

■研究最前線

# 公会計、IR(統合型リゾート)・Public Accounting and Integrated Resorts (IR)



医療や年金など公共サービスに関してニュースで耳にしない日

はない。サービスの担い手である地方公共団体は、2020年から 改正地方自治法により、内部統制体制の整備が義務づけられ民間 企業並みのガバナンスが導入されたばかり。しかし、国や地方の 行財政運営は果たして本当に住民目線に立っているのか。制度の 形骸化を防ぐには何が必要か。

清水涼子教授は米国並みに確立した会計及び監査の基準と独立 した監査組織の必要性を強調し「学生の皆さんも住民の一員とし て関心を持って公会計に触れよう」と呼び掛けている。 We hear about public services like health care and pensions in the news every day. In 2020, the revised Local Autonomy Act made it obligatory for local public entities that provide public services to establish internal control systems and introduce governance similar to that of private companies. However, do the central and local governments really take residents' views into account in their administrative and fiscal management? What is needed to prevent the system from losing substance?

Professor Ryoko Shimizu stressed the need for an independent auditing organization and standards for accounting and auditing that are as established as those in the United States, and encouraged students to be familiar with public accounting as members of the community.

# 州単位の独立監査組織が強力な権限をもつ米国

――「地方自治体の監査と内部統制―2020年改正制度の意義と 米英との比較」(同文舘出版)を2019年9月に出版されましたね。

改正制度の意義と

と自

地方自治体の監査と内部

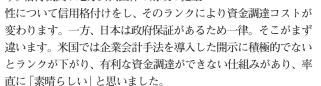
統制-2020年改正制度の

(同文舘出版 2019年)

日本で上場会社に内部統制評価制度が 導入されて以降、民間企業のガバナンス整 備は加速しているのに、地方公共団体の取 り組みは十分とは言えません。

そこで2016年から1年間、先進する米 国で地方公共団体の会計や監査の実務がど う運営されているか、実際の現場を見て回 りました。

米国では州ごとに大きな権限を持つ監査 組織があり、行政から独立し職員採用も別 枠。組織の人員も100人以上と充実し、給 与体系や待遇などの保障も整備されていま す。格付機関が地方公共団体の財政の健全



2016年まで委員を務めた第31次地方制度調査会(地制調)の答申作成の経緯やこの研究から得られた米国の公的部門におけるガバナンスに係る知見から、両者の監査制度等の違いを比較しまとめました。

# ■「住民より行政組織が大事」になりかねない 監査の仕組み

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私が2011年から4年間務めた大阪府監査委員は全部で5人。うち1人は議員選出で毎年代わり、あとは公認会計士や弁護士、民間会社出身者です。日本の監査委員は常勤が少なく大阪府でさえ1人。大所帯の米国と大きな違いがあります。

監査委員を支える組織である監査委員事務局もありますが、事務局職員は一般職公務員で、その約7割が3年も経たないうちに監査の知識も十分マスターしないまま異動します。庁内の人事異動の権限は実質的なところ役所の中枢が握っています。そのため、首長の姿勢が大きく事務局にも影響し、改革に熱心な首長の下では職員も従いますが、そうでない人に代わると途端に事務局長以下も守旧派に交代しトーンダウン。そういった状況は、住民目線に立って粛々と監査をすべき監査委員にとっては本当に問題ですね。 住民の目からみても監査委員事務局は本当に公平なのか、と

――住民の目からみても監査委員事務局は本当に公平なのか、と 疑わしく映りますね。

現状は、住民の視点より「組織内のため」の監査になりかねない危険性をはらんでいる仕組みです。

2017年の法律改正により内部統制体制の整備は都道府県や政令指定都市等の首長の義務となり、他の市町村は努力義務となり

# State-based independent auditing organizations have strong authority in the United Stated

— You published Auditing and Internal Control in Local Governments: The Significance of the 2020 Revised System and Its Comparison with the United States and the United Kingdom (Dobunkan) in September 2019.

Since the internal control evaluation system for listed companies was introduced in Japan, the governance of private companies has accelerated, but the efforts of local public entities have been far from sufficient.

So, for one year from 2016, I visited sites to see how the accounting and auditing practices of local public entities are conducted in the United States that stays ahead of Japan.

In the United States, each state has its own audit organization which has strong authority, is independent of the government, and employs their own staff. The number of personnel in such an organization is over 100, and the compensation system and treatment are guaranteed. A rating agency assigns a credit rating to the fiscal soundness of local public entities, and funding costs vary according to the rating. On the other hand, since Japan has a government guarantee, it is uniform. That's the difference. In the United States, if you are not proactive in disclosing information using corporate accounting methods, you will be downgraded and not be able to raise funds in an advantageous fashion. I frankly thought this was wonderful.

