



U OF M CENTER
JAPANESE STUDIES
PAGE OF MADNESS



THE CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

University of Michigan | 2023 Newsletter

Photo by Rebecca Cook





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From the Director

As we round the corner on the 2022–23 academic year, it seems apt to both acknowledge the difficulties that persist and to express gratitude for the continued opportunity to live and work in ways that feel valuable. When I first composed remarks of this sort, it was the summer of 2020 and the pandemic was raging. Now, the situation seems less acute, but nonetheless troubling for its duration and for a selective amnesia among various leaders and administrators who pretend it doesn't still compromise our collective well-being. I'm thus grateful for spaces like CJS, in which we attempt to foster intellectual community amidst unsettling developments at local and global scales, contemplating our present circumstances alongside a shared history. Moreover, I remain thankful for our amazing staff members, Yuri Fukazawa, Do-Hee Morsman, Barbara Kinzer, Jillian Locke, and Alexis Wu, without whom CJS could not function.

Despite the toll it took on us, 2022 also marked the Center for Japanese Studies' seventy-fifth anniversary. This milestone grants CJS the distinction of being the oldest interdisciplinary center in the United States devoted exclusively to Japanese Studies. Although imperialism, militarism, racism, and sexism all haunt the institutional histories of CJS and the University of Michigan more broadly, these forces also demarcate a terrain we can traverse to rethink and potentially redress the trajectory we've inherited. I'm grateful to my colleague, Prof. Shinobu Kitayama, for serving as interim director during my sabbatical year, during which I was able to conduct research for a book on slavery and premodern Japanese performance, and investigate the career of Michigan/CJS fixture Edward Seidensticker, renowned translator and professor of Japanese literature. This latter project, in particular, has helped me understand the intimate interplay between pedagogy, politics, and privilege in ways that shape my sense of the potential interventions afforded by past approaches in the field.

What has the Center for Japanese Studies been and what should it become? Our Noon Lecture Series, ably organized by recently-retired staff member Barbara Kinzer and new team member Alexis Wu, has lent space to consider this driving question from multiple perspectives. In "Looking Forward: A Communal Blueprint for our 75th-Anniversary Events," I considered the center's checkered 75-year history in order to imagine how it might evolve. The titular phrase suggests a genuine anticipation for future events, but also contains a caveat that in our excitement we should not overlook our institutional past. I say "we" because I think many of us participate in this space out of a shared interest, concern, or

loyalty to CJS as an institution, perhaps, but also to engage CJS as embodying an ideal for an intellectual community that might remain unrealized as of yet.



Indeed, an anniversary of this magnitude offers a valuable opportunity to reassess the center's influential institutional role within the field of Japanese Studies. Hence, we were honored to have an esteemed alumnus as our first outside speaker in the Noon Lecture series, Prof. Harry Harootunian (CJS 1957), whose scholarly output and intellectual energy remains an inspiration to many of us in this field, regardless of discipline. During our [webinar conversation](#), we discussed Prof. Harootunian's scholarship, but also his intellectual formation, political commitments, and pedagogical philosophy more broadly. Exploring Prof. Harootunian's personal journey offered a way to contextualize both the development of the field of Japanese studies and his own substantial interventions as writer and teacher. Part of our aim over the course of this year is to think about the formation of CJS as linked to development of Japanese Studies. This involves some celebratory commemorative work, but also a more difficult and potentially destabilizing critical labor of working through the question of legacy and its residues. Thus, the year's event programming should resist the urge to overlook aspects of our collective inheritance that challenge a purely laudatory narrative.

One goal of my tenure as CJS Director has been to 1) examine critically the Center's development both within a local and a broader geopolitical context; 2) contextualize how we might rethink and expand our notion of Japanese studies in the current moment; and 3) develop event programming in relation to community suggestions and potential educational interventions. In addition to the [Japanese Studies Antiracist Pedagogy Project \(JSAP\)](#), our recently launched postdoctoral fellowship program has served the second of these aims. Following the inaugural year of [Dr. Linda Galvane](#) making wonderful contributions to our program, we were able to expand our postdoctoral fellowship program and have two provocative presentations by our new fellows, [Jessica Fernández de Lara Harada](#) and [Ryan Masaaki Yokota](#). Jessica and Ryan's research on comparative histories of racialization and debates about Okinawan independence complicates in productive ways our understanding of marginalization and ethnicity in Latin America and Japan. We're glad that our students, faculty, and community members can benefit from their expertise, experience, and style of asking questions.



Prof. Markus Nornes spearheaded a special cinematic series entitled [Diamonds by the Decade: the Best of CJS 75th Anniversary Film Series](#), which was headlined by female *benshi* Nanako Yamauchi, a rising star in the world of contemporary Japanese cinema. In conjunction with the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, we have co-sponsored an exhibit entitled [Portraits of Feminism in Japan](#), which includes stunning work from international artists, current students (Nami Kaneko producing a painted portrait of Murasaki Shikibu), and prolific photojournalist [Elaine Cromie](#), a Knight-Wallace Fellow who chronicles the Uchinaanchu diaspora. An alumni panel at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference meeting has been planned and a research symposium for Michigan-based scholars outside of U-M Ann Arbor is currently slated for fall of 2023.

Finally, in terms of outreach, our Title VI National Resource Center membership has allowed us to join with the Nam Center for Korean Studies (Prof. Youngju Ryu) and the Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies (Prof. Ann Chih Lin) in partnering with Prof. Keisha Brown of Tennessee State University to enhance the Asian studies language and culture curriculum there. This initiative, like others already in process or in preparation for the months ahead, leverages our resources to supplement and strengthen ongoing efforts both locally and globally aimed at enriching the educational landscape within and beyond the traditional boundaries of Japanese studies. With your continued support, constructive input, and active participation, I'm confident that this wider project can flourish despite the challenges we encounter.

With thanks and best wishes for the years ahead,

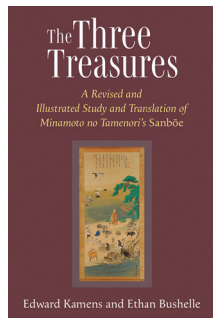
Reginald Jackson
Director, Center for Japanese Studies
Associate Professor
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
University of Michigan



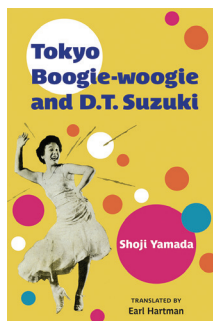
News from the Publications Program

The Center for Japanese Studies Publications Program has a bumper crop of new books on offer. They reflect the Center's capacious embrace of Japanese Studies, starting with three very different approaches to studying Buddhism in Japan.

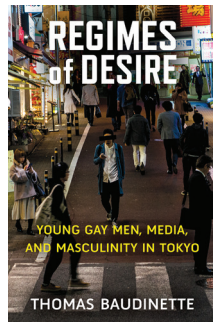
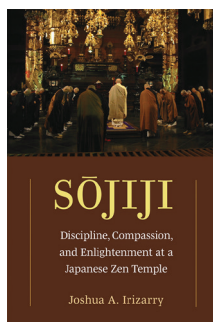
The first is an updated version of a venerable publication on the CJS list, *The Three Treasures*. This is a translation of the *monogatari* about the religious world of Princess Sonshi, who became a nun in the year 984. Ed Kamens invited Buddhist Studies scholar Ethan Bushelle to help revise and expand his book to account for the many discoveries that have been made since the original publication in 2004. They collaborated on a re-translation of the work, adding illustrations that help evoke the experience of 12th century Buddhists.



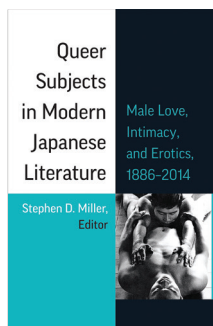
From here, Shoji Yamada takes us on a thousand-year leap to the 20th century for an innovative approach to Daisetsu Suzuki, best known as the Japanese scholar-translator of religious studies and philosophy who introduced Buddhism to the United States and the English-speaking world. Yamada approaches the scholar through the biography of Suzuki Alan Masaru—his adopted son and the lyricist of the pop classic “Tokyo Boogie-woogie.” Exploring their fraught relationship, Yamada sheds new light on the life and work of the famous father.



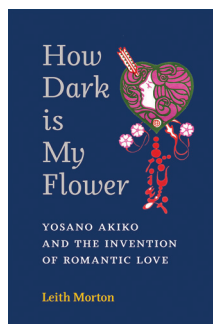
Our third book related to Buddhist Studies is Joshua Irizarry's *Sōjiji: Discipline, Compassion, and Enlightenment at a Japanese Zen Temple*. *Sōjiji* is one of the most important Soto Zen temples. Thanks to fifteen years of painstaking fieldwork, interviews, and archival research, the author immerses us in the religious communities connected to the temple. Through clear and accessible prose, ethnographically-grounded analysis, and emotionally compelling stories, the reader will explore the rich pastiche of daily life and ritual activity at a major Japanese Zen temple in institutional, historical, and social context through the lived practices of its community of clergy, practitioners, parishioners, and visitors.



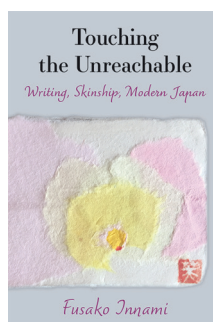
This past year, CJS Pubs also published two works related to queer studies, including *Regimes of Desire*. This is Thomas Baudinette's wonderful portrait of Shinjuku's Ni-chōme district. The fruits of years of ethnographic fieldwork and analysis of porn, manga, lifestyle magazines, and online dating services, *Regimes of Desire* will transform our understanding of Ni-chōme. Despite its reputation as a safe space for gay men, Baudinette finds a stratified, hierarchical scene that privileges “hard” masculine identities, while slighting or excluding others.



