



SPRING 2011

Center for Japanese Studies

International Institute
The University of Michigan



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From the *Director*

As I write, it is almost exactly a month since the earthquake and tsunami of March 11, 2011. Although the count of the dead has climbed over 12,000, there are still thousands missing. Over 120,000 people remain displaced. The nuclear emergency continues, and aftershocks still strike northeastern Japan. All of us at Michigan's Center for Japanese Studies wish to express our deep concern and our sympathy for the many who have suffered losses. We will carry with us forever the heartrending images of death and devastation. But we will also remember the toughness and compassion of those who shared with each other their meals, their shelters, the burdens of their survival.

2 While Michigan's CJS was aware there was little we could do to directly help those affected, we did ask what role we might play in responding to these events. We undertook a number of projects that took advantage of our academic location. First, we built and published, within four days of the earthquake, a website with links to information sources used by our faculty and our students. Our web links led to traditional media and to academic sources, but we also included specific emergency response websites—one faculty member sent us a link to a "person-finder" on which she had located a friend from Kesennuma. Our students were getting information from Twitter, which outpaced traditional media in conveying breaking news amidst disrupted communications, and we endeavored to include feeds that they found important. Putting together the website drove home how rapidly networks of information were changing



in reaction to a single event. The eagerness with which our faculty and graduate students contributed their favored web links displayed their commitment to sharing knowledge that was shifting in the moment.

Our second project was a panel, held on March 21, to examine the still unfolding events. The speakers at the panel approached the disasters from diverse perspectives. Mahshid Abir, an emergency physician researching disaster medicine as a fellow in UM's Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, spoke on health care delivery in affected areas. Philip Brown, a historian from Ohio State working on the history of flood control in northern Japan, emphasized the resilience of local communities in the face of natural disaster. Rieko Kage, a political scientist from the University of Tokyo who is currently our Toyota Visiting Professor, used comparative data from the Kobe earthquake to examine the prospects for reconstruction in northeastern Japan. William Martin, who teaches nuclear engineering and radiological sciences at UM, evaluated the information coming from the Fukushima Dai'ichi nuclear plant. And Jeroen Ritsema, who researches geophysics and seismology, summarized the knowledge that scientists had gained about the earthquake and tsunami, in some cases within minutes of the tremor. The panel demonstrated that a disaster like the current one could only be understood through multidisciplinary inquiry. The readiness of our speakers to comment on recent developments showed that there are many among us who can become public intellectuals when the circumstances demand.

I have completed my term as the Director of the Center for Japanese Studies and I will be stepping down soon. While my last few months here have coincided with loss and suffering in Japan, I have also reconfirmed that Michigan is home to scholars and students ready to use their knowledge in the public interest.

Ken K. Ito
Director



From the


Executive Editor

We are happy to report that the Publications Program has a new website with online ordering through Google! The url is www.cjsspubs.lsa.umich.edu. The site highlights new and forthcoming books, allows you to view our books alphabetically by title, by author, genre, year published, and series, and provides you with a book index, our catalog, and links to all of our electronic and out-of-print publications. There is a search function that allows for searches by author, by title or part of a title, and by keyword. We have author pages that provide our submission guidelines and manuscript preparation requirements, our stylesheet, and a submission form where you can submit your manuscript online. We also have ordering information for both individuals and book-sellers/wholesellers. It is easy to use and easy to order.

Our website also has a Pet of the Month Club. Do you want a free book? Send us a photo of your pet reading one of our books, and if he or she is chosen as our Pet of the Month, you will receive a free book of your choice! Come and visit us at www.cjsspubs.lsa.umich.edu.

Our new title to kick off 2011 is *Women and Public Life in Early Meiji Japan: The Development of the Feminist Movement*, by Mara Patessio (Michigan Monograph Series in Japanese Studies, Number 71; viii + 232 pp.; ISBN 978-1-929280-67-4 (paper), \$25.00; ISBN 978-1-929280-66-7 (cloth), \$65.00.

This book focuses on women's activities in the new public spaces of Meiji Japan. With chapters on public, private, and missionary schools for girls, their students and teachers, on social and




political groups women created, on female employment, and on women's participation in print media, this book offers a new perspective on nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Japanese history. Women's founding of and participation in conflicting discourses over the value of women in Meiji public life demonstrate that during this period active and vocal women were everywhere, that they did not meekly submit to the dictates of the government and intellectuals over what women could or should do, and that they were fully integrated in the production of Meiji culture.

Patessio shows that the study of women is fundamental not only in order to understand fully the transformations of the Meiji period, but also to understand how later generations of women could successfully move the battle forward. *Women and Public Life in Early Meiji Japan* is essential reading for all students and teachers of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Japanese history, and should also be of interest to scholars of women's history more generally.

Bruce Willoughby
Executive Editor
CJS Publications Program

From the

Librarian



With this installment, I would like to inform the CJS community about a new development in Interlibrary Loan that allows U-M scholars to obtain materials from Japan. Because most university library Interlibrary Loan offices lacked experience borrowing materials from foreign countries other than Canada, Japanese studies libraries in the U.S., we began developing borrowing arrangements with Japanese institutions with the support of the North America Coordinating Council on Japanese Libraries Resources (NCC). So far, 157 libraries in Japan are registered participants in the NCC's program, and eighty-one libraries are involved on the American side. More information is available from me or the Asia Library's public services librarian Brian Vivier. The NCC's information page can be found online at: <http://www.nccjapan.org/illdd/gifproject.html>.

