

JCURRENT

Quarterly Newsletter of the Center for Japanese Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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Contents

- 1 Feature Stories
- 2 Recent Events
- 3 Faculty News
- 4 Student News
- 5 CJS Seminar
- 6 From the Library
- 7 The Tea Center

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. Submission deadline for the next issue is April 14, 2006. Please send to:

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MAN'YŌSHŪ EXHIBIT CELEBRATED AT UH



Yasumasa Suzuki's さお鹿
(Stag)

This spring, the Center for Japanese Studies, along with the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Library, the Consulate-General of Japan in Honolulu, and supported by the Center for Korean Studies, hosted an exhibit of artwork inspired by the *Man'yōshū* (The Collection of 10,000 Leaves), one of Japan's earliest works of literature. The artwork, on display at Hamilton Library Gallery from March 3 through March 20, was created by the celebrated artists, **Yasumasa and Seiran Suzuki**. They have reinterpreted *Man'yōshū* poems, creating a vast collection of bold and modern Japanese-style artwork that bring the poems to life. In addition to the gallery showing of their paintings and pottery, the Suzukis were honored at an opening reception on March 3, 2006. The opening ceremony featured lectures by Dr. **Alexander Vovin** (EALL) on Korean origins of some texts within the *Man'yōshū*, and Dr. **Robert Huey**

(CJS), who explored broad historical issues surrounding the *Man'yōshū*.

The ceremony ended with the Suzuki's providing a guided tour of their artwork in the Hamilton Library Gallery.



Seiran Suzuki's 風のゆくえ
(Where the Wind Goes)

The broader East Asian influences on the Suzuki's work with the *Man'yōshū* have also been celebrated in exhibitions in Korea, China and at the United Nations Center in New York. Their exhibit at the University of Hawai'i is the first exhibition of their work in the state. In conjunction with the Suzuki's exhibition, CJS sponsored a seminar on the *Man'yōshū*, led by Dr. Vovin. See page 5 for more details.



Yasumasa and Seiran Suzuki at the reception

SHAPS SAYS "ALOHA" TO DEAN PORTER

An evening filled with song, dance marked a going away party for SHAPS Interim Dean, Dr. **Ed Porter**. Many members of the SHAPS family turned out for the event, which featured a musical



Dr. Porter says farewell

performance by Dr. **Jon Osorio** from the Center for Hawaiian Studies. Dr. Porter has been with SHAPS since its inception in 1988, and has served as

the interim dean since fall 2002, and his tireless devotion to all of the centers and programs within SHAPS has been of benefit to us all.

Leaving SHAPS, Dr. Porter, along with his wife and two of his three sons, will move to Beppu, Japan, where he will be a full professor and institute director at Ritsumeikan Asia-Pacific University. We wish Dr. Porter and



Ms. Myra Yamamoto, Dr. Ed Porter, Ms. Joyce Morikuni and Ms. Julie Fujimoto at the Dean's farewell.

his family all the best as they open this new chapter in their lives.

Recent Events

ASIA PACIFIC LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES

The Asia Pacific Lecture series continued this semester as Dr. **Tarcisius Tara Kabutaulaka**, of the University of the South Pacific, gave a presentation entitled "Global Capital and Local Ownership in the Solomon Island Forestry Industry." This talk provided a rich discussion of the interaction between the global and the local, examining natural resource development in the Solomon Islands forest industry. He argued that the local is more than just a passive victim of global forces, rather the local actively engages in interrogating, negotiating and adopting global forms and processes to meet the local needs. Because of communal ownership of resources at

the local level, the communities have, in their power, the potential to play a key role vis-a-vis globalization.