Our other queer studies offering is *Queer Subjects in Modern Japanese Literature: Male Love, Intimacy, and Erotics, 1886–2014*, Stephen D. Miller's wonderful anthology of Japanese literature about men behaving lovingly, erotically, and intimately with other men. Miller brought together the finest translators in Japanese literature to comprehensively survey over a century of queer writings.



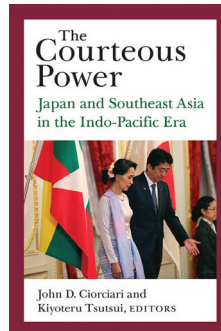
We bring to more contributions to our strong list of monographs on Japanese literature. Leith Morton brings new insights into the poetry of Yosano Akiko, particularly her *tanka*. *How Dark Is My Flower: Yosano Akiko and the Invention of Romantic Love* tells the story of the real-life romance unfolding in the poetry of Yosano and her best friend, Yamakawa Tomiko, as they vie for the affection of the dashing young literary lion, Yosano Tekkan (who later became Akiko's husband). Morton's translations and analyses simultaneously chart the journey from romanticism to modernism undertaken by early 20th century Japanese poets like Yosano.



Our other new book on literature is Fusako Innami's *Touching the Unreachable*. This is the first comprehensive study of touch and skinship—relationality with the other through the skin—in modern Japanese writing. Innami's haptic approach addresses the work of authors like Kawabata Yasunari, Tanizaki Jun'ichirō, Yoshiyuki Junnosuke, and Matsuura Rieko where they depict what the characters may be concerned with but may not necessarily say out loud. *Touching the Unreachable*

guides us to the gap between the felt and the said—the interaction between the body and language—through layers of verbalization, or indeed translation, by characters’ utterances, authors’ depictions, and readers’ interpretations.

Our final book of the year is former CJS Director Kiyoteru Tsusui and John D. Ciorciari’s *The Courteous Power*. Their book seeks to provide a nuanced view of the current relationship between Japan and Southeast Asia. Given the urgency of understanding the careful balance in the Indo-Pacific region, this volume brings



together scholars to examine the history and current engagement from a variety of perspectives, ranging from economic and political, to the cultural and technological.

CJS is poised to publish its 100th edition in the Michigan Monograph Series. We look forward to seeing your own manuscript in the coming year!

Markus Nornes
CJS Publications Director

Christopher Dreyer
Acquiring Editor, Michigan Publishing

CJS Film Series

With the continued COVID restrictions, CJS was unable to provide our usual Film Series in partnership with the Michigan Theater Foundation in Winter 2021. In Fall 2021 we were able to present two films in the Art of the Camera series that were scheduled for March and April 2020: *Nobody Knows (Dare mo Shiranai)* and *To the Ends of the Earth (Tabi no Owari Sekai no Hajimari)*.

CJS film screenings resumed, however, in Fall Semester 2022. The AY 2022–2023 CJS Film Series, curated by Prof. Markus Nornes of the Department of Film, Television, and Media and run in collaboration with the Michigan Theater Foundation, was entitled ***Diamonds by the Decade: the Best of CJS 75th Anniversary Film Series***. The series was headlined by a showing of the 1926 *avant-garde* silent film *A Page of Madness (Kurutta Ichipeiji)* on October 13, 2022, featuring live on-stage narration by Japanese *benshi* Nanako Yamauchi and live musical accompaniment by Detroit-based



trio Little Bang Theory. The screening attracted nearly 400 attendees.

From there on, the subsequent entries in the series comprised one notable Japanese film made during each decade of CJS’s existence, namely from the 1940s to the 2020s. The films, in order, were *Late Spring (Banshun, 1949)*, screened on October 27; *Seven Samurai (Shichinin no Samurai, 1954)*, screened on November 10; *Death by Hanging (Kōshikei, 1968)*, screened on December 1; *House (Hausu, 1977)*, screened on January 12; *Tampopo (1985)*, screened on January 26; *Cure (Kyua, 1997)*, screened on February 9; *Tony Takitani (2004)*, screened on March 9; *The Tale of the Princess Kaguya (Kaguya-hime no Monogatari, 2013)*, screened on March 23; and *Drive My Car (Doraibu Mai Kā, 2021)*, screened on April 6. Each film saw high attendance rates, with several screenings completely selling out.

Please check out the CJS Events page on our website as well as the Film Series page on the Michigan Theater website for screening details.

Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection

The Oka Tadoku Room and Tadoku Internship

The Oka Tadoku Room opened at the Asia Library with a generous gift from Mr. Masao Oka and Mrs. Mayumi Oka, the former director of the Japanese Language Program at the University of Michigan (2004–2020). Additionally, their gift established the Tadoku Room Internship which provides one student to spend an academic year as part-time employee, focused on promoting the Oka Tadoku Room in collaboration with the Japanese Studies Librarian and faculty from the Japanese Language Program.



The Oka Tadoku Room offers comfortable place for everyone to browse Japanese, Chinese, and Korean collections, and utilize Tadoku (多読) extensive reading method for themselves. It aims to foster the joy of reading books, inspire conversation among readers, and expand diverse interests in the knowledge of Asian humanities, traditions, and beyond.

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Mr. Jack Murphy Giscondi (LSA Class of 2023) was selected to start as the Oka Tadoku Room's first intern for the 2022–23 academic year. As an International Studies major, he hopes to spark curiosity about diverse cultures and civilizations through books and activities in the Tadoku Room, and open doors to Japanese language and culture for people near and far.

Since 2012, the Japanese Studies Librarian has been committed to supporting education in Japanese language with library materials as the foundation of Japanese Studies working in collaboration with the Japanese Language Program through her decade-long service at the U-M Library. With our deep appreciation for Mr. and Mrs. Oka, we will continue our efforts to reach out and expand the horizon of knowledge for generations to come.

Our collection and public service

We acquired 4,804 monograph volumes and 1,142 media titles in the 2022 financial year, bringing the total to 358,105 volumes with 33 commercial digital resources and approximately 6,620 pieces of media material related to Japan as of June 30, 2022. Our collection is the fourth largest among university libraries in North America (2021 Council of East Asia Libraries statistics). We have received reference inquiries from places around the world such as Finland, Scotland, France, Thailand, Australia, and Japan.

As of July 1, 2021, Mari Suzuki, Japanese language material librarian, assumed the responsibilities of the Head of Asia

Library Technical Services. The Japanese technical team, Mari Suzuki, Kazuko Anderson, and Etsuko Kosuge, has been braving the challenging tasks of processing materials under the continuing limited environment of COVID-19 safety restriction. Our resource was also made available with the assistance from the Library Operation, Facilities, and Information Technology departments.

Digital resources continue to grow to meet the remote access needs of our faculty and students. Among them, the *Rafu shimpo* (羅府新報), a Japanese-American newspaper database, was acquired collaboratively with the Central fund, and *Meiji nyūsu jiten* (明治ニュース事典) with the Roger Fleming Hackett memorial fund. *Shinpū* (晋風), *Kokusai shashin jōhō* (国際写真情報), *Mainichi gurafu* (毎日グラフ), *Daihorin* (大法輪), *Shintei zōho Kokushi taikai* (新訂増補國史大系), and other 46 E-reference books became available on the U-M campuses.

A publication about a U-M librarian—*Nichibei kōryūshi no naka no Fukuda Naomi* (日米交流史の中の福田なをみ)—was published in 2022 by Dr. Izumi Koide. Ms. Fukuda was the Japanese Studies Librarian and Deputy Director of the U-M Asia Library (1970–1978). She was a visionary and a legendary national leader in building collections of Japanese studies resources with her colleagues in North America, which strengthened Michigan's national and international reputation. She also contributed to promoting the international educational and cultural exchange between the U.S. and Japan through her career beyond the library world. We keep Michigan's tradition of building comprehensive collections by promoting "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility" in Japanese Studies in North America.

Keiko Yokota-Carter
Japanese Studies Librarian

University of Michigan Museum of Art

This winter and spring, the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) is presenting *Clay as Soft Power: Shigaraki Ware in Postwar America and Japan*, the first major exhibition of works from a six-hundred-year-old ceramic tradition. It examines collecting history, cultural diplomacy, and the shifting United States–Japan relationship from the postwar to the contemporary period through the lens of Shigaraki ware. For many Japanese and for those familiar with Japanese culture, the words “Shigaraki ware” probably bring to mind comical ceramic figurines of *tanuki* (raccoon dogs). In the United States, however, Shigaraki ware is more likely to be recognized as the product of one of the Six Ancient Kilns of Japan (Shigaraki, Bizen, Seto, Tokoname, Echizen, and Tamba). This is because after World War II, major U.S. museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and the Detroit Institute of Arts began to acquire and display large Shigaraki ware storage jars made between the fourteenth and the early seventeenth centuries—the start of decades of rich artistic exchange.



Wada Morihiro, Vase, “Watashigaraki,” 2000, stoneware. Collection of Carol and Jeffrey Horvitz © Wada Morihiro. Photo by Sarah Gillis, Worcester Art Museum

and U-M alumnus Sherman Lee (1918–2008) for the museum. During the Cold War period, historic Shigaraki ware jars like this, along with *Mingei* (Folk Art Movement) ceramics, were collected and displayed in order to shift the public image of Japan and Japanese people from that of recent war enemy to



Storage Jar, Muromachi period, late 14th–15th century, stoneware with natural ash glaze. Cleveland Museum of Art, John L. Severance Fund, 1973.18

The exhibition is divided into three sections. The first focuses on postwar collecting of historic Shigaraki ware jars, which were often displayed in U.S. museums side by side with large screen paintings. A highlight of this section is a beautiful round jar with bold natural ash glaze (glaze produced in the kiln by floating wood-ash) from the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Art. The jar was once owned by author Shirasu Masako (1910–1998) and later purchased by CMA director

that of simple, community-oriented ally. The second section explores another crucial component of this cultural diplomacy—artistic exchanges—focusing on three Michigan-based ceramic artists who spent extensive time studying Shigaraki ware techniques in Japan in the 1960s: John Stephenson (1929–2015), Susanne Stephenson (b. 1935), and Georgette Zirbes (b. 1940). These exchanges were funded by the U.S. government and other public and private organizations.