Below are selected highlights from the Japanese collection's new Acquisitions between July and November 2010:

Bungei jihyō taikai 文藝時評大系.
Shōwa series 昭和編. (Buhr PL 726.7 .B86)

Man'yōshū denshi sosakuin 万葉集電子
総索引. CD-ROM edition

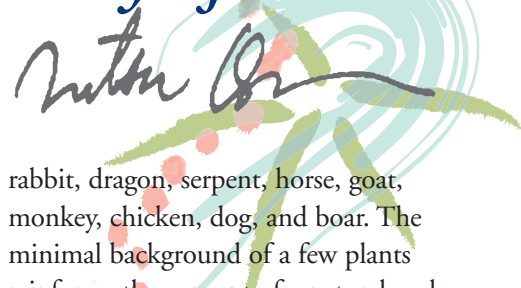
Tezuka Osamu bunko zenshu 手塚治文
庫全集 (Asia Library NC 1709 .T48 A4
2009)

Kobayashi Hideo: Ochi Yasuo zensakuin
小林秀雄: 越知保夫全作品 (Asia
Library PL 832.O24 Z5 O34 2010)

Kawaguchi Ekai chosaku senshu 河口慧
海著作撰集.

Kenji Niki
Curator of the Japanese Collection
The Asia Library

Pair of Folded Screens in the Gallery of Japanese Art at Museum of Art



To celebrate the New Year, a pair of folded screens, *Animals of the Zodiac*, by modern Kyoto *nihonga* painter Yoshikawa Kōkei was newly installed in the Gallery of Japanese Art. The twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac have an ancient history, dating back at least two thousand years. In modern Japan, these animals are still celebrated especially during the two month period before and after January 1st. Cutely illustrated animals of the

year (for 2011, it is the rabbit) appear in every greeting card. And merchandise with images of the New Year's animal fills stores everywhere. It is also believed that the year brings special luck to men and women, old and young, born in the animal's year.

In this light-hearted update of a traditional theme, the artist presents the zodiac creatures in their proper sequence, from right to left: mouse, ox, tiger,

rabbit, dragon, serpent, horse, goat, monkey, chicken, dog, and boar. The minimal background of a few plants reinforces the concept of a natural cycle, moving through the seasons from spring (bamboo shoots and pinks) through autumn (chrysanthemums and pampas grass). With great skill, the artist renders each animal in a naturalistic way—even the imaginary dragon—persuasively rendering textures of skin or fur, and he demonstrates his prowess at foreshortening by having the animals turn and twist against the picture plane. Very little is known about the artist, Yoshikawa Kōkei, but his style is characteristic of the Maruyama/Shijō School of painters who worked in Kyoto from the late eighteenth century through the early twentieth century, and had an eager audience among the merchant class clientele of that city.

The screen is on view until the early summer of 2011.

Natsu Oyobe

Research Curator of Asian Art

University of Michigan Museum of Art

4



Yoshikawa Kōkei (active 1920s), *Animals of the Zodiac* (right screen), Pair of six-folded screens, ink and color on silk, 1924, Museum purchase made possible by the Margaret Watson Parker Collection Fund, 2003/1.383.2.



Yoshikawa Kōkei (active 1920s), *Animals of the Zodiac* (left screen), Pair of six-folded screens, ink and color on silk, 1924, Museum purchase made possible by the Margaret Watson Parker Collection Fund, 2003/1.383.1.



Yoshikawa Kōkei (active 1920s)
Animals of the Zodiac (detail)
Pair of six-folded screens, ink and color on silk
1924

Museum purchase made possible by the Margaret Watson Parker Collection Fund, 2003/1.383.1.

Overcoming Sociocultural Barriers to Contraception Education

The infrequent use of family planning methods other than condoms, and highly inconsistent medical education about contraception in Japan motivated U-M Japanese Family Health Program (JFHP) educators to develop an online educational module in Japanese about contraception. This module was recently published in the *Journal of Integrated Medicine*, インターネットを利用したe-learningの学習モジュール作成とその可能性: 避妊法20(10)798-800. The U-M JFHP (former) Academic fellow Hirotomo Asai, MD and the Program Director, Michael D. Fetters, MD, MPH, MA developed the online medical education module in Japanese to serve the stream of medical learners from Japan who come to study the clinical implementation of family medicine with Japanese patients at the U-M JFHP.

In response to the rapid spread of the internet in recent years, the University of Michigan Department of Family Medicine uses “e-learning” (learning method using the internet) as a required part of medical education. In their article, Dr. Asai and Dr. Fetters introduce e-learning as a self-education tool for busy physicians to keep up with ever advancing medical knowledge without being restricted by distance or time. Based on their experience of creating and implementing a Japanese e-learning module on contraception, they argue that it is important to create a high-quality learning module that maximizes the advantage of e-learning, while incorporating the process of receiving and improving the module based on user feedback. The e-learning

module they created is available at: http://sitemaker.umich.edu/japanese_health_contraception2/.

Supported by a CJS Faculty Instructional Seed Grant, the project required the purchase of a variety of contraceptive devices in Japan in order to develop media appropriate for the online module. The online module includes not only the scientific facts, but also content addressing cultural beliefs and misperceptions about contraception. The module addresses male and female condoms, birth control pills, IUDs, spermicides, sterilization (tubal ligation and vasectomy) and withdrawal (Not effective!). In Japan, physicians rarely discuss contraception with patients, even though in the U.S. such counseling is an essential skill for physicians, especially family physicians. The outcome of poor physician understanding and counseling skills can result in unexpected pregnancy, and often abortion.

