



J CURRENT

NEW LOOK!!!

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J-Current reports on the achievements and activities of UHM Japanese Studies faculty and students as well as Japan related events, research, scholarships and overseas programs.

Please send materials for submission to:

Andrew Lambert
J-Current Editor
Center for Japanese Studies
1890 East-West Road, Moore
216 University of Hawai'i at
Mānoa
Honolulu, HI 96822

E-mail: cjs@hawaii.edu
Tel: (808) 956-2667
Fax: (808) 956-2666
Web: www.hawaii.edu/cjs

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CJS Staff on the Road



UH representatives Shultz (left), Andaya, Hereniko, Satsuma and Huey at the Santa Fe conference.

In late October, CJS Director **Bob Huey** and Associate Director **Gay Satsuma** joined SPAS Interim Dean **Ned Shultz**, Center for Pacific Islands Studies Director **Vilsoni Hereniko**, and Center for Southeast Asian Studies Director **Barbara Andaya** at the biennial Council of National Resource Center Directors meeting, hosted by the University of New Mexico, in Santa Fe. The roughly 90 participants, representing NRCs from around the country, discussed trends in international studies, and strategized on how to maintain if not increase Title VI International Studies funding in the post-Bush era

Huey and Satsuma were also invited to attend a gathering of West Coast Japanese Studies Centers administrators at

the University of British Columbia on November 19-21 (see photo below). The workshop, funded by the Japan Foundation, and hosted by UBC's Centre for Japanese Research, included representatives from Japanese Studies centers at UBC, University of Washington, Portland State University, UC Berkeley, and UCLA. Its main purpose was to discuss future directions for Japanese Studies, and to form collaborative connections among the West Coast centers.

On November 29-30, Huey and Satsuma, along with Professor **Leon Serafim**, Director of the Center for Okinawan Studies, and Professor **Joyce Chinen** (Sociology, UHWO) were invited to participate in a conference entitled "Human Migration and 21st Century Global Society" at the University of the Ryukyus. The conference kicked off a five-year project on Human Migration, funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). The UH group forms part of the Pacific, North/South America Research Team, which will collaborate on various projects throughout the five-year program.

Bob, Gay and directors from the other West Coast Centers for Japanese Studies at UBC



Nippon Culture Day 2008

This year's Nippon Culture Day, held on Oct. 2nd, was the biggest and most successful yet with over 220 students and visitors participating in seven different workshops including *ikebana* (flower arrangements), gift wrapping, calligraphy, *onigiri*, *origami*, *kendama*, and the tea ceremony.

"Biggest and most successful yet..."

According to **Susan Hirate**, the Nippon Culture Day 2008 organizer, the overall success of the event was mainly attributed to the teachers who volunteered their time, expertise, and creativity as workshop leaders, and to student volunteers from Japanese classes here at UH Mānoa. The East-West Center's Imin International Center was an appropriate site for the event as workshops were conducted in front of a backdrop of the Japanese garden and *Jakuan*. Representatives of the UH Mānoa Study Abroad Center, the Consulate-General of Japan, the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, and the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii were also present to provide information about studying and working in Japan. This year's grand finale was a live performance of Okinawan music and dance by Prof. **Kyoko Hijirida** and the students of her JPN 471 class. The event was co-sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies and the Soshitsu Sen Way of Tea Center, the College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature, and the EALL 'Japanese Language and Literature' Fund.



From the Tea Center

CJS Director's Kyoto Sojourn

On November 9-16, Director **Bob Huey**, representing the International Way of Tea Center, joined 16 other members of the Hawaii Urasenke Association in a visit to Kyoto, and Urasenke Headquarters. In addition to renewing ties with the main office, the group was able to visit Konnichi-an, Urasenke's cluster of historical tea rooms, and was also treated to a rare tour of a new tea room designed by Raku Kichizaemon, 15th generation head of the Raku family of potters, at the Sagawa Museum in Shiga Prefecture.

CJS Career Seminar

East-West Center's Diplomat-in-Residence Speaks to SPAS Students

The School of Pacific and Asian Studies (SPAS) was fortunate to have Mr. **Jonathan Henick**, Diplomat-in-Residence at the East-West Center, as the featured speaker for its annual Careers Seminar held on Tuesday, September 30, 2008. While discussing the "nuts-and-bolts" of working for the U.S. State Department, Mr. Henick comfortably engaged the audience in an informative discussion about life and work in the U.S. Foreign Service by sharing personal stories and analysis of his time as a diplomat to missions in Turkey, Portugal, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and as a negotiator for the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Those in attendance were presented with an open forum to discuss both the internal makeup of the U.S. State Department and how they might integrate their own experiences into such a career path. The School of Pacific and Asian Studies would again like to thank Mr. Henick for taking the time to talk with us and wish him all the best in his next assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission to Dili, Timor-Leste beginning in July 2009.