After the 1980s, as Japan was becoming an economic superpower, its national and local governments began to foster cultural exchange in order to mitigate international frictions. In 1992, the newly established Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park began an international residency program in which many U.S. artists participated.

Most recently, contemporary Shigaraki ware has become popular among U.S. collectors, and through museum exhibitions of their collections, these works are becoming known to the general public. Their patronage is also contributing to a new development in Shigaraki ware: artists are creating larger and more experimental works. The last section features recent works by Japanese artists using Shigaraki ware techniques, including a jar created by Takahashi Yoshiko (b. 1988) that visitors are invited to touch so that they may experience first-hand the rough and expressive surfaces of Shigaraki ware.

The exhibition runs through May 7, 2023. On April 14, UMMA will host a talk and demonstration event with featured artist Takahashi Yoshiko. Please check UMMA’s website (umma.umich.edu) for details.

Natsu Oyobe
Curator of Asian Art



Clay as Soft Power: Shigaraki Ware in Postwar America and Japan installation view. Photo by Natsu Oyobe

News from the Japanese Language Program

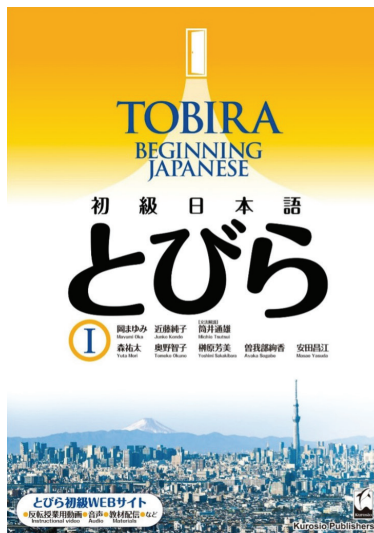
ミシガン大学日本語科よりこの1年の活動をご報告します。2021年から2022年にかけての1年はコロナ禍から対面授業へと移行し、教育の場においても少しずつ日常を取り戻しつつある日々でした。オンライン授業で生まれた技術や教授法を生かしつつ、対面ならではのコミュニケーションの重要性を再確認することができました。例えば22年の秋学期からは対面に戻りましたが、3回のうち1回はオンラインで行い、東京の清泉女子大学の学生さんにも参加していただいています。

2022年の在デトロイト日本国総領事館主催の日本語スピーチコンテストにおいても、ミシガン大学の学生が活躍しました。シーヤオ・デュさん

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が「日本の方言」についてユーモアを交えて発表し、金賞を受賞した他、ヴィシュワス・ガングデラさんも「僕はどうして日本語を続けるのか?」というスピーチで2位を受賞しました。どちらも深く考えさせられるスピーチで、日頃の日本語学習の成果の賜物だったと言えます。

また、教科書『初級とびら』のシリーズが充実し始めた年でもありました。2021年夏に発行された『初級日本語とびらI』に加え、2022年の夏には『初級日本語とびらII』が、秋には『初級日本語とびらIワークブック1ーひらがな・カタカナ、かんじ、よむ、かく』が発行され、ミシガン大学の初級のクラスでは実際に教科書を手にとって勉強できるようになりました。また、それに伴い、反転授業用動画も活用され、より効果的な授業が行われています。今後もワークブックや教師指導書の発行が予定されており、日本語科も教科書と共に発展していけるよう、努力する所存です。



2022年12月には2年ぶりに「日本語能力試験 (JLPT)」が当校で行われました。全レベルで346人の受験者があり、ミシガン州および近郊の州の日本語学習熱の高さを表していました。(ちなみに、現在ミシガン州では18大学で1737名の学生が日本語を勉強しています。)近隣の高校、大学の先生方も試験監督としてご協力くださり、成功裏に試験を遂行することができました。

最後に特筆すべきはOka Tadoku Roomの開設です。多読とは文字通り、自分が読めるレベルの本を多く読むことで、日本語の読解に慣れ、楽しみながら読む力を養う活動のことです。この多読ルームには様々なレベルとジャンルの本が用意

され、学生はマンガを読んだり、絵本を楽しんだりすることもできます。アジア図書館のおかげで、インターンシップ制度もでき、この多読ルームでは多読の授業を行ったり、多読のイベントをしたりしています。これらの活動を通して学生は読むことの楽しさを感じることができるようになりました。

このように、この一年で日常を取り戻しつつ、新たな活動を始めることができました。これもCJSを始め、アジア図書館、アジア言語文化学部のサポートがあつてのことです。この場をお借りし、心より感謝申し上げます。今後もさらなる発展をめざし、それが日本語を学ぶ学生たちへの貢献につながるよう、邁進してまいります。

Yoshimi Sakakibara
榎原芳美



CJS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Introduction *Prof. Reginald Jackson*

CJS launched its Postdoctoral Fellowship program in Fall of 2021 with a primary goal of strengthening the curriculum for MA students in the MIRS program's Japan subfield. I proposed the program in early 2020 out of growing concern about a relative paucity of graduate courses for students, which had become more acute with Japanese-studies faculty retirements and departures. Students themselves had lamented a lack of offerings in Japanese studies and the *de facto* piecemeal system of filling curricular gaps through teaching independent studies and overloads was unsustainable. Therefore, we sought to enhance our training of graduate students and respond to student interests and demand by supplementing our curriculum with course offerings from a promising early-career scholar whose skills could benefit a broad range of students across our cohorts. Taking student input seriously and allowing them a voice and vote in the selection of the successful candidate seemed fair and

crucial, so we assembled a committee of one humanist, one social scientist, and a graduate student representative. We were excited to see our call for applications yield dozens of talented scholars from around the globe who were based in the humanities and social sciences. In collaboration with CJS Associate Director Prof. Yuki Shiraito (political science) and Sophie Hasuo (graduate student representative), our committee selected Dr. Linda Galvane, who impressed us with her commitment to teaching and mentoring, especially. Linda proved an invaluable addition to our intellectual community whose efforts inside and outside the classroom constituted a massive contribution to the quality of Japanese studies instruction on campus. We're therefore grateful to have had her get this program off to a great start! In both the short and long term, this initiative will do much to improve graduate education for our students, to say nothing of boosting morale along with students' capacity to pursue a wider range of career paths both within and far beyond the academy.

Linda Galvane writes:

Reading Edward Seidensticker's *Genji Days* as a graduate student at Stanford University several years ago, it would have never occurred to me that one day I, too, would become part of the U-M community. Yet, in the academic year 2021–22, CJS warmly welcomed me as its first Postdoctoral Research Fellow, offering me an invaluable opportunity to continue my work on excremental rhetoric in modern Japanese literature and culture and explore new avenues of research, teaching, and collaboration. As chance would have it, I found myself under the mentorship of Reginald Jackson, the most preeminent contemporary *Genji* scholar and a source of admiration and aspiration among so many in the field of Japanese Studies and beyond. I am immensely grateful to him for sharing his time with me while on sabbatical and for supporting my research and teaching initiatives even after my fellowship concluded. During my time at CJS, I developed new directions for my book project on excremental rhetoric in modern Japanese literature. My course "Literary and Cultural Sewage Systems of Japan and Beyond" allowed me to revisit foundational theoretical texts and concepts from my research together with U-M students. Meeting Endi Poskovic (Stamps School of Arts and Design) early on in the academic year, I was invited to participate in his course on Japanese papermaking and present research in his Second-Year Concepts studio. Keiko Yokota-Carter's enthusiasm while sourcing research material was invaluable to conceiving my work on waste narratives and

toilet paper materiality, the first stages of which I presented at the CJS Lecture Series and at AAS in Honolulu in Spring 2022. I am proud to continue the work I started at CJS now at Duke by organizing a symposium on human bod(ily) waste narratives in Japan and transnationally.

Thanks to the CJS Lecture Series, I was able to connect with writer, scholar, and Japanese oral comedy performer Ogino Anna and *butoh* scholar Bruce Baird, who also kindly shared his work in my "Japanese Performance Traditions" course.

My experience at CJS would not have been complete without my students. Seidensticker may have been dismissive of political engagement in the 1970s, but in my course on "Biopolitics and Bioethics in Japanese Literature and Culture," topics of pressing concern to students—not only about Japan but also about the war in Ukraine and debates about the federal constitutional right to an abortion in the US—led to some of the most meaningful exchanges I had during my time at CJS.

I am indebted to many other people for these precious opportunities: Shinobu Kitayama, Yuri Fukuzawa, Jillian Locke, Barbara Kinzer, Erin Brightwell, Peggy Rudberg, Do-Hee Morsman, Chris Hill, Markus Nornes, Natsu Oyobe, and others who enriched my time in Michigan in their own distinct ways. Rereading Seidensticker's diary and tracing some of his steps around Ann Arbor, I saw a different path unfolding: my own journey through research, teaching, and professional development illuminated and encouraged along by the good people of U-M and CJS.

2022 Malm Award Recipients

Funded by a grant from the University of Michigan Office of the Provost, the William P. Malm Awards for Outstanding Student Writing in Japanese Studies honors Professor Emeritus William P. Malm, a long-time faculty member of the Center for Japanese Studies, the leading ethnomusicologist of Japan and one of the founders of the field of ethnomusicology in the United States.

