeping ISCR a thriving hub for contemplative science.



The people in the room

Neuroscience

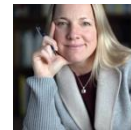
Martin Picard — mitochondrial psychobiology, Columbia University (pending acceptance).



picardlab.org

Clinical & Social Science

Alia Crum — mindset science and health behaviour, Stanford University.



profiles.stanford.edu

Humanities

Marc-Henri Deroche — Buddhist philosophy and contemplative studies, Kyoto University.



gsais.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Contemplative Education

Yuki Imoto — Keio University, contemplative education lab.



k-ris.keio.ac.jp

Plus a plenary founders panel — Richie Davidson, Roshi Joan Halifax, Jon Kabat-Zinn and Mingyur Rinpoche — before 350 attendees, including the entire ISCR board. Interdisciplinary plenary panels featuring Japanese scholars and practitioners, plus cultural events and opportunities across Kyoto.





Ikebana · Noh · Tea ceremony · Dance · Immersive Kyoto

Ikebana · Master Shuhō

Kyoto teacher of 30 years: ikebana as contemplative art — tatehana (“standing flowers”) and the freer nageire (“thrown-in flowers”).



Noh Theatre

Japan's oldest stage art — slowness and restraint, watched rather than analysed.



Tea ceremony (chanoyu)

A guided chanoyu: precise, repeated gestures practised as attention and hospitality.



Cultural dance

Japanese classical dance: gesture, breath and stillness as embodied technique.

Immersive Kyoto & commentary

Zazen, gardens and calligraphy — each piece introduced live as practice, not spectacle.

Sponsorable as a signature cultural evening or by individual element. PROPOSED: artists, programme order and fees are a planning proposal and require ISCR sign-off before external circulation.



Base sponsorship rewards

Benefit	Diamond \$25,000+	Platinum \$15,000+	Gold \$10,000	Silver \$5,500	Bronze \$3,500
Recognition in ISCR 2027 publications with logo and link to your site, including the conference programme and website	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Logo only
Logo and link in all conference e-mails up to and throughout the event	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	–
Logo on the welcome slide displayed on the stage screen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ad in the digital conference programme and the conference mobile app (artwork supplied by sponsor)	Full page	Full page	½ page	¼ page	–
Complimentary conference registrations	5	3	2	1	–
Verbal acknowledgement of your sponsorship during the conference	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Personally facilitated introductions to keynote speakers and academic leaders, and an exhibition table in the main networking area	Yes	–	–	–	–

Core tiers are unlimited in number and may be combined with any opportunity in the other four categories. All amounts are USD. Artwork specifications and deadlines: p. 13. **Platinum (\$15,000+) is the minimum core-tier level required before adding any opportunity from the other four categories.**

Four add-on categories — Platinum and above

01

p. 10

Hospitality & networking

\$3,500 – \$20,000

Welcome and social receptions, the conference banquet, lunches, coffee breaks, the Rest & Recharge Lounge and the practice room.

02

p. 11

Impact: people & arts

\$8,000 – \$10,000

Need-based scholarships, early-career and poster awards, and the contemplative arts programme.

03

p. 12

Signature partnerships

\$15,000 – \$60,000

Keynote and invited-faculty underwriting, board and leadership sponsorship, and translation and interpretation support.

04

p. 13

À la carte

\$750 – \$10,000

Programme, media and brand add-ons, including named keynote lectures, session recordings, delegate bags, Wi-Fi and the app.

Platinum (\$15,000+) is the minimum core-tier level before any add-on. Combine freely across categories; limited inventory is allocated in order of confirmation. All amounts are USD.

Source: ISCR 2027 Kyoto Sponsorship Prospectus, 19 Aug 2026 (ISCR source deck)

Sponsor the moments where relationships form

Opportunity	Sponsor benefit	USD	Availability
Welcome reception	Opening-night naming, signage, programme recognition and brief welcome remarks.	\$12,000	EXCLUSIVE
Conference banquet	Naming, table branding, logo on menus and acknowledgement during the signature dinner.	\$20,000	EXCLUSIVE
Social reception	Naming and visibility at an additional delegate networking reception.	\$10,000	LIMITED
Invite-only reception	A private, co-hosted gathering for an agreed guest group, with invitations and room branding.	\$12,000	LIMITED
Catered lunch	Naming and signage across a conference lunch, with programme and app recognition.	\$7,500	PER LUNCH
Coffee & tea breaks	Naming and signage across the day's refreshment breaks.	\$4,000	PER DAY
Rest & Recharge Lounge	A quiet branded space for rest, informal conversation and device charging.	\$6,000	LIMITED
Practice room	Recognition at a dedicated practice space supporting the contemplative programme.	\$3,500	LIMITED

Hospitality amounts are planning figures based on the current ISCR deck and remain subject to Kyoto venue, catering, capacity and service-charge confirmation. Each opportunity may be added to a core tier.