Jonathan Henick



CJS Seminar Series

The Medieval Reception of *Man'yōshū*

Dr Huey's talk focused on the difficulties of reading the poems of the *Man'yōshū*, and how poems which have a shared beginning in the compendium came to be interpreted differently in different time periods and by different scholars.

The 8th century poetry collection *Man'yōshū* has long been an object of contention. In the 18th century it was celebrated by the *kokugakusha* as the repository of a pure Japan, as yet unsullied by continental influence. And in modern times, the militarist nationalists claimed to find in its poetry proof of an idyllic "age of the gods," when the emperor and the people lived in harmony.

In fact, however, misunderstandings and misreading of the collection began within a hundred years of its compilation, owing initially to the fluid script used to write it: *man'yōgana*. By the 1100s, distinct schools emerged that disputed how this script should be read, and poet-scholars competed to prove that they had the best knowledge of the collection. The presentation looked at some of the variations found in medieval readings of *Man'yōshū* and attempted to account for some of those variations.

Dr Huey located the difficulty of reading the *Man'yōshū* in the opaqueness of the bare, unannotated *kanji* of the original poems.



Dr Huey points out sources of textual confusion

From *Kokusaika* to *Tabunka Kyōsei*...

...Global Norms, Discourses of Difference, and Multiculturalism in Japan

Using examples from the Tokyo ward of Ōkubo, Dr **Petrice Flowers** discussed the tension between national level policy on immigration and local government initiatives and grassroots developments. While national policy remains grounded in '*kokusaika*' (internationalization), emphasizing the equipping of Japanese citizens to interact with the outside world, some individual institutions and local governments are now focusing on difference or '*tabunka kyōsei*' (multi-cultural cooperation): recognizing minority sections of the population such as non-Japanese, aids sufferers and *burakumin*. This gives rise to a struggle between the two levels to determine the identity and 'meaning' of a particular spatial or geographical location.

Dr Flowers concluded that as Japan attempts to accommodate diversity, it must negotiate the tension between diversity and local self-determination, to ensure that public initiatives are genuinely multi-cultural rather than focused only on ethnic groupings.



Dr Flowers answers questions after her talk

Okinawan Studies Open House



Cheryl Nakasone demonstrates *kachaashii*, as COS Director Leon Serafim (right) looks on.

On Thursday 6 November, Dr. **Leon Serafim** welcomed faculty, students and the wider community alike, when he hosted the first of a series of sessions to showcase the work of the Center for Okinawan Studies (COS).

The Center will focus on the history of the Ryukyus, contemporary issues and also on Okinawa diaspora, both in Hawai'i and around the world. Supported by a grant from the Japan Foundation, the Center will launch various projects in its first three years, including a workbook for the Okinawan Language and Culture course at UH and a new undergraduate course in Okinawan Studies for the Asian Studies Program. The first open house was conducted in a mood of celebration, with Sensei **Cheryl Nakasone** leading a *kachaashii* lesson and Sensei **Norman Kaneshiro** providing musical accompaniment on the sanshin.

From the Library

Sakamaki-Hawley Collection Scroll Restored by Okinawan Museum

When an eight-person delegation, led by President **David McClain**, visited Okinawa in October their schedule included a visit to the Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum.

President McClain and Mr. **Hiroataka Makino**, Director of the Museum, gave presentations on the successful restoration of a scroll from UH's Sakamaki-Hawley collection.

The scroll depicting the 1671 procession of Prince Kin to Edo castle, had been on public exhibit in the museum.



Later Mr. **Tamotsu Miyagi**, Director of the Nishimachi Public Library, made special arrangements to create a full-size image of the scroll. Interim Librarian **Paula Mochida** posed with the scroll image (left).

The Japan Specialist Librarian hand-carried the scroll safely back to Hawaii. The Library, the Center for Okinawan Studies and the Center for Japanese Studies are planning to hold an appreciation reception for Library donors in early 2009.

Tokiko Y. Bazzell

English Rakugo comes to UH



Kaishi performs using a sensu folding fan to imitate chopsticks (picture courtesy of JASH)

On August 23rd and 24th 2008, Japanese *rakugo* performer **Katsura Kaishi** gave two lively performances of *rakugo* in English to full houses at the University of Hawaii's Ernst Lab Theater.