Since 2010, the Malm Awards have sought to encourage and recognize exceptional writing on Japan. Two awards are bestowed annually, one for an outstanding paper by an undergraduate, and the other for an outstanding paper by a graduate student. Students are nominated for this award by a CJS Faculty Member or Associate. The CJS Admissions and Fellowships Committee selects award recipients from the nominations.

Graduate Prize: Karen Weldon (Dual Master's Degree in International and Regional Studies (Japanese Studies Specialization) and Environment and Sustainability), Class of 2023

Karen Weldon, a dual degree student in MIRS-CJS and Environment and Sustainability, Class of 2023, received the Malm Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Writing in Japanese Studies for 2022. She was nominated by Professor Erin Brightwell for her paper “*Japonic Fields: Cultivating National Identity in Small Town Japan.*” Written for ASIAN 550: Critical Introduction to Asian Studies, Karen’s paper explores identity in the rural city of Hakui, Ishikawa.

Karen was nominated by Professor Erin Brightwell, who wrote that “Karen turns to a marginalized site in rural Japan, Hakui, and its struggles to forge a distinct identity in order to survive. In this, Karen argues persuasively that a particular practice or set of practices—in this case, natural cultivation—can play a mediating role central to generating a communal identity. Karen then complicates the discussion of identity by highlighting the many layers at stake in Hakui. The ‘natural cultivators’ exist subsumed within a larger ‘Japanese’ (or perhaps *Japonic*) identity at the international level, but they also strategically define themselves both within and against domestic ‘Satoyama discourse.’ In short, while focusing on a single case study could have resulted in a parochial project, Karen’s ambitious engagement with writings on community and identity allow her to tell a story with bigger takeaways: one that offers a creative approach to the technologies of identity formation and highlights the fluid and contingent nature of identity itself.”



Undergraduate Prize: Robert Pobocik (Double Major in Actuarial Mathematics and Economics), U-M Flint Class of 2022

Robert Pobocik, a double major in Actuarial Mathematics and Economics, U-M Flint Class of 2022, won the Malm Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Student Writing in Japanese Studies for 2022.

Robert is the first U-M Flint student to receive the award and was nominated by Professor Gregory Laurence. Robert’s paper, “The Link Between Culture and Economics: How the Bubble Economy and Subsequent Lost Decade Influenced Japanese Culture,” was written for Professor Laurence’s course *The Business of Japanese Culture*.

In his nomination, Professor Laurence writes: “I think two pieces of information are vital for contextualizing Robert’s work: First, prior to this course he had had no coursework on Japan (except perhaps for a small amount of coverage in his *World Economic History* course); Second, the course I taught was in the 7.5-week summer semester, so while intense offered students fairly little time to really digest the material. Given these two pieces of information, I found Robert’s paper to be exceptional. He considers the structure of the Japanese economy and corporate structures and how these influence corporate cultures and people’s work lives. He goes on to describe the collapse of the asset price bubble, its impacts on Japanese corporate structures, and how this trickled down to directly impact the lives of Japanese today (for example, impacting the job hunting culture, the job changing culture, and gender equity at work, marriage rates, etc.).”



2022–2023 Graduations and Funding Recipients

May 2022 Graduates

- Kyle LaChance, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies



August 2022 Graduates

- Nuannuan Xiang, Ph.D. Political Science



Endowed and Named Awards and Fellowships Recipients

- **Dr. Hiroyuki and Mrs. Helen Rinehart Uete Fellowship in Japanese Studies**
 - 2021–22: Karen Weldon (MIRS-CJS and MS Environment and Sustainability)
 - 2022–23: Chase Boyer (MIRS-CJS)

- **Richard K. Beardsley and Robert E. Ward Scholarship for Japanese Language**

- Isaac Wittenberg (MIRS-CJS)

- **Masao and Mayumi Oka Scholarship for Japanese Language Studies**

- Violet Needham (International Studies, Sociology, and Asian Studies) and Justin Scott (Asian Studies)

Summer Fellowship Recipients

- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Japanese

- Chase Boyer (MIRS-CJS), Joel Liesenberg (MIRS-CJS), Christian OKeefe (MIRS-CJS)

- Summer Research/Internship Fellowships

- CJS Endowment Fellowship: Haley Chang (Ph.D. History of Art) and Yiqing Ma (Ph.D. Music Theory)

- Alumni Fellowship: Chase Boyer (MIRS-CJS), Mayna Tyrell (Ph.D. Ethnomusicology), and Anna Woźny (Ph.D. Sociology)

- Briefing: Thomas Charney (MLArch)

- Summer Language Award

- Alumni: Todd Maslyk (Ph.D. Germanic Languages and Literatures)

Academic Year Fellowship Recipients

- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Japanese

- Annabella Jankowski (MIRS-CJS), Joel Liesenberg (MIRS-CJS), Christian OKeefe (MIRS-CJS)

- CJS Endowment Fellowship

- Thomas Charney (Master of Landscape Architecture), Sara Chittenden (MIRS-CJS), Karen Weldon (MIRS-CJS and MS Environment and Sustainability), Isaac Wittenberg (MIRS-CJS), Nam Yamprai (MIRS-CJS)

Undergraduate Study Abroad Scholarship Recipients

- Benjamin Colding (Earth and Environmental Sciences and Asian Studies), Audrey Dozeman (International Studies), Alexandra Real (Psychology), Martin Crespo De Nogueira (Asian Studies), Makiah Shipp (African American Studies), Raymond Tran (Asian Studies)

Short Term Travel Grant Recipients

- Chase Boyer (MIRS-CJS), Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, virtual
- Anna Woźny (Ph.D. Sociology), Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Dissertation Writing Fellowship Recipient

- Anna Woźny (Ph.D. Sociology)

Ph.D. Completion Grant Recipients

- Anna Woźny (Ph.D. Sociology)



Toyota Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar Updates

In the past year, **Eric C. Rath** has been working on a book on the history of sake. Toward that goal, since 2021 he has written more than a dozen articles for *The Sake Times* and *Sake Today*. He also published a translation of the oldest guide to sake making: “*Sake Journal (Goshu no nikki): Japan’s Oldest Guide to Brewing.*” *Gastronomica: The Journal for Food Studies*, 21.4 (2021), 42-50.

Hwaji Shin writes: I was a Toyota Visiting Professor during AY 2020–2021. Thanks to generous and warm support from CJS, I was able to finish my book manuscript draft during my tenure at CJS, and now it is under book contract with the University of Hawai‘i Press! The book traces the historical transformation of nationhood, citizenship, and migration policies in 20th- and 21st-century Japanese society. But, it analyzes through the lens of the subaltern resistance by the Korean minority in Japan and shows the crucial role that Koreans’ social movement played in the process of developing a collective sense of nationhood, citizenship, and immigration policies in 20th- and 21st-century. My colleague Amy Traver (CUNY) and I are currently working as special guest editors for the *American Sociological Association Journal of Teaching Sociology’s* special issue on “Humanistic Sociology”, which asks sociologists to move beyond “big data” and positivistic approach, and imagine interpretive and humanistic approach to research, learning, and teaching in the discipline of sociology. At the University of San Francisco, I started directing the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Certificate Program for sociology majors. Much of my current projects owe to all the great inspiration and valuable lessons that I received during my tenure as a Toyota Visiting Professor. In particular, Dr. Allison Alexy and Dr. Reginald Jackson have continued to be great sources of constant support and friendship! I hope to visit CJS in person with my published book one day!

Julia Adeney Thomas writes: I published *Altered Earth: Getting the Anthropocene Right* (Cambridge University Press, 2022) and had the thrill of being reviewed by (the Green) Baroness Natalie Bennett. *The Anthropocene: A Multidisciplinary Approach* (Polity, 2020) is now out in German and Chinese, with a Korean translation pending. I spent a fabulous summer as the Benjamin Meaker Distinguished Visiting Professor in Bristol, UK and also teaching environmental history at the Süleymaniye Mosque in Istanbul. For the last couple of years, I’ve served as a consultant on the United Nations Human Development Report (HDR) “Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives.” It’s great to be back on the speaking circuit for those important conversations with activists and other scholars—and wonderful that Japan has reopened.

Julia Adeney Thomas, History, University of Notre Dame
Altered Earth: Getting the Anthropocene Right (Cambridge University Press, 2022) <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/altered-earth/0628D6DF58789AE459014CC8B0D45BB8>
The Anthropocene: A Multidisciplinary Approach with Mark Williams and Jan Zalasiewicz (Polity, 2020) https://www.politybooks.com/bookdetail?book_slug=the-anthropocene-a-multidisciplinary-approach--9781509534593
Strata and Three Stories with Jan Zalasiewicz (Rachel Carson Center, 2020) <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/perspectives/2020/3/strata-and-three-stories>
Visualizing Fascism: The Twentieth-century Rise of the Global Right (Duke, 2020) <https://read.dukeupress.edu/books/book/2681/Visualizing-FascismThe-Twentieth-Century-Rise-of-Why-the-Anthropocene-is-not-Climate-Change-and-Why-it-Matters>
<https://www.asiaglobalonline.hku.hk/anthropocene-climate-change/>

Mariko Anno (TVP 2018–19), Tokyo Institute of Technology, has been actively presenting her research on Noh drama internationally to disseminate knowledge of Noh and to encourage other fields to engage with art. She was invited to give online talks on her book, *Piercing the Structure of Tradition: Flute Performance, Continuity, and Freedom in the Music of Noh Drama* (Cornell University Press, 2020), both at Tokyo University of the Arts and at an event co-hosted by Tokyo Institute of Technology and the Center for Japanese Studies, University of California Berkeley in celebration of the newly created Tokyo Tech ANNEX Berkeley. She presented on Noh transmission at the British Forum of Ethnomusicology and the Society for Ethnomusicology conferences, and investigated how Okinawan and Japanese music and dance have been transmitted in Chicago at the Japanese Association for Migration Studies conference. For science and engineering students in the Asian Science and Technology Pioneering Institutes of Research and Education (ASPIRE) League, a consortium of four top universities in Asia, she gave an online presentation entitled “Noh Drama: Aesthetics, Transmission, and Individuality” to introduce students to Japanese culture through the lens of Noh (see Figure 1). She also engaged in community outreach by presenting online to the Chicago Japanese Club on Noh, Kabuki, and Bunraku, speaking to an audience from around the world.