Fund people, achievement and the arts

\$21,600

Need-based scholarships

A named scholarship pool supporting partial registration and travel for early-career researchers with financial need.
(\$1800k/each)

\$10,000

Junior Investigator Achievement Awards

Supports the Society's broader early-career achievement awards and main-stage recognition.(\$2500 each)

\$10,000

Contemplative arts performance

Supports a commissioned performance or contemplative arts programme element in Kyoto.

\$8,000

Poster Awards

Underwrites poster-session prizes, award naming, poster-hall signage and on-stage recognition.

Poster Awards are distinct from the Junior Investigator Achievement Awards: one supports poster-session prizes, while the other recognizes broader early-career achievement. Individual student or developing-country delegate support is also available by arrangement.



Strategic support with field-level visibility

Keynote & faculty underwriting

\$60,000

FLAGSHIP · 1 AVAILABLE

Underwrites the keynote programme plus travel and accommodation for invited scientific and contemplative faculty. Includes Platinum-tier recognition, keynote-series naming and acknowledgement before each keynote.

Board/Planning Committee member sponsorship

\$35,000

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE LEVEL

For board members, individual philanthropists and family foundations supporting the Society at leadership level. Includes opening recognition and conference-wide visibility; aligned with the ISCR Founder's Circle.

Translation & interpretation

\$15,000

1 AVAILABLE

Supports simultaneous interpretation of plenary content. Recognition appears wherever interpretation is announced, in the programme and alongside supported recordings.

The \$60,000 partnership supports the full keynote programme and invited-faculty travel. The \$3,500 À la carte option supports and names one lecture only (p. 11). Neither confers influence over content or selection.



Program, media and brand add-ons

Programme & media	
Individual keynote naming only, each	\$3,500
Conference mobile app, exclusive	\$10,000
Session recording / livestream	\$6,000
Pre-conference workshop partner	\$3,000
Roundtable or panel partner	\$2,500
Digital programme / abstract book	\$3,000

Delegate brand assets	
Wi-Fi sponsor	\$5,500
Badge lanyards, max two colours	\$2,500
Notepads / pens, exclusive	\$750
Delegate bag, exclusive	\$5,000
Sponsored need-based scholarships	\$1,800 ea
Achievement Awards	\$2,500 ea

Add-ons may be booked alone or paired with a core tier; the \$3,500 keynote option names one lecture only.

Source: ISCR 2027 Kyoto Sponsorship Prospectus, 19 Aug 2026 (ISCR source deck) (pp. 6–7)



One package, flexible formats

TABLETOP EXHIBITOR

\$3,500

One 6 ft tabletop package

Included with every tabletop

- ✓ One 6 ft skirted table and two chairs; no other furniture permitted
- ✓ Acknowledgement and exhibitor profile in the conference programme and app
- ✓ Two sponsor name badges; additional badges available at \$300 each
- ✓ Display, sales and demonstrations must remain within the 6 ft tabletop frontage

Books & publications

Display and sell books within the tabletop footprint.
Author signings are welcome if they do not obstruct aisles.
Vendor manages inventory, shipping, payments and applicable taxes.

Technology & products

Laptops, tablets, compact screens and small devices may be displayed.
Power or dedicated internet must be requested in advance; venue fees may apply.
Cables and equipment must stay secured within the footprint.

Live demonstrations

Tabletop or seated demonstrations only; no extra furniture or floor-standing units.
Use headphones or low volume and avoid queues in the aisle.
Electrical, health-related or participant-facing demos require advance approval.

All displays and demonstrations are subject to venue safety, accessibility and electrical requirements. Tabletop participation does not imply ISCR endorsement of products or claims.. Current prices may change depending on venue requirements/enhancements for demos; custom setups or art installations may require unique partnerships and prices

What sponsorship does — and does not — buy

Sponsorship includes

- ✓ Recognition: naming, logo placement, programme and app listings, signage
- ✓ Access: complimentary registrations, exhibitor badges, networking invitations
- ✓ Voice: welcome remarks or acknowledgement at the moment you sponsor
- ✓ Impact: funded scholarships, awards, faculty travel and reduced registration

Sponsorship never includes

- ✗ No influence over peer review, abstract selection or programme content
- ✗ No selection of, or approval over, keynote speakers or faculty
- ✗ No delegate contact lists or personal data — aggregate reporting only
- ✗ No implied ISCR endorsement of a sponsor's products, services or claims

ISCR reviews every sponsorship for alignment with the Society's mission and reserves the right to decline. Sponsors of scholarships and awards are named as funders; recipients are selected solely by ISCR on merit and need.



Who is helping build ISCR 2027, Kyoto

Bret Davis, Ph.D.

Conference Co-Chair

BWDavis@loyola.edu



David Vago, Ph.D.

Conference Co-Chair /
Fundraising & Sponsorship
Chair
dvago@mgb.org



Chikako Ozawa-de Silva, Ph.D.

Contemplative Practice & Arts Program
Chair

cozawad@emory.edu

Sat Bir Khalsa, Ph.D.

Contemplative Practice & Arts Program
Chair

khalsa@hms.harvard.edu

Jennifer Rioux

Ethics, Inclusion & Well-being Chair
(REACH)

Matt Hirshberg, Ph.D.

Fundraising & Sponsorship Chair

hirshberg@wisc.edu

Brendan Ozawa-de Silva, Ph.D.

Japanese Culture & Community Chair

bozawad@emory.edu

Marc-Henri Deroche, Ph.D.

Japanese Culture & Community Chair

deroche.marchenri.6u@kyoto-u.ac.jp

Ekaterina Denkova, Ph.D.

Scientific Program Chair

exn67@miami.edu

Nicholas Van Dam, Ph.D.

Scientific Program Chair

nicholas.vandam@unimelb.edu.au

Ryotaro Kusumoto, Ph.D.

Student/Trainee & Scholarship Chair

kusumoto.ryotaro.7h@kyoto-u.ac.jp

Derek Jardine

Conference Management (Podium)

derek@podiumconferences.com



Planning specifications and timeline

Logo	Vector preferred (EPS, AI or SVG) plus PNG at 300 dpi with transparent background. One-colour version for signage.
Programme ad	Full, half or quarter page as purchased. PDF/X-1a, 300 dpi, CMYK, artwork supplied by the sponsor.
Badge lanyard	Maximum two colours; logo supplied by the sponsor (source deck requirement).
Company profile	40 words for app and programme listings, plus the URL for your hyperlink.
Named opportunities	The exact naming line as it should appear — e.g. “The [Sponsor] Keynote Lecture”.

Recommended timeline

PROPOSED

By 31 Jan 2027

Signature and exclusive commitments confirmed — naming appears in early programme materials

By 15 Mar 2027

All sponsorship confirmed; artwork and profiles due for print and app production

By 15 Apr 2027

Vendor table selections, exhibitor badge names, delegate insert samples due

19–22 May 2027

Conference, Kyoto, Japan

The ISCR source prospectus sets no deadlines. The dates above are working back from the 18–22 May 2027 conference and must be confirmed against the actual print, app and venue schedules. Payment terms, invoicing and cancellation policy to be confirmed by ISCR and Podium Conferences.

CONFIRM YOUR SPONSORSHIP

Thank you for considering a sponsorship for ISCR 2027 in Kyoto

1

Choose

Select one of the six categories, or combine a core tier with a signature, hospitality, impact, exhibitor or à la carte opportunity.

2

Confirm

Complete the sponsorship agreement and payment. Exclusive and limited items are allocated in order of confirmation.

3

Coordinate

We collect your logo, link, profile and any specific requirements, and confirm exactly how your recognition will appear.



ISCR@podiumconferences.com

iscrsociety.org

ISCR 2027 · 18–22 May 2027 · Kyoto, Japan

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



David Vago
President



Doris Chang
President-Elect



Linda Carlson
Treasurer



Renée Lynn Ford
Secretary



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kirk Warren Brown
Director of Social Sciences



Apreteem Choudhury
Director of REACH



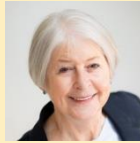
Bret Davis
Director of Interdisciplinarity



Eve Ekman
Director At Large



Eric Garland
Director of Clinical Sciences



Tish Jennings
Director of Education



Sahib Khalsa
Director At Large



Tawni Tidwell
Director of Humanities



Jennifer Rioux
Director At Large



Cheryl Woods-Giscombe
Director At Large



Fadel Zeidan
Director of Neurosciences