Despite having universal health coverage, Japan has few programs that train family physicians to specialize in the breadth of care needed for outpatient practice. A critical aspect of the practice of family medicine involves adept skills in counseling about family planning choices. The JFHP has internationally recognized expertise in providing family medicine to Japanese patients who do not have access to family doctors in Japan. The JFHP family physicians provide culturally and linguistically sensitive care to the large population of Japanese people living in Southeastern Michigan. Since there are few Family

Medicine training programs in Japan, the

JFHP is a popular destination for medical students and residents who aspire to become pioneering leaders of family medicine in Japan. The instructors noted that many of the Japanese medical students, residents and even practicing physicians coming to study family medicine for 2-4 weeks at the U-M Japanese Family Health Program each year lacked knowledge and counseling skills for family planning discussions with patients. While not an official U-M course listing, many students receive credit in their home institution since the rotation is structured much like an intensive “mini-course” on the content of family medicine practice as well as the study of the sociocultural barriers to implementation and acceptance of family medicine in Japan.

Dr. Michael D. Fetters, MD, MPH, MA
Director, U-M Japanese Family Health Program



Japanese Music Scholarship – Then and Now

Music of Japan has fascinated ethnomusicologists since the field was founded in the 1950s. In fact, the University of Michigan's own Dr. William Malm, a pioneer in ethnomusicology, was the first scholar in the twentieth century to publish a study on Japanese music in a Western language. That book, *Traditional Japanese Music and Musical Instruments* (1959; revised 2001), remains an unparalleled resource on the subject, informative and accessible to scholars and laypeople alike. Dr. Malm's early work, along with the research by his Japanese contemporary, ethnomusicologist Dr. Fumio Koizumi, set in motion what would become a deluge of scholarly interest in Japanese music in the latter half of the twentieth century that is continuing as strong as ever today.

6 Current research on Japanese music is arguably as diverse as current Japanese music itself. Of course, there continues to be enthusiasm for traditional Japanese music, and in the last ten years there have been articles and books published on the *koto*, *tsugaru shamisen*, *biwa*, *shakuhachi*, *taiko*, *gagaku*, Japanese folk song traditions, *geisha*, *kabuki*, *Nō*, *Nihon buyō*, and Japanese religious music. Popular music in Japan has also been a significant area of

research, where there have been a number of studies on *enka*, as well as growing attention to jazz and blues, J-Pop, J-Rock, hip-hop, hardcore, and karaoke. Unsurprisingly, with its incredible influence in Japan, western classical music in Japan and by Japanese composers has also been a topic of keen interest. Like a great deal of work in ethnomusicology today, all of this compelling scholarship considers not only musical sounds, but also socio-cultural processes that surround musical practice, such as identity formation, gender and sexuality, language, race and ethnicity, nationalism, politics and power, consumerism, place, and diasporas, as well as an issue of particular relevance to contemporary Japan: music and globalization.

My own research has intersected with a significant number of these topics and themes. My recent masters' thesis addressed the political and cultural influences that played a role in the composition of post-WWII *koto* music. Now, in my third year of doctoral study in ethnomusicology at the University of Michigan, I am preparing for dissertation research in which I will investigate the soundscape and musical production in the Tokyo entertainment



Megan Hill was awarded the 2009-10 William Malm Prize for her paper, "Japanese-Western: Wayō-Secchū Musical Consciousness in Contemporary Japanese Koto Music." Pictured in the photo from left to right are: William Malm, Megan Hill, and Lester Monts (Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Professor of Music and Ethnomusicology).

district of Asakusa. The study of soundscapes—everyday sounds in an environment—is a burgeoning subject in recent years. For my dissertation, I aim to combine an investigation of environmental sounds with the more traditional study of music-making in a neighborhood where both are significant, and which has fascinated me since I first set foot there.

I'm very excited about the direction my own work is taking, and I feel privileged to be a part of the multi-faceted and dynamic field that is the ethnomusicological study of Japan. It is a field full of fascinating people and music that, since its pioneering days under Dr. Malm, has flourished to explore all of the ways that music is in the lives of the people who make and hear it.

Megan E. Hill
PhD student, Musicology

New Books by CJS Faculty, Alumni & Friends

A Place in Public: Women's Rights in Meiji Japan

Marnie S. Anderson (PhD, History, 2005) recently published *A Place in Public: Women's Rights in Meiji Japan* (Harvard University Asia Center, 2010). This work addresses how gender became a defining category in the political and social modernization of Japan. During the early decades of the Meiji period (1868–1912), the Japanese encountered an idea with great currency in the west: that the

social position of women reflected a country's level of civilization. Although elites initiated dialogue on this topic out of concern for their country's reputation internationally, the conversation soon moved to a new public sphere where individuals ranging from ordinary people to government officials engaged in a wide-ranging debate about women's roles and rights.

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Faculty Updates



Back row, left to right: Fred Uleman, Carl Freire, Yoshiro Takano, Akihiro Obata, Clark Bailo, Meg Nakano
Front row, left to right: Mary-Elizabeth Doty, Lindsey Savage, Kevin Carr, Jun Kondo, Jennifer Igawa, Sally Matsuura

Kevin Gray Carr (Asian Languages & Cultures; History of Art) gave a talk in December to the Tokyo U-M Alumni Club entitled “When Did Japan Become Japan?” In the talk, Professor Carr explored constructions of national identity through the analysis of maps over time. Also in December 2010, he was a discussant

and presenter at a conference in Norwich, England entitled, “Narratives in Visual Culture: Beliefs, Rituals, Stories, and Art.” His talk, “Empress Jingū in Medieval Kyūshū: Fragmentation of Central Authority and the Politics of Sacred Space in Pictorial Narrative,” is an outcome of the working paper seminar he presented at CJS in April 2009.

Abé Markus Nornes (Screen Arts & Cultures; Asian Languages & Cultures; Art & Design) is working with two undergraduates on a new project about calligraphy in East Asian cinema. In October 2010, he served as a juror on the Taiwan International Film Festival.