Figure 1: Anno preparing for her ASPIRE League presentation hosted by Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Reflection on my academic year as the TVP

by Charles T. McClean

What a wonderful experience it was to serve as the Toyota Visiting Professor for AY 2021–2022!

It is hard to believe that nearly a year has passed since my tenure as TVP ended. When I first accepted the TVP position in 2020, it was unclear whether my family and I would be able to relocate to Ann Arbor due to the uncertainty of the pandemic. Thankfully, we were ultimately able to make it safely to Michigan in late summer 2021. When we arrived, we were welcomed warmly by everyone at the International Institute thanks to my TVP position and the fact that my wife joined the Nam Center for Korean Studies as a Korea Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow. During our year, we also welcomed the birth of our first child at Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital. So it is safe to say that my family will always feel a special connection to Ann Arbor—a connection that we are reminded of every time that we see our daughter in one of her many Michigan onesies, courtesy of the generosity of our friends at the Nam Center and CJS.

On a personal note, I am incredibly grateful to everyone at CJS for making my year in Ann Arbor so enjoyable. Although we did not get an opportunity to meet in person, I am thankful to outgoing CJS Director Kiyoteru Tsutsui and current CJS Director Reggie Jackson, who was on leave, for facilitating my acceptance as TVP. In their absence, Interim Director Shinobu Kitayama went above and beyond to integrate me into the CJS community, and I have very fond memories of our conversations and dinners together. My faculty mentor, Associate Director Yuki Shiraito, was a constant source of academic and personal support throughout the year, and I am excited that we are now collaborating on research projects together. I also want to express my sincere gratitude to the staff at CJS—Yuri Fukazawa, Barbara Kinzer, Jillian Locke, and Robin Griffin—for the many, many times they helped me out and for all their hard work to make the many, many events that CJS held run so smoothly. Do-Hee Morsman's advice and guidance was also invaluable as I navigated the ins and outs of my TVP time at Michigan. And Peggy Rudberg provided much needed administrative support and consistently made my day with her cheery greetings at the front of our office.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to Toyota Motor North America for making my TVP appointment possible. I had wonderful interactions with Greg Laskey and am indebted to him for allowing me to tour Toyota's Research & Development Center.

On the research side, my year as the TVP was a productive one. I made significant progress on my book project and was especially grateful for the opportunity to receive feedback from the stellar community of scholars at Michigan. A highlight of the year was certainly my participation in the CJS Noon Lecture Series. I also received insightful comments on other aspects of the

book at events hosted by Dan Slater and the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies, Shinobu Kitayama and his Culture and Cognition Lab in the Department of Psychology, and student members of the Japanese Studies Interdisciplinary Colloquium.

I published three articles on Japan in peer-reviewed journals over the year. The first of these represented my first solo article, published in *Comparative Political Studies*, on how incumbent governments in Japan can manipulate their control over election timing to extend their tenure in office. This article went on to win the Best Paper Award from the American Political Science Association's Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Section. The second article, published in *Nature Medicine*, finds that municipal-level decisions to close schools did not reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Japan, which suggests that similar policies should be reexamined given the negative consequences for children and parents. This article received significant public attention: it has been accessed over 38,000 times and covered by 33 news outlets including the *Asahi Shimbun*, *Nikkei Shimbun*, and *Washington Post*. Finally, I joined with 16 other junior Japan scholars to write the third article, published in *PS: Political Science and Politics*, which investigates how to conduct fieldwork when access to the field is limited by crises such as COVID-19.

In the winter semester, I had a wonderful experience teaching a course for U-M undergraduate and graduate students on Japanese Politics and Society. Over thirteen weeks, we worked together to try and explain public policy outcomes in Japan across a wide range of topics, including the long-term dominance of the Liberal Democratic Party, gender equality, nuclear energy, territorial disputes, population aging, and immigration. I particularly enjoyed working with students on their independent research projects and came away very impressed with what everyone was able to accomplish within just a semester.

Lastly, while my official time as TVP has ended, I will return to campus in March 2023 to host a TVP conference on Aging in Asia with Yuki Shiraito. We initially intended to hold this conference in 2022 but delayed it a year to enable in-person participation. Our plan is to bring together a group of graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and faculty who are working on declining birth rates and aging populations in Asia from a variety of perspectives and social science disciplines. I am greatly looking forward to the conference—and to the opportunity to reconnect with the CJS community!

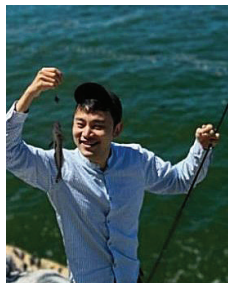
Looking back, I feel happy knowing that my time as TVP was one of the most positive and productive experiences in my career. I also feel grateful knowing that I will forever have strong personal and professional connections to Ann Arbor.



Get to know our new and current MIRS students!

Michael Ai

graduated from Brandeis University with a BA in East Asian studies and economics in 2019. His research focuses on the so-called *junbungaku*, or pure literature, movement in the post-war era. In his senior year at college, Michael tackled works from the iconic Japanese author Kenzaburō Ōe with theories of sexuality.



interests in gender studies and Japanese by exploring gender performance in kabuki theater. After graduating in 2014, she taught English in Yokohama for four years. She currently works as a remote editor for a Tokyo-based company and has been organizing the Grand Rapids Zine Fest since 2013. Her primary research interest is translating text regarding marginalized identities in Japan from an intersectional feminist lens, examining the political aspect of translation.

Chiara Gerding

earned a BS in Cultural and Global Studies and History specializing in Asian Studies, particularly China, from Central Michigan University in 2017. Her research interests focus on the issue of comfort women and contemporary social and political conflicts between China and Japan.



Annabella

Jankowski graduated from Oakland University with a BA in International Relations and a BA in Japanese Language and Literature in 2022. She has previously worked as an intern for Ikigai Connections, and her research interests include female and LGBTQ+ representation in Japan.



Joel Liesenberg graduated from Central Michigan University in 2018 with a BA in English, focusing in ESL/Applied Linguistics. Upon graduating, he spent two years living and working as a high school English teacher in Tokyo, Japan as part

of the JET program. Along with his studies in the MIRS program, he is also a dual-degree student, studying for a Master's of Science in Information (focusing in Digital Archives, Library Science, and Preservation) through the School of Information. His research interests include Japanese library and archival studies, linguistics, and the portrayal of the queer community in contemporary Japanese literature, games, and other media.



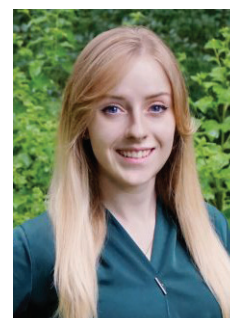
Alexandria

Molinari graduated from University of Central Florida with a BA in Interdisciplinary studies in 2019, with focus on international relations and language. Her research interests include: postwar US-Japan relations, Japanese economic history, particularly in regard to relations with Southeast Asian states and their economies, and postwar Japanese cultural development.



Christian OKeefe's

research interests include inter-ethnic Japanese and *zainichi*-Korean family units, systems of power, and diasporic identity. She earned a BA in Anthropology and a BA in Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities from Michigan State University 2017.



Chase Boyer

graduated from Florida State University with a BS in Asian Studies and a BA in East Asian Languages and Cultures with a specialization in Japanese. His research interests include religious, ethnic, and caste based othering and discrimination. His primary focus in this regard is the historical representation of hunting and the Ainu, Burakumin, and Matagi communities in the northern Japanese regions of Tōhoku and Hokkaidō. He is also interested in the role of imperialism and nativist ideologies including the *kokugakuha*, *minzokugakuha*, and *nihonjinron* on the creation of the boundaries of Japanese identities through history.



Sara Chittenden

has a BS in Women and Gender Studies from Grand Valley State University. During a semester abroad in Japan, she combined her



Alumni Updates

She completed her study abroad at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities in Hikone, Japan.

Jackson Jiaqi Tian

Tian's primary academic interests are Japanese linguistics and political economy in modern Japan. He had some research experience in censorship including Japanese censorship in the colonial period in Korea, and cinematic censorship in post-WWII Japan.



Karen Weldon

is pursuing a dual masters degree in environment and sustainability as well as international and regional studies with a specialization in Japanese studies. Hailing from Oklahoma, Karen graduated from Macalester College in 2014 with a BA in environmental studies. After working in food justice and sustainable agriculture in the Upper Midwest, she spent 4 years in Ishikawa, Japan. In Ishikawa, she split her time between teaching English and working at an environmental conservation organization. She also studied rural revitalization and traditional Japanese landscapes at Kanazawa University. At the University of Michigan, she will delve into Japanese environmentalism, exploring how the country's development and policies have influenced the environmental and agricultural challenges Japan faces today.



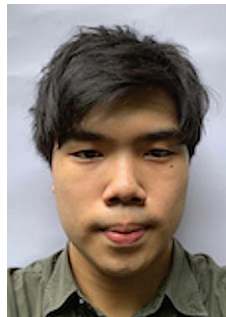
Isaac Wittenberg

is pursuing a Masters in International and Regional Studies with a specialization in Japanese Studies as well as a Graduate Certificate in LGBTQ Studies. He graduated from Western Michigan University with a BA in Japanese and minors in Asian Studies and Music in 2021. He spent his sophomore year studying abroad at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan. His research interests include LGBTQ politics, Japanese queer popular culture, gender and sexuality, identity formation, and LGBTQ education.