An accomplished Japanese *rakugo* performer, Kaishi has adapted some of his stories to English, and, sponsored by the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs, toured the US this past spring and summer, performing over 40 shows across the country, including performances in Monument Valley Arizona to a Navajo crowd and at Mt. Rushmore, South Dakota. Cooperative efforts and funding from by the Japan-America Society of Hawaii (JASH), the UH Center for Japanese Studies, the Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu, the Honolulu Foundation, the Japanese Women's Society Foundation, and the Nippon Club persuaded Kaishi to briefly break from his tour and perform here.

EALL PhD student and aspiring *rakugo* artist **Matt Shores** coordinated the visit and the performances, with additional support from Dr. **Julie Iezzi** and the UH Department of Theater & Dance and students from the UH Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures and the Japanese Cultural Club.

Faculty news

PRESENTATIONS

Michel Mohr, Assistant Professor (Religion)

'*Shaku Sōen and the Challenge of the Modern*' for The Seventh Annual Japan at Chicago Conference, entitled 'Buddhism and Japan's Modern' at the University of Chicago, October 30.

Monika Dix, Visiting Assistant Professor of Japanese (EALL)

'The Authority of *Waka* in the *Taima-dera jikkai-zu byōbu*' at the 12th International Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS), Salento University, Lecce, Italy, September 20-23.

'Parody and Tokugawa Realism: Subverting Religious and Cultural (Con)Texts in Ejima Kiseki's *Keisei kintanki*' at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Association of Japanese Literary Studies (AJLS), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, August 19-21.

Pat Steinhoff, Professor (Sociology)

Keynote speech 'Studying Conflict in Japan Since 1984' at the recent meeting of Anthropologists of Japan in Japan, in Osaka, November 8-9. The meeting was based on the book 'Conflict in Japan', edited by Ellis Krauss, Thomas Rohlen, and Patricia Steinhoff and published by University of Hawaii Press in 1984.

Pat also organized a panel on social movements in Japan, featuring research by three UH sociology graduate students (doctoral students **Akemi Nakamura** and **Shinji Kojima**, and recent MA graduate **Yuki Hamajima**) and herself.

Discussant for the panel was **Scott North**, now a faculty member at Osaka University but also an MA in Japanese Studies at UH.

PUBLICATIONS

Monika Dix, Visiting Assistant Professor of Japanese (EALL)

'Ascending Hibariyama: Chujohime's Textual, Physical, and Spiritual Journey to Salvation,' in *Review of Japanese Culture and Society*, vol.XIX (December 2007): 103-116.

MOVING ON...

Professor **Graham Parkes** (Philosophy) left the university in July this year, to take up a position as Head of Philosophy at University College Cork in Ireland. The CJS community wishes to thank Dr Parkes for his contribution to Japanese studies over the years and wishes him every success in his new role.



Student and Alumni news

SPAS 20th Annual Graduate Student Conference

Redefining Borders: Looking Toward the Future of Asia-Pacific Studies.

March 11 (Wed.) – 13 (Fri.), 2009 at Center for Korean Studies Auditorium

Call for Papers!

- * Abstract submission deadline: **January 19, 2009**
- * Abstract should be maximum of 500 words.
- * No submission fee
- * Top presenters in each area will receive a cash prize!

Submission form is available for download from the conference webpage:
www.hawaii.edu/shaps/gradconf/2009/index.html

For further information email: gradconf@hawaii.edu

Reflections of Japan-America Student Conference (JASC) 2008

Neal Akatsuka, CJS and Japan-America Society of Hawaii scholarship recipient for 2008, returned from his month long experience with an appreciation that *'he concept of cultural exchange was... truly embodied'* and where he, *'found that the paper I wrote was less important than the conference experience itself.'* Neal was one of 62 students from across the U.S. and Japan to have participated in the 60th annual Japan-America Student Conference. The outcome from all the group discussions, research, and presentations was an understanding that *'this was indeed just the beginning, rather than the end, because we now needed to implement our ideas into action.'* Neal is completing an undergraduate degree at the University of Hawaii and is currently on an exchange program to Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan.



"I would recommend JASC to anyone with an interest not only in Japan and academics, but also a commitment to thinking about and changing the processes that structure the relationship between Japan, the United States, and the world."

Ehime Prefectural Internship Program (EPIC)

UH Students talk up Hawaiian nature...

Kevin Duffy (BA, Asian Studies and Peace Studies) and **Shaun Kindred** (BA, Japanese) were selected as the UHM student interns for the Ehime Prefectural International Center's summer internship program for 2008. Kevin and Shaun worked at EPIC for three months from May to August 2008. Their time in Ehime included: programs for international residents in Ehime, a Hawaiian Culture Day, an English study camp, and school presentations on Hawaiian life and culture.