THE ACTIVE AGING IN ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE

The aging populations of Asian and Pacific countries were the central theme at the Active Aging in Asia Pacific Conference, held February 26-28, 2006 at the Imin Center. This conference covered political, economic and sociological issues related to aging, and in particular those concerning eldercare and concrete ways to enrich the lives and decrease the social burden of rapidly expanding aging populations. Panels featured speakers from China, Korea, Japan, and

Hawai'i; panelists discussed the impact of aging in their respective countries, and how governmental and non-governmental organizations were working to improve aging communities. The conference began with a discussion on the regional context in which aging is occurring and then moved on to discussions on how to promote active aging. Topics included volunteerism, care environments, and healthy/productive aging. The second day of the conference included site visits to retirement communities and nursing homes in Hawai'i. The Center for Japanese Studies was a member of the organizing consortium headed by the UH Center on Aging and was also a co-sponsor.

SYMPOSIUM AT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL

“Who is Ranald MacDonald?” was the central theme of a panel discussion at the Honolulu Festival on Saturday, March 11, 2006, co-sponsored by the Japan America Society of Hawaii (JASH). The panel, moderated by Dr. **Robert Huey** (Director, CJS, Professor, EALL), focused on the life of Ranald MacDonald, the first American to visit Japan during the time it was closed to foreigners. Ranald MacDonald was in Japan from 1848-1849, a few years before Commodore Perry’s arrival in 1852. The panelists included Mr. Frederik Schodt, author of a work on Ranald MacDonald entitled “Native American in the Land of the Shogun,” Ms. Yumiko Kawamoto, a member of the Historical Society of Western Learning and Historical Society of English Studies of Japan, and Mr. Dwight Damon, an ancestor of Rev. Samuel Chenery Damon, whose newspaper published an article on Ranald MacDonald in 1848 as he entered Japan. This was the first time CJS has collaborated with JASH on the Honolulu Festival.

VISITING SCHOLAR MASANORI NAKAHODO RETURNS TO JAPAN

Dr. **Masanori Nakahodo** of the University of the Ryūkyūs came to Hawai‘i to compile a database of all the Ryūka (traditional Okinawan song and poetry) written by first and second generation Uchinaanchu (Okinawans) since the arrival of Uchinaanchu as contract workers in 1900. His research also led him to contact the two major Ryūka associations in Hawai‘i and interview their members on numerous occasions.

In addition to conducting his own research, while a visiting scholar, Professor Nakahodo contributed greatly to the promotion of Okinawan studies here at the University of Hawai‘i by helping Dr. **Kyoko Hijirida** and Dr. **Leon Serafim** with the Okinawan Language and Culture



Dr. Nakahodo
prepares a lecture

UPDATES

Dr. **Alexander Vovin** (Professor of East Asian Language and Literature) recently published a book, entitled, *A Descriptive and Comparative Grammar of Western Old Japanese. Part 1: Phonology, Script, Lexicon, and Nominals.* from Global Oriental (UK) and distributed by UH Press domestically.

Professor **Mark Levin** (Associate Professor of Law) gave a series of talks at a number of universities in Japan, including Hokkaido, Fukuoka, Ryukyu and Kumamoto Universities while he was there on sabbatical conducting research. He was also a panelist at a national symposium on legal translation in Tokyo.

Dr. **Christine Yano** (Associate Professor of Anthropology) is publishing a book, due out in June, entitled *Crowning the Nice Girl: Gender, Ethnicity, and Culture in Hawai‘i’s Cherry Blossom Festival.* from The University of Hawai‘i Press. She also presented three invited lectures on the mainland, including “Japan’s Pink Globalization: From Fluff to Flat and All Things In-between,” at Vanderbilt University.

classes (EALL 471&472). He gave guest lectures, and advice on course content. He was an insightful discussant for the CJS graduate student seminar on Okinawan identity in Spring of 2005. In addition, he presented his own research in March of this year (see Seminar Page).

Professor Nakahodo has also supported the Uchinaanchu (Okinawan) club, given numerous guest lectures to the Gajumaru-kai (a local Okinawan association) and the Okinawan Genealogy Society. His collection of research materials has also helped lead to the making of an Okinawan Studies Library collection at the East-West Center.