Nam Yamprai

is raised in Bangkok, Thailand and has, since the age of 8, mainly studied in the U.S.. From the time he was 14 until 2019, he would visit Tokyo annually to attend language schools. He also completed the summer program at Jochi (Sophia) University and learned traditional instruments such as the *shakuhachi* flute. He accompanied his mother during her fieldwork in Southeast Asia, briefly working for Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok) and at the University of Northern Colorado's music department. At UNC, he completed a dual degree in International Affairs and Asian Studies, minoring in Japanese. His research interest is in contemporary Japan-ASEAN relations, having written his thesis which compared Japanese Pan Asianist ideology with ASEAN-China economic relations.



Kate Shanahan

(MA in Asian Studies—Japan Specialization 1986–91; CJS work-study 1986–88) published her debut novel *Tangled Spirits* in April, 2022. Dr. Aileen Gatten, CJS Affiliate and a scholar of Heian Japan, provided support for historical accuracy.



Novel synopsis: Mina Cooper, a U-M Asian Studies major, is on a study-abroad at University of Tsukuba when she accidentally slips into the year 999 and into the body of aspiring *miko* Masako. A struggle for control becomes a race against time to get Mina home before it's too late.

Excerpt from a review: "Mina's journey in *Tangled Spirits* is the ultimate study-abroad experience, one that will excite and delight many a Japanophile reader. [...] It makes the most of its weird and wonderful premise to deliver a story that not only entertains but also has the potential to introduce Heian Japanese history to a new audience and touch readers with a story of friendship not quite like any they've read before."

Tangled Spirits is available to order online in paperback and ebook just about everywhere. See options to purchase *Tangled Spirits* on Kate's website kvshanahan.com.



continued on page 16

Alumni Updates

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Hirofumi Ando received a Decoration from His Imperial Majesty Emperor Naruhito at a ceremony held at the College of Local Administration, Khon Kaen University, Thailand on December 8, 2022. The Decoration—Order of the Secret Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon (瑞宝中綬章), together with a Certificate signed by Prime Minister Kishida of Japan, were delivered to Dr. Ando at a ceremony at the College of Local Administration by Mr. Yūichi Ohba, Deputy Chief of the Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Bangkok. They were given to him for his long-term contributions to international cooperation, especially through the United Nations. The ceremony was attended by about 35 faculty members, including the Dean of the College of Local Administration, the President of the Khon Kaen University, as well as the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, who delivered congratulatory remarks. The former Foreign Minister, Dr. Krasae, has also received such a decoration, the highest one that foreigners can receive from Japan.

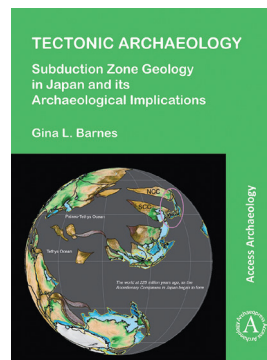
Alex Bates (Ph.D. 2006) would like to announce the publication of his edited volume, *Teaching Postwar Japanese Fiction* (MLA 2023). This collection of essays includes chapters by other Michigan alumni such as Brian Dowdle, Jason Herlands, Sharalyn Orbaugh, and James Reichert. Here is the description from MLA: “This volume will help instructors introduce students to novels, short stories, and manga that confront postwar Japanese experiences, including the suffering caused by the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the echoes of Japan’s colonialism and imperialism, new ways of thinking about Japanese identity and about minorities such as the *zainichi* Koreans, changes in family structures, and environmental disasters.” Alex hopes others will find it useful for incorporating postwar Japanese fiction in a range of courses from history and sociology to gender studies and comparative

literature. More information can be found on mla.org/Publications/Bookstore/Options-for-Teaching/Teaching-Postwar-Japanese-Fiction.

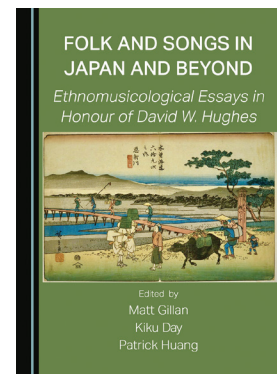
Nuannuan Xiang writes:

After gaining my Ph.D. in political science in August 2022, I started a postdoc position at Brown University’s Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs. In July 2023, I will become an assistant professor at Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health. I am working on a book project based on my dissertation, which is about the politics of maternal and infant protection in Japan and the United States. I thank CJS’s generous financial and language support for my fieldwork in Japan.

Gina L. Barnes (Ph.D. Anthropology and Archaeology, U-M, 1983), Professor Emerita and Project Affiliate at the Department of Earth Sciences at Durham University as well as Professorial Research Associate at the Japan Research Centre at SOAS University of London, has published a book entitled *Tectonic Archaeology: Subduction Zone Geology in Japan and its Archaeological Implications*. The effects of tectonic processes on archaeological sites are evidenced by earthquake damage, volcanic eruptions, and tsunami destruction, but these processes also affect a broader sphere of landform structures, environment, and climate. In this book, an overview of tectonic archaeology is followed by a detailed summary of geoarchaeological fieldwork in Japan. More information about the book can be found at archaeopress.com/Archaeopress/Products/9781803273990.



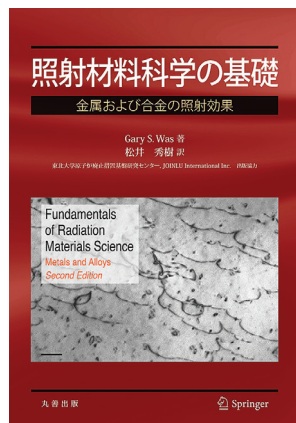
David W. Hughes (Ph.D. Musicology and Anthropology, U-M, 1985), Emeritus Research Associate at the Department of Music and the Japan Research Centre at SOAS University of London, has had a *Festschrift* dedicated to him entitled *Folk and Songs in Japan and Beyond: Ethnomusicological Essays in Honour of David W. Hughes*. This volume of essays and research papers is dedicated to him in honor of his contribution to research, teaching and dissemination of the music of Japan, Southeast Asia, and other countries over many years. Dr Hughes’s academic output from the 1970s to the present has covered many aspects of Japanese traditional music-making, in particular the *min’yō* (folk song) genre of which he remains the primary scholar outside Japan. His groundbreaking work has also encompassed theories of musical grammars, oral notation systems in cross-cultural perspective, as well as several papers on cultural heritage and preservation societies. The contributors to this volume comprise many of David’s former students, as well as scholars from Japan and elsewhere with whom Dr Hughes has collaborated over the years. The papers reflect the depth and breadth of Hughes’s research output, demonstrating his continuing influence over ethnomusicologists around the world. More information about the *Festschrift* can be found at cambridgescholars.com/product/978-1-5275-8316-0.



CJS Affiliate Updates

Jeffrey Angles writes: This year, I finished translating three books. Two are forthcoming, but one is already out, and really strong reviews are pouring in from lots of corners. The book in question: Hiromi Ito, *The Thorn Puller*, trans. Jeffrey Angles (Stone Bridge Press, 2022). On the page stonebridge.com/catalog-2020/The-Thorn-Puller are links to a lot of the reviews that have come out recently. There is another big one coming along soon with an interview with Hiromi and me from one of the major publishing magazines.

Yugo Ashida Initiated a research intelligence project on carbon neutrality with Hitachi R&D at their headquarters in Japan. He also supported the publication and Japanese translation of an engineering textbook titled *Fundamentals of Radiation Materials Science*. The book was published by Maruzen Publishing in January 2023. Finally, Dr. Ashida also assisted in signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan, the Graduate School of Engineering, and the Green Goals Initiative of Tohoku University in Japan.



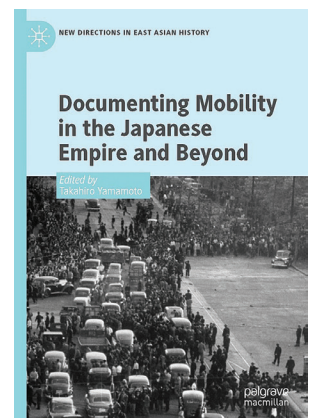
Based on her dissertation, **Hongfang Hao** (Ph.D. Sociology, Kyoto University)'s first book 『東アジアの紹介型国際結婚—グローバルな家族と越境する親密性』(*Marriage Migration in East Asia: Global Families and Cross-Border Intimacy*) was published by 明石書店 (Akashi Shoten) in December 2021. She also has been involved in the research project *Trans-border, Migration and Gender Studies: Reshaping the Well-Being beyond Cultural Conflict in East Eurasia*, headed by East Eurasian Studies, Slavic Eurasian Research Centre, Hokkaido University from June 2022. She has been a Michigan resident since 2018.

Mariko Kunimi would like to report the publication of *Solutions to Issues and Future Prospects for Social Welfare Corporations in Japan from the Aspect of Information Disclosure*, Shiba, K., Kunimi, M., et al. (268 p). Dobunkan Publishing Co., Tokyo, Japan, Sep. 30, 2021 (『社会福祉法人の課題解決と未来の展望』、2021/09/30、同文館出版). This book focuses on information disclosure of a Japanese non-profit organization regarding social services by examining literary, regulatory, and statistical data surveys. Such a certified non-profit organization called the “Social Welfare Corporation” (SWC) has provided social services primarily in Japan, established by the Social Welfare Service Act (nowadays the Social Welfare Law) since the early 1950s. However, per the deregulation trend in developed countries, the Japanese social welfare

system underwent a significant transformation. Along with the rapid aging of society, citizens’ demand for social services has increased. In 2000, Japan’s Basic Structural Reform of Social Welfare changed the supply method drastically. Under the new system, information disclosure would be essential for the stakeholders, including the users, employees, citizens, and government, to make decisions. Thus, this book examines the present status of the disclosure of SWCs and analyzes accounting and governance. Our research hopes to consider the appropriate disclosure by examining what information disclosure would suit the SWCs’ future sustainable development.