They also took the opportunity to present Hawaii's nature to their fellow students in a course seminar, drawing on their own experiences to reveal the secret beauty spots of the islands.

Kevin recently graduated from UH, while Shaun intends to enter graduate school in Taiwan.

Japan-America Student Conference (JASC) 2009 Scholarship

The Center for Japanese Studies and the Japan-America Society of Hawai'i are offering a scholarship for a UHM student to participate in the Japan-America Student Conference (JASC) for the summer of 2009.

More information about the JASC conference can be found at: www.iscdc.org
 Any questions? Please feel free to contact:

Gay Satsuma
 Associate Director, Center for Japanese Studies, Moore 216
 University of Hawaii
 Honolulu, HI 96822

The JASC Scholarship includes:

Roundtrip airfare to the conference site, \$3000 participation fee (which covers food, lodging and group travel for the duration of the conference)

Requirements for the Scholarship:

UHM classified undergraduate/graduate student status at the time of application and during the Conference. Demonstrate high academic achievement and promise. Proof of acceptance to participate in JASC.

How to Apply for the Scholarship:

Submit a copy of the full JASC application to the Center for Japanese Studies a week after the application is due to JASC (approximately mid-February 2009).
 Ask recommenders to send their letters to CJS by the above deadline.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND JOBS**Martin Regan, PhD (Music, 2006)**

Now assistant professor of music at Texas A&M University, translated prominent Japanese composer Minoru Miki's book, 日本楽器法、'Nihongakkihō (Composing for Japanese Instruments)', recently published by the University of Rochester Press.

James Jack , MA (Art and Art History)

Gave the paper: 'Transnationalism and Entrepreneurial Art Theory on a Global Stage', at the 12th European Association for Japanese Studies 2008 at Salento University, Lecce, Italy in September. The presentation was sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies.

Shunichi Takekawa, PhD (Pol. Sci., 2008)

Has signed a five-year contract as an associate professor at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Beppu city, Oita Prefecture. Shunichi will begin to work for APU in April 2009.

CJS Scholarship Recipients 2007-8

Congratulations to the following students on their awards from CJS!!

Summer 2008 FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) fellowships

Alexander Harris	Asian St MA - for on campus study
Scott Bullock	Law School JD - Inter-University Center, Yokohama
Carl Johnson	Philosophy MA - Inter-University Center, Yokohama
James Knapp	Japan-focused MBA - on campus study

2008-09 FLAS

Carl Gabrielson	Asian St MA - on campus study
Conway Carter	Architecture Doctorate - Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto
Caitlin Nelson	Library Info and Science Masters - Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto
Aaron Kingsbury	Geography PhD - Inter-University Center, Yokohama

Minae and Miki Kajiyama Graduate Scholarship

Scott Bullock	Law School - on campus study
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Takie Sugiyama Lebra Scholarship

Alexander Harris	Asian St MA - on campus study
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Hanayo Sasaki Graduate Merit Scholarship

Yoko Iida	Sociology PhD - on campus study
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Tasuku Harada Graduate Scholarship

Noa Matsushita	Political Science PhD - dissertation study (in California)
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Center for Japanese Studies Fellowship

John Kupchik	Linguistics PhD - on campus study
Chie Fukuda	EALL PhD - on campus study
Yoshitaka Miyake	Geography PhD - dissertation study (in Japan)
William Matsuda	EALL PhD - dissertation study

CJS Mailing List

If you would like to receive CJS announcements by e-mail, you can become a part of the CJS listserv by e-mailing the Center at cjs@hawaii.edu with a subject heading of "E-mail Flyer." In the body of the message, please include your name, preferred title (Dr. Mr. Ms. etc.), your affiliation (faculty, student, community, etc.), and regular (snail mail) contact address. If you prefer to receive the newsletter as a hard copy and flyers by email, please indicate your preferences. If you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list, please let us know.

Application Deadlines

Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant

There is no application deadline. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Contact GSO at 956-8776 or visit <http://gso.hawaii.edu> for more information.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS) for Japanese Studies 2009-2010: 17th February

Contact Dr Chizuko Allen: 956-2210, Email: chizuko@hawaii.edu

On-line application for Center for Japanese Studies fellowships/scholarships 2009-2010: 20th February.

Go to UH Foundation scholarship website: https://www.star.hawaii.edu:10012/Scholarship_beta/
Search using "Center for Japanese Studies"

Center for Japanese Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
School of Pacific and Asian Studies
1890 East-West Road, Moore Hall 216
Honolulu, HI 96822
USA

To: