



J-Current

Newsletter of the Center for Japanese Studies
School of Pacific and Asian Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Please submit materials to cjs@hawaii.edu

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Enriching Japanese Studies through Exchanges with Southeast Asian Partners

2016-17 marked the first year of a three-year project entitled “Incorporating Southeast Asian Perspective into Japanese Studies” for which CJS received a \$270,000 grant from the Japan Foundation as part of the latter’s US-Southeast Asia-Japan Collaboration and Exchange Initiative. One of just three schools chosen for the first round, CJS’ project is composed of three components: 1) collaborative research of shared themes with Japanese Studies scholars from Southeast Asian partner institutions; 2) short-term research visits to UHM by Southeast Asian Japan specialists, and 3) semester-long exchange visits between UHM and partner institution graduate students working on Japan-related project.

The core team on the UH side consists of the following mix of faculty from with the Centers for Japanese and Southeast Asian Studies: Patricio Abinales (Asian Studies), Lonny Carlile (Asian Studies), Julie Iezzi (Theater) Aya Kimura (Sociology), Ehito Kimura (Political Science), Ayu Sawasrati (Women’s Studies), Pat Steinhoff (Sociology), John Szostak (Art History), and Christine Yano (Anthropology). Over the course of the academic year team members reached out to Japanese Studies scholars in Southeast Asia through visits to Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, along with participation in the December 2016 ASEAN Japanese Studies Association meeting in Cebu where it should be noted no less than six (!) UHM Japanese Studies graduate students presented papers. This initial outreach will be followed by a workshop in Fukuoka in May 2018 and will culminate in a workshop at UH the following year. The short term visitation program has already brought 5 scholars and graduate students (who presented at the CJS seminars and the SPAS graduate conference) from Ateneo de Manila, Chulalongkorn University and the National University of Singapore, with more to follow in the coming year. Finally, two UHM graduate students, Yoshiaki Otta (EALL) and Aaron Singer (Ethnomusicology) will soon be on their way to the University of Indonesia to spend a semester working on their respective dissertation projects. Incoming semester visitors from Southeast Asia to UHM are planned for 2018-19.

- Lonny Carlile,
CJS Director

Fall 2017 Japanese National Honor Society recipients



Fall 2017 JNHS inductees,
not all pictured.

The Japanese National Honor Society (JNHS) recognizes and encourages achievement and excellence in Japanese language study. On December 7, 2017, nine UH Mānoa students were recognized and inducted into JNHS.

Congratulations to the following JHNS inductees!

Gibson Jackson
Jarrett Y. Kam
Meng Ying Lin
Megan Martin
Mandy Morimoto
Marc Nagai
Tomomi Woo
Shea Yamaguchi
Alyssa Yomes-Takushi

CJS Faculty Presentations, Publications and Announcements

Tokiko Bazzell, Head of the Asia Collection and Japan Studies Librarian, presented the paper, “Bringing hidden resources to light: the Stanley Kaizawa Kabuki Collection at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library” at the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists (EAJRS) Annual Conference, September 13, 2017, at the University of Oslo, Norway.

Kristi Govella, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, received a Postdoctoral Fellowship from Harvard University’s Weatherhead Center for International Affairs during the Fall 2017 semester. She presented research related to her book manuscript at the Harvard University Program on U.S.-Japan Relations and at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, in addition to presenting a new project on Japanese defense capacity building activities at the Japan Studies Association annual conference. She also collaborated with the University of Washington Honors Program to pilot and co-teach an intensive undergraduate study abroad course in Tokyo on “Constructing Japanese identity: Comparing national narratives in Japan and the U.S.” in August 2017. Professor Govella’s commentary on President Trump’s visit to Asia was featured in The New York Times, The Washington Post, and BBC World News.

Theresa Greaney, Associate Professor of Economics, co-authored a paper published February 2107 in the *Journal of Asian Economics*, entitled “Economic growth and economic inequality in the Asia-Pacific region: A comparative study of China, Japan, South Korea, and the United States.” This paper grew out of her project at the 2016 Trade, Growth and Economic Inequality in the Asia-Pacific Region conference, co-sponsored by CJS. The paper is currently the most downloaded paper in the *Journal of Asian Economics*.

Julie A. Iezzi, Professor of Theatre, was invited to speak and present *kyōgen* at the 2nd Annual Ohayō Ohio Festival, held at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, OH, Nov. 11-12, 2017. She was accompanied by graduate students Christine Lamborn and Qiaoer Zheng who performed a two-person adaptation of *Futari daimyō*, entitled *The Lord and the Passerby*. Professor Iezzi also served as *kōken* for the production. The trio has also been invited to perform at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region VII, in Spokane, WA, from Feb. 19-24, 2018. In addition to representing the UHM Dept. of Theatre and Dance, it will be a great opportunity to showcase a form rarely seen at such festivals, as well as offer a *kyōgen* workshop to festival participants from other universities.