Jennifer Robertson (Anthropology; History of Art; Art & Design) has an Abé Fellowship (May 2011-July 2013) where she will investigate “Safety, Security, Convenience: The Political Economy of Service Robots in Japan.” *Primitive Selves: Koreana in the Japanese Colonial Gaze, 1911-45* by E. Taylor Atkins (2010) was published in her *Colonialisms* series with the University of California Press. Last fall, she was interviewed by Tomoko Tamari (Managing Editor of *Body & Society*) on Robo-Sexism in Japan (<http://theoryculturesociety.blogspot.com/>). In November 2010, she was also interviewed by Danish television. The podcast of that interview is accessible at: <http://www.dr.dk/odp/default.aspx?template=programserie&guid=EB22BF69-7BD4-47D1-94AB-0384C52F43BE>. Finally, Professor Robertson developed new courses in Winter 2011: “Images and Artifacts: Anthropological Perspectives” (History of Art/Anthropology), a graduate seminar; and “Art, Science, Technology” (History of Art), a first year seminar which is a prototype for a new 300-level lecture course for Fall 2011.

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Jennifer Robertson Awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship



Jennifer Robertson
<http://sitemaker.umich.edu/jennifer.robertson>
Artwork: www.biwahamistudio.com

Professor Jennifer Robertson was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for her project, “Safety, security, convenience: The political economy of service robots in Japan.”

The field of robotics is nowhere more enthusiastically and openly pursued than in Japan. Japanese roboticists and major companies (like Mitsubishi, Toyota, Honda, NEC) are far ahead of their international counterparts in designing, manufacturing and marketing intelligent, autonomous robots to care for children and especially for the growing numbers of senior citizens, provide entertainment and companionship, and perform domestic tasks. Government officials estimate that by 2016, each of the nearly 19 million Japanese households is likely to own at least one such robot.

In 2007, Prime Minister Shinzō Abe introduced Innovation 25, a visionary blueprint for revitalizing the Japanese economy, civil society and “traditional” household by 2025. Innovation 25, which has weathered several successive regime changes, promotes a robot-dependent society and lifestyle that prioritizes the values of safety (*anzen*), security (*anshin*), and convenience (*benri*). “Next generation robots” interacting autonomously in the home and workplace with humans call for new guidelines and policies that predict and address intertwined technological and legal issues, and especially safety and security issues. Like Innovation 25 itself, virtually all of the literature on service robots remains theoretical and laboratory based, although robots are already employed in a wide variety of environments and social institutions. I envision my project as a pioneering effort to assess the real time, real world feasibility of Innovation 25.

At the heart of my interdisciplinary proposal is an ethnography of Japan’s emergent culture of human-robot co-existence outside of the Diet and robotics laboratories. Sited in technology-savvy Kodaira City in the center of Tokyo Prefecture, my research will investigate the local-level processes through which new municipal and national policies addressing and mediating a robot-dependent society are debated and implemented, or not.

Finally, because Japan’s robotics industry is situated in a globalized economy it is important for me to investigate, on a much lesser scale, the design, production and consumption of humanoid robots elsewhere, in this case, South Korea and Italy. I will also make comparisons to the American robot industry when relevant. Like Japan, South Korea and Italy are also dealing with a demographic crisis and, in addition to being a growth industry, robot technology is perceived as a stabilizing force on many fronts.

CJS Student & Alumni Updates

Marnie Anderson's (History, PhD, 2005) book, *A Place in Public: Women's Rights in Meiji Japan*, was recently published by Harvard University Asia Center (<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?recid=30841>). (See page 6 of this newsletter.) Anderson is an Assistant Professor of History at Smith College.

Sherry Martin (Political Science, PhD, 2002) was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Government and the Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Cornell University. Her forthcoming book, *Popular Democracy in Japan: How Gender and Community are Changing Modern Electoral Politics* (Cornell University Press) is due out in early 2011.

Laura N. Schram (Political Science, PhD, 2010) is a Post-doctoral Research Associate at the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (CRLT) at the University of Michigan.

Noriko Yamaguchi (CJS MA, 2006) successfully presented her dissertation proposal in history at the University of Chicago in December 2010. She is currently in Japan where she is conducting her dissertation research.

Yang Yang (CJS MA, 2009) began studying Korean at Yonsei University in September 2010. She was later nominated for a dual degree program with Keio University and plans to be in Japan from September 2011 until March 2012. She expects to graduate from Yonsei University in June 2012 with a dual degree from Keio University.

August 2010 Graduates

- Kenichi Ariga, Political Science PhD
- Joshua J. Ronnebaum, CJS MA
- Laura N. Schram, Political Science PhD

CJS Conference Travel Grants

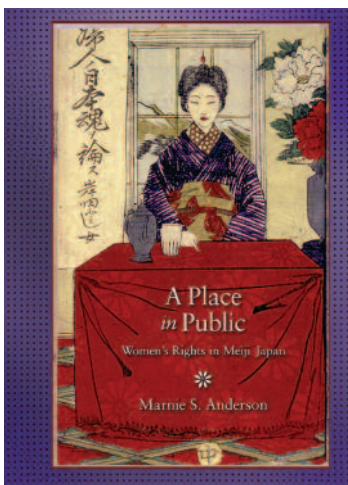
- Junko Teruyama, Anthropology PhD, American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
- Michio Umeda, Political Science PhD, The Frontiers of Formal Theory and Quantitative Methods in Political Science Conference, Tokyo, Japan

Japanese Language Proficiency Test Travel Grant

- Emily F. Canosa, CJS MA
- Olivia M. Cassetta, LSA Asian Studies
- Sze Yen Chan, LSA Psychology and Asian Studies
- Skyler E. Johnson, CJS MA
- Sang Do Lee, LSA Economics
- Hasumi Murase, LSA Economics
- Dalu Qi, LSA Economics and Financial Mathematics
- Katherine R. Sargent, CJS MA
- Alexander F. Varney, LSA Asian Studies
- George R. Wendt, LSA Microbiology and Asian Studies
- Joanna N. Widjaja, MS Industrial and Operations Engineering

New Books by CJS Faculty, Alumni & Friends

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access to the language of rights and the chance to represent themselves in public and play a limited political role; on the

By examining these debates throughout the 1870s and 1880s, Anderson argues that shifts in the gender system led to contradictory consequences for women. On the one hand, as gender displaced status as the primary system of social and legal classification, women gained

other, the modern Japanese state permitted women's political participation only as an expression of their "citizenship through the household" and codified their formal exclusion from the political process through a series of laws enacted in 1890. Foregrounding the Meiji discourse on gender, this book shows how "a woman's place" in late nineteenth-century Japan was characterized by contradictions and unexpected consequences, by new opportunities and new constraints.

