



THE CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

University of Michigan | 2025 Newsletter





IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the Director
- 3 News from the Publications Program
- 5 News from the U-M Museum of Art
- 6 News from the Asia Library
Japanese Studies Collection
- 7 CJS Thursday Noon Lecture Series
- 8 News from the
Japanese Language Program
- 9 News from the Residential
College Japanese Program
- 10 CJS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
- 11 CJS at the Fall 2023 Festival of
Asian Music
- 12 Toyota Visiting Professor Reflections
- 14 2023-2024 Graduations and
Funding Recipients
- 15 CJS Film Series
- 16 Faculty Updates
- 17 Toyota Visiting Professor and
Visiting Scholar Updates
- 18 CJS Affiliate Updates
- 20 Alumni Updates and Reflections
- 21 Get to Know Our New and Current
MIRS Students
- 22 Malm Award Recipients
- 22 Masao and Mayumi Oka Scholarship
for Japanese Language Studies
- 23 In Memoriam of Professor Malm
- 24 Ann Arbor Japan Week 2024
- 24 In Appreciation of Dr. Dawn Lawson
- 25 Remembering the Legacy of
Professor Gunter Dufey
- 26 In Mike Fetter's Memory

From the Director

Welcome to 2025! Last year was perhaps the beginning of re-engagement in travel and gathering after years of Covid restrictions. Faculty returned to Japan for research and teaching with student groups, and students returned to Japan for internships and language immersion programs. We weathered the pandemic intact, thanks mainly to the excellent staff at CJS and the tenacity of the CJS community. Last year, I completed my interim year as director and focused on assessing the needs of CJS, from staff to programming, to course offerings and curricula, to membership, and beyond. As I enter my second semester as the director, I have started attending to these initiatives earnestly with the staff and executive committee.

As most of you know, my academic affiliation is nursing. I began teaching nursing in 1988 and am completing my 37th year of teaching! During that time, I developed special skills in the curriculum. I have chaired multiple curriculum committees and oversaw three major curriculum revisions. I was also the director of our graduate programs in nursing for a few years during a curriculum transition. As you can imagine, with such a background, teaching and curriculum will be central to how I will prioritize my work at CJS. Most of the ideas and initiatives we are working on relate to enhancing our offerings to students. We are excited to share updates in this newsletter about our language education, including a new column on our Residential College's Japanese Program, as we continue to leverage our remarkable educational resources and support. You will also hear from our students and alums and read about the impact of those we have lost.

I am also an anthropologist. I have observed that, from a community perspective, we have seen an increase in the attendance of our Noon Lectures both online and in person, and we have been increasingly enhanced by the engagement with former scholars and alums. These interactions attest to the value of our engagement together. In these pages, you will see evidence of how CJS remains a vital and enduring multidisciplinary center with impressive cultural offerings. You will also be reminded of how we are blessed with world-class academic resources and support. It is an absolute pleasure to stand with you during this exciting time.

Looking through this cultural lens, I am also learning more about what we have been, what we are, and what we want to be. We can (and should) look to the future together. In 2025, we are engaging with Japanese studies from the perspective of a changing political and cultural landscape, pressuring us to evaluate and reevaluate what Japanese studies might



look like in the next 20 years. In addition to this changing world, academic departments increasingly emphasize globalism, comparative studies, and research

methodology, subtly moving away from regional studies. From the students' perspective, opportunities to engage in real-world experiences have become increasingly relevant, whether in their language study, classroom, or internships, to prepare them for advanced study or the work world. As we look to the new year and our future celebrations, let's work together to

face these challenges, confidently standing on the shoulders of our nearly 80-year legacy.

Denise Saint Arnault, PhD, RN, FAAN
 Professor, School of Nursing
 Director, Center for Japanese Studies
 University of Michigan

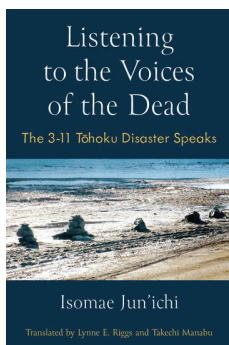
News from the Publications Program

The Center for Japanese Studies Publications Program is excited to share some of our recently published books.

***Listening to the Voices of the Dead: The 3-11 Tohoku Disaster Speaks* (2024)**

By Jun'ichi Isomae, translated by Lynne E. Riggs and Manabu Takechi

Listening to the Voices of the Dead is an account of the author's search for the disquieted voices of the dead in the wake of the March 11, 2011, Tōhoku Disaster and his attempt to translate those voices for the living. Isomae Jun'ichi considers the disaster a challenge for outside observers to overcome, especially for practitioners of religion and religious studies. He chronicles the care and devotion for the dead shown by ordinary people, people displaced from their homes and loved ones. Drawing upon religious studies, Japanese history, postcolonial studies, and his own experiences during the disaster, Isomae uncovers historical symptoms brought to the surface by the traumas of disaster. Only by listening to the disquieted voices of the dead, translating them, and responding to them can we regain our true selves as well as offer peace to the spirits of the victims. While *Listening to the Voices of the Dead* focuses on a specific event in Japanese history and memory, it captures a broadening critique at the heart of many movements responding to how increasing globalization impacts our sense of place and community.

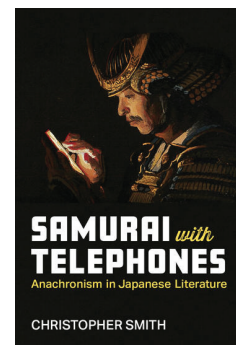


***Samurai with Telephones: Anachronism in Japanese Literature* (2024)**

By Christopher Smith

What is going on when a graphic novel has a twelfth-century samurai pick up a telephone to make a call, or a play has an ancient aristocrat teaching in a present-day schoolroom? Rather than regarding such anachronisms as errors, *Samurai with Telephones* develops a theory of how texts can use different types of anachronisms to challenge or rewrite history, play with history, or open history up to new possibilities. By applying this theoretical framework of anachronism to several Japanese literary and cultural works, author Christopher Smith demonstrates how different texts can use anachronism to open up history for a wide variety of different textual projects.

From the modern period, this volume examines literature by Mori Ōgai and Ōe Kenzaburō, manga by Tezuka Osamu, art by Murakami Takashi, and a variety of other pop cultural works. Turning to the Early Modern period (Edo period, 1600–1868), which produced a literature rich with playful anachronism, he also examines several Kabuki and Bunraku plays, *kibyōshi* comic books, and *gōkan* illustrated novels. In analyzing these works, he draws a distinction between anachronisms that attempt to hide their work on history and convincingly rewrite it and those conspicuous anachronisms that highlight and disrupt the construction of historical narratives.



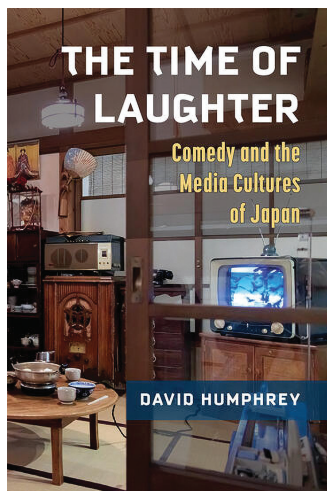
News from the Publications Program

continued from page 3

***The Time of Laughter: Comedy and the Media Cultures of Japan* (2023)**

By David Humphrey

From broadcast to social media, comedy plays a prominent role in Japan's cultural landscape and political landscape. *The Time of Laughter* explores how comedy grew out of the early days of television to become a central force in shaping Japanese media over the past half-century. Comedy and its impact, David Humphrey argues, established a "time of laughter" in the media of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries in Japan. Through masterful interrogation of Japanese televisual archives and media discourse, Humphrey demonstrates that the unique temporality of laughter has had a profound role in the cultural atmosphere of Japan's recent past. Laughter both complemented and absorbed the profound tensions and contradictions that emerged in Japanese television. Joyous and cacophonous, reaffirming and subverting, laughter simultaneously alienated and unified viewers. Through its exploration of the influence of comedy and the culture of laughter, *The Time of Laughter* presents a vibrant new take on Japan's recent media history.

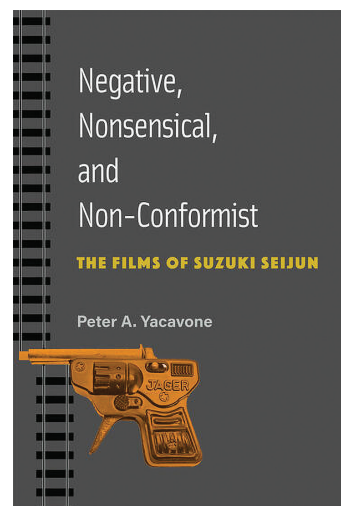


Japanese culture and society through new kinds of interactive narratives, different from literature and film. The book proposes four new strategies of engagement with video games to explore the productive tensions that emerge at the boundaries of virtual reality, augmented reality, and gamification in contemporary Japan.

***Negative, Nonsensical, and Non-Conformist: The Films of Suzuki Seijun* (2023)**

By Peter A. Yacavone

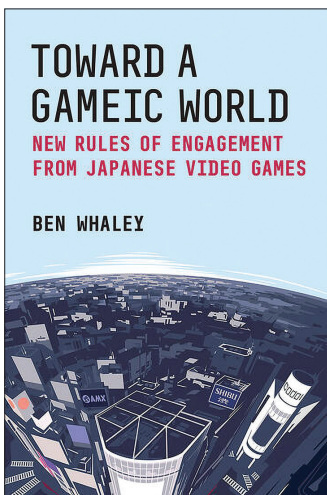
In the late 1950s, Suzuki Seijun was an unknown, anxious low-ranking film director churning out so-called program pictures for Japan's most successful movie studio, Nikkatsu. In the early 1960s, he met with modest success in directing popular movies about yakuza gangsters and mild exploitation films featuring prostitutes and teenage rebels. In this book, Peter A. Yacavone argues that Suzuki became an unlikely cinematic rebel and, with hindsight, one of the most important voices in the global cinema of the 1960s. Working from within the studio system, Suzuki almost single-handedly rejected the restrictive filmmaking norms of the postwar period and expanded the form and language of popular cinema. This artistic rebellion proved costly when Suzuki was fired in 1967 and virtually blacklisted by the studios, but Suzuki returned triumphantly to the scene of world cinema in the 1980s and 1990s with a series of critically celebrated, avant-garde tales of the supernatural and the uncanny. This book provides a well-informed, philosophically oriented analysis of Suzuki's 49 feature films.



***Toward a Gameic World: New Rules of Engagement from Japanese Video Games* (2023)**

By Ben Whaley

Toward a Gameic World bridges the gap between Japanese popular culture studies and game studies by encouraging a dialogue centered around Japanese-designed video games and social issues. It examines four contemporary Japanese video games in terms of how they engage with some of Japan's biggest social and personal issues, including traumas: natural disasters (*Disaster Report*), a declining birthrate and aging population (*Catherine*), nuclear proliferation (*Metal Gear Solid V*); and youth social withdrawal (*The World Ends with You*). This book asks what some of the positive benefits are of working through a site of trauma from within a video game, and how games might teach us about



Japanese Studies Publications

Markus Nornes

CJS Publications Director

Marcella Landri

Acquiring Editor, Michigan Publishing

News from the University of Michigan Museum of Art

A large part of UMMA’s Japanese art collection consists of works from before 1945. We are currently trying to increase the number of contemporary artworks, responding to the needs of faculty members whose teaching interests intersect with current issues. We also recognize that women artists are vastly underrepresented in our collection. With that in mind, UMMA recently acquired *Track of Colors #1* (2022–23), a set of nine abstract paintings by Nagare Manika, a Tokyo-based artist who works in painting, installation, and public art. *Track of Colors #1* is from Nagare’s ongoing project that illuminates historically overlooked Japanese women artists of the last centuries. In Japan, works by these artists were often acquired by public museums only because they were made by the spouses of famous male artists. Since 2020, Nagare has found nine such works in multiple museums. After identifying the colors in each piece, she created nine abstract paintings, applying each color to a canvas and layering a new color only after the previous one was completely dry. When installed, the paintings are arranged to form a color-coded pattern that presents the viewer with the vanishing footprints of women artists neglected in the canon of art history. *Track of Colors #1* is the first abstract painting by a woman artist from Asia in UMMA’s collection.

During the winter semester, Toyota Visiting Professor Eriko Tomizawa-Kay used Nagare’s *Track of Colors #1* as part of her “Interdisciplinary and Decentering Approaches to 20th-Century Japanese Art” course. Students had the opportunity to view the paintings alongside reproductions of the nine original paintings, exploring how Nagare developed abstract compositions, speaking to gender-specific social expectations and the roles institutions play in perpetuating inequalities among artists.