Hiroaki Matsusaka (Ph.D. History 2019) has been teaching in Japan as a Lecturer of Global Studies at Osaka University of Economics since April 2021. He recently published a book chapter titled “Cross-Imperial Critique of Border Control: Japanese Socialists’ Responses to the U.S. Immigration Act of 1924” in an anthology, *Documenting Mobility in the Japanese Empire and Beyond* (Palgrave Macmillan Singapore, 2022). His chapter analyzes direct and indirect comments that socialists made about the 1924 Asian exclusion law in relation to contemporaneous events in Imperial Japan. In 2022, Hiro also gave online lectures based on his projects on Afro-Asian intellectual history, invited by a research group at Gyeongsang National University in Korea and by the Marx Society of Japan (マルクス研究会).

John Timothy Wixted, Emeritus Professor of Chinese and Japanese Languages and Literatures, Arizona State University, Visiting Scholar, University of Notre Dame, published a revised and expanded version of his article “*Kanshi* in Translation: How Its Features Can Be Effectively Communicated” in *Sino-Japanese Reflections: Literary and Cultural Interactions between China and Japan in Early Modernity*, ed. Joshua Fogel and Matthew Fraleigh (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022). Also, he mounted on his website (JohnTimothyWixted.com) a 33-page PDF (jointly compiled by Cui Jie) that provides the Chinese texts for the 130 complete poems treated in his translation of Yoshikawa Kōjirō (吉川幸次郎)'s *Five Hundred Years of Chinese Poetry, 1150–1650: The Chin, Yuan, and Ming Dynasties* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989); the work draws many helpful comparisons with Japanese literature.



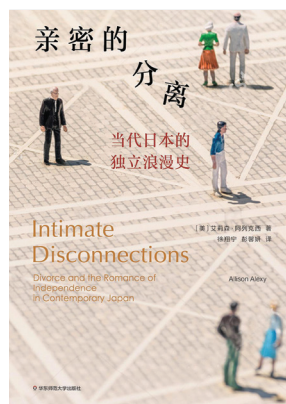
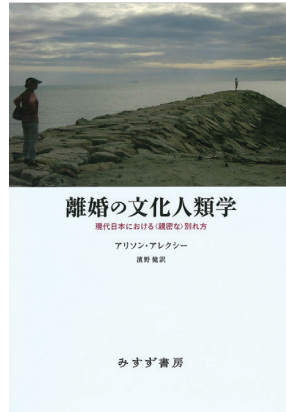
Faculty Updates

Allison Alexy writes:

I'm happy to share the update that my book was translated into Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. The Japanese translation was brilliantly created by Takeshi Hamano, who is a CJS affiliate. I thank CJS for permitting me to use some of my research funds on the project. It was published by Misuzu Press and has been reviewed in the *Nihon keizai shinbun* and *Asahi*, so that's good! See msz.co.jp/book/detail/09084 for the reviews in various publications.

The Mandarin translation's publication was delayed because of COVID-19 but is out now and seems to be generating some conversations (see book.douban.com/subject/36135149/). It was published by the East Chinese Normal University Press and translated by Xinyan Peng 彭馨妍, who is an assistant professor at Sun Yat-sen University, and Xiangning "Amy" Xu 徐翔宁, who is a doctoral student in sociology at Brown University. I am surprised but happy that there is such interest in this project.

Keiko Yokota-Carter, Japanese Studies Librarian, attended the 32nd European Association of Japanese Resource Specialist conference in Lisbon, Portugal from September 14 to 17. She participated in the discussion at the panel on improving access to Japanese digital resources. The conference was hybrid, which allowed the librarians and researchers around the globe to join in discussion at the conference together regardless of time zones. Since on-site fall-semester courses began, she has taught a class on the history of Japanese pre-modern books in the form of the *History of Books* course in collaboration with the CJS Noon Lecture given by Professor Takahiro Sasaki of the Keio Oriental Classics. In addition, she has taught library resources and supported the Japanese Language courses in the newly opened Oka Tadoku Room at the Asia Library. She also submitted the chapter "Librarians Project X: bring Japanese E-resources to overseas" (tentative title) in a book to be published in summer 2023.



In summer 2022, **Markus Nornes** participated in documenta 15 in Kassel, Germany. The massive art festival was programmed by the Indonesian collective ruangrupa, which in turn invited other collectives. One of these was Subversive Films, whose project *Tokyo Reels* was invited to Kassel. *Tokyo Reels* is an archival project centered on a collection of materials from the Palestine solidarity networks of the 1960s–80s. Sleeping in a home in a Tokyo suburb, visiting Palestinian filmmakers learned of the collection, and, upon visiting, found 20 film prints. *Tokyo Reels* investigates how these films landed in Japan, how they were shown and how they were received. The group will publish a book on the project in 2023.



Alyssa Paredes (U-M Anthropology) presented her work at the Japan Foundation-sponsored panel "Conspiracies and Coalitions in Japanese Environmental Humanities" at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference 2022 in Honolulu. The panel was the culmination of the Japan Foundation's "US–Japan Junior Scholars Networking Program," which included interdisciplinary workshops, field tours, and networking opportunities around the theme of "Japanese Environmental Humanities." Other participants Wakana Suzuki (Graduate University for Advanced Studies, Japan), Jon L Pitt (University of California, Irvine), Daichi Sugai (Matsuyama University), Sakura Christmas (Bowdoin College), and Satsuki Takahashi (Hosei University), with Karen Thornber (Harvard University) serving as convener. Pictured here is a meeting with Dr. Aya Kimura, author of *Radiation Brain Moms and Citizen Scientists: The Gender Politics of Food Contamination after Fukushima*, and Dr. Candace Fujikane, author of *Mapping Abundance for a Planetary Future: Kanaka Maoli and Critical Settler Cartographies in Hawai'i*, at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. A video recording of the panel can be viewed at youtu.be/Slb-l48XCQM.



Professor Emerita **Jennifer Robertson** shares the following updates:

Visiting Professorship:

Fall 2022 and Winter 2023, Visiting Professor, Tokyo College, University of Tokyo, Japan.

Publications:

2022 “Non, les Japonais ne vivent pas avec les robots. Entretien avec Jennifer Robertson (No, the Japanese do not live with robots. An interview with Jennifer Robertson),” *Tempura, un magazine sur le Japon*, special issue “Retour vers le futur”, No. 12 (Winter 2022) : 64–67. (In French.)

2022 “The Househusband as an Agent of Pro-natalism.” Commentary. *Current Anthropology* 63(5): 561–562.

2022 “Technologies of *Kokoro* (heartmind): Imagineering Human-Robot Coexistence. Perspectives from Japan.” *ICON: Journal of the International Committee on the History of Technology* 27(1): 53–80.

2022 “Glamorized Exploitation: Visual Images of Meiji-period ‘Factory Girls’ (*jokō*).” Cover design and cover essay. *Technology and Culture* 63(2): 450–457.

2022 “Imagineerism: Kinship, Robots, and Techno-Nationalism. Perspectives from Japan,” pp. 449–466. In *Handbook of the Anthropology of Technology*, Maja Hojer Bruun, Ayo Wahlberg, Rachel Douglas-Jones, Cathrine Hasse, Klaus Hoeyer, Dorthe Brogård Kristensen, and Brit Ross Winthereik, eds., New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

2022 “From Tiramisù to #MeToo: Triangulations of Sex, Gender and Sexuality in Heisei Japan,” *Chp.* 14, pp. 180–192. In *Heisei Japan in Retrospect (1989–2019)*, Noriko Murai, Jeff Kingston, Tina Burrett, eds., New York: Routledge.

Invited lectures:

[2023] “Emotional Robots and Digital Hormones: Japanese Perspectives on Technology, Religion, and Spirituality,” and discussion of *Robo Sapiens Japonicus: Robots, Gender, Family, and the Japanese Nation* (2018). Invited lecture for the seminar series on “Emerging Technologies and the Future of the Humanities,” Emory University, 16–17 March. (Zoom presentations.)

[2023] “Robo-sexism: Gendering AI and Robots in Japan and the United States (and Elsewhere).” Association for Asian Studies (AAS), North East Asia Council (NEAC) Distinguished Lecture Series, University of Denver, 7 March.

[2023] “Revolutionary Triangulations: Commentary on Professor Pierre Serna’s ‘Mary Wollstonecraft, Historian of the French Revolution’.” Public lecture sponsored by Tokyo College, University of Tokyo, 27 February. (Webinar.)

[2023] “Affective Robotics: Designing and Programming Gender in Humanoid Robots. Perspectives from Japan.” Public lecture sponsored by Tokyo College, University of Tokyo, 20 February. (Webinar.)

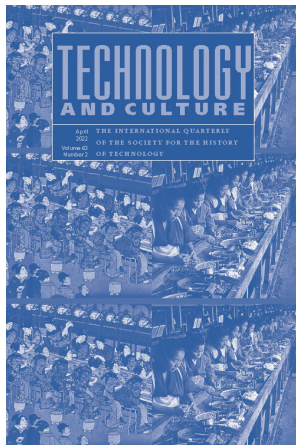
[2023] “Robo-Buddhism: Technology, Design, and Spirituality in Japan Today.” Invited lecture, Institute of Comparative Culture, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, 19 January.

[2022] “Robots, Religion, and Techno-Spirituality in Japan.” Invited lecture, Asian Futures Program, Ohio State University, 18 November.

[2022] “Women in Academia: Vectors of Empowerment.” Invited speaker/interlocutor, Workshop on Empowering Academic Women, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, 30 September.