Marnie S. Anderson is Assistant Professor of History at Smith College.



From the Toyota Visiting Professor

At the moment, I am writing a blurb for the Kyoto University Faculty of Law Alumni Newsletter. They asked me to recount my memories of being an undergraduate at Kyodai. Thinking back to those days, my most vivid memories are of the various extracurricular activities that I participated in. I think I learned a great deal more from my fellow students in those extracurricular activities than I learned from my professors in the classroom. (No offense to any of my former professors who might be reading this!).

My forthcoming book, *Civic Engagement in Postwar Japan: The Revival of A Defeated Society* (Cambridge University Press, scheduled to be published in December 2010), also reflects my appreciation for the value of “extracurricular activities.” In it, I examine the rise in membership in voluntary associations in Japan after World War II. Most social science theories would predict a decline in voluntary activities after Japan’s devastating defeat in that war. People with no money, little food, substandard housing, arrested education, and psychological traumas would hardly seem to be likely candidates to join a chorus or a foreign language club. But membership in such groups—a.k.a. “civic engagement”—actually soared in the immediate aftermath of the war. This jump in civic engagement preceded, and indeed contributed to, Japan’s remarkable postwar growth spurt that began in the early 1950s. And it continued for many years thereafter.

Japan was not alone in experiencing this surge in civic engagement. In the U.S., we often hear about the “greatest generation,” and also about the problem of “bowling alone” that began to emerge as the greatest generation passed away. Also, many European countries had a “greatest generation” of their own. But some, such as the Benelux countries, notably didn’t. In my book, I demonstrate that this pattern can be explained by the experience of wartime mobilization, combined with the effects of prewar levels of civic engagement. Wartime mobilization, even for a cause that ends in defeat, gives many citizens new “civic skills” that they did not have before. For instance, they learn how to communicate better with other people and how to operate more effectively in organizational settings, and also they develop

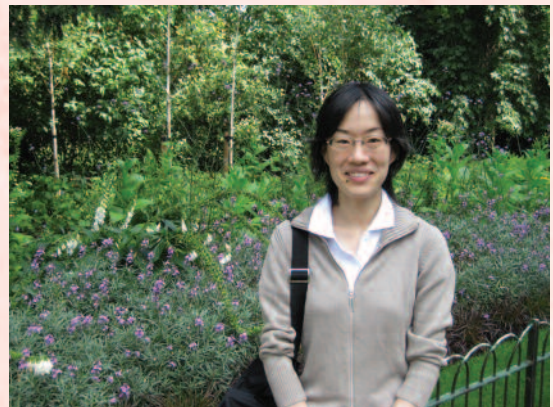
stronger opinions about social issues. And these lessons are not limited to soldiers, since many others, such as housewives, also find themselves mobilized into the war effort in various ways. Therefore, after the war, equipped with this new skill set, they do not want to return completely to their old prewar routines. So they start joining choruses, sports clubs, women’s associations, and so on.

I have found the University of Michigan and the CJS to offer many wonderful opportunities for “civic engagement,” from the weekly CJS talks to the weekly Kurosawa film series. Indeed, having spent almost ten years in full “mobilization” mode for my book, I am enjoying the chance to finally hear and talk about other things. I especially thank Ken Ito and Kenneth McElwain for being such gracious hosts; Yuri, Jane, Ann, Heather, and the CJS staff for their amazing efficiency and making sure that I was well taken care of; and the entire CJS community for so warmly welcoming me here in Ann Arbor. I look forward to meeting many more of you during the remainder of my stay.

Rieko Kage

2010-11 Toyota Visiting Professor, CJS

Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Tokyo



Finding “Creative Synergy” Between Area Studies and Academic Disciplines

On October 29, 2010, Patricia Steinhoff, Professor of Sociology at the University of Hawaii, participated in a symposium co-sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies and the International Institute. The symposium, “Relevant/Obsolete? Rethinking Area Studies’ in the U.S. Academy,” provided a forum for scholars from around the country to discuss the evolving place of area studies while celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of various centers in the International Institute at the University of Michigan.

Steinhoff’s talk, “Cross-Purposes or Complementarity? Changing Relationships Between Area Studies and the Disciplines,” looked specifically at the evolving relationship between area studies and academic disciplines. Steinhoff began her study of Japan as a freshman at the University of Michigan fifty years ago. She first became an area specialist and a sociologist only later. Her talk dealt with some of the challenges and benefits that she and others have had in balancing disciplinary expectations with those of area studies, particularly when there is “hostility” between the two.

The stated goal of Steinhoff’s talk was to promote “creative complementarity” between area studies and social science

disciplines for the future. The first half of her talk addressed the structural demands of disciplines and how these differ from the demands of area studies. According to Steinhoff, the logic of discipline-based research is that it “contributes to theories and knowledge about the discipline” and how it relates to prior scholarship in the discipline. The area is merely a “case study” of a theory or issue that is of general importance to the disciplines—humanities, the social sciences, and increasingly hard sciences.