Futamura Yoshimi, *Twist 2021*, 2021, stoneware with porcelain slip. University of Michigan Museum of Art, Museum purchase made possible by Joseph and Nancy Keithley, 2022/1.54.

In the last three years, UMMA has also acquired five ceramic works by women artists with funding provided by benefactors Nancy and Joseph Keithley. Two of these works, as well as other ceramic works by women artists on loan from the collection of Carol and Jeffrey Horvitz, are on view in UMMA’s Japanese Art Gallery until June 2025, alongside *Track of Colors #1*. We will continue to



Manika Nagare, *Track of Colors #1* (installation view), 2022–23, set of 9, oil on canvas. University of Michigan Museum of Art, Museum purchase made possible by the Director’s Acquisition Committee, 2023, 2023/2.27–35. Photo by Natsu Oyobe

highlight works by women artists in the Japanese Art Gallery rotations and exhibitions.

This academic year, the Japanese Art Gallery also featured thematic displays on the topics of the art of written characters (winter–spring 2024) and functional art (summer–fall 2024) curated by Róisín Lacey-McCormac, a PhD candidate in history of art. These two rotations included paintings by Itō Jakuchū and Ogata Kōrin, as well as the Taima Temple mandala *Amida Welcomes Chūjōhime to the Western Paradise*. We enhanced the displays by showcasing significant works from the Asia Library, including *Hyakunin Isshu Karuta—One Hundred Poems, One Poem Each* playing cards, and *biwa* and *shō* from the Frederick Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments.

Please make sure to visit UMMA frequently, as we change the displays every six months.

Natsu Oyobe
Curator of Asian Art

Ogata Kōrin, *Hotei*, early 18th century, ink and light color on paper. University of Michigan Museum of Art, Museum purchase made possible by the Margaret Watson Parker Art Collection Fund, 1965/1.157.



Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection

Dr. Liangyu Fu started her leadership as the director of the Asia Library on March 11, 2024. Dr. Fu has been with us since 2013 as a Chinese studies librarian. She was awarded the “University Librarian Recognition Award” in 2020 for her achievements with the faculty project titled “Chinese Dance: National Movements in a Revolutionary Age, 1945–1965.” The Asia Library’s service will be renewed thanks to her thoughtful vision, engagement, and collaborative efforts in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in our work.



Left: Liangyu Fu; right: Keiko Yokota-Carter



The first-prize sticker in our first sticker contest

Ms. Kerra Hinrichs (LSA class of 2024), our Oka Tadoku Room intern, organized *tadoku* events and a weekly book club, which were very popular among students. We also held a New Year’s event with games, calligraphy, origami, and our first sticker contest with eleven entries (see photo for the 1st-prize sticker!). Kerra’s enthusiastic, creative efforts brought

6 more students to the library to use materials for their research. She started her career as an assistant language teacher at the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program (JET) in Japan this fall.

The digital movie *Mushi no utaawase emaki* 『虫歌合絵巻』 (*Insect Poetry Competition Scroll*) was displayed in an exhibition entitled “Highlighting U-M’s Cultural Collections” at the entrance of the Ruthven Building, where a new office for President Santa Ono resides. This scroll is also listed in the *Cultural Japan* database in Japan, which includes digital images of Japanese culture collected from worldwide institutions.

Our Collection and Public Service

We acquired 10,166 monograph volumes and 562 media titles in the 2024 fiscal year, bringing our total to 376,110 volumes with 36 commercial digital resources and approximately 7,272 pieces of media material related to Japan as of May 31, 2024. Our collection is the fourth largest among university libraries in North America (according to the Council of East Asia Libraries, 2022–2023). We have received reference inquiries from around the world, such as from Turkey, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, and Japan, as well as other U.S. states.

Utae (illustration on the poetry from the *Kokin Wakashū* by Kamisaka Sekka) 『うた絵』 (神坂雪佳) and *Sanjū rokka sen gachō* 『三十六歌仙画帖』 were acquired by the Brower Fund. *Chizu/The Map*, Kikuji Kawada’s landmark photobook, was also added to our special collection. Kawada’s photos show the profound effects of the nuclear bombings in Japan.

Digital resources continue to increase in number and variety. Among them are *Ichikawa Fusae shiryō database* (市川房江資料データベース), *Nihon shinrei zasshi database* (日本心霊雑誌データベース), *Web-Shiryō sanshū* (史料纂集), *Heian ibun* (平安遺文), *Meiji Taishō bungaku zenshū* (明治大正文学全集), *Bungei shunjū* (文藝春秋アーカイブ), historical journals such as *Kingu fukkōkuban* (キング復刻版), *Shūkan NHK Rajio shinbun fukkōkuban* (週刊NHKラジオ新聞復刻版), and *Ryū kyū bungaku tateikei* (琉球文学大系). 332 e-books and four e-journals also became available at the U-M campuses. Japanese Proficiency Test (JLPT) digital study materials with audio access are newly available through the U-M Library catalog.

Additionally, numerous Japanese Open Access materials have become available through Michigan’s new library catalog system. Users can simultaneously search both Michigan holdings and Japanese Open Access digital materials directly linked to the National Diet Library, the NII J-Stage database, *Aozora bunko*, the HathiTrust Library, and others. For example, patrons can access and use 329,342 full-text digital collections from the National Diet Library through the U-M Library catalog. This dramatic improvement provides a “one-place search” and access to amazing resources that are sure to enrich research and education in Japanese Studies. Public users can also access these Open Access resources through the U-M Library Search.

We keep Michigan’s tradition of being a leader in building comprehensive collections by promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in Japanese studies in North America.

Keiko Yokota-Carter

Japanese Studies Librarian

CJS Thursday Noon Lecture Series

The **CJS Thursday Noon Lecture Series** serves an important function within our 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. Continuing from the precedent set by the 2022–23 academic year, delivering noon lectures in a hybrid format became our new norm: having an in-person audience while livestreaming the lecture in a virtual format.

We opened the winter 2023 series with Kate Goldfarb, assistant professor of anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder, speaking on “Producing People Who Have No One: Child Welfare and Well-Being in Japan.” Emma Cook, CJS’s 2022–23 Toyota Visiting Professor, discussed “Reading the Air and Creating Trouble: Food Allergy Disclosures in Japan,” while Izumi Koide, former director of the Resource Center for the History of Entrepreneurship, Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Foundation, gave a fully-remote lecture from Japan on “Naomi Fukuda, Backseat Player for Japanese Studies.” In February, Hoichi Kurisu, president, principal designer, and founder of Kurisu LLC, and his daughter Michiko Kurisu, project coordinator and public relations of Kurisu LLC, jointly lectured on “Applying Japanese Garden Principles to Create Healing Spaces,” attracting the largest audience a CJS Noon Lecture has seen since pre-pandemic days. Two fully-remote lectures followed, with speakers delivering their talks from Australia and Hawai’i, respectively: Claire Maree, professor in Japanese, Asia Institute, University of Melbourne, spoke on “Queer Legacies: Whither the ‘LGBT Boom’ in Japan?,” and Daniel White, affiliated researcher, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, presented “Technically Well: Machine Models for Emotional Health Beyond the Human.” Following them, Gregory Khe-zrnejat, associate professor of Modern Japanese Literature, Global and Interdisciplinary Studies, Hosei University, lectured on “Border Crossings: Transnational and Exophonic Voices in Contemporary Japanese Literature.”

In March, Tetsuji Okazaki, professor of economic history, Graduate School of Economics, University of Tokyo, discussed “Designing Wartime Economic Controls: Productivity and Firm Dynamics in the Japanese Cotton-Spinning Industry, 1937–1939.” Patti Maclachlan, professor of government, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries professor of Japanese studies, University of Texas at Austin, followed with the lecture “Betting on the Farm: Institutional Change in Japanese Agriculture,” and Elizabeth Oyler, associate professor of Japanese, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh, who spoke on “Fields of Memory: Movement and Stasis in the Noh

Play Ohara gokō.” The final winter 2023 CJS lectures were “Yaoi/BL Novels as Feminism in Contemporary Japan,” Kazuko Suzuki, associate professor, Department of Sociology, Texas A&M University, and “From Malthus to Miracle: Rethinking the Economic Development of Japan,” given by U-M alumnus David Weinstein, Carl S. Shoup professor, Department of Economics, Columbia University; director, Center on Japanese Economy and Business, Columbia Business School.

Our fall 2024 series continued with hybrid lectures and was opened by Makoto Takahashi, professor of social system design, Department of Management Science and Technology, School of Engineering, Tohoku University, addressing the “Significance of Positive Human Factors Contributing to Safety.” In October, CJS’s 2023–24 Toyota Visiting Professor Eriko Tomizawa-Kay discussed “Contested Bodies: Female Imagery in Pre-War Okinawa.” CJS visiting scholar Hajime Hasegawa then spoke on “The Themepark of Nuclear: An Exhaustive Survey on Nuclear Power Plant Visitor Centers in Post-Fukushima Japan.” Our 2023–24 CJS Postdoctoral Fellows, Maura Stephens-Chu and Keisuke Yamada, contributed to the series with “The Power of the Pad: Menstrual Products and Embodied Femininity in Japan” and “Listening to the “Explosive Sound” of U.S. Military Aircraft in Wartime Japan” respectively. The final lectures of the semester were “The Curious Case of Aoto Fujitsuna” by Ethan Segal, associate professor of history, chair of the Japan Council, Michigan State University, and “Changing Perceptions of Geisha in Japanese Culture” by Andrew L. Maske, professor of museum studies and anthropology, Wayne State University.

Our winter 2024 series opened with a lecture by Madeleine A. Jalil Umewaka, president, MJU Public Relations, titled “Being Backstage of a 600-Year-Old Noh Theater World: My Journey From War-Torn Beirut to Japan.” Following her, Yuken Teruya, Berlin-based Okinawan artist, gave a talk titled “Metaphors in Matter: Environmental Consciousness and Symbolic Explorations.” In March, Naoko Matsumura, professor of international relations, Graduate School of Law, Kobe University, discussed “Is the Nuclear Taboo Still Robust in Japan?,” while Aya Rodriguez-Izumi, an interdisciplinary artist and educator, gave a talk titled “Can You Hear the Difference Between sa Tactical Aircraft and a Commercial Airplane?: Views from Okinawa and Transnational Approaches”. Finally, Takashi Yoshida, professor of history, Western Michigan University, gave the talk “For Whom and for What Purposes?: Peace and War Museums in Japan and Its Neighbors” in April.

We are deeply grateful to the wide variety of scholars, experts, and artists who participated in our Thursday Noon Lecture Series. Please check out the CJS Events page on our website for details on previous lectures and a list of future lectures, including webinar sign-up links.

News from the Japanese Language Program

2023—2024年度は、ミシガン大学の日本語学科にとって、転換点となる出来事がいくつかあった年となりました。人事面では、新ディレクターの就任で講師陣に新たなメンバーが加わりまし
たし、教育的な面では、コロナ禍の影響でそれま
では中止していた活動を再開したり、新しい対
面のイベントも挑戦した年でした。

まず、昨年度から大きく変化したのは、ミシガン
日本語弁論大会の形態が一新されたことでし
た。2024年で第29回目となったミシガン日本
語弁論大会は、ミシガン日本語教師会等の主
催で、2月10日(土)にワシュトナーコミュニ
ティーカレッジで行われました。前回までは、大学
の部は一つのみでしたが、今回からは1・2年生
の部と3・4年生の部が別れたことで、より多く
の学生が出場できるようになりました。ミシガ
ン大学からは、7人の学生が出場し、1・2年生
の部では、カドラ・アズルールさんが「自分の
けつえきがたを知っていますか」で銀賞を、ソ
フィア・パンさんが「大学の生活」で銅賞を受賞
しました。アズルールさんは血液型を人々の性
格と結び付けて考える日本の文化の面白さ
について話しました。パンさんはアメリカと出身
地であるパナマの違いについて言及し、大学入
学時に困難した際、どのようにその困難を克服
し新しい環境に適応したのか、発表しました。
3・4年生の部では、エリック・ジャオさんが
「山川万里」で金賞を、ヴィッシュワース・ガ
ンゲッデラさんが「剣道、我が人生」で銀賞を、そ
して、ケーラ・ヒンリックスさんが「外国語学習
を通じたバイアスの克服」で特別賞を受賞しま
した。ジャオさんは、日本での登山で経験した自
然の厳しさについて話し、自然との共生と次世
代のための環境保護の重要性について訴えま
した。ガンゲッデラさんは、剣道を通じて経験
した困難と他者への感謝、そして剣道がどのよ
うに家族のルーツについて考えるきっかけにな
ったのかを話しました。ヒンリックスさんは自身
の日本語学習の経験を基に、外国語学習は人が
持っているバイアスに気づいたり、そのバイアス
を克服していくきっかけになるということを議論
し、外国語学習の重要性について述べました。