Based on the background of the preparation of the report of the 31st Local Government System Research Council for which I served as a committee member until 2016, and the findings on the governance in the U.S. public sector obtained from this study, I compared and summarized the differences between the two auditing systems.

# Audit system that could make administrative organizations more important than residents

#### - Is there a big difference between Japan and the United States?

I served on the Osaka Prefectural Audit Committee for four years starting in 2011. There are five members in total. One of them is an assembly member and elected every year, and the others are CPAs, lawyers, and people from the private sector. There are few full-time auditors in Japan, and even in Osaka, there is only one. This is a big difference from the United States.

There is also the Audit Committee Secretariat, which supports the Audit Committee members, but the Secretariat staff are regular civil servants, and about 70% of them transfer within three years without fully mastering the knowledge needed to perform audits. The authority for personnel transfers within the Osaka Prefectural Office is, in practical terms, held by the center of the organization. Therefore, the chief's attitude greatly affects the Secretariat, and the staff follow the chief who is enthusiastic about reform, but as soon as he is replaced, the secretary-general and others are replaced as well by the old school and tone down. Such a situation is a real problem for the Audit Committee members, who should conduct audits from the viewpoint of residents.

# — Residents may wonder if the Audit Committee Secretariat is really fair.

The current system is fraught with the danger of audits being for the sake of the organization rather than from the viewpoint of residents.

Due to the revision of the law in 2017, it became the duty of the chiefs of prefectures and ordinance-designated cities to develop internal control systems, and other municipalities are obliged to make the best efforts. It is true that some small cities, towns, and villages have no staff and no CPAs. But auditing is absolutely necessary. In Japan, the examination of financial results often ends with an actual cash flow check and does not include confirmation of assets and liabilities.



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ました。確かに小さな市町村は人手もなく公認会計士ゼロの所も あります。でも監査は絶対に必要です。日本だと決算審査で現金 が実際どれだけ動いたか「入と出」のチェックで終わることが多 く、資産や負債などの確認は含まれないのが現状です。

米国では基本的に州の監査組織が州内の大小の町まで全て管轄し、様々な視点から詳しく監査します。訪問先のマサチューセッツ州では独立した監査組織が機能していました。また、精緻な会計基準に準拠した財務諸表は隠れ債務などもあぶり出し、ボストン市ではその格付けへの影響が話題になっていました。日本ではいまだ確立した会計基準すらありませんが、国際標準の会計及び監査の基準が必要です。

# ■カジノ含むIRの会計ガバナンスの課題を洗い出したい

# ――カジノを中心にしたIR(統合型リゾート)のガバナンスも研究されていますね。

ワシントン州に先住民のカジノがあり、米国滞在中に知り合った研究者に「カジノの会計上の問題に興味がある。日本にできるカジノを一緒に研究しよう」と誘われたのがきっかけです。文部科学省の科学研究費プロジェクトに採択され、2020年4月から研究を始めました。ゲーミング(賭博)は現金取引が多くガバナンスも複雑で、現在、ようやく国内の類似業種、パチンコや競馬の問題点の整理ができたところです。今年8月に渡米の計画があり、大阪でIRの実現を目指しているMGMリゾーツ・インターナショナル社(米国)にネバダ州現地調査への協力をお願いしています。



MGMリゾーツが運営する ラスベガスのベラージオホテル▶



米国の企業はしっかりした収益基盤と独立したガバナンス体制を備えており、また規制当局も監視しています。日本では、事業者の収益性が確保されるのかどうか分かりません。また、国内にはすでにゲーミング関連事業が相当なマーケット規模を有しているのに、IRだけを別枠で考えるのはすごく奇異に感じます。縦割行政の現われでしょう。経済振興という究極的な目的のために、ゲーミング関連事業を育成していこうという気構えがあまり感じられません。国と地方公共団体との言い分を押しつけて「果たしてうまくいくのかしら」と思います。日本のIRはちょうど官と民の接点ともいえる位置付けにあり、事業を成功に導くためのガバナンスの課題を洗い出したいと思っています。

# ■公会計には理論を学びながら実践できる奥深さがある

会計学を研究されるようになったきっかけを教えてください。 私は大学で会計ではなく法律を勉強し外資系銀行に総合職として就職しました。会計学を勉強するきっかけは、その在職中に証券アナリスト試験の科目として財務会計に出会ってからです。飯野利夫先生の「財務会計論」が非常に理論的で初めての私にも会計がよく理解できました。銀行退職と同時に公認会計士の受験勉強を始め、1988年の試験で合格しました。監査法人に18年在籍し、前半は企業会計、後半は公会計に専念しました。

2000年ごろから行政にも民間経営手法を導入し公共サービス の質を向上させるニューパブリックマネジメント (NPM) という考 えが広がり、この理論を実践できる住民目線の公会計に興味を持 つようになりました。