In contrast to this, the logic of area studies research is to “contribute to understanding of the area,” by representing some “phenomena in the area.” The selection of research topics in area studies is in turn based on their contribution to understanding of the area. Disciplinary theories and methodologies are useful tools, but are often used in an interdisciplinary fashion.

American universities, however, are “dominated by disciplinary castles,” so it is important to work between area studies and disciplines. Steinhoff ultimately suggests, “It is possible to bridge these gaps.” To do so “takes area studies specialists sufficiently dedicated and ambitious to tackle the double burden of producing

research that meets the logic and standards” of both area studies and disciplines. She argues that if both sides respect the other’s contributions, then we can achieve “creative synergy” between the two, with area studies research helping advance the disciplines and discipline-based research leading to a deeper understanding of areas.

In the second half of her talk, Steinhoff traces the shifting “paradigms” that have driven Japanese studies in the US for the past several decades, including “language and area studies,” “economic competition,” and the current trend of “cultural studies.”

I found Steinhoff’s talk particularly pertinent to understanding these influences and how they continue to motivate my study of Japan. Her talk also provided a useful vocabulary for describing my own experiences and struggles balancing the demands of literature, my chosen discipline, with my commitment to researching Japan. A web recording of Steinhoff’s full talk is available on the International Institute’s website at http://www.umich.edu/~iinet/media3/ii/10-11/symposium_20101029/panel2.htm.

Brian Dowdle

PhD student, Asian Languages & Cultures

Faculty Updates

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Toyota Visiting Professor Update

Julia Adeney Thomas (2009-10 TVP, Associate Professor, History, University of Notre Dame) spent the summer of 2010 as a Visiting Professor at the Universität Heidelberg, Germany. Since then, she has published the following: “Socializing Trauma: The Problem with Photography,” for the *Journal of Visual Culture*, Special Issue on ‘Visual Evidence and Eyewitnessing,’ edited by Vanessa Schwartz

and Lynn Hunt (vol. 9, no.3, December 2010); “The Exquisite Corpses of Nature and History: The Case of the Korean DMZ” in Chris Pearson, Peter Coates, and Tim Cole, eds, *Militarized Landscapes: From Gettysburg to Salisbury Plain* (London: Continuum, 2010); and “Landscape’s Mediation Between History and Memory: A Visual Approach to Japan’s Past, 1870-1945,” *East Asian History*, 36, 2008 (Published October 2010).



CJS Goes to the Movies

In a film history class I recently participated in as a graduate student instructor, one of the messages the professor, the other GSI, and I tried to place in students' frames of reference is an idea of "cinema." Film, we would explain, is the physical material that historically has been crucial to the production, presentation, and global transmission of movie cultures. The Movies then are the product, the package, the completed images, sounds, and stories that we enjoy at the theater (and, increasingly, at home). Cinema, finally, is not only the theater or the venue for movie screenings, but a social environment where viewers can connect to the screen, to each other, and to the outside world. The cinema is a place where we come together to share in the social act of movie-watching.

The Ann Arbor and University of Michigan area is a wonderful place to experience the cinema. Boasting a long history of societies, festivals, and other film world activities, this small city maintains a vibrant movie culture that defies the waves of computer monitors and high definition TV sets

that are slowly replacing the walls of our homes and offices. Since 1975, the Center for Japanese Studies has been an outstanding participant in this history with a biannual series of Japanese film screenings that introduce and reintroduce Japanese films of the past and present to the community.

As a CJS graduate and current PhD student who researches Japanese film—and perhaps more importantly, as someone who loves the movies—this film series has been a tremendous source of inspiration and enjoyment for me. Not only does the CJS film series give the community a chance to gather and share our cinematic experiences with friends and colleagues, but where else in the American Midwest can one see such a broad selection of classic and contemporary Japanese film? From the classics of auteurs like Mizoguchi and Ozu to once-lost masterpieces, obscure musicals, perplexing horror films, and treasures of Japanese animation history, each year the CJS film series give us a true sense of the great diversity of stories and styles that make up the history of "Japanese Film."

In the fall of 2010, the Center presented "Re-viewing Kurosawa," a series of eight films by Kurosawa Akira in honor of the centennial of the director's birth. This series was the first time in more than ten years that the CJS had screened classics like *Rashōmon*, *Yōjimbō*, and *The Seven Samurai*, and it was a thrill to be able to watch Mifune Toshiro and Shimura Takashi prance across the wide screen in the glowing black and white that is only possible with film. I was allowed to play a small role in this program myself, introducing several of the films with a few comments and quotes about how Kurosawa's films have been viewed and re-viewed in the last sixty years. Although there have been varying opinions about his work over the years, I believe this series gave us eight clear examples of why Kurosawa is known as a master of world cinema.

But for me, the best part of this series probably was the cinema itself. Even with films as canonical as these—some of which I have probably seen a dozen times on video—it was refreshing and enlightening to enjoy them in a theater with such wonderful, interested audiences. I was thrilled to speak with audience members afterwards who had just had their first Kurosawa experience, or others who remembered watching the same film thirty years earlier in a student film society screening. Their sense of excitement was contagious. There really is no better way to watch movies like these. I am grateful to the Center for Japanese Studies for giving us so many wonderful opportunities to enjoy cinema!

Michael Arnold
*PhD student; Screen Arts & Cultures,
Asian Languages & Cultures.*

Re-viewing 2010 Center for Japanese Studies Free Fall Film Series

KUROSAWA

In the 1950s, Akira Kurosawa (1910-1998) led Japanese cinema onto the world stage, astonishing viewers with the emotional depth and the technical adroitness of his films. On the centennial of his birth, this series provides a once-in-a-generation chance to see Kurosawa's classics again—including his incomparable early samurai films—in fresh, new 35mm prints.

