

# Dr. Michael Iwama is Named Dean at MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston

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BOSTON, MA, USA, December 13, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Michael Iwama, PhD, MSc, BScOT, has been named the new Dean of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy, at [MGH Institute of Health Professions](#) graduate school in Boston.

Dr. Iwama is widely recognized for having developed the "[Kawa Model](#)" ('Kawa' is Japanese for 'River'), the first substantial model of practice in the rehabilitation sciences developed outside the English-speaking world. The Kawa Model is now taught in over 600 health professions education programs internationally and used in practice across six continents. He has emerged as a very important and progressive thinker in the fields of occupational therapy and rehabilitation sciences worldwide.

"I'm at that stage in my career where I really want to be able to contribute to a legacy, work with colleagues to achieve something truly great, and give something back to the world," says Dean Iwama, who was born in Japan and grew up in Canada. "And I want to do it at the MGH Institute."

Iwama draws on his rich experience of acculturating into Eastern and Western social spheres of experience to drive his profound and critical perspectives on culture and its intersections with theory and practice in the rehabilitation sciences.

A passionate and captivating communicator, Dean Iwama regularly is invited to lecture to both U.S. and international audiences. Since his book, [The Kawa Model: Culturally Relevant Occupational Therapy](#), was published in 2006, he has given over 350 invited national and international lectures and over 40 keynote and plenary addresses at scientific and professional conferences. He has more than 25 publications in both English and Japanese professional journals.

"We are absolutely thrilled that an educator and scholar with such impressive credentials has joined the MGH Institute," said President Paula Milone-Nuzzo, PhD, RN, FHH, FAAN. "Dr. Iwama's record of accomplishment is known throughout the world, and our programs in genetic counseling, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, and speech-language pathology will thrive under his leadership."



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*Dr. Michael Iwama, Dean,  
MGH Institute of Health  
Professions*

Iwama also is an adjunct professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto and holds similar adjunct professorial appointments at six universities in Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Asia. Prior to arriving at the MGH Institute, he was professor and chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy at Augusta University, formerly the Medical College of Georgia.

Iwama completed advanced studies in Medical Anthropology from University of Leiden, Netherlands, and has earned a PhD in Sociology from Kibi International University in Japan, a MSc in Rehabilitation Sciences from

University of British Columbia, a BSc in Occupational Therapy from University of British Columbia, and a BSc in Human Performance from the University of Victoria.

#### About MGH Institute of Health Professions

Team-based care, delivered by clinicians skilled in collaboration and communication, leads to better outcomes for patients. That's why MGH Institute of Health Professions graduate school in Boston integrates interprofessional education into its academic programs. Approximately 1,600 students at its Charlestown Navy Yard campus learn and collaborate in teams across disciplines as they pursue post-baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees in genetic counseling, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, speech-language pathology, health professions education, and rehabilitation sciences. Its interprofessional learning model extends to hundreds of hospital, clinical, community, and educational sites in Greater Boston and beyond.

The MGH Institute is the only degree-granting affiliate of Partners HealthCare, New England's largest health provider. It has educated more than 7,700 graduates since its 1977 founding. It is fully accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education. Several programs are highly ranked by U.S. News & World Report. For the past nine years, the IHP has been named a "Great College to Work For" by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

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