### 公会計を学生にどのように教えていますか。

学生にはとても難しいようですが、身近な地方公共団体に興味を持ってほしいことから「住んでいる市や町がバランスシートを公表しているはずだからホームページで調べてごらん」と呼び掛けています。どのような財政状態なのか財務諸表を見れば分かるので、「自分の住んでいる所のことは絶対知らなきゃいけないよ」と言っています。関心を持ちにくい理由の一つには公会計が公認会計士試験科目に含まれていないことです。米国のように一般に公正妥当と認知された会計及び監査の基準がないと。政府が公会計や監査の重要性、必要性を十分認識していないのも大きいと思いますね。

会計、監査は民間だけのものではなく、広がりがあります。公会計には、民間にはない、公平性や公正性を考慮する必要がある。 まだまだ未整備な部分があり、実務と並行して研究し、いい方向に変えていける。公会計は学問的に奥深く面白い世界だと思います。

#### ---学生の皆さんに望むことやメッセージをお願いします。

数字で明確に示せる会計学は、物ごとを理解するのに一番手っ 取り早い方法です。企業や行政が何をしているか、財務諸表を見 ればすぐに分かります。

公会計については、公共サービスを無意識に享受するのではなく、どんな仕組みで提供され、改善していくのに会計や監査をどう活用すればよいのかを考えてほしい。若い世代こそがこれからの担い手ですから。



▲清水教授の演習風景 Seminar by Professor Shimizu



In the United States, the state audit organization basically oversees all the towns in the state, large and small, and performs detailed audits from various viewpoints. The state of Massachusetts, which I visited, had an independent audit organization. Financial statements that conform to sophisticated accounting standards expose hidden liabilities, and its impact on Boston's credit rating was the talk of the town. Although there are no established accounting standards in Japan, global-level accounting and auditing standards are necessary.

### ■ I want to identify issues concerning the accounting governance of IR, including casinos

# — You are studying the governance of integrated resorts (IR), which are centered on casinos.

There is a casino operated by Native Americans in Washington state, a researcher I met while I was in the United States said, "I'm interested in accounting issues of casinos. Let's study casinos in Japan together." This research was selected as a science funding project by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and we started the research and study in April 2020. Gambling involves many cash transactions and complicated governance. At present, we have finally sorted out the issues of similar industries in Japan, such as pachinko and horse racing. I am planning to visit the United States in August this year and asking MGM Resorts International (U.S.), which is aiming to establish IR in Osaka, to cooperate in the field study in Nevada.

U.S. companies have a solid revenue base, independent governance, and are monitored by regulatory agencies. In Japan, I am not sure if the profitability of the business operators can be secured. Also, it seems strange to think of IR as a separate category when gambling businesses already have a large market in Japan. It is a manifestation of the vertically divided public administration. I don't see the attitude of trying to develop gambling businesses for the ultimate purpose of economic development. I wonder if they will succeed while the government and local public entities impose their opinions on business operators. IR in Japan is positioned as a point of contact between the public and private sectors, and I would like to identify governance issues that will guide this business to success.

# Public accounting has the depth to enable us to practice it while learning theory

### — How did you come to study accounting?

I studied law, not accounting, in college and took a general management position at a foreign bank. I started studying accounting when I came across financial accounting as a subject in the securities analyst exam while in office. Professor Toshio lino's *Financial Accounting Theory* was very theoretical, so a beginner like me was able to understand accounting well. When I left the bank, I started studying for the CPA exam and passed it in 1988. I worked at an auditing firm for 18 years, concentrating on corporate accounting in the first half and public accounting in the second half.

Around 2000, the idea of New Public Management (NPM) spread, which improves the quality of public services by introducing private management methods into the public administration. I became interested in public accounting, which uses the viewpoint of residents and is able to put this theory into practice.

### — How do you teach students about public accounting?

It can be difficult for students, but I want them to be interested in the local public entities around them. So, I ask them to look up



the balance sheet on the homepage of the city or town where they live. I tell them, If you look at the financial statements, you can see what kind of financial condition your city or town is in. "You need to be familiar with it." One of the reasons why it is difficult for people to get interested is that public accounting is not included in the CPA exam. We should have generally accepted accounting and auditing standards as in the United States. I think it is also important that the government does not fully recognize the importance and necessity of public accounting and auditing.

Accounting and auditing are not limited to the private sector. Public accounting needs to take into account equitability and fairness, which the private sector does not have. There are still some parts that remain undeveloped, so we can study it in parallel with practical work and change it for the better. I think public accounting is a deep and interesting world academically.

### — Can you give a message to students?

Accounting is the quickest way to understand things, as it can be clearly described with numbers. If you look at financial statements, you can see what companies and governments are doing.

With regard to public accounting, instead of subconsciously enjoying public services, I want everyone to consider how accounting and auditing can be used to provide and improve public services. The younger generation are the leaders of the future.