September 24 • *Rashōmon* (1950)
October 1 • *Ikiru* (1952)
October 8 • *Seven Samurai* (1954)
October 15 • *Throne of Blood* (1957)
October 22 • *Hidden Fortress* (1958)
October 29 • *High and Low* (1963)
November 5 • *Yōjimbō* (1961)
November 12 • *Sanjūrō* (1962)

All Films are Free and Open to the Public.

Films start at 7pm in Askwith Auditorium, Lorch Hall
611 Tappan Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies, The University of Michigan. 734.764.6307 <http://www.u-mich.edu/cjs/>
This film series is made possible with help from the Criterion Collection/Janus Films.

Past CJS Events

Mochitsuki

Each year, CJS's Mochitsuki has attracted record-breaking crowds, and this year's event was no exception. With expectations for attendance numbers over 1000, the event was moved to a larger venue to accommodate the activities that included: *kamishibai*, *kakizome*, *ikebana* displays, manga-drawing, origami, and games. Guests arriving early were treated to music by *Miyabi* (a koto and piano group), regulars at CJS's Mochitsuki. Later, *Raion Taiko* energized the event with high-intensity *taiko* drumming. While the lines to try the *mochi* and snacks were long, they moved quickly among the guests enjoying their treats and viewing our co-sponsors from Subaru Research and Development, Inc.

pounding the *mochi* using an *usu* (wood mortar) and *kine* (wood mallets). In addition to these activities, guests later in the day had the opportunity to discuss Japanese New Year's traditions with volunteers video-conferencing from Mie University in Mie Prefecture, Japan. These volunteers willingly agreed to be awake at 4:00 in the morning to attend our event.

Finally, if you ever wondered what it takes to put on a Mochitsuki for 1200 people... Here's a sampling: 135 pounds of *mochigome* (mochi rice), eight electric mochi-makers, 55 pounds of *daikon* radish, 48 crates of Clementines, and a little over 100 volunteers.



Reaching Out

As we look forward to the spring, let us look back at the fall term's outreach activities. I would like to thank our MA students for their active involvement in outreach this semester. Emily Canosa continues to teach Japanese to middle school students in the Ypsilanti District Library's Anime Club—a project she has been participating in since April 2010. Starting in September 2010, Josh Schlachet began helping develop the Japan Kit, "Food, Culture, and Society," which will be ready for loan at the beginning of the 2011-12 Academic Year.

Also in September, student photos were judged as part of the CJS Student Photo Contest: The Real and Surreal in Contemporary Japanese Culture. Those submitting were asked to include a caption that described the context of the photo and connected it to the theme of the contest. Winners were Emily Canosa for her photo *The Guardians*; Kevin Hoxie for his photos *Otaru Canal Walk*, *Dancers in Sapporo*, and *Cape Shakotan*; and Drew Foster for his photo *Mochi Amazement*. The top photos were selected from a pool of 22 photos which can be viewed by visiting the CJS website.

In October, Mina Mori (Japanese language teacher, Troy Athens High School), whom CJS sponsored to attend the K-12 Business Language Conference in Miami in January 2010, was asked to return to present alongside Tomoko Takami, a Japanese language lecturer

at the University of Pennsylvania. As part of her original project, Mori created a lesson plan that incorporates the teaching of business language, culture, and practices in the high school Japanese curriculum. This lesson is available for download on the CJS website.

In November, CJS, in partnership with the Centers for Chinese and Korean Studies, featured a workshop on the film *Mononoke Hime* that included an in-depth discussion with K-14 educators on its use in Japanese language and social studies classrooms. This film was screened as part of the East Asian Film Workshop: "Asia after Dark," and featured discussions on the similarities and differences of the representations of ghosts, goblins, and the supernatural in Japan, China, and Korea. This workshop was a preliminary for the workshop *East Asian Celebration: Long Life, Happiness, and Prosperity*, which took place on February 12, 2011.

Heather Littlefield
Community Outreach Coordinator, CJS

To view Mori's lesson and "Asia after Dark" resources, please visit

www.ii.umich.edu/cjs/resources/teacherresources.

For the student photo contest, please visit

www.umich.edu/~iinet/media2/cjs/studentphotocontest/2010.



Yoshihiro Mochizuki (Japanese language lecturer, ALC) judges the final competition of the Elementary Division at the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl.

18th Annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl

On March 19th, the Center for Japanese Studies hosted the annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl on the University of Michigan's Central Campus. This is the seventh year that CJS has hosted this K-12 quiz bowl competition for students studying Japanese language and culture. Roughly 325 students from 20 schools in Michigan competed in one of seven divisions. This year's event featured brand new questions and a new advanced-level division. This event is co-sponsored by the Japanese Teachers Association of Michigan with support from the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit and the Japanese Business Society of Detroit.

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Members of the White Pine Glee Club entertain guests at the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl.



The Guardians. Photo by Emily Canosa (student, CJS MA).



U-M students organized a paper crane folding fundraiser at the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl. More than 1000 cranes were folded at the event.



The winning T-shirt design from the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl from Detroit Country Day School.

Kyoto Filmmakers' Lab

My participation in the 2010 Kyoto Filmmakers' Lab proved to be the most enriching and educational experience that I've had during my time at the University of Michigan. By working with other students from around world, and professional Japanese crewmembers, I became a better filmmaker without even knowing it, as if through osmosis. My filmmaking team shot entirely on location within the historic Shochiku studio lots in Kyoto, the studio lots where such legends as Yasujiro Ozu, Kenji Mizoguchi, and Akira Kurosawa have filmed. As a cinematographer (both my passion and my role in this specific production), it was pure joy to create cinematic compositions with such striking ancient Japanese architecture.