(Kyle Ikeda)

Mr. Kyle Ikeda, Mr. Shinji Kojima, Ms. Rinda Yamashiro, Dr. Joyce Chinen and Ms. Chihiro Komine (left to right) at the Graduate



Student News

CJS GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR SERIES

The Graduate Student Seminar Series continued this semester with a panel presentation and discussion on Okinawa, entitled “Legacies of War: Occupation Propaganda, War Memory, and Anti-Base Struggles in Okinawa.” The panel featured four graduate student presenters. Ms. **Chihiro Komine** (Ph.D. student, American Studies), discussed how the U.S. Occupation of Okinawa was justified in a U.S. administration propaganda magazine through the seemingly contradictory purposes of showcasing American democracy and U.S. military expansion in a foreign land. Mr. **Shinji Kojima** (Ph.D. student, Sociology) spoke about the change in publicly articulated war memory on the Battle of Okinawa and analyzes the implications of such change in the context of the reversion movement of the 1960s. Mr. **Kyle Ikeda** (Ph.D. student, EALL), analyzed the various ways the Okinawan short story “Suiteki” (Droplets, 1997), in its representation of suppressed and un-narrated war trauma, reveals and alludes to the limitations of public knowledge about the Battle of Okinawa gained through conventional war narratives and articulated memory, Ms. **Rinda Yamashiro** (M.A. student, Sociology), who examined the emergence of women’s anti-military groups in Okinawa and their involvement against constructing a new US military facility within Henoko of Nago city in the northern part of Okinawa. The panel was moderated by Dr. **Joyce Chinen** (Associate Professor, Sociology, UH-West Oahu).

PRESENTATIONS

Sarah McClimon (M.A. student, Ethnomusicology) gave a koto recital in December at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music (Tokyo Geijutsu Daigaku) while on a Japanese Ministry of Education, Sports, Science and Culture (Monbukagakusho) scholarship.

Jane Yamashiro (Ph.D. student, Sociology) recently attended the Japanese Studies Graduate Summer School, held as part of Asia-Pacific Week at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. Her presentation was entitled “Americans become ‘Nikkeijin’ but Brazilians don’t: A Comparative Analysis of “return migration” to Japan.”

SSRC WORKSHOP

Ryoko Yamamoto (Ph.D. student, Sociology) and **Hirofumi Katsuno** (Ph.D. student, Anthropology) attended the Social Science Research Council Japan Studies Dissertation Workshop from December 14 to 18, 2005.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

February 2006 Competition

Waka Tominaga (Ph.D. student, EALL) will present her paper “Can a grass-roots bilingual program elicit social change?: An ethnographic study of first grade English immersion classrooms in Japan” at the Joint Conference of the American Association for Applied Linguistics and the Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics, June 17-20, 2006 in Montreal, Canada.

Tad Wellman (Ph.D. student, EALL) will present his paper “The Story of the She-Devil Takahashi Oden: Towards a Theory of Early Meiji Popular Narrative” at the Sixth-Annual Graduate Student Conference: “Tales Told Twice: Imitation and Transgression” at the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto on March 11, 2006.

DEADLINES

CJS Graduate Student Travel Grant

May 1, 2005

Please note that submission guidelines have recently changed. For more information, visit www.hawaii.edu/cjs/funding.html.

CJS Seminar Series

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING ON PREMODERN JAPAN



Dr. Wayne Farris

In a seminar entitled “Research and Publishing on Premodern Japan,” Dr. **Wayne Farris** discussed with students and faculty his demographic-based research into premodern Japan. His talk focused on some of the materials he used to make estimates of population and social structure, given the lack of concrete records. During the second half of the talk, he described how publishing, and the audience for books on Japan, have changed. He used his personal experiences with several different university publishers to explain how risky academic publishing can be for publishers.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN JAPANESE POLITICS?