もう一つの大きな変化は、コロナ禍以降中止に
なっていたすしテーブルを再開したことでした。
日本語学科では、毎学期、月に1度対面で会話
テーブルを行っています。CJSに関係のある
皆様をはじめ、ミシガン大学にいらっしゃる日本
語の第1言語話者の方や、日本からの短期留
学生など、色々な方々にゲストとしてお手伝い
をしていただいております。今年度も会話テーブルには、
毎月30人程度が集まっています。コロナ以
前は年度末や学期末にこの会話テーブルの活
動の一環として、おすしを食べながら日本語で
歓談するすしテーブルを行っていました。コロナ
禍以降、はじめて正式に再開しましたが、今年
度末のすしテーブルには、70人を超える参加
者が集まり、学生たちは、大学と大学近郊の
日本語第一・第二言語話者と一緒にそれまで
勉強してきた日本語で話しながら、楽しいひと
時を過ごすことができました。すしテーブルの
ように多くの日本語話者が集うイベントは、
学生が1年の集大成として自らの頑張りを
振り返ることのできる大切なイベントであり、
今後も続けていきたいと思っています。

会話テーブル・すしテーブルの他にも、前年度に
引き続きOka Tadoku roomにおいて月に一回
の多読活動を実施し、本学科の学生に教室活
動を超えた多様な日本語学習の機会を提供す
ることもできました。岡多読ルームのインターン
である、ケーラ・ヒンリックスさんやアジア図
書館の司書である横田カーターさんと協力し、
岡多読ルームのステッカーデザインコンクールの
運営を行いました。2024年の冬学期からは、
新たにBook Clubも立ちあげたことで、多読に
興味のある学生にさらなる読書の機会を提供
できるようになったことも喜ばしい変化で
した。また冬学期には多読ルームにおいて新年
会も開催し、カルタなどのゲームや三味線演
奏など文化的な活動も紹介しました。

多読ルームでの活動以外にも、今年度は日本
文化に関連する新たな活動を企画・実施す
ることができました。一つ目の活動は、日本
でも行われている「今年の漢字」になら
い、2023年を表す漢字1文字を含む
デザインを日本語の学生から募集し、
投票で選ばれたデザインをその年の日



本語学科のTシャツのデザインとして起用する活
動です。もう一つの大きな活動は、1月に行
った餅つきデモンストレーションで、総領事館
のご協力を得ながら、普段はなかなか見るこ
とのできた餅つきの様子を学生たちに体験し
てもらうことができました。来年度以降も他
の活動とのバランスを取りながら、日本語学
科の学生達が少しでも多く日本文化に触れる
機会を模索していきたいと考えています。

最後に、本学科がミシガン大学の枠を超えた
地域で行った活動についてご報告します。本
学科では、ミシガン州や米国中西部におい
ても日本語・日本文化の学習を促進するこ
とを重要な活動として認識しています。今年
度は、前年度に引き続き、日本語能力試験
(JLPT)の実施のお手伝い、ミシガン州日
本語クイズボウル(MJQB)の企画・実施
をお手伝いしました。特に、ミシガン日本
語クイズボウルは、ミシガン日本語教師会
が主催するイベントで、ミシガン州で最大
規模の日本語学習者が集まるイベントです。
このイベントは、アジア言語文化学科や日
本国デトロイト総領事館とともに、CJS
にも協賛していただいております。ミシガ
ン大学は昨年度に続き、ホスト役を務め、
計34チーム、100人を超えるミシガ

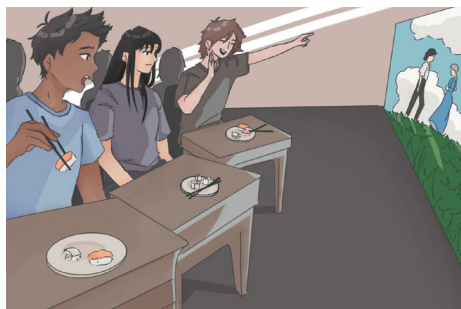


News from the Residential College Japanese Program

ン州の中高生が、ミシガン大学で日本語や日本文化に関する知識を競い合いました。初等・中等教育における日本語日本文化学習への支援を通じて、全米での将来的な日本語学習者の確保・増加に少しでも貢献できればと願うばかりです。

このように、日本語学科では、今年度も、本学科の学生たちを初めミシガン大学にいる日本語学習者を支援する様々な活動を行うことができました。これらの活動の多くは、CJSを初め、アジア図書館、アジア言語文化学部のサポートがあって初めて実施することのできたものです。この場をお借りし、ご協力いただきました皆様に、心より感謝申し上げます。来年度も、学科の一層の発展を目指し、教室内外を問わず、様々な活動を続けていきたいと思えます。

Akiko Imamura 今村 明子
日本語科ディレクター



Illustrations by Azure Klusek

ミシガン大学レジデンシャルカレッジ(RC)の日本語プログラムについてご紹介します。ミシガン大学では、アジア言語文化学部(ALC)で開講される通常の日本語コースとは別に、RCで準イマージョン式の集中日本語コースが開講されています。フリーマン基金のご支援により、2004年秋学期からスペイン語、フランス語、ドイツ語、ロシア語の集中言語コースに日本語コースが加えられました。RCでこれらの5つの外国語を学習する学生は全て集中言語コースを取ることが義務付けられています。日本語プログラムでは、秋学期には1年生レベルのコース(RCLANG196/ ASIANLAN129)、冬学期には2年生レベルのコース(RCLANG296/ ASIANLAN229)を開講しています。2学期で通常の日本語コースの4学期分にあたる授業内容をこなし、「読む・書く・聞く・話す」の4技能において初中級レベルの日本語能力を習得するカリキュラムになっています。

毎学期約15名の学生が月曜日から金曜日まで毎日2時間の授業を受けています。授業では、「聞く・話す」を中心として、自然な日本語を使ってコミュニケーションできることを目指しています。学生はEast Quadの寮に住み、生活の中でできるだけ日本語を使いながら学ぶという準イマージョン式の学習環境にいます。そのため、毎週4時間のRC日本語テーブル(ランチテーブルと会話テーブル)を行っています。ランチテーブルでは大学のカフェテリアで昼ご飯を食べながらクラスメートや先輩と授業で習ったことを使いつつ日本語の会話を練習します。また、会話テーブルではお茶やコーヒーを飲みながら、先輩や日本語母語話者のボランティアの方々色々なトピックについて話します。

さらに、日本文化への理解を深めるために、CJS主催の講演や映画などに加えて、様々なイベントを行っています。各学期に2回日本の映画の上映会を行い、映画を見て感想を話し合います。書道、剣道、日本料理といったワークショップなども行い、日本文化を体験できる場を設けています。また、春学期にはRC日本語リーディングクラブがアジア図書館にあるOka Tadoku Roomに行き、一緒に興味がある本を読むとい

う多読の活動も月に1~2回行っています。まだ難しい本は読めませんが、マンガや絵本などを読む中で、習った言葉を見つけたり、簡単なフレーズを理解したりできることに楽しさを感じています。さらに、日本の大学の学生とのオンラインでの交流会も各学期に3~4回行っています。日本で英語を学ぶ大学生と日本語と英語で話すことによって、お互いの文化を紹介したり、生活について意見を交換したりします。また、2023年からは、イェール大学やインディアナ大学など他の大学で日本語を勉強する学生との交流会も始めました。授業で習ったことを使いながら、自分の大学や町や大学生活について紹介することで、いい刺激が得られているようです。

このように2学期間で集中して日本語を学習し、初中級レベルの日本語の能力試験に合格した学生は、アジア言語文化学部の日本語の3年生のコースへ進み、日本語の学習を継続してきました。2023年春学期には、RCで、3年生レベルの集中日本語コース(RCLANG396)を開講しました。春学期の7週間で3年生レベルの2学期分の日本語を学習し、中級から中級後半の日本語能力の習得を目指すコースです。初級レベルで学習したことを組み合わせて使い、様々なトピックについて、より自然な日本語を使って自分の意見を話したり書いたりする練習をします。また、週3回の会話テーブルと日本の大学生とのオンラインによる交流会を通して、自然な会話能力の向上も目指しています。春学期に3年生のコースを終えた学生は、秋学期から留学先の大学やアジア言語文化学部で上級レベルの日本語に進み、さらなる日本語能力の向上を目指すことができます。

以上のように、RCでは生活の中で日本語をできるだけ使いながら、短期間でできるだけ高い日本語能力を身につけることを目指しています。このような活動が継続できるのも、CJSを始め、アジア図書館、RCのサポートがあってのことです。この場をお借りして、心より感謝申し上げます。

Tomoko Okuno 奥野智子
レジデンシャルカレッジ
日本語プログラムディレクター

CJS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Maura Stephens-Chu writes:

I cannot believe that it has been almost one year since I moved to Michigan to begin my postdoctoral fellowship with the Center for Japanese Studies. It has been a whirlwind year of teaching and research!

In the fall 2023 semester, I taught a graduate seminar on medical anthropology concepts and issues in 21st-century Japan. The boundless intellectual curiosity of my students made me greatly look forward to our class each week! After conducting individual research for class, the three of us continued to develop a project focusing on the history and contemporary medical treatment of premenstrual syndrome (PMS) in Japan. Our co-authored article based on this project is currently under review with the *U.S.–Japan Women’s Journal*.

In addition, during my time with CJS this past year, I completed an article manuscript on reusable cloth menstrual napkin companies in Japan. I am now in the middle of an intensive summer workshop to strengthen the draft of my first book based on my dissertation research. I also traveled to Toronto last November to present at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association and the Canadian Anthropology Society. I, along with other members of the panel I presented with, are working on a special journal issue focused on “interembodiment” (interpersonal/intercorporeal embodied experiences). My participation in the conference and the summer

workshop was made possible thanks to the generous research funding provided by CJS to its postdoctoral fellows.

Having spent almost a decade in Hawai’i, I was apprehensive about my first Michigan winter, but besides a couple of small skids on ice, it passed without incident. I also learned how to operate radiators for the first time in my family’s old rental house in Ypsi. For the winter 2024 semester, I had the opportunity to revamp a previous course of mine with an impressive set of bright and engaged undergraduate and graduate students. We spent the semester discussing social issues in 21st-century Japan and surveying recent ethnographies of various aspects of Japanese culture, including preschool pedagogy, shifting gender roles at home and work, and eldercare and deathcare.

I have had such a productive and inspiring year here in Ann Arbor! I would like to express my gratitude to all of my students, especially my research collaborators Annabella Jankowski and Sara Chittenden, who are now graduates of the Masters in International and Regional Studies Program. I am also deeply appreciative of the mentorship and guidance offered by Professor Reginald Jackson and Professor Denise Saint Arnault and the support and camaraderie of Jillian Locke, Yuri Fukazawa, Alexis Wu, Professor Eriko Tomizawa-Kay, and Dr. Keisuke Yamada, among many others!



Keisuke Yamada writes:

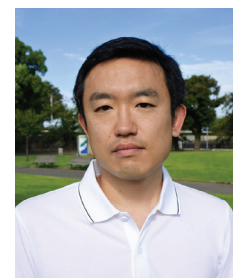
As a 2023–24 CJS Postdoctoral Fellow, I truly had a positive experience at U-M filled with many opportunities to develop my ideas and craft and refine my scholarly pieces. I wish to thank Reginald Jackson for being my mentor during my fellowship period.

My main goal for the 2023–24 academic year was to make progress on my book manuscript, *Ecologies of Sound*, to which I’ve currently been undertaking revisions at a U.S.-based university press. I had an opportunity to present part of my book chapter at a CJS Thursday Noon Lecture event. I was grateful to receive thoughtful feedback from my colleagues in the U-M community. Also, I was able to teach two seminars whose themes are closely related to my book: “Sound, Technology, and the Environment in Industrial Japan” (fall 2023) and “Japanese Traditional Culture and Sustainable Politics” (winter 2024). I greatly appreciated my students participating so actively and diligently in class discussions and activities. I was able to test out some of the ideas in my book, seeing whether these ideas worked or not from students’ perspectives. I’m grateful to CJS for giving me such wonderful opportunities to develop my book project within the program.

I enjoyed participating in other U-M events as well. I had great opportunities to perform and give lectures on the shamisen in a Festival of Asian Music event (fall 2023) and a Japanese New Year’s event in the Oka Tadoku Room (winter 2024). I thank David Rolston and Carol Stepanchuk for inviting me to be part of the fall 2023 Festival of Asian Music. Keiko Yokota-Carter kindly invited me to perform shamisen music at the Japanese New Year’s event; I’m also grateful for her support as Japanese studies librarian.