Mire Koikari, Professor of Women’s Studies, gave a keynote speech at the conference, Reeducation Revisited: Strategies, Actors, Institutions in Transnational and Comparative Perspectives, organized by the German Historical Institute in Washington DC, and held on September 29-30, 2017 in Nuremberg, Germany. She also presented at the inaugural symposium of Japan Diaspora Initiative Workshop at the Hoover Institution on November 14, 2017. Her paper was entitled, “Racial Science, Domestic Reform, and Japanese Immigrants in Territorial-era Hawai‘i.” Lastly, Professor Koikari’s paper “Re-masculinizing the nation: gender, disaster, and the politics of national resilience in post-3.11 Japan” was published in the October issue of *Japan Forum*.

Mark Levin, Professor of Law, was in Japan for ten days in November 2017 for a lecture to 300 law students at Aichi University (Nagoya) about Hawai‘i and the history of same-sex marriage in the U.S. through lenses of constitutional theory and federalism. He shared the same talk with a gathering of constitutional law scholars at Waseda University (Tokyo) the following week. At Aichi, Professor Levin also lectured on the emerging influence of international law documents in tobacco products liability litigation in Japan and led a workshop with undergraduate students on comparative law. In Tokyo, he met with many alumni and friends of the William S. Richardson Law School.

CJS Alumni News

Casey Asato, MA Asian Studies— Japan focus (2000) received his Education Doctorate (Ed.D) in July 2017 and is currently the Director of Curriculum and Sophomore Dean at Seabury Hall, a co-educational college preparatory day school in Makawao, Maui.

Amanda Gomes, who graduated from UHM with her MA in Asian Studies—Japan Focus (2013), continued her work with the Reibun Archeological Field School (Center for Ainu & Indigenous Studies at Hokkaido University) until 2016 as a cultural liaison and field lab supervisor. Amanda recommends current and future students interested in the history of Hokkaido, Japanese or Indigenous archeology to consider participating in the Reibun Archeological Field School. Amanda also attended a second MA program at the University College London for Public Archeology. She is currently the Assistant Curator of Education at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach, Florida.

David Nguyen, who 2014 Monbukagakusho graduate research award recipient received his Ph.D in Civil Engineering from Tohoku University in September 2017. He received a two-year position at the University of Tokyo, through the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). He graduated from UHM with his BA (Political Science) with a minor in Asian Studies and MA in Geography (2012).



David Nguyen (standing) giving a lecture at the JR East Sendai branch office. He was invited to share with staff how JR East could better prepare for the increase in foreign visitors during the 2020 Olympics.

Fall 2017 CJS Seminars

Dr. Lawrence E. Marceau - “The Tales of Isopo Scrolls: Illustrating Aesop’s Fables in 17th c. Kyoto”

On September 12, Dr. Lawrence E. Marceau, Senior Lecturer in Japanese at the University of Auckland gave a talk entitled, “The Tales of Isopo Scrolls: Illustrating Aesop’s Fables in 17th c. Kyoto.” He analyzed a set of six handscrolls that have yet to be described in scholarly literature since 1930, and which remained unknown to scholars until their “rediscovery” in a private collection in September 2015.



Dr. Marceau giving his presentation

Dr. Sirimonpom Suriyawongpaisal - “An Interdisciplinary Approach to the *Noh* Play *Tanika*”

On October 5, Dr. Sirimonporn Suriyawongpaisal, a distinguished scholar and Professor of Japanese at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, presented her project on “An Interdisciplinary Approach to the *Noh* Play *Tanika*.” She showed a video of a *Noh* performance and explained the parent-child relation and other characteristics of the play. Lastly, Professor Suriyawongpaisal encouraged the audience to collaborate on the multidisciplinary *Noh* project that she leads.



Dr. Suriyawongpaisal (with the lei) and CJS faculty, from left: UHM faculty, Tokiko Bazzell, Mire Koikari, Lonny Carlile, and Gay Satsuma

Dr. Timothy J. Vance - “Why Linguists Obsess about *Rendaku*”



We welcomed back Dr. Timothy J. Vance, former UHM professor of Japanese linguistics for a talk on October 27 on *rendaku* (“sequential voicing”). His presentation was well attended and drew attendee participation with several familiar examples from everyday life on Japanese *rendaku*. Dr. Vance is currently a Professor Emeritus at the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL).