Over the past few years, the Center for Japanese Studies has been fortunate to have hosted a number of stimulating presentations by Mr. **Yukio Matsuyama**, a former editor of the *Asahi Shinbun*, and his talk, “What is happening in Japanese Politics” did not disappoint. Mr. Matsuyama’s talk covered many areas of both politics and society. He discussed the debate over the possibility of female ascendency to the imperial throne, noting that with the pregnancy of Princess Kiko, that debate will be put on hold until the gender of her child is known.



Mr. Yukio Matsuyama

TEXTS IN OLD JAPANESE: LANGUAGE AND CULTURE: MAN'YŌSHŪ SYMPOSIUM

In conjunction with the *Man'yōshū* exhibit (cover page), Dr. **Alexander Vovin** and three of his graduate students presented research on ancient Japanese and the *Man'yōshū*. Mr. **William Matsuda** (Ph.D. student, EALL) presented on Buddhism in the *Man'yōshū*, Mr. **John Kupchik** (Ph.D. student, Linguistics) explored regional dialect issues in the text, and Mr. **Matthew McNicoll** (Ph.D. student, EALL) discussed the significance of an ancient suffix in Western old Japanese. Dr. Vovin presented on the geographic origins of terms and concepts in a specific *Man'yōshū* poem. The presentations were followed by a lively discussion among the presenters and audience about the foundations of modern and ancient Japanese.



Mr. Matthew McNicoll, Dr. Bob Huey, Dr. Alexander Vovin, Mr. William Matsuda, and Mr. John Kupchik (from left to right)

RYŪKA IN HAWAII - SEMINAR AND PERFORMANCE



Mr. Takenobu Higa, Dr. Huey and Dr. Masanori Nakahodo

Visiting scholar **Masanori Nakahodo**, along with Mr. **Takenobu Higa**, gave a presentation on *ryūka* in Hawai'i. Professor Nakahodo set the stage with a background description on this traditional Ryūkyūan song, both in Okinawa and in Hawai'i, before introducing the person most associated with *ryūka* in Hawai'i, Mr. Takenobu Higa. Mr. Higa, age 92, and the author of several books on Okinawan culture and Okinawans in Hawai'i, discussed the two *ryūka* organizations he founded, Hawai'i Ryūka Kai and the Honryū Hawai'i Ryūka Kai. The seminar was trilingual, with portions of the presentation and discussion conducted in English, Japanese, and Uchinaaguchi (Okinawan). Mr. Higa was also joined by an audience member in a performance of *ryūka*.

From the Library

NEW DATABASES AVAILABLE AT HAMILTON LIBRARY

Two new databases are now available from the Library. One is the *Shōwa no Yomiuri Shinbun*. Finding relevant newspaper articles is not an easy task because many Japanese newspapers lack sufficient indexes. This database provides an alternate means for users to find newspaper articles on the *Yomiuri Shinbun* from 1925 to 1960. Just a simple keyword such as “Hawaii” in Japanese showed over 1,700 articles between 1946 and 1960. The database provides a full image of the actual newspaper that contains your keyword. To learn more about this database, please come to the PC #3 on the Asia Collection Reading Room on the 4th Floor, or use the CJS computer at the Scholar’s Workstation next to the Science & Technology Reference Desk.

The other online database is called “The Japan Knowledge.” It can be accessed from anywhere. This multi-purpose database provides dictionaries, encyclopedias (*Nihon dai hyakka zensho*), *Jōhō chishiki imida*, *Gendai yōgo no kiso chishiki*, Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan, and more. The “One Search” feature allows you to search among all the dictionaries and encyclopedias. There are also full texts of the weekly magazine *Ekonomisuto* and many volumes of *Tōyō Bunko*, interactive Edo, Meiji Tokyo maps, and more. To access, click on the Library’s Electronic Resources hot link:



Dr. Lonny Carlile and Masashi Shimonao researching at the Microfilm Reading Room.

<<http://micro189.lib3.hawaii.edu/ezproxy/details.php?dbId=49904>>

Last year, the Japan Foundation awarded 99 reels of the microfilm “*Nihon no kaishashi*” to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library. All the reels safely arrived from Japan and are now available for your research (microfilm S11519, S11520, S11523-S11525). (Tokiko Bazzell)

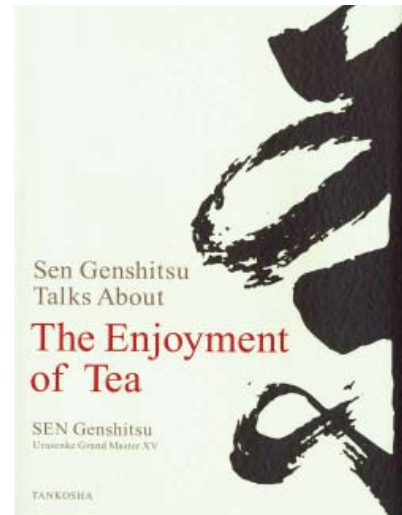
FILMS ADDED TO MĀNOA LIBRARY

Through a grant from the Japan Studies Endowment, the Wong Audio-Visual Library at the University of Hawai‘i has added over twenty-five new Japanese films to the library’s holdings. We have provided a link on our website for you to explore some of these titles, which can be found at www.hawaii.edu/cjs/library.html or directly at www.hawaii.edu/cjs/films. These films, organized by subject on the site, include documentaries, yakuza films, psychological thrillers, gay/lesbian themes, *anime* and murder mysteries. These films are a welcome addition to the already tremendous holdings at the Wong Library. We encourage you to take time to look over these films and others already in the collection.

From the Tea Center

The Tea Center library, featuring over 250 items--reference materials, videos, books, and guides--has been catalogued. Materials, in both Japanese and English, include historical works on past Tea Masters as well as discussion for the beginner and the veteran by Sen Soshitsu. If you are interested in viewing these materials, please contact the Center for Japanese Studies.

Dr. Genshitsu Sen paid a visit to the University of Hawai'i this past February. He gave two lectures to the Way Of Tea in Japanese History and Culture (HIST 323) course in the History Department. In addition, Dr. Sen gave a copy of his new book, "The Enjoyment of Tea" to each student in the history class, the Tea Practicum (ASAN 324) and all the members of the tea club.

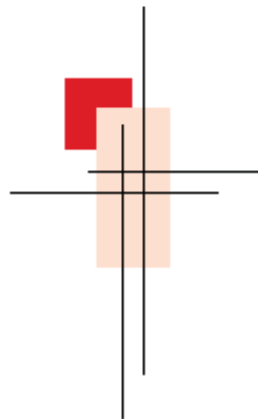


Dr. Sen's new book

If you would like the Center to give demonstrations at local schools, or to host schools at the UHM campus, please contact Dr. Robert Huey or Dr. Gay Satsuma at the Center for Japanese Studies, University of Hawai'i at 808-956-2665 or cjs@hawaii.edu.

UHGATHERINGS IN TOKYO

If you are in Tokyo on the first Monday of any month, please join in the monthly meetings of the UH community. The gatherings, held in a variety of restaurants in Shibuya, are informal, usually over dinner and drinks, and provide an opportunity to meet with other students and faculty conducting research and studying in Japan. For more information, contact Mr. **Brian Masshardt** (PhD student, Political Science) at masshard@hawaii.edu.



UPCOMING CONFERENCE ON EAST ASIAN PRAGMATICS

The University of Hawai'i-Mānoa National Resource Center East Asia, in conjunction with the National Foreign Language Resource Center at the University of Hawai'i, is pleased to announce a forum on teaching and learning pragmatics in the Chinese, Japanese and Korean in the Foreign Language classrooms. This conference, organized by Dr. **Dina Yoshimi** (Associate Professor, EALL), will be held at the East-West Center from June 5-7, 2006. More information on the conference, along with a complete conference schedule, is available at <http://www.hawaii.edu/nrcea/CJKCallforPapers.htm>.

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 first and last name and regular (snail mail) contact address. If you prefer to receive the newsletter as hardcopy and flyers by e-mail, please indicate your preferences. If you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list, please let us know.

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