Other colleagues who made my time at U-M so enjoyable and precious include Denise Saint Arnault, Eriko Tomizawa-Kay, Maura Stephens-Chu, Hajime Hasegawa, Do-Hee Morsman, Peggy Rudberg, Kevin Carr, Akiko Imamura, and Natsu Oyobe, among many others.

Finally, I’d like to extend my sincere gratitude to the amazing CJS staff members: Yuri Fukazawa, Jillian Locke, and Alexis Wu. I had a very productive academic year at U-M, and this experience was an important milestone for me as a Japan studies scholar!



CJS at the Fall 2023 Festival of Asian Music

In the fall semester of 2023, the Asia centers at the U-M International Institute collaborated with the Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments to bring to fruition a semester-long Festival of Asian Music involving 20 performances, lectures, and associated events across the U-M campus. These immersive experiences featured musical traditions from across Asia, allowing U-M students, faculty, and the public to connect with expert artists and scholars. CJS is honored to have contributed two events to the lineup.



On November 30, we held an in-person event titled “Dance Transcending the Demonic Woman”. Traditional Japanese dancer and choreographer Yasuko Yokoshi performed a spectacular rendition of the *Nihon-buyo* (Japanese dance in the *Suodori* style) piece “Kyōganoko Musume Dōjōji.” A Q&A panel with Prof. Reginald Jackson of the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and Prof. Fangfei Miao of the School of Music,

Theatre & Dance followed her performance. Numerous fruitful class visits and roundtable discussions between Ms. Yokoshi and SMTD students accompanied this event.



In December, the Sazanami Taiko Arts Ensemble of the Michigan-based Great Lakes Taiko performance collective held a Japanese Taiko drumming concert on the UM-Flint campus. After the performance, an educational Q&A took place. This event was both in-person and live-streamed to a remote audience, and it marked the first collaboration between a center at the U-M International Institute and the Thompson Center for Learning &

Teaching at UM-Flint.

The festival also featured opening and closing panel discussions by performers and scholars. These panels provided context and connectivity for the many events, exploring how Asian musical arts are integral to the university and our community. Keisuke Yamada, one of CJS’s 2023–24 Postdoctoral Fellows, contributed to the opening panel with his expertise on soundscapes and sound politics of 20th and 21st-century Japan and the art of *shamisen* making.

Participating in such a vibrant semester-long festival has been the center’s pleasure. Please be on the lookout for similar events in the future brought to you by CJS!



Fondly Remembering My Time with CJS

by Emma E. Cook (2022–23 TVP)



I remember the day I got the email inviting me to be the Toyota Visiting Professor (TVP) for AY 2022–23. We were still in the middle of the pandemic, and Japan was in a state of emergency. I hadn't traveled anywhere for a couple of years and was excited at the prospect of spending eight months in Ann Arbor. After getting through the red tape (that went right up to the wire) at my home university, I boarded my first international flight in two years, a little unsure about how to be social again. I needn't have worried, given the incredibly warm reception I was given at CJS and in the wider University of Michigan community. Prof. Allison Alexy, my host, and Prof. Reginald Jackson, the director of CJS during my visit, were consummate hosts with unparalleled kindness, generosity, and professionalism. The CJS staff, particularly Yuri Fukuzawa, Barbara Kinzer, Jillian Locke, Alexis Wu, Do-Hee Morsman, and Peggy Rudberg, made going into the office an enjoyable experience. They were always patient with my questions amongst their daily work of running CJS and organizing a myriad of events. In addition to enjoying mentally stimulating weekly CJS lectures and teaching wonderful students in my fall semester class, "Health and Illness in Japan," I was also able to participate in the Institute for Research on Women and Gender events, including the incredibly productive monthly writing sessions; I had the privilege of getting to know some of the unfailingly friendly and fun people working there, including Heidi, Donna, Nicole, Terrence, and Rebecca.

In terms of research and writing while at CJS, I had a fantastic eight months. Dr. James Baker, the director of the Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center, kindly met with me and listened to the work I've been doing on food allergy in Japan. He invited me to attend their weekly laboratory meetings, where I learned about some of the groundbreaking ongoing research on food allergy at the university. In addition, he introduced me to many researchers and clinicians. Dr. Marc Morris invited me to spend the day at the food allergy oral immunotherapy clinic and pediatric clinic so I could learn how they diagnose and treat food allergies in their practice, and I'm indebted to Dr. Morris, Dr. Georgiana Sanders, and Dr. Kelly O'Shea for their patience with my questions and interest in my work. Dr. Ian Slack was also kind enough to invite me to a clinical trial clinic for food allergies so I could see how it works in the United States, which was a great learning experience.

Throughout my time at CJS, I was also able to participate remotely in international consensus meetings to help develop and ultimately co-author a core-outcome set for food allergy clinical trials, providing an anthropological perspective to the discussions, which has subsequently been published this year (2024) in the journal *Allergy* (onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/

[all.16023](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/16023)). Additionally, a co-authored research letter exploring a roadmap for future observational research and food allergy clinical trials has been accepted for publication and is currently in production in *Clinical & Experimental Allergy*. Being a TVP also provided me with critical time and space to learn how to write for a scientific audience (rather than my usual anthropological/Japanese studies audience). I wrote an extensive review article exploring the anthropological and sociological perspectives on food allergies, and it was published in *Clinical & Experimental Allergy* (onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/cea.14387) in the summer of 2023.

Through the TVP research funding, I was able to get all my Japanese interviews on food allergy experiences fully transcribed and spent time coding the data and exploring the patterns that emerged. By the time I left Ann Arbor in March 2023, I had finished early drafts of three chapters of a book that is tentatively titled *Risking Care, Difference, and Responsibility: Food Allergies in Japan*. I also wrote an article, currently under review for a special issue in *Contemporary Japan*, on the influence of food allergies on workplace experiences among youth in Japan. I received helpful feedback from colleagues and students on some of the early ideas through giving a talk at CJS, as well as at the University of Colorado Boulder, and Metropolitan State University of Denver.

Since leaving CJS and being fully immersed back into my regular workload, my writing speed has slowed, but I have continued to work on the book, fondly remembering my time at CJS each time. Although I had planned to have a complete draft of the monograph by the end of this year, I have been asked by Joy Hendry and Routledge to update her book *Understanding Japanese Society*. The sixth edition is now under contract with a deadline of the end of the year. For the time being, my writing attention is focused on that, but I eagerly look forward to completing my book as well.

I am very grateful that Toyota Motor Corporation made the TVP position possible, facilitating ongoing research and writing on Japan through their generous support. It was a genuine pleasure to meet and talk with Greg Laskey to learn more about what they do and their relationship with the University of Michigan and CJS. I hope the current and future TVPs have a year that is as productive and fun as I did. The warmth, friendliness, and collegiality I experienced from everyone I encountered at the university made my time in Ann Arbor not only wonderfully productive but also very enjoyable, and I would visit again in a heartbeat!

A Holistic Academic Experience

by Eriko Tomizawa-Kay (2023–24 TVP)



Having completed my appointment as Toyota Visiting Professor (TVP) at the Center for Japanese Studies, I now reflect on this incredibly enriching experience. This period has been marked by academic growth, cultural exchange, and inspiring collaborations. I am pleased to share my experiences and thank the wonderful community that made this journey memorable.

When I first stepped into the Center for Japanese Studies in August 2023, I was met with a heartwarming reception from the staff and faculty. The administrative team, led by Yuri Fukazawa, Jillian Locke, Alexis Wu, Do-Hee Morsman, and Peggy Rudberg, played a significant part in making my transition such a delightful experience. Their dedication to fostering an open-hearted and productive academic environment is truly admirable. I am especially thankful to the current CJS Director, Denise Saint Arnault, and previous director, Reggie Jackson, for their pivotal roles in my acceptance as TVP. My academic hosts, Kevin Carr and Natsu Oyobe, provided unwavering support on both professional and personal fronts. I also had the pleasure of engaging in thought-provoking discussions with CJS Post-Doctoral Fellows Keisuke Yamada and Maura Stephens-Chu. I would also like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to Toyota Motor Corporation for their generous support of my visiting professorship.

It is nigh-on impossible to express my gratitude fully; the CJS staff and faculty members were not just colleagues but also friends, always ready to engage in meaningful dialogue and collaborations. Their passion for Japanese studies and dedication to academic excellence have been a constant source of inspiration. I am deeply grateful for the collegial spirit and the numerous opportunities to collaborate on various projects.

One of the most fulfilling aspects of my post was the privilege of engaging with the students, teaching them 20th-century Japanese art history and involving them in relevant activities. Their eagerness to learn and genuine curiosity about Japanese art history and culture was palpable in every class and discussion. These bright minds not only enriched our classroom interactions but also inspired me with their curiosity and dedication.

Organizing student-led initiatives, such as joint learning and presentations with University of Colorado Boulder students and hands-on learning art at the university museum allowed me to witness first-hand the vibrant academic community at the CJS.

The intersection of art and academia is a powerful tool for cultural exchange and understanding. I had the honor of collaborating with several renowned artists during my post. One notable speaker in class and at the CJS seminar was the artist Yuken Teruya, who delivered a highly thought-provoking lecture on contemporary Okinawan art and culture. His insight into

the Okinawan environment and politics sparked lively discussions and deepened our understanding of the complexities of Japanese culture and history. Another memorable event was the lecture by Okinawan and American artist Aya Rodriguez-Izumi, whose expertise in Okinawan culture and diaspora provided new perspectives and inspired further research among our students. These collaborations culminated in lectures and workshops that offered our community unique insights into contemporary Japanese art.

One of my highlights was the workshop by *nihonga* artist Juri Hayashi. This event showcased the artist's exceptional talent and provided a platform for students and faculty to engage with contemporary art practices. The feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing a newfound appreciation for the artistic expressions and cultural narratives presented.

An essential part of my post involved advancing my research in Japanese art. In March 2024, I presented my research on Ryukyuan paintings at the Open Edo Program at the Clark Library, UCLA. The reception and feedback from my colleagues at UCLA were invaluable, offering new insights and directions for my ongoing research.

Additionally, I presented my research on the Meiji *nihonga* painter Hishida Shunsō in India at the Meiji Modern Symposium at the University of Chicago in May 2024. This presentation explored the evolution and significance of *nihonga* during the Meiji era, shedding light on the interactive relationship between Japanese artists and Bengal artists in 1903. The following discussions were highly stimulating, contributing to a deeper understanding of this pivotal period in Japanese art history. I am pleased to announce that the outcomes of these research presentations will soon be published, contributing to the broader academic discourse on Japanese art and culture.

Engaging with activities across different departments provided a holistic academic experience. I had the opportunity to participate in various cultural and educational events organized by other departments, such as the Japanese Language Quiz Bowl organized by Japanese language teachers. Seeing the students' dedication to mastering the language and their competitive spirit was heartening and impressive.

My time at the Center for Japanese Studies has been greatly fulfilling. The collaborative projects, engaging events, and dynamic academic environment contributed to an enriching experience. I am particularly proud of our initiatives' impact on the students and the broader academic community.

continued on page 25



2023-2024 Graduations and Funding Recipients

May 2023 Graduates

- Chase Boyer, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
- Christian OKeefe, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
- Jackson Tan, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
- Karen Weldon, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies and MS Environment and Sustainability
- Isaac Wittenberg, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies

August 2023 Graduates

- Anna Woźny, PhD Sociology

December 2023 Graduates

- Alexandria Molinari, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies

May 2024 Graduates

- Sara Chittenden, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
- Annabella Jankowski, Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies
- Joel Liesenberg, Dual Degree in Masters in International and Regional Studies: Japanese Studies and Masters in Library and Information Science

Endowed and Named Awards and Fellowships Recipients

- **Richard K. Beardsley and Robert E. Ward Scholarship for Japanese Language**
 - 2023-24: Sara Chittenden (MIRS-CJS)

- 2024-25: Matthias Reed (MIRS-CJS)
- **Dr. Hiroyuki and Mrs. Helen Rinehart Uete Fellowship in Japanese Studies**
 - 2024-25: Sophia Chier (MIRS-CJS)
- **Masao and Mayumi Oka Scholarship for Japanese Language Studies**
 - 2024: DeWayne Haneline III (International Business, UM-Flint)
- **Alumni Fellowship**
 - 2023: Thomas Charney (MLA Landscape Architecture), Anirudh Gururaj (MD Medical School), Donovan Inniss (MD Medical School)

Summer Fellowship Recipients

- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Japanese
 - 2023: Ethan D'Alessandro (College of Engineering), Kerra Hinrichs (LSA), Annabella Jankowski (MIRS-CJS), Sydney Tran (LSA), James Pan (Ross School of Business), Cameron White (PhD Asian Languages and Cultures), Eric Zhao (College of Engineering)
 - 2024: Laila Burke-Graves (Stamps School of Art & Design), Róisín Lacey-MacCormac (PhD History of Art), Austin Nordhaus (School of Music, Theatre & Dance)
- Summer Research/Internship Fellowships
 - 2023: Thomas Charney (MLArch), Anirudh Gururaj (MD)
 - 2024: Hannah Buchanan (MFA), Dylan Robles (LSA), Tsubasa Okada (LSA), Lucy St. Charles (MD), Jenny Wang (MD)



CJS Associate Director Kevin Carr with funding recipients Matthias Reed and DeWayne Haneline III

- Summer Language Award
 - 2024: Tyler Chen (PhD Political Science), Matthias Reed (MIRS-CJS)

Academic Year Fellowship Recipients

- Graduate Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Japanese
 - 2023-24: Sara Chittenden (MIRS-CJS), Annabella Jankowski (MIRS-CJS), Michelle Moore (MIRS-CJS)
 - 2024-25: Michelle Moore (MIRS-CJS), Matthias Reed (MIRS-CJS)
- Undergraduate Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Japanese
 - 2023-24: Genevieve Rice (LSA)
 - 2024-25: Hibah Ahmed (LSA), Kathleen Dignan (LSA)
- CJS Endowment Fellowship
 - 2023-24: Joel Liesenberg (MIRS-CJS and MSI), Matthias Reed (MIRS-CJS), Mayna Tyrrell (PhD Ethnomusicology), Yuki Nakayama (PhD Film, Television, and Media Studies), Nam Yamprai (MIRS-CJS)
 - 2024-25: Alexander Johnson (MIRS-CJS)

Undergraduate Study Abroad Scholarship Recipients

- Summer 2023: Isabella Bupp (U-M Flint), Shelby Cragg (U-M Flint), Martin Crespo De Nogueira (LSA), Ethan D'Alessandro (College of Engineering), Zenzi Grace (LSA), Suparna Hande (LSA), DeWayne Haneline III (U-M Flint), Khadija Helal (Ross School of Business), Kerra Hinricks (LSA), Grace Jeon (LSA), Zhenxi Jiang (College of Engineering), Hyunseo Lee (College of Engineering), Jennifer Mata (U-M Flint), Eileen Meier (LSA), James Pan (Ross School of Business), Connor Shepp (LSA), Sydney Tran (LSA), Tina Vu (LSA), Max West (College of Engineering), Michael Young (College of Engineering), Eric Zhao (College of Engineering)
- AY 2023-24: Noah Gadola (LSA), Ashton LeCain-Scott (LSA), Genevieve Rice (LSA), Rylie Scharlach (LSA), Julie Zhou (LSA)
- Summer 2024: Blake Ackerman (U-M Flint), Mopelola Adigun (LSA), Tajrene Begum (LSA), Laila Burke-Graves (Stamps School of Art & Design), Angelina Burson (College of Engineering), Ashley Dameworth (U-M Flint), Alivia Dams (U-M Flint), Mason Dzakowic (LSA), Lilianna Flores (LSA), Leena Jandali (School of Public Health), Amiya Johnson (College of Engineering), Jessica Lindquist (U-M Flint), Jazzmyn Loyd (LSA), Madelyne Perry (U-M Flint), Hannah Phillips (U-M Flint), Hiro Pleasant (LSA), Samantha Pui (LSA), Jordan Ross (U-M Flint), Derek Self (U-M Flint), Thomas Shea (LSA), Natalie Talarek (U-M Flint), Andrea Tamez (U-M Flint), Rojie Wang (LSA), Yuelin Wang (LSA)
- AY 2024-25: Seri Stewart (LSA)

2023-24 Short Term Travel Grant Recipients

- Jun Fang (PhD Political Science), Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics, Chicago, IL
- Michelle Moore (MIRS-CJS), Contributions of Advanced Nuclear Technologies to Decarbonization and Economic Development in Japan and the United States, Sendai, Japan
- Yuki Nakayama (PhD Film, Television, and Media Studies), Society of Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Boston, MA
- Shao-Chi Ou (LSA), Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Champaign-Urbana, IL

Dissertation Writing Fellowship Recipients

- 2023: Mayna Tyrell (PhD Ethnomusicology)
- 2024: Yuki Nakayama (PhD Film, Television, and Media Studies)

Japanese Language Proficiency Test Fee Grant, December 2023

Sara Chittenden (MIRS-CJS), Sharon Gim (LSA), Zenzi Grace (LSA), Kerra Hinricks (LSA), Kyle Hoffmeyer (LSA), Hana Hughes (LSA), Annabella Jankowsk (MIRS-CJS), Hyunseo Lee (LSA), Joey Lin (LSA), Poh Yue Low (Ross School of Business), Michelle Moore (MIRS-CJS), Vikram Raghu (College of Engineering), Dylan Robles (LSA), Raymond Tran (LSA), Niko Van Crey (PhD Robotics), Cameron White (PhD Asian Languages and Cultures), Elena Wu (Ross School of Business), Yushu Zeng (MPH Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology), Eric Zhao (College of Engineering), Ziyi Zhao (Ross School of Business), Qi Zheng (PhD History of Art)

CJS Film Series

In the winter 2024 semester, the **CJS Film Series** returned in partnership with Marquee Arts. This year's series, bearing the theme of **J-Horror**, was curated by Prof. Markus Nornes and doctoral candidate Yuki Nakayama of the Department of Film, Television, and Media at U-M. Yuki Nakayama also shared her expertise and perspectives at the start of every screening.

After a high-turnout screening of *Jigoku* (1960) on January 25, the series welcomed a packed house for *Godzilla Minus One* (2023) on February 1, the final day it could legally be screened in the United States. *Kuroneko* (1968) on February 8 and *Godzilla vs. Hedorah* (1971) on February 15 saw similarly high attendance rates. The series continued strongly with screenings of *Door* (1988) on February 22, *Tetsuo: The Iron Man* (1989) on March 7, *One Cut of the Dead* (2017) on March 21, and *Kasane* (2018) on April 4 before concluding on April 11 with the acclaimed 1964 anthology horror film *Kwaidan*.

The series proved to be one of the most successful CJS Film Series in recent memory. Many new members of the local Ann Arbor community joined our dedicated regular audience over the semester, driving the post-screening engagement between viewers and CJS to new heights.

Please check out the CJS Events page on our website and the Film Series page on the Marquee Arts website for details on upcoming film events.

Faculty Updates

Akiko Imamura would like to report the following:

Guest lectures:

04/2024: Panelist, “K-16 Language Recruitment and Retention Roundtable,” Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

03/2024: “Novice Japanese L2 speakers’ use of ‘go-to’ questions and sequential management in videoconferences,” 2024 American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference, Houston, Texas.

03/2023: “First-year postsecondary Japanese students’ language use and participation in videoconferencing language exchanges,” 2023 American Association of Teachers of Japanese, Boston, Massachusetts.

Publications:

Arita, Y. & Imamura, A. (2023). “Complaint responses in Japanese: Comparative analysis of textbook dialogues and ordinary conversations,” *International Review of Applied Linguistics in Language Teaching*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1515/iral-2022-0109>

Imamura, A., Ryu, C., & Kawaguchi, M. (2023). “Rethinking the online placement test for a college-level Japanese language program during the COVID-19 pandemic.” In Sadeghi, K. (Ed.). *Language Assessment at the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic* (pp. 228-242). Routledge: New York.

Awards received:

2022-2026 US Department of Education Title VI Language Resource Centers program: Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research (CALPER).

Project Title: *Instructional Materials for Pragmatic and Interactional Competence in Japanese*.

Role: Project member.

Collaborators: Stephen Looney (Pennsylvania State University) and Innhwa Park (Westchester University).

Jennifer Robertson (Professor Emerita, Anthropology and History of Art) produced a chapter in French on “animaloids” in *Dictionnaire Historique et Critique des Animaux*. She also has an article on fieldwork in “robotland” (*Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences*) and a chapter on robot thanatology in *Death and Robotics*, both forthcoming. The Korean edition of her 2018 book, *Robo Sapiens Japonicus: Robots, Gender, Family and the Japanese Nation*, was published this fall (2024) by Nulmin Press (Seoul). Robertson also gave twelve talks; as a “distinguished speaker” for the NEAC (AAS), Robertson lectured on robo-sexism and robo-Buddhism at the University of Denver, Carnegie Mellon University, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. At the University of Tokyo (Tōdai), she was a visiting professor and permanent affiliate of Tokyo College (an advanced study center on campus) for six months. While there, Robertson lectured on new research involv-

ing embodied AI (robots) deployed for entertainment and as agents of surveillance and biometric data collection. These and other lectures at Tōdai were published as webinars. She also lectured on robot-related topics at Waseda University, Tsukuba University, and Sophia University, and was a keynote speaker at the Human-Robot Interaction conference in Boulder and an invited speaker in Emory University’s “Emerging Technologies and the Future of the Humanities” seminar series. Please find more information at <https://professorjenniferrobertson.com/>.

Yuki Shiraito writes:

I published two papers on the political attitudes of the Japanese public:

- Liu, Guoer, Kenneth Mori McElwain, and Yuki Shiraito. 2023. “The Clash of Traditional Values: Opposition to Female Monarchs.” *European Political Science Review* 15(2): 291–310.
- Saki Kuzushima, Kenneth Mori McElwain, and Yuki Shiraito. 2024. “Public Preferences for International Law Compliance: Respecting Legal Obligations or Conforming to Common Practices?” *The Review of International Organizations* 19(1): 63–93.

I was also invited as a panelist to a panel discussion at Waseda University: waseda.jp/inst/sgu/news-through-2023/2023/08/28/26176/

Yoshihiro Mochizuki, teaching professor of Japanese, presented “Audience, Purpose, and Impact: The Keys to Effective Translation and Beyond” at Haverford College’s Distinguished Visitors Program on October 5, 2023. His presentation introduced fundamental principles for successful translation to undergraduate and graduate students. Illustrating the impact of language on diverse cultures, he sparked a vibrant discussion among Japanese learners, highlighting the challenges of preserving nuances in translation.

Mochizuki and Dr. William Matsuzaki (All Saints’ Episcopal School) led two workshops organized by Teachers of Japanese in Southern California (TJSC). The fall 2023 session, “Ten Things You Can Do to Make Your Classroom More Inclusive,” offered practical strategies for creating welcoming learning environments. A follow-up spring 2024 workshop effectively translated Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) theories into actionable classroom strategies.

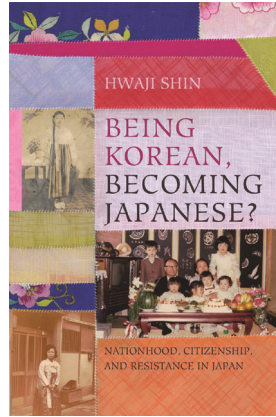
Mochizuki also contributed a 2-page column on microaggressions in the first chapter (“Inclusive Japanese Education: Sexuality and Gender Diversity”) of the newly published book *Kēsu de kangaeru! Dare mo oshiete kurenai nihongo kyōiku no genba* (ケースで考える! 誰も教えてくれない日本語教育の現場) by Koko Shuppan.

continued on page 19



Toyota Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar Updates

Hwaji Shin writes: I am happy to share that I recently published a book from the University of Hawai'i Press titled *Being Korean, Becoming Japanese? Nationhood, Citizenship, and Resistance in Japan*. It is also available via Open Access. I worked on this project during my time as a Toyota Visiting Professor from 2020 to 2022, and it has finally come to fruition. I greatly appreciate the support I received from CJS! Additionally, my title recently changed from "associate professor" to "professor" at the Department of Sociology, University of San Francisco.



Julia Adeney Thomas writes: As a Davis Center Fellow at Princeton University last fall, I made headway on my book project, *The Historian's Task in the Anthropocene*. I've also enjoyed giving talks thither and yon, most marvelously in Trento, Italy, near Christmastime and in Daejeon, Korea, as the keynote speaker at the Conference of East Asian Environmental History. My work with Earth-system scientists and geologists leads me along interesting paths, including being interviewed by *Nature* for a piece called "Geologists reject the Anthropocene as Earth's new epoch—after 15 years of debate: But some are now challenging the vote, saying there were 'procedural irregularities'" (March 6, 2024, [nature.com/articles/d41586-024-00675-8](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-00675-8)). Most excitingly, *The Anthropocene: A Multidisciplinary Approach* will be coming out in Japanese next year following the Korean, German, and Chinese editions.



Photo with Buhm Soon Park, Director of the Center for Anthropocene Studies, KAIST, Daejeon, Korea.

Soon after finishing her Toyota Visiting Professor appointment at CJS for the 2023 to 2024 academic year, **Eriko Tomizawa-Kay** was appointed associate professor at the University of East Anglia this past spring.

Fumiko Miyazaki published an article, "Practitioners of the Proscribed Creed: Gender and Motive in the 1827 Kyoto–Osaka *Kirishitan* Incident," in the *Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie* 32, 2023. The article examines the activities of male and female members of a group of self-proclaimed *Kirishitans* who were arrested in 1827 and executed in 1829 from a gender perspective.

Levi McLaughlin has been promoted to full professor at the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, North Carolina State University. His first book, *Soka Gakkai's Human Revolution: The Rise of a Mimetic Nation in Modern Japan* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2019), is being published in Japanese in July by Kodansha as 『創価学会＝現代日本の模様国家』.

Mariko Anno (TVP 2018–19), associate professor of the Institute for Liberal Arts, Institute of Science Tokyo (formerly Tokyo Tech), received the Seiichi Tejima Book Award from Tokyo Tech in 2023 for her book *Piercing the Structure of Tradition* (Cornell UP, 2020), which she finished copyediting during her TVP tenure. Anno and her Institute of Science Tokyo colleagues received the Interdisciplinary Division Support for Scientists Award for their research project "Developing an Evidence-based Design Method for English-Language Noh Drama, Based on Psychophysiological Analysis of Audience's Response." This project investigated how individuals watch Noh in real life by measuring their physiological data, both in person during a live performance and in virtual reality. All measurements were taken during the performance of Anno's English-language Noh, which she wrote, composed, and produced with help from Theatre Nohgaku. However, Anno conducted the fieldwork for creating this play as a TVP; like her book award, it was made possible by CJS. Anno is grateful that she was recently able to reunite with CJS staff in Tokyo. She hopes to conduct a world tour of her Noh throughout Japan, the United States, and Europe in 2025 and 2026, and she continues to give lecture-demonstrations on Noh and Kabuki in Japan and the United States through educational outreach programs.

Sadafumi Kawato, Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo; Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, writes: It has been a long time since I was a TVP at CJS in 2006–2007. I am now a member of the Japan Academy, and my profile has now been added to this page: japan-acad.go.jp/en/members/subsection02.html. This membership is for life. Also, I have moved back to Sendai.

CJS Affiliate Updates

Keisuke Yamada has recently published the following scholarly essays: “Mobilizing Citizens’ Ears: Aural Training as Civil Defense, 1941–45” in *Technology and Culture* (2023) and “Rethinking the Evolution of Japanese Music: Kunimoto Takeharu and Katō Kinji’s Electric Shamisen” in *Handbook of Japanese Music in the Modern Era*, edited by Henry Johnson (Brill, 2023). He also published a paper with Dr. Andrew Niess in the summer 2024 issue of *The Journal of Japanese Studies*. Titled “The Emergence of Sō-on: Factory Music, Noise, and An/aesthetic Strategies for Industrial Management,” this paper analyzes how early twentieth-century Japanese intellectuals, policymakers, and bureaucrats understood the nexus of sound, music, and labor in industrial management. In April 2024, Keisuke presented a paper in the Ethnomusicology Beyond the Human Symposium, organized and hosted by the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Indiana University, Bloomington.



directors for ASIANetwork. His new book, *Religion and Sport in Japan*, edited by Zachary T. Smith, Dennis J. Frost, and Stephen Covell, was published by the University of Hawai'i Press in September 2024.

Hongfang Hao (PhD, Kyoto University) has been temporarily living in São Paulo, Brazil, with her family since the June of 2023. She is engaged in her new research project on Japanese Brazilians and is uploading parts of her fieldwork on her YouTube channel *ブラジル日系移民記録 @brazil-nikkei-documentary*.

She contributed one chapter in the book 『くわし』から始まる社会学—家族とジェンダーから歴史、そして世界へ』（有斐閣、2023） and held a seminar titled 「サンパウロにおける移民コミュニティから見る越境とジェンダー」 at Hokkaido University in December 2023. She was also invited for two online lectures about her 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』: one from Harbin Normal University, China, and another from WAN (Women's Action Network), Japan.

Tomomi Yamaguchi writes: I published a co-authored book in Japanese with sociologist Saitō Masami, *Shūkyō Uha to Feminizumu* [宗教右派とフェミニズム, *Religious Right and Feminism*], Seikyūsha, in August 2023. I also started my new position as a professor at the College of International Relations at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan, in September 2024.



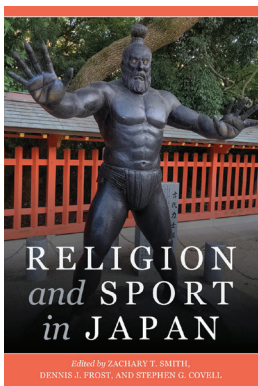
Mariko Kunimi writes: I presented my Japanese studies research at the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) 16th International Conference on July 19, 2024, at the University of Antwerp (BE). My presentation was titled, “Can Collaboration between Nonprofit Organizations Save the Sustainability Crisis?: Analysis of Collaboration in the Japanese Social Services Fields.” It focused on case studies of Japanese nonprofit organizations’ collaboration activities. Also, I contributed as a volunteer of the ISTR 8th International PhD Seminar Faculty between July 14 and 16, 2024.

Dustin London, Professor at Eastern Michigan University's School of Art & Design, was an artist-in-residence at the ANEWAL Gallery KKARC residency program in Kyoto from June 10 to July 7, 2024. The residency culminated in a solo exhibition of colored pencil drawings on washi inspired by the temples and gardens of Kyoto. The exhibition's title, *The 15th Stone*, refers to the *karesansui* at Ryōan-ji, which consists of 15 stones. However, visitors can only see 14 stones from most places on the veranda, and the 15th must reside in one's mind.



Japan Past & Present

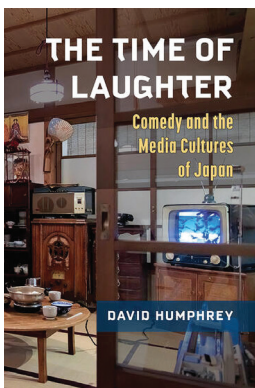
Paula Curtis writes: I, as the operations leader for Japan Past & Present, am pleased to announce that philanthropist and executive Tadashi Yanai (chair, president, and CEO of Fast Retailing and founder of Uniqlo) has committed \$31 million to the UCLA College Division of Humanities to support the Yanai Initiative for Globalizing Humanities. This is the largest-ever gift from a single donor to the Humanities Division. The majority of the gift will support Japan Past & Present and its mission as a digital hub that provides equitable access to scholarly tools and materials in the Japanese humanities and helps to realize an increasingly diverse and inclusive future for the Japanese studies field.



Dennis J. Frost served as program chair for the annual ASIANetwork conference in April 2024 and currently serves as the chair of the board of



development in contemporary Japan, please check out the book's introduction, which is free to read, at uw.manifoldapp.org/projects/fukushima-futures.



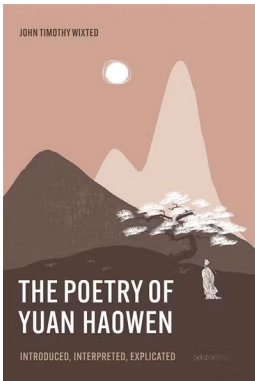
Satsuki Takahashi writes: My new book, *Fukushima Futures*, came out in July 2023 from the University of Washington Press. The year that I spent at the University of Michigan as a Toyota Visiting Professor was crucial to writing the foundations for this book, and I am deeply grateful to the CJS for the kind support and hospitality. For those who are interested in cultural/ environmental anthropology, disasters, ocean-human relations, or rural devel-

David Humphrey writes: My book, *The Time of Laughter*, came out in August 2023, incidentally as part of UM's Japanese studies monograph series. You can find information at press.umich.edu/Books/T/The-Time-of-Laughter3

Aileen Gatten participated in a research seminar from March through October 2024 focusing on the eleventh-century Japanese miscellany *Shinsarugakuki*. The weekly

seminar, led on Zoom by Prof. Joan Piggott of the University of Southern California, was attended by scholars from multiple time zones who applied their own specialized knowledge to comprehend this difficult, wide-ranging kanbun text. Written by Fujiwara no Akihira, an intellectual with unusually broad interests, *Shinsarugakuki* is a major primary source for information on Heian-period men's and women's occupations, elite and popular arts, imported and domestic goods, provincial government, sports and games, and more.

Tim Wixted recently published a book under The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press: *The Poetry of Yuan Haowen: Introduced, Interpreted, Explicated*. Yuan



Haowen (1190–1257) is perhaps the greatest Chinese poet of the last 800 years. In terms of the dignity and gravity of his verse, he was praised by Yoshikawa Kōjirō, the doyen of Japanese sinology, as being the foremost poet in the 1,200 years since Du Fu. In this volume, 150 of his poems are treated; *pinyin* accompanies the original texts, making them accessible to readers at any level of Chinese-language skill.

This is Tim's sixth book. More about his scholarship on both Chinese and Japanese language and literature, as well as copious PDFs of his research, are available on his website: JohnTimothyWixted.com. As a visiting professor at U-M, he was the last person to teach "Japanese for Sinologists" at the university.

Ryan Yokota started a new position as an assistant professor in the History Department at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Linda Galvane, a former CJS Postdoctoral Fellow (2021/2022), has been serving as an assistant professor in Japanese studies at the University of Kansas (KU) since autumn 2023. With support from KU's New Faculty Research Development Grant and the South, Southeast, and East Asia Fund, she conducted research in Japan during the summer of 2024. Selected as a 2024-2025 Digital Humanities Fellow at KU's Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, Professor Galvane is developing a digital project to complement her book manuscript on excrement representations in modern Japanese literature. For the 2024-2025 academic year, she is serving on the steering committee for KU's CEAS annual program Digital Age, supported by Title VI funding, and organizing film and speaker events along with the spring symposium. At KU, Dr. Galvane has also founded an East Asian Literature Book Club, which focuses on works addressing social justice and global Asian issues.

19

Faculty Updates

continued from page 16

Kevin Carr writes:

I was in Tokyo for the month of May with 16 students. They participated in CGIS's Global Course Connections (GCC) and took my "Anime to Zen" class last semester. We were based in Tokyo, but we took a day trip to Kamakura, and many students went to Kyoto as well. CJS helped support many of the students—thank you!

Pär Cassel shares his recent publication: "Koga Toan's Suppositions on Naval Defense and the Opium War Debate in Japan." In Joan Judge, Joachim Kurtz, et al. (eds), *The Sinosphere and Beyond: Essays in Honor of Joshua Fogel*, 67–89. De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2024.
doi-org.proxy.lib.umich.edu/10.1515/9783111383514-006

Benjamin Peters writes:

I gave a guest lecture (by Zoom) on April 16 titled "Memory and Japan's Peace Constitution." I delivered it to Dr. Peter Verbeek's "Peace Ethology" course (ANTH 517) in the Anthropology of Peace and Human Rights Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

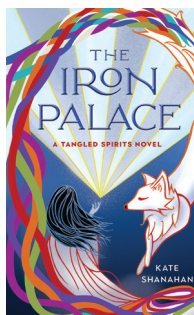
Alumni Updates

Kate Shanahan (MA in Asian Studies, Japan Specialization 1986–1991, CJS work-study 1986–1988) received the 2023 Silver Award for Historical Fiction from the Florida Authors and Publishers Association for her novel *Tangled Spirits*, published in April 2022.

In this book, Mina Cooper, a U-M Asian Studies major, is on a study abroad in Japan when her spirit accidentally slips back to the year 999 and into the body of aspiring *miko* Masako. *Historical Novels Review* called it “a heartwarming glimpse into the Heian period of Japan and its mythology. Recommended.” An audiobook version narrated by Anne Marie Lewis was released in November 2023.

The Iron Palace, a sequel to *Tangled Spirits*, was published in February 2025 in paperback and ebook formats. When Mina finds desperate letters written by Masako a thousand years ago, she must decide whether to risk a return to the past to save her or leave the ancient world and her best friend behind forever. Elements of *The Iron Palace* are based on the Japanese folktale *Shuten Dōji*.

Check out Kate’s website to learn more: kvshanahan.com.



Arif Iqball (MBA/MA Japan 1995), based in Kyoto, serves as a professor of strategic management in the MBA Program at Doshisha University Business School,

where he also teaches about leadership and understanding Japanese corporations and business practices.

