



**“Thrive Through AI Transformation: EAP in an Unpredictable World of Changes”**  
 Wednesday, April 8 – Friday, April 10, 2026  
 Seoul, South Korea

**APEAR CONFERENCE 2026 - PROGRAM OUTLINE**

**PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT (April 8, 2026, 6:30pm - 9:30pm)**

<b>Wednesday, April 8, 2026: 6:30pm - 9:00pm</b> (Venue: Together & Co, 2nd Floor, Hilton Garden Inn, Gangnam, Seoul)	<b>WELCOME BUFFET DINNER:</b>  <b>REGISTRATION</b> for international participants to collect nametag, lanyard and program booklet	<b>ALL INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS</b> (excluding Day Passes Registrants)
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**CONFERENCE DAY 1 (April 9, 2026; 8:30am-6:00pm; Gala Dinner 6:30pm-9:00pm)**

<b>Thursday, April 9, 2026 - CONFERENCE DAY 1</b> (Venue: Gold Hall, Basement, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul)		
8:30am - 9:00am	<b>REGISTRATION</b>	<b>ALL PARTICIPANTS</b> (International and Day Passes)
9:00am - 9:05am	<b>OPENING REMARKS - DAY 1</b>	Emcee: <b>Miyen Low, Board Member, APEAR (Malaysia)</b>
9:05am - 9:15am	<b>WELCOME SPEECHES</b>	Speakers: <b>Dr Kaoru Ichikawa</b> , Board President, APEAR (Japan) <b>Dr Seungkyun Na</b> , CEO, DAIN, Local Organising Partner of APEAR Conference 2026 (Republic of Korea)
9:15am - 9:30am	<b>CULTURAL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Dance Percussion Performance by DTP HWA RYEO</b>
<b>Day 1</b>		
9:30am - 10:10am	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION</b> <b>Korean Government Drive on Mental Health Wellbeing and AI</b>	Speaker: <b>Dr Young-Chul Shin, MD, PhD</b> Chair, National Mental Health Policy Innovation Committee & Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Kangbuk Samsung Hospital, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Republic of Korea



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10:10am - 10:40am	Topic 1: <b>From Emotion-Sensing AI to Clinical Action: How AI Is Transforming Counseling and EAP Services</b>	Speaker: <b>Dr Jungsun Kim, PhD</b> Head of Psychological Care Agent Development Task Force, LG Uplus, Republic of Korea <b>Representative from DAIN</b>
<b>10:40am - 11:00am</b>	<b>COFFEE/TEA/SNACKS BREAK (20 minutes)</b>	
11:00am - 11:05am	Award Nominee 1: <b>A SNS-based counseling system integrated with chatbot</b>	Nominee 1 Presenter: <b>Ayumi Nishikawa, COO, WorkWay Inc., Japan</b>
11:05am - 11:35am	Topic 2: <b>Does AI have a role in EAP intake processes?</b>	Speaker: <b>Chris Lawrance</b> Managing Director / Lead Counsellor Perspection Limited, Hong Kong
11:35am - 12:05pm	Topic 3: <b>"But my AI therapist says..." Providing therapy in the era of AI: How should therapist respond to 'another' expert in the room?</b>	Speaker: <b>Dr. KC Lee</b> Senior Psychologist International Counselling and Psychology Centre, Singapore
12:05pm - 12:35pm	Topic 4: <b>Clinical excellence and AI– can they really coexist?</b>	Speaker: <b>Alexandru Manescu</b> International Director of Clinical Services Corporate Counselling Services (CCS), Romania
<b>12:35pm - 1:35pm</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)</b>	
1:35pm - 1:40pm	Award Nominee 2: <b>“Fit with PHC” - A PHC Surabaya Hospital Wellness Program</b>	Nominee 2 Presenter: <b>Dr Izzatul Abadiyah, Occupational Medicine Physician, PHC Surabaya Hospital, Indonesia</b>



