



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

APEAR CONFERENCE 2026 - PROGRAM OUTLINE

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

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

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



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



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



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<p>4:10pm - 5:00pm</p>	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION (50 minutes) Compassion or Code: Is there a role for AI in Mental Health?</p> <p>Moderator: Michele Grow, Board Member, APEAR (Australia)</p>	<p>Panellists: 1. John Levy President, CCA, United States of America.</p> <p>2. Mira Youk Principal Consultant, Solvist Worldwide, Republic of Korea.</p> <p>3. Aiden Saheran CEO, Naluri, Malaysia.</p>
<p>5:00pm - 5:15pm</p>	<p>CLOSING REMARKS - DAY 1</p> <p>GROUP PHOTO FOR ALL</p>	<p>Emcee: Miyen Low, Board Member, APEAR (Malaysia)</p> <p>ALL PARTICIPANTS (International and Day Passes Registrants)</p>
<p>5:15pm - 6:00pm</p>	<p>POSTER PRESENTATION</p>	<p>All Poster Presenters at their posters for Q&A</p>
<p>6:30pm - 9:00pm</p>	<p>GALA DINNER (Venue: 8th Floor, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul.)</p> <p>ALL INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS (excluding Day Passes Registrants)</p>	<p>Emcee: Ally Fukada, Resilie Laboratory Inc., Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech from Dr Kaoru Ichikawa, APEAR Board President • Presentation from Platinum Sponsor - Jamie MacLennan, Senior Vice-President and Managing Director, Asia-Pacific TELUS Health and Minjae Kang, CEO, Korea TELUS Health • Present gifts to Day 1 Speakers, all Poster Presenters, all Award Nominees • Trio performance featuring Gayageum (traditional Korean 12-string harp) • Ad-hoc performances from conference participants



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

Friday, April 10, 2026 - CONFERENCE DAY 2 (Venue: Gold Hall, Basement, EL Tower, Gangnam, Seoul.)		
8:30am - 8:35am	OPENING REMARKS - DAY 2	Emcee: Miyen Low , APEAR Board Member, Malaysia.
8.35am - 9:00am	MESSAGE FROM EAPA - Global Organising Partner of APEAR Conference 2026	Speaker: Julie Fabsik-Swarts , CEO of EAPA, USA.
DAY 2		
9:00am - 9:30am	Topic 9: Trends in Artificial Intelligence Adoption for the Employee Assistance Industry: A Global Comparison 2025 & 2026 (virtual session)	Speaker: Dr Mark Attridge President, Attridge Consulting, Inc., USA.
9:30am - 10:00am	Topic 10: Scaling workers wellbeing through AI: Enhancing EAP Accessibility and Operational Efficiency for Global South Migrant Workforces in The Gulf	Speaker: Alizeh Valjee , Co-Founder and Clinical Director, Saaya Health – Bahrain. Sania Sohail , Counsellor and Wellbeing Programs Manager, Saaya Health – Pakistan.
10:00am - 10:30am	Topic 11: EAP Book of Business and Outcome Measurement	Speaker: Rick Ichikawa , Certified Public Psychologist/EAP Counselor, Ayumi Nishikawa , COO, WorkWay Inc., Japan.
10:30am - 10:55am	COFFEE/TEA/SNACKS BREAK (25 minutes)	
10:55am -11:00am	Award Nominee 5: “Café-Style Hub for Occupational Health Support” in Niigata City	Nominee 5 Presenter: Takatoshi Okamura , Researcher, Health Business Department “WELLBeing”, Yabitsu Construction Co., Ltd., Japan.



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11:00am - 11:30am	Topic 12: An early intervention in Mental Health Support at Workplace (an evidence-based approach in partnership with occupational health professionals)	Speaker: Liliana Dias Managing Partner, Bound Health, Portugal.
11:30am - 12:00pm	Topic 13: Integrating a holistic wellbeing programme in a global setting	Speaker: Bruce Greenhalgh Council Director, The Conference Board, United Kingdom.
12:00pm - 12:10pm	Award Nominee 6: CBGT with a primary-prevention focus into workplace mental health practice Award Nominee 7: Leadership coaching for self-care, recognize burnout risks and adopt strategies for resilience	Nominee 6 Presenter: Santa Tamura , Researcher, Association of Cognitive Behavioural Group Therapy, Japan. Nominee 7 Presenter: Nancy Lo , EAP Chief Consultant, Four Dimensions Consulting Ltd., Hong Kong.
12:10pm - 12:40pm	Topic 14: Leveraging Positive Psychology and Team Building to Cultivate Extraordinary Employee Experiences and Unlock Collective Potential - China	Speaker: Bobo Bu Managing Director, ZC Success Ltd., China.
12:40pm - 1:10pm	Topic 15: Neuro-inclusion in the Work Culture	Speaker: Pamela Lister , National EAP Consultant, Kaiser Permanente, USA.
1:10pm - 1:30pm	CLOSING: Award Winners Announcement, Present gifts to Day 2 Speakers, Announcement of APEAR Conference 2027, and Participants Feedback Survey	Emcee: David Levine , APEAR Board Member, USA
1:30pm onwards	END OF CONFERENCE: LUNCH AND NETWORKING	ALL PARTICIPANTS (International and Day Passes Registrants)



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POSTER PRESENTATION

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

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



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

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