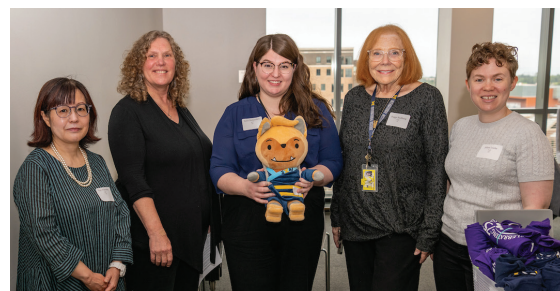
In 2024, Arif joined Aesara Partners, a global executive coaching and consultancy firm, as a partner, coaching C-level executives and high-performance teams. Through his own private practice focused on developing purpose-driven leaders (thecfocoach.jp), Arif mentors country CEOs in Vietnam, Mongolia, Bangladesh, and Kazakhstan, collaborating with an educational NPO dedicated to universal education access.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Arif documents and photographs the Geisha culture in Kyoto. The Naveed Iqball award at the U-M Depression Center, in memory of his son, now funds the keynote speaker at the Annual Depression on College Campuses Conference supporting young adults facing mental health issues (depressioncenter.org/outreach-education/docc).

Arif can be contacted at aiqball@mac.com.

Joel Liesenberg writes: After graduating with my Master in International and Regional Studies (Japanese studies) and my Master of Science in Information earlier in 2024 with the hope of pursuing academic librarianship, I am happy to announce I have started a position at the University of Oregon as a global studies librarian, liaising with students and faculty in their School of Global Studies and Languages and beyond. I want to thank CJS for their generous support and look forward to continuing to be a part of the CJS community in the years to come.

Sara Chittenden writes: I received my Masters of International and Regional Studies (Japanese studies) from U-M in 2024, and my thesis was titled “Cultivating Community, Illustrating Intimacy: A Textual and Visual Analysis of 1985 and 1987 Issues of the Japanese Lesbian *Minikomi* Series *Regumi tsūshin*.” After graduating, I am excited to report that



I joined the U-M Center for Japanese Studies team as the outreach coordinator in October 2024. I appreciate the ample opportunities and warm welcome I received from CJS as a graduate student, and I am thrilled to be part of the team. I look forward to utilizing my passions for Japanese studies, event organization, cultural exchange, and DEI as I coordinate events and outreach for CJS, such as the Noon Lecture Series and Ann Arbor Japan Week.

Paula Curtis is happy to report that she is now the operations leader for Japan Past & Present, a new and important platform for globalizing Japanese humanities. For more information, please see japanpastandpresent.org/en/news/announcing-japan-past-present.

Isaac Wittenberg writes: After graduating in 2023, I went on to work a few part-time jobs while figuring out the next step in my career. One of these jobs was teaching English to Japanese expats at the Koby Learning Group language school in Novi. Later in 2024, I was fortunate to find my current position as curriculum coordinator for the Departments of Asian Languages & Cultures (ALC) and Middle East Studies (MES) here at the University of Michigan. Being able to give back to Michigan’s diverse academic community has been a rewarding experience so far, and I’m excited to see where this job will take me. Outside of work, I continue to study Japanese and plan to enroll in classes such as Business Japanese or Classical Japanese. Earlier this year, I joined the Great Lakes Taiko Center. I have been enjoying the group aspect of classes and connecting with Japanese musical culture. Looking forward, I hope to start shamisen lessons again in addition to continuing my taiko studies.

Alumni Reflections

Dick Briggs writes: I will always be grateful to the Center for Japanese Studies at the University of Michigan. Professor Robert E. Ward, then director, admitted me into the master's program in the spring of 1972; I was completing my service as a U.S. Naval Officer in Yokosuka, Japan. I completed my coursework by June 1974, entered Northwestern University Law School in the fall of 1974, and completed my MA thesis in the spring of 1975. My thesis consisted of a translation of the *Naganuma Nike District Court Decision* holding the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force unconstitutional under Article 9 of Japan's Constitution, and this decision was reversed on appeal. Two years later, I received my law degree from Northwestern in 1977.

I was fortunate to "catch the wave" of Japanese investment in the United States that started in the 1970s. As an attorney, I represented Japan-based companies doing business in the United States from 1979, first at Baker & McKenzie in Chicago and then at other law firms in Chicago and Los Angeles. I served as General Counsel of Kubota Tractor Corporation from 1990 to 2017. I was the only "in-house" legal counsel for Kubota Tractor when I started. When Kubota moved to Texas in 2017, the Law Department had grown to six attorneys and four paralegals due to the company's tremendous business success (and the resulting legal issues).

In 1978, Professor Richard K. Beardsley, then director of the center, contacted me to request that I put my translation of the *Naganuma Nike* decision into publishable form. This translation was included in an issue of *Occasional Papers* edited by Michigan Law Professor Whitmore Gray and published by the center in 1979. Remarkably enough, this translation (no doubt with corrections) subsequently appeared in both *The Constitutional Case Law of Japan, 1970 through 1990* (1996) by Lawrence Beer and Hiroshi Itoh and in *The Japanese Legal System Cases, Codes, and Commentary*, second edition (2012) by Curtis J. Milhaupt, J. Mark Ramseyer and Michigan's own Mark D. West.

I started the Beardsley-Ward Fund in Japanese Language at Michigan in 2012 and continue to contribute to the fund, which has helped several students. I also continue to study the Japanese language, making intermittent trips to Japan.

Thank you, CJS!

Get to know our new and current MIRS students!



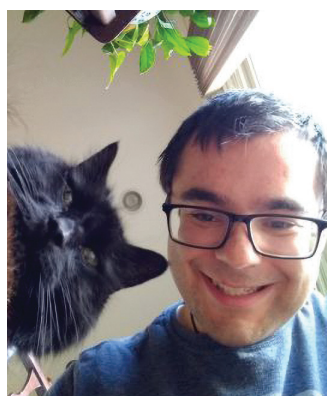
Sophie Chier graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2023 with a BA in psychology with minors in global studies and Japanese language. She studied abroad at Kwansai Gakuin University in Nishinomiya, Japan for 6 months and undertook social psychology research for her undergraduate thesis there. She is excited to pivot fully to Japanese studies to focus

on honing her language skills while exploring new research opportunities that focus on factors impacting Japan's social climate and population growth.



Alexander Johnson (Alex) is pursuing a Masters in International and Regional Studies with a specialization in Japanese studies. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a BA in Asian studies in 2024. Alex's research interests include contemporary Japanese media, male-male sexuality, and translation studies.

Michelle Moore is pursuing a Masters in International and Regional Studies with a specialization in Japanese studies. During her undergraduate studies, she focused her capstone research on soft power in modern Japan. Michelle spent two years abroad in Kyoto, Japan, studying at Ritsumeikan University and then Doshisha University. Her research interests include soft power in Japan, modern Japanese literature, translation, localization, and linguistics.



Matthias Reed graduated from Wayne State University with a BA in Asian studies and urban studies and a minor in history. His interests include Japanese private railways and their influence on pop culture, which was his undergraduate research, as well as rural railways and how they approach Japan's population decline. He lived in rural Kochi Prefecture, Japan for six months, teaching English to

elementary and middle school students as a participant in the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program.



2024 Malm Award Recipients



Since 2010, the Malm Awards have sought to encourage and recognize exceptional writing on Japan by undergraduate and graduate students. 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 the late 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.

Originally requiring a CJS faculty nomination, students may nominate themselves starting in the 2023–24 academic year.

Graduate Prize: Sara Chittenden (Master's Degree in International and Regional Studies, Japanese Studies Specialization), Class of 2024

Sara Chittenden, a recent graduate of the CJS-MIRS program, received the Malm Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Writing in Japanese Studies for 2024. Her paper, titled “Culturally Constructing the Menstrual Monster: Historicizing Pre-menstrual Syndrome (PMS) in Japan,” was written for a CJS graduate course.

“This was a final term paper for the course ‘Health and Culture in Contemporary Japan’ (CJS 501),” Sara shared with her submission. “We were asked to research a topic broadly related to the course and write a 15 to 20-page compelling and well-argued paper. Additionally, our bibliography had to include at least 10 sources, three of which needed to be anthropological.”

When the review committee recommended her paper for this year’s prize, they shared: “[Sara’s] writing is lucid, the argument tight, and she makes good use of theoretical texts and Japanese language sources.”

Undergraduate Prize:

Daize Li (Double major in Asian Studies (Japanese Studies) and Statistics), Class of 2024

Daize Li, a Japanese studies and statistics major, nominated part of his senior thesis titled “Representation of Modernity in Three Japanese Meiji and Taishō Period Fictions.” Advised by Professor Chris Hill in Asian Languages and Cultures, Daize wrote: “I am currently writing an undergraduate honors thesis in a year-long course of ASIAN 495 that focuses on Mori Ōgai’s “*Maihime*” (“The Dancing Girl”, 1890), Natsume Sōseki’s *Kokoro* (1914), and Tanizaki Jun’ichirō’s *Chijin no ai* (Naomi, 1926). I am submitting the completed part on “The Dancing Girl.”

The review committee praised Daize’s paper as “polished and intellectually serious in its analysis and engagement with secondary sources.”

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.

The Oka Scholarship for 2023-24 was awarded to DeWayne Haneline III, an international business major at UM-Flint. DeWayne participated in an internship through the CJS Japan Internship Initiative and spent the summer teaching English at Kyoto Arts & Crafts University.

CJS wishes to express our gratitude to the Okas for their continued commitment to supporting Japanese language study at the University of Michigan.

In Memoriam of Professor Malm

Remembering Professor William P. Malm

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our esteemed colleague, Professor William P. Malm (1928–2024). Professor Malm taught music for half a century, including over three decades as a member of the University of Michigan music faculty. Professor Malm was the leading ethnomusicologist of Japan and one of the founding figures of ethnomusicology in the United States. His award-winning, pioneering work has left a lasting impact on countless scholars and students across the globe. We are deeply honored that he was a part of our community.

In recognition of his significant contributions, the William P. Malm Awards for Outstanding Undergraduate and Graduate Student Writing in Japanese Studies was established in CJS in 2010. Funded by the U-M Office of the Provost, these awards honor Professor Malm's legacy and encourage excellence in the field of Japanese Studies.

We wish to honor Professor Malm's extraordinary legacy. Please join us for a public lecture and concert in September 2024, "Classical Japanese Music and Musical Instruments: In Memoriam William Malm."

Professor Malm's Enduring Melody: A Reflection on His Influence

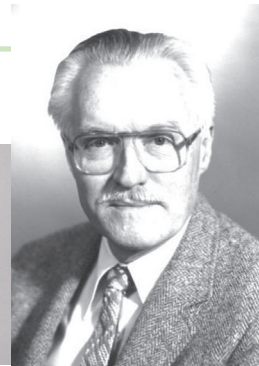
Mariko Okada

I received the news of Professor Malm's passing the day after I arrived in Ann Arbor. After a wonderful year as a Toyota Professor in Residence in 2012–2013, I returned this September as a Visiting Scholar, looking forward to seeing him again.

When I first met him in 2012, Professor Malm welcomed me warmly as I delved into my study of traditional Japanese dance and music. We shared many meaningful conversations about our research. My focus on the music and dance of Japan's Kansai region, which contrasts with Tokyo's traditions, might intrigue him. When he spoke, traditional music seemed to come alive, as if being created anew, much like a jazz session. He often shared stories of the vibrant *hogaku* music scene, particularly about the autumn festival in Yoyogi-Uehara, where I grew up, describing a time before I was born when traditional music was still an active part of daily life.

Professor Malm's view of music as something living and evolving is deeply inspiring. While I understood this concept intellectually, it was through his words, in both conversation and writing, that I truly began to feel it. I will never forget the day he generously gifted me a set of premodern Japanese music books, a gesture that I treasure deeply. Our exchanges during my time in Ann Arbor remain unforgettable.

Even after returning to Japan, I followed news of Professor Malm's work and attended online events with colleagues from my university in Tokyo during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am deeply saddened that I will never see him again, but the lessons he imparted – the importance of seeing traditional music as something living – will stay with me always. Thank you, Professor Malm, for your wisdom, kindness, and generosity.



On April 29, 2020, Professor Emeritus of Musicology William Malm was bestowed the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon from the Japanese government in recognition of his contributions toward promoting academic exchange and strengthening the relationship between Japan and the United States.



Between Farness and Nearness: In Memory of Prof. William P. Malm

Keisuke Yamada

After finishing my master's degree in historical musicology (i.e., Western music history) in the early 2010s, I was planning to pursue my PhD in ethnomusicology in the United States. I knew I wanted to work on traditional Japanese music and musical instruments. Ever since that point in my life, Malm's work has continued to influence my thinking—or, in fact, it was inescapable. I see a generational gap (that's not so small) between his scholarship and that of my generation. Yet, having a feeling such as this can be a sign that the field has grown. At U-M, I assigned his first book, *Japanese Music and Musical Instruments* (1959), to my graduate class. I particularly appreciate both the comprehensiveness and the depth of his research. I'm sure to continue reading his detailed work as I look into the histories of both ethnomusicology and Japanese studies and imagine the future directions of these fields.