Dr. Ryan Holmberg - “Fukushima Devil Fish: Katsumata Susumu’s Antinuclear Manga”

On November 29, manga scholar and art historian Dr. Ryan Holmberg gave a presentation on the visual artwork of Katsumata Susumu in post-WWII Japan. This work highlights an important way in which manga can provide social perspective and critique. Katsumata Susumu (1943-2007) was one of the regulars of the legendary alternative manga monthly *Garo* (published by Seirindō 1964–2002) in the magazine’s heyday of the late 1960s and early 1970s. In the late 70s, he drew frequent humor strips about the dangers of nuclear power and stories about the “nuclear gypsies” who maintained Japan’s nuclear plants under oppressive work conditions. The event was co-sponsored by the Honolulu Museum of Art as part of their manga exhibition, *The Disasters of Peace*, which is on view through April 15, 2018.



Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Lecture -
**“Broiler Chickens & *Jidori* Traditions: Everyday
 Chicken Meat in Japan”**



On September 13, Benjamin Schrager, the 2015-2017 recipient of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship and PhD candidate in Geography, presented his research on Japan's broiler chickens and *jidori* production practices. He also attended the Scholarship orientation for the academic year 2018-19 and responded to questions from potential applicants.

Graduate Student Mixer

Every semester, CJS hosts a networking event for UHM Japanese Studies graduate students. Director of CJS, Lonny Carlile gives a brief presentation, to introduce what CJS does and our relevance for students. Students are then encouraged to converse with one another and share their research progress over drinks and refreshments.



Lonny Carlile welcoming students

EPIC visitors



On October 2, students and educators from two high schools in Ehime Prefecture visited UH Mānoa. Ms. Kara Nakagawa and Ms. Courtney Choy, the 2017 summer interns at the Ehime Prefectural International Center (EPIC) gave the visitors a tour of the campus. We enjoyed meeting the students and listening to their self-introductions. One of the students even prepared and performed a musical piece.

International Lunch Exchange

On August 22, students in UHM Departments of Asian Studies & East Asian Languages and Literatures, and Kyushu University's College of Asia Pacific gathered in the Tokioka Room to make friends, eat, share their studies and experiences. The students from Kyushu University's College of Asia Pacific came to UHM as part of their 3-week summer international relations program. Participants come from Kyushu & Seinan Universities in Japan, and Seoul & Pusan National Universities in South Korea.

The program aims to build on Japan-Korea relations as well as regional exchange. Their summer course at the UHM included English language lessons and learning about the shared challenges of East Asia from a global perspective.



Group photo

Japan Studies Association's Workshop in Okinawa, June 9-18, 2017



Lonny Carlile, CJS director, with the help of Geography PhD candidate Sayaka Sakuma, led an intensive ten-day workshop in Okinawa between June 9-18. Organized by the Japan Studies Association and with financial assistance provided by the UHM East Asian National Resource Center, 21 selected faculty members from smaller colleges, community colleges, and Minority-Serving Institutions were provided with a multidisciplinary, in-depth exposure to Okinawan history, society and culture. Morning lecture and discussion sections were followed by afternoon field trips to a variety of sites. The workshop was capped on the final full-day by symposium of individual presentations based on field work conducted over the preceding days and prospectuses on how to incorporate Okinawan material into courses that the participants taught.

JACL Kakehashi Project



Courtney (in the white jacket) with her host family and fellow members of the JACL Kakehashi Project

The JACL Kakehashi Project was an amazing opportunity to meet other students from across the United States and explore our Japanese heritage through various cultural activities. Over the course of 10 days, we attended lectures on the economic and political climate of Japan as well as the country's female empowerment initiative. We also visited the Japanese Migration Museum and a local university in Yokohama to discuss the Japanese American experience and how our own identities have been shaped in the process. Lastly, the best part of the program was visiting Hakuba Village, a beautiful area where I participated in a homestay with a local family, learned how to ski, and took part in a karate class! The people of Hakuba Village were so kind and hospitable, and I couldn't have asked for a better experience full of fun, laughter, and personal growth. I am grateful for the opportunity to have visited Japan under a program allowing me to experience the Japanese culture with other students and ultimately, represent Hawaii and share the aloha spirit.

- Courtney Choy,
Undergrad student (BBA, Management, International Business)



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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 direct your submissions to cjs@hawaii.edu.

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Special Announcements

Center for Japanese Studies Graduate Student Travel Award
Quarterly Deadlines: **1st of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov.**

Contact CJS at 956-2665 or visit www.hawaii.edu/cjs for more information.

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