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1:40pm - 2:10pm	Topic 5: <b>Beyond Counselling: Integrating EAP with Preventive and Physical Health for Sustainable Engagement, amplified through AI-driven personalization</b>	Speaker: <b>Rohit Chohan</b> Co-founder and CEO Truworth Wellness, India
2:10pm - 2:40pm	Topic 6: <b>Rethinking EAP: Organizational Interventions for Employee Mental Health in the Era of AI Transformation</b>	Speaker: <b>Heondeuk Joo (Peter)</b> Director, EZNwellness, Republic of Korea
2:40pm - 2:45pm	Award Nominee 3: <b>Tripartite Digital Employee Assistance Ecosystem</b>	Nominee 3 Presenter: <b>Leon CK Leong,</b> Co-founder and CEO, MindFi, Singapore
2:45pm - 3:15pm	Topic 7: <b>Beyond the Chatbot: Building an AI-Augmented Continuum of Care</b>	Speaker: <b>Leon CK Leong,</b> Co-founder and CEO <b>Gangeshwar Krishnamurthy,</b> Co-Founder and CTO MindFi, Singapore
3:15pm - 3:45pm	Topic 8: <b>The Future of EAP Measurement: An AI Innovation for Wellbeing, Learning, and Business Impact</b>	Speaker: <b>Anca Coriiu,</b> Executive Director Wellcast ROI Global, Switzerland <b>Kate Hill,</b> Head of Learning Sylara Labs – the AI leaning technology lab of Wellcast ROI, China
<b>3:45pm - 4:05pm</b>	<b>COFFEE/TEA/SNACKS BREAK (20 minutes)</b>	
4:05pm - 4:10pm	Award Nominee 4: <b>Resilience training utilizing LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY®</b>	Nominee 4 Presenter: <b>Santa Tamura,</b> Researcher, Minnanotameno Co., Ltd., Japan



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4:10pm - 5:00pm	PANEL DISCUSSION (50 minutes) <b>Compassion or Code: Is there a role for AI in Mental Health?</b>  Moderator: <b>Michele Grow, Board Member, APEAR (Australia)</b>	Panellists: <b>(TBD)</b> <b>1.</b>  <b>2.</b>  <b>3.</b>
5:00pm - 5:15pm	<b>CLOSING REMARKS - DAY 1</b>  <b>GROUP PHOTO FOR ALL</b>	Emcee: <b>Miyen Low, Board Member, APEAR (Malaysia)</b>  <b>ALL PARTICIPANTS (International and Day Passes)</b>
5:15pm - 6:00pm	<b>POSTER PRESENTATION</b>	<b>All Poster Presenters at their posters for Q&amp;A</b>
6:30pm - 9:00pm	<b>GALA DINNER</b> (Venue: 8 <sup>th</sup> Floor, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul)  <b>ALL INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS</b> (excluding Day Passes Registrants)	Emcee: <b>Ally Fukada, Resilie Laboratory Inc., Japan</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Speech from Dr Kaoru Ichikawa, APEAR Board President</b></li> <li>• <b>Presentation from Platinum Sponsor - Jamie MacLennan, Senior Vice-President and Managing Director, Asia-Pacific TELUS Health</b></li> <li>• <b>Trio performance featuring Gayageum (traditional Korean 12-string harp)</b></li> <li>• <b>Ad-hoc performances from conference participants</b></li> </ul>



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**CONFERENCE DAY 2 (April 10, 2026; 8:30am-1:30pm)**

<b>Friday, April 10, 2026 - CONFERENCE DAY 2</b> (Venue: Gold Hall, Basement, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul)		
8:30am - 8:35am	<b>OPENING REMARKS - DAY 2</b>	Emcee: <b>Miyen Low, Board Member, APEAR (Malaysia)</b>
8.35am - 9:00am	<b>MESSAGE FROM EAPA</b> - Global Organising Partner of APEAR Conference 2026	Speaker: <b>Julie Fabsik-Swarts, CEO of EAPA</b>
<b>DAY 2</b>		
9:00am - 9:30am	Topic 9: <b>AI in EAP: Survey of EA Professionals Globally</b> (virtual session)	Speaker: <b>Dr Mark Attridge</b> President, Attridge Consulting, Inc. (USA)
9:30am - 10:00am	Topic 10: <b>Scaling workers wellbeing through AI: Enhancing EAP Accessibility and Operational Efficiency for Global South Migrant Workforces in The Gulf</b>	Speaker: <b>Alizeh Valjee</b> , Co-Founder and Clinical Director <b>Sarmad Ahmad</b> , Co-founder and Managing Director Saaya Health, Bahrain
10:00am - 10:30am	Topic 11: <b>EAP Book of Business and Outcome Measurement</b>	Speaker: <b>Rick Ichikawa</b> , Certified Public Psychologist/EAP Counselor, <b>Ayumi Nishikawa</b> , COO, WorkWay Inc. Japan
<b>10:30am - 10:55am</b>	<b>COFFEE/TEA/SNACKS BREAK (25 minutes)</b>	
10:55am -11:00am	Award Nominee 5: <b>“Café-Style Hub for Occupational Health Support” in Niigata City</b>	Nominee 5 Presenter: <b>Takatoshi Okamura</b> , Researcher, Health Business Department “WELLBeing”, Yabitsu Construction Co., Ltd., Japan