I was so glad to be able to meet Prof. William Malm in Ann Arbor during the 2023–2024 academic year in the middle of September. As a CJS Postdoctoral Fellow, I participated in a roundtable discussion as part of the Festival of Asian Music. I gave a ten-minute presentation on the material culture of the *shamisen*, a topic on which Malm wrote extensively for many decades. A few minutes before the event began, I began setting up my *shamisen* instrument to play. After a sound check, I learned that Malm just arrived and we exchanged greetings. He took a seat in the front row, and I played the *shamisen* quite literally right in front of him. It's not an exaggeration to say that was the most memorable moment in my postdoc life at U-M.



Ann Arbor Japan Week 2024

Ann Arbor Japan Week celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2024 with another successful week of fun and family-friendly programming. This year's free film was a screening of *Mary and the Witch's Flower* by Studio Ponoc at the Michigan Theater.



CJS partnered with the Ann Arbor District Library for several demonstrations, hands-on workshops, and a screening of *Kusama Infinity*. A live woodblock printing (*mokuhanga*) demonstration by Michigan-based artist Nobuko Yamasaki drew over 100 attendees, and more than 150 people learned about making traditional Japanese sweets (*wagashi*) during two demonstrations by Toshiko Sugii-Stepfes.

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 including Marquee Arts, Ann Arbor District Library, and many more. We look forward to seeing you again in June 2025!



In Appreciation of Dr. Dawn Lawson



Dawn Lawson is a distinguished scholar and librarian specializing in East Asian Studies. Last year, she retired as the Director of the Asia Library at the University of Michigan, where she led one of North America's largest collections of East Asian resources. Her efforts have supported uncountable scholarly pursuits at all levels of the scholarly community.

Dr. Lawson studied at Oberlin (BA in East Asian studies, 1980), Waseda (special visiting student, 1980–83), Harvard (MA in Japanese literature, 1987), and Long Island University (MLS, 1997). She received her PhD in East Asian studies from New York University in 2014, with a dissertation entitled "Women, Creativity, and Translation in Mid-Meiji Japan: The Literature of Nakajima Shōen (1861–1901)."

From 2004 to 2015, Dr. Lawson served as the East Asian Studies Librarian at New York University. She has shown a sustained commitment to training faculty and students throughout her professional career, promoting access to scholarly resources, translation, and digital humanities. In addition to significant contributions on campus, she also served on the Executive Boards of the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) and the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL).

Her scholarship includes translations and peer-reviewed articles, notably on Japanese literature and culture. A recipient of the Kyoko Iriye Selden Memorial Translation Prize (2018), she has also contributed to understanding East Asian literature and psychoanalysis through works such as *Japan's Beautiful Fighting Girls* (2011).

Dr. Lawson is a passionate advocate for East Asian Studies, and her lifelong efforts to promote accessible library resources continue to shape the fields of library science and area studies today. We are all grateful for her years of dedicated service, and we wish her continued success.

Kevin Carr

Associate Director, Center for Japanese Studies
Associate Professor, History of Art



Remembering the Legacy of Professor Gunter Dufey



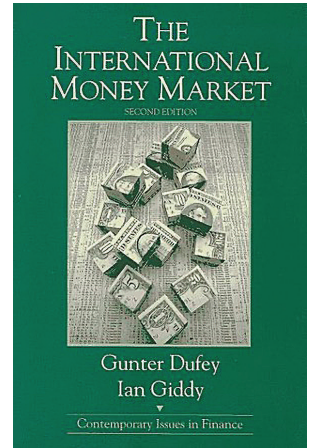
“Photograph of Gunter Dufey; HS6151.” In the digital collection Bentley Historical Library; Bentley Image Bank. University of Michigan Library Digital Collections.

Gunter Dufey (1940-2024), Professor Emeritus of Corporate Strategy and International Business and former chair of the International Business department, passed away in his Ann Arbor home on May 15, 2024. Memorials were held in the summer of 2024 in Ann Arbor, Germany, and Singapore.

Professor Dufey was a long-time member of the CJS community at the University of Michigan. His vast professional achievements include being a pioneering scholar and practitioner of

international financial markets. He was also a visiting professor in several schools around the world; he consulted for the government of Japan, the World Bank, and the US Treasury; he served as senior advisor at McKinsey Singapore; and he was visiting faculty at Nanyang Business School, Singapore. His academic focus was on international money and capital markets, as well as the financial policy of multinational corporations. One of his textbooks, *The International Money Market*, is extremely popular among finance scholars and practitioners.

In addition to his impressive intellectual contributions and dedication to international education, Professor Dufey was known for his incredibly generous and friendly spirit. The U-M community also fondly remembers his loving partnership with his late life partner, Pris. Their legacy will continue on through our memories, their academic work, and the students and faculty who continue to benefit from their support and scholarship.



Gunter and Pris at the Chinese New Year celebration of the University of Michigan Alumni of Singapore, February 2023.

25

A Holistic Academic Experience

continued from page 13

The staff's support, the students' enthusiasm, and the faculty's collegial spirit have all played a crucial role in making this post successful. I am grateful for the friendships and professional relationships forged during this time.

As I conclude my post, I am excited about the ongoing and future projects that will continue strengthening the Center for Japanese Studies. I look forward to maintaining my engagement with the center and continuing to contribute to its mission of promoting Japanese studies.

The experiences and insights gained during this period will undoubtedly influence my future academic endeavors. I am

optimistic about CJS's—and its community's—continued growth and success.

I sincerely thank everyone at the Center for Japanese Studies who supported and contributed to my successful appointment. Being part of such a vibrant and dedicated academic community has been an honor. I leave with a wealth of experiences and memories that I will cherish forever, and I look forward to staying connected and contributing to CJS's future endeavors. Thank you.



In Mike Fetter's Memory



In Mike Fetter's Memory

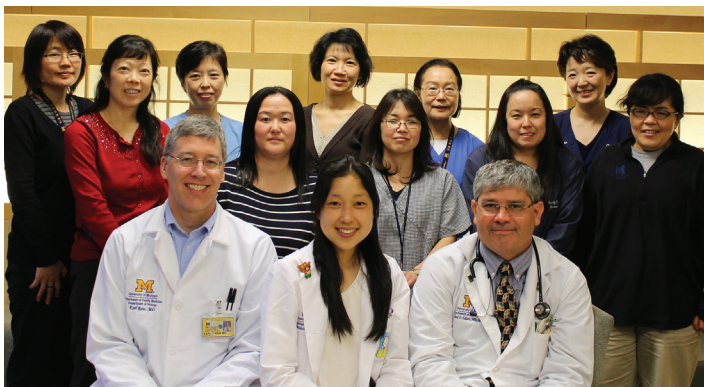
I was a plastic surgeon in Japan. When I moved to Ann Arbor and got married to my American husband in 2003, I started to look into residency training in the U.S. I did not know much about family medicine, but I somehow found the Japanese Family Health Program on Google and sent an email to the director, Mike Feters. He replied right away, saying, "You contacted the right person! Please come visit me soon." A few weeks later, I visited him in his research office. He was very kind and patient and answered all my questions. He then told me that I should become a family physician and join the program once I completed my residency. It was magical; somehow, I suddenly felt that family medicine was the specialty I wanted to choose. It took me five years to join the program.

He helped many others just like he guided me. He had connections with so many physicians, residents, medical students, and undergraduate students from Japan. He mentored many of them in conducting and publishing their research. He had a reputation amongst them: once you started collaborating with Mike, you would end up with a publication. He was very focused and persistent, believing in publication for his mentees even if the topic was not a high priority for himself.

He also put a lot of effort into fostering relationships for the future of the program, as he had a strong long-term vision. This led to the growth of the Japanese Family Health Program, the largest medical program for Japanese people outside Japan. He started this program all by himself in 1997 and grew it significantly over the years. Currently, five bilingual physicians and 11 bilingual staff are caring for Japanese-speaking patients at two clinics. This program makes all of us proud to provide the care needed for Japanese-speaking patients. I am very grateful for the program and the support Mike gave us. I will try my best to continue his vision of improving and growing the program, as he always wished.

Sahoko H. Little, MD, PhD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Director, Japanese Family Health Program



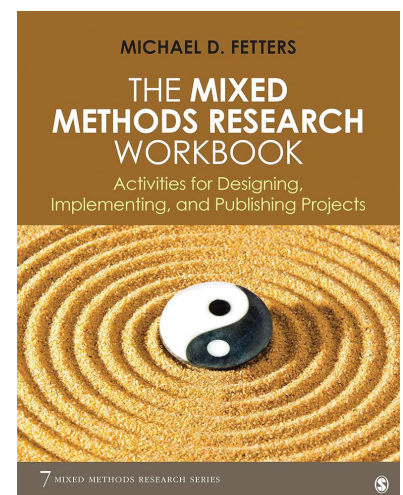
Remembering Mike Feters

In Japan, life starts again at age sixty. Metaphorically, that is. Sixty years marks *kanreki* (還暦), a milestone signifying the return of the zodiac to one's birth sign. Michael Feters (August 20, 1961 to July 17, 2023) was born in the year of the Metal Ox and passed prematurely, two years beyond his *kanreki*. He embodied the classic virtues of his birth sign: always active, well-liked, patient and confident, dependable and supportive, independent and thoughtful, and blessed with humility.

Over my thirty years as a U-M faculty member, I had several opportunities to interact and work with Mike. We were not close friends, nor was he my doctor(!), but we did share a commitment to "mixed methods" practice and theory in our respective work in Japanese Studies. Mike was prescient and highly effective in his approach to medicine and patient care, which was grounded in attention to cultural practices and contexts. As founder and director of the Japanese Family Health Program at U-M, Mike was a godsend to many patients, including two of my close friends who were visiting researchers from Japan. At one point in their stay, both friends needed urgent care and medication. Mike met them without delay and treated them successfully. His compassionate conversations and reassuring interventions were literally life-saving. I shared with them the sad news of Mike's passing, and they replied that they prayed for his safe passage at their local Buddhist temple.

I had the pleasure of participating in the timely symposium organized by Mike on February 5, 2015, on interdisciplinary approaches to suicide in Japan. My presentation framing and demystifying the literary vs. real-world phenomenon of suicide led to my invitation to an intercultural training workshop for mental health caregivers at U-M. This opportunity to work at U-M in Ann Arbor, but outside of a strict academic framework—something I had been able to do *away from* U-M—was immensely rewarding and uplifting. Mike enjoyed such boundary-crossing activities every day!

Much in demand nationally and internationally as a speaker and teacher of mixed methods and approaches to family medicine, Mike was always active—a human perpetual energy machine! Although he was taken from us prematurely, Mike certainly accomplished and experienced at



least three lifetimes worth of accomplishments in his 62 years on Planet Earth.

Jennifer Robertson

Professor Emerita, Anthropology & History of Art

**A Tribute to Mike Fetters:
A Legacy in Blending Personal and Professional Bonds**

The journalist David Brooks talks of “resume virtues” versus “eulogy virtues.” While Mike exceeded in both, I’d like to speak to the latter, which leans towards issues of whether you were kind, generous, and loving. Mike showed these virtues in leaps and bounds. Our relationship began with him becoming my primary mentor during my postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan, and it ended with me driving his convertible around Ann Arbor. Let me explain.

When I came to the University of Michigan in 2011, I was initially star-struck—he had published work on the Japanese healthcare system that had a major influence on me—but my anxiety was quickly assuaged as he quickly and proactively welcomed me. Because I was a psychiatrist fluent in Japanese, Mike helped arrange for me to provide mental health consultations to patients in the Japanese Family Health Program, one of his major legacies. He also dispatched me to Shizuoka, Japan, to support the mental health training of rural family medicine physicians; prior to this, only family medicine doctors had been dispatched, but Mike advocated for me.

With sponsorship by CJS, Mike and I organized movie and lecture events on the topic of *hikikomori*. Much of the planning for these events took place in his dining room over a cup of green tea.

Some years later, after having moved to Portland, I returned to U-M for intensive summer training. Mike insisted I stay in his home and make use of his Mazda Miata convertible. I obligingly rolled the top down and used it to commute. At the end of the day, we would gather in his dining room and have dinner together while dreaming up our next inspired research project. To me, this intertwining of personal and professional bonds was the essence of Dr. Mike Fetters, and I am indebted to him for it.

Alan Teo, MD, MS

Professor, Oregon Health & Science University
Director of Education, Center to Improve Veteran Involvement in Care
President, Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture



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