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The participants in the program were truly international; the writer on my team was Macedonian, the director Taiwanese, the producers all Japanese, and the Camera Operator from Canada. The majority of the Shochiku-employed crew that assisted our production were non-English speakers, so we learned to conduct our takes with Japanese camera commands. Someone yells "Homban" for sound, which is then echoed by everyone on the studio lots that is within ear reach, the camera operator nods to me when he sees the red video record indicator and yells "Mawari Mashta" in place of Hollywood's "Roll Camera," the director calls "Yōi...Hai!" and the action begins. Despite the initial linguistic barriers, I was struck by how remarkably well everyone was able to communicate with one another in cinematic terms. It became very clear that there is a basic universal film language that transcends lingual gaps. Found, not lost, in translation. I could easily explain the anticipated

editing strategy of a scene to my gaffer without having a translator; with basic Japanese counting I could demonstrate the desired shot order as the distance between my hands communicated whether the shot was *Wide, Medium* or *Close-Up*.

My interest in finding striking visuals extended out of my cinematography role on the film and into my daily explorations of Japan – every small detail of visual difference caught my attention from urban architecture to subway advertisements. I had the unique opportunity of spending a few days alone in Osaka, exploring the city on my own terms before the program started. Getting off the airplane, a local explained to me that Osaka was "the Detroit of Japan," seemingly expressing the sentiment that while Tokyo is just another bustling city like New York, the Kansai region of Osaka and Kyoto represents the more old school industrial heart and soul of Japan. Exploring the Nanba district of Osaka, I found myself by either random coincidence or fate in Ame-mura – the Japanese "Little America." Confused by a foreign depiction of the familiar, I wandered into a startlingly accurate simulation of the *Barnes & Nobles/ Starbucks* space in which categorized magazines and books on display surrounded the sale of 400 yen cappuccinos. The difference, of course, was that the magazines and the book displays were entirely in Japanese, most notably a display ad containing a large image of Friedrich Nietzsche surrounded by thought



Composing a frame with Cam Op, Sean Wainstein, and Director, Eric Lin.



Setting up a shot with the Shochiku team.

bubbles filled with Japanese text. On and off the set, I was continually aware of this amalgam of the familiar and the unfamiliar – the familiar made unfamiliar, the unfamiliar made familiar – and what made this awareness so compelling, and makes it remain so in memory was that it played out not in some brochure-like cross-cultural buzzwords, but in such vivid specific images.

Jacob Mendel

Undergraduate Student, U-M College of Literature, Science & the Arts

(Jacob's trip was co-sponsored by a grant from the U-M Center for Japanese Studies.)



Prepping the final tracking shot in the historic Shochiku Studio lots in Kyoto.

Calendar - Winter / Spring 2011

January

8 – Special Event: CJS's 7th Annual **Mochitsuki**; Traditional mochi-making, mochi-tasting, live music, calligraphy, origami, manga drawing, ikebana, games, and more. 1-4pm; East Hall Atriums, 530 Church Street, Ann Arbor.

27 – Noon Lecture*: "The Differential Network Structuration of ACID Polities: Japan's Butterfly State in U.S. and German Comparison," **Jeffrey Broadbent**, Associate Professor, Sociology, University of Minnesota

February

3 – Noon Lecture*: "The Future of Regional Liquidity Arrangement in East Asia: Lessons from the Global Financial Crisis," **William Grimes**, Professor, International Relations and Political Science, Boston University (Note: Due to weather, this lecture was cancelled.)

10 – Noon Lecture*: "Civic Engagement in Postwar Japan: The Revival of a Defeated Society, 1945-55," **Rieko Kage**, 2010-11 Toyota Visiting Professor, CJS; Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Tokyo

17 – Noon Lecture*: "Dining and Daydreaming in the Edo Period," **Eric Rath**, Associate Professor, History, University of Kansas

24 – Noon Lecture*: "Rethinking the 'Post-Defeat' Discursive Space: Censorship During the Occupation Period," **Richi Sakakibara**, Associate Professor, School of International Liberal Studies, Waseda University

March

10 – Noon Lecture*: "Motherhood and Early Modernity in Japan," **Marcia Yonemoto**, Associate Professor, History, University of Colorado at Boulder

17 – Noon Lecture*: "Encounters with the Other Through the Medium of Oil Painting: Italian, Mexican, and Chinese Figures by the 'Western Painters' of Modern Japan," **Bert Winther-Tamaki**, Associate Professor, Art History, University of California, Irvine

19 – Special Event: 18th Annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl, Japanese language and culture quiz bowl competition for K-12 students. (Co-sponsored by CJS, the Japanese Teachers Association of Michigan, the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit, and the Japan Business Society of Detroit.)

24 – Noon Lecture*: "Legal and Social Responses to Children Living with Their Abused Mothers," **Yukiko Tsunoda**, Professor, Law, Meiji University; Lawyer, Tanaka & Partners (Co-sponsored by the U-M Law School's Japanese Legal Studies Program.)

April

7 – Noon Lecture*: "Toxic Archipelago: A History of Industrial Disease in Japan," **Brett Walker**, Regents' Professor and Chair, History and Philosophy, Montana State University

14 – Noon Lecture*: "Psychology in Natsume Sōseki's *Mon*," **Michael Bourdaghs**, Associate Professor, East Asian Languages & Civilizations, University of Chicago

15 – Conference: "Is the Japanese Constitution Suitable for the 21st Century?," John Haley, Helen Hardacre, Rieko Kage, Kenneth Mori McElwain, Jun Saito, Richard J. Samuels, Kiyoteru Tsutsui, Mark D. West, and Chris Winkler. (Co-sponsored by CJS, U-M's International Institute, Institute for Humanities, Rackham Graduate School, and the Japanese Legal Studies Program.)

**All noon lectures are free and open to the public. They run from 12noon to 1pm in Room 1636 (School of Social Work Building)*
<http://www.ii.umich.edu/cjs/eventsprograms/noon>



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