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11:00am - 11:30am	Topic 12: <b>An early intervention in Mental Health Support at Workplace (an evidence-based approach in partnership with occupational health professionals)</b>	Speaker: <b>Liliana Dias</b> Managing Partner, Bound Health, Portugal
11:30am - 12:00pm	Topic 13: <b>Integrating a holistic wellbeing programme in a global setting</b>	Speaker: <b>Bruce Greenhalgh</b> Council Director, The Conference Board, United Kingdom
12:00pm - 12:10pm	Award Nominee 6: <b>CBGT with a primary-prevention focus into workplace mental health practice</b>  Award Nominee 7: <b>Leadership coaching for self-care, recognize burnout risks and adopt strategies for resilience</b>	Nominee 6 Presenter: <b>Santa Tamura</b> , Researcher, Association of Cognitive Behavioural Group Therapy, Japan  Nominee 7 Presenter: <b>Nancy Lo</b> , Chief Consultant, Four Dimensions Consulting Ltd., Hong Kong
12:10pm - 12:40pm	Topic 14: <b>Leveraging Positive Psychology and Team Building to Cultivate Extraordinary Employee Experiences and Unlock Collective Potential - China</b>	Speaker: <b>Bobo Bu</b> Managing Director, ZC Success Ltd., China
12:40pm - 1:10pm	Topic 15: <b>Neuro-inclusion in the Work Culture</b>	Speaker: <b>Pamela Lister</b> National EAP Consultant, Kaiser Permanente, USA
1:10pm - 1:30pm	CLOSING: <b>Award Winner Announcement, Announcement of APEAR Conference 2027, Participants Feedback Survey</b>	Emcee: <b>David Levine, Board Member, APEAR (USA)</b>
<b>1:30pm onwards</b>	<b>END OF CONFERENCE: LUNCH AND NETWORKING</b>	<b>ALL PARTICIPANTS</b> (International and Day Passes)



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**POSTER PRESENTATION**

(Venue: outside Gold Hall, Basement, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul)

POSTER PRESENTER 1	Topic: <b>AI Application Case Study Report - Self-Care for Employees with Developmental disorder</b>	Presenter: <b>Yasuko Maruyama</b> , HR Dept, Public Health Nurse Nippon Soda CO., Ltd., <b>Japan</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 2	Topic: <b>AI-Driven Scams in the Workplace: Taiwan’s EAP Prevention Experience</b>	Presenter: <b>Chia-Hsin, Li</b> , Customer Success Manager and <b>Yu-Sheng (Ed), Liang</b> , Founder & CEO, Belay Consulting Co. Ltd., <b>Taiwan</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 3	Topic: <b>Resilience Coaching for Japanese Employees in Japan and the United States: A Comparative Study</b>	Presenters: <b>Yuri Miyazawa</b> , Chief Researcher and <b>Dr Kaoru Ichikawa</b> , CEO, Resilie Laboratory Inc., <b>Japan</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 4	Topic: <b>An integrated framework that combines psychological insights with leadership development - leveraging training, assessment, and coaching</b>	Presenters: <b>Nancy Lo</b> , Chief Consultant and <b>Carol Xiang</b> , Consultant, Four Dimensions Consulting Ltd., <b>Hong Kong</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 5	Topic: <b>Comprehensive approaches for workplace well-being in a newly established organization</b>	Presenters: <b>Santa Tamura, Rika Tamura, Fumi Kitagawa, Satoko Yaguchi, Kazuhiro Uemura, Mayu Ishiwatari and Nanae Tanoue</b> , <b>Japan</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 6	Topic: <b>Soft Power: influencing outcomes through the art of the Thai Smile</b>	Presenter: <b>Athalie de Koning</b> , Creative Director and <b>Laiyoung Cheng</b> , CEO, New Counseling Service, <b>Thailand</b>



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POSTER PRESENTER 7	Topic: <b>Nudge EAP: Making EAPs Part of Everyday Wellness</b>	Presenter: <b>Jimmy S. Kim</b> , Senior Manager, DAIN Co., Ltd., <b>Republic of Korea</b>
POSTER PRESENTER 8	Topic: <b>A Review and Prospects of Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) in Taiwan</b>	Presenter: <b>Dr. Cheng-Min Sung</b> , Honorary President, Taiwan Employee Assistance Professionals Association; Postdoctoral Researcher, Dept. of Counseling Psychology, Chinese Culture University and <b>Prof. Jui-Ping Hung</b> , Dept. of Counseling Psychology, Chinese Culture University, <b>Taiwan</b>

**POST CONFERENCE EVENT (April 11, 2026: 7:00/7:30am - 2:30/3:00pm)**

Optional Networking Activity

- Tour to **DMZ (The Korean Demilitarized Zone)**

- Fee of US\$100 per person