Yoshihiro Mochizuki, Japanese language lecturer, has recently achieved two significant academic milestones. He has been selected as one of the three co-directors of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ). The 2023 AATJ Annual Spring Conference is scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 16, 2023, in Boston, in conjunction with the 2023 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting.

Yoshihiro Mochizuki will also be the keynote speaker at the fourth Northwest Conference on Japanese Pedagogy, which will be held at the University of Washington on May 20–21, 2023. His keynote speech, titled “Empowering Teachers: Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Japanese Language Classrooms,” aims to raise awareness of the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and social justice in the Japanese language classroom. He will provide participants with a better understanding of the negative impact of unconscious bias and microaggressions on students’ learning experiences.



Ann Arbor Japan Week 2022: A return to in-person events

After two years of online programming, the eighth annual installment of Ann Arbor Japan Week returned in person in June 2022. The week of fun and family-friendly cultural events kicked off with a screening of the Studio Ghibli classic *Kiki's Delivery Service* at the Michigan Theater. The film drew a crowd of nearly 900 moviegoers, making it one of the most popular and well-attended film screenings in the event's history.

Ann Arbor District Library hosted a variety of events for Japan Week, including Storytime with Momo Kajiwara, Kamishibai, and *origami* with the JSD Women's Club. Sakura Japanese Instrumental Group also gave a live performance of Japanese festival music, featuring the *Shishimai*—a golden dancing lion.

Drummers from the Great Lakes Taiko Center gave an energetic performance at Ann Arbor Summer Festival and staff from the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit visited to share traditional Japanese toys and festival customs. An *iaido* workshop with Peter Boylan of the Michigan Koryu Kenkyukai drew aspiring martial artists of all ages. Participants learned about swords and *iaido's* history before having the opportunity to try basic techniques with wooden practice swords.

Ann Arbor Japan Week is sponsored in part by the Japan Business Society of Detroit, and is made possible thanks to the help and support of partners like the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor District Library, the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit, Slurping Turtle Restaurant, and many more. Please join us again in June 2023!



Japanese Studies Interdisciplinary Colloquium

The Japanese Studies Interdisciplinary Colloquium (JSIC), a student-run Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop, is a community of graduate students who study Japan across different departments at U-M. Last year, co-coordinators Karen Weldon, Kyle LaChance (International and Regional Studies, MA) and Anna Woźny (Sociology, Ph.D.) held ten events, building community despite ongoing social anxieties related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the fall and early winter, JSIC hosted two book clubs. In the fall, JSIC members read and discussed *Breast and Eggs* by the Japanese author Mieko Kawakami, which received the prestigious Akutagawa Prize. In the winter, students received and read books related to their research. The discussion was a great opportunity for students at different levels and from different programs to connect over common points of interest in their research.

JSIC also hosted both academic- and professional-focused programming. In March, JSIC held an informal talk followed by a casual discussion with Dr. Charles McClean, the 2021–22 Toyota Visiting Professor at the Center for Japanese Studies as well as with Dr. Linda Galvane, the 2021–22 CJS Postdoctoral Fellow. In February JSIC organized a “Beyond the CJS Degree” panel, in which CJS-affiliated professors and Ikigai Connections’ founder Kasia-san shared tips for securing employment with Japanese language skills and cultural knowledge. In addition, JSIC supported students through a Fellowship Info Session, held in collaboration with II Fellowships Advisor Ann Takata.

JSIC thanks the Center for Japanese Studies, International Institute, and Rackham for their consistent support, which has proven essential to formulating this group, and their coordinating disparate students and faculty across all disciplines of the University of Michigan campus.



Toyota Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar Updates

continued from page 12

Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney writes: My book on the Ainu of Southern Sakhalin, *Karafuto Ainu Minzokushi* (樺太アイヌ民族誌), was published in Japanese published by Seidosha (青土社).

The second Mandarin Chinese (Simplified) translation of my book *Rice as Self* was published by the Commercial Press in Beijing.

In 2020, I was conferred the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. Owing to COVID-19, however, the ceremony at the Consul-General’s official residence was not able to take place until last fall. Please see the news release concerning the conferment ceremony, release by the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago, quoted below:

On Monday, November 28, the Conferment Ceremony for the 2020 Autumn Conferment of Decoration was held at the Official Residence of the Consul-General of Japan in Chicago. Consul-General Tajima Hiroshi presented to Dr. Ohnuki-Tierney the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon.

Dr. Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney has been engaged in her research in the field of anthropology as a William F. Vilas Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has contributed to the spread of Japanese culture and the views of Japanese people through lectures at universities and research institutes around the world. Her dissertations and writings on Japanese studies have been introduced around the world and have been translated into 10 different languages, greatly contributing to the promotion of the understanding of Japan.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Ohnuki-Tierney’s friend and colleague from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Consul-General Tajima delivered congratulatory remarks and presented to Dr. Ohnuki-Tierney the patent of decoration and the decoration, conferred by His Majesty the Emperor. Dr. Ohnuki-Tierney then delivered her reply address.



Noon Lecture Series

The CJS Thursday Noon Lecture Series serves an important function within our scholarly community. It provides an opportunity for faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, and members of the general public to be introduced to the work of scholars in Japanese studies; in addition, it provides a forum for all of these parties to share ideas and exchange views on a range of topics related to the study of Japan. Due to the restrictions caused by the pandemic, our 2021–2022 lecture series continued to be delivered in a webinar format. Using the webinar format, we were able to expand our ability to provide lectures that not only originated in the US, but also Japan, France, and Sweden. In addition, the format also expanded our audience base, as people from all over the world could attend virtually, almost doubling the number that could attend.

We opened the Fall 2021 series with Jim Raymo, Professor of Sociology and the Henry Wendt III '55 Professor of East Asian Studies, Princeton University, speaking on *The Link Between Marriage and Fertility and Changing Pathways to First Marriage in Japan*. Jolyon Thomas, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, spoke on *Difficult Subjects: Religion and Public Schools in Contemporary Japan* while Yeonju Lee, Assistant Professor, Waseda Institute for Advanced Study, Waseda University, Japan, focused her presentation on *Judging Inequality: Japan in Comparative Perspective*. In November, Adam Clulow, Professor, University of Texas at Austin, gave his lecture on *The Massacre and the Conspiracy: Locating the Japanese Diaspora in Seventeenth Century Southeast Asia*. The final Fall CJS lecture was *Creation of and Participation in Networks: Visiting the Japan Biographical Database*, given by Bettina Gramlich-Oka, Professor of Japanese History, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Sophia University, Japan.

Continuing with the webinar format, our Winter series was opened by Charles McClean, the CJS Toyota Visiting Professor, addressing *Too Young to Run? Voter Evaluations of the Age of Candidates*. In February, CJS welcomed Yusuke Shindo, Consul General of Japan in Detroit, discussing *Japan: People, Society, Tradition and its Relations with the US*. We were also able to reschedule a previous planned lecture, Yusaku Horiuchi, Professor of Government and the Mitsui Professor of Japanese Studies, Department of Government, Program in Quantitative Social Science, Dartmouth College, speaking on *Democracy without Policy Competition: Voter Preferences and Single-Party Dominance in Japan*. The 2021–2022 series was finished by

Linda Galvane, 2021–22 CJS Postdoctoral Fellow, speaking on *Literary Toilet Papers of Japan and Beyond*.

With the start of the 2022–2023 academic year, we were able to deliver a hybrid lecture series, having an in-person audience, while continuing to stream in a virtual format. Since this year is the 75th anniversary of CJS, we opened the series on September 8, 2022 with a lecture given by the CJS Director, Reginald Jackson: *Looking Forward: A Communal Blueprint for our CJS 75th Anniversary Events*. The next lecture on September 15 continued the anniversary theme with *Harry Harootunian: In Conversation*. The Fall Series also included lectures by the 2022–23 CJS Postdoctoral Fellows, Ryan Masaaki Yokota, speaking on *Okinawan Independence and Autonomy Debates in the 1980s*, and Jessica A. Fernández de Lara Harada, on the topic of *Racism, Mestizaje, and the American World War II Ethnic Cleansing of Latin American Japanese*. In October, we were delighted to have not only Jon L Pitt, Assistant Professor of Japanese Environmental Humanities, University of California, Irvine, discuss *Becoming Marimo: The Curious Case of a Charismatic Alga and Imagined Indigeneity*, but also a preview of *A Night of Madness: A Page of Madness with Japanese benshi* Nanako Yamauchi. Mark Schilling, an American Film Critic, Journalist, Translator, and Author based in Tokyo, Japan, next spoke on October 10 on *the Japanese Film Industry Today: Problems and Potential*. Closing the Fall 2022 series, Michael Bourdaghs, Robert S. Ingersoll Professor of East Asian Languages & Cultures, University of Chicago, spoke on *Negotiating the Cold War: Yamaguchi Yoshiko in Sacramento, 1950*. Please check out the CJS Events page on our website for previous lecture details and a list of future lectures, including webinar sign up links.



Introducing the Masao & Mayumi Oka Scholarship for Japanese Language Studies

As travel restrictions eased and study abroad programs resumed in Japan in 2022, CJS was pleased to award the inaugural Masao and Mayumi Oka Scholarship for Japanese Language Studies. The Oka Scholarship was established in 2018 through the generous contribution of former Japanese Language Program director Mayumi Oka and her husband Masao Oka.



Prior to her retirement in 2020, Mayumi Oka taught Japanese in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures' Japanese Language Program for 20 years, and served as head of the Japanese Language Program for 16 years. She has authored and co-authored 13 books in Japanese language education, including the *Tobira* textbook series.

Two scholarships have been awarded for study abroad programs during the 2022–23 academic year. The inaugural recipients are:

Violet Needham, LSA International Studies, Sociology, Asian Studies (Japan)

Justin Scott, LSA Asian Studies (Japan)

CJS thanks the Okas for their commitment to supporting Japanese language study at the University of Michigan.



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