





## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2** From the Director
- 4** News from the Publications Program
- 5** News from the U-M Museum of Art
- 6** News from the Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection
- 7** News from the Japanese Language Program
- 8** CJS 70th Anniversary Conference Series
- 12** Michigan in Tokyo
- 14** CJS Welcomes Princess Akiko of Mikasa
- 16** Opportunity Time
- 18** A Champion for Japanese Language
- 20** Undergraduates Connect with Japan and Japanese Studies
- 21** In Memory of Roger Hackett, 1922-2017
- 22** From the Toyota Visiting Professors
- 24** Faculty Updates
- 27** Alumni Updates
- 28** Faculty Research Grant Recipients 2017-18
- 29** Supporting CJS
- 30** Ann Arbor Japan Week 2018
- 31** Toyota Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar Updates

## From the Director

*G*reetings from our new Weiser Hall office! We are happy to report that we have successfully moved from the School of Social Work building to the 4th floor of Weiser Hall. This newly renovated building (formerly known as Dennison) is filled with ample sunlight, plenty of open space, and beautiful furniture, not to mention CJS's own tatami space and the new attraction known as the Green Wall. Whenever you're in the neighborhood, please be sure to visit us in this new space.

Our excellent staff didn't miss a beat as we quickly transitioned from the office move to an academic year filled with special events that commemorated CJS's 70th anniversary. In Fall 2017, we organized three special conferences that covered CJS's luminous history from the early years under our founding director Robert B. Hall through the Okayama Field Station of the 1950s and the trade friction of the 1980s to the recent collaboration with the city of Ishinomaki in its efforts to recover from the 2011 earthquake. The festivities overflowed into Winter/Spring 2018 with events such as the conference on US-Japan relationships that spotlighted the role of CJS in shaping this important bilateral relation, and a visit by Princess Akiko of Japan's Imperial House, the first visit to CJS by members of the Imperial House since 1953, when then Crown Prince (current Emperor) Akihito toured CJS. Through all of these events, a number of esteemed speakers recounted the important



roles that CJS has played in shaping US-Japan relationships, reminding us of the exceptionally rich legacy that we are heir to as the oldest Japan studies center in North America. (For more on these events, please see the articles in the following pages.)

In this connection, I have to report with a heavy heart the passing of Professor Roger Hackett, who contributed greatly to CJS's legacy as an excellent director, beloved colleague, gracious mentor, and renowned historian of Japan. The overwhelming reaction to this sad news demonstrates the impact he has had on CJS and Japan studies broadly. His generosity in spending time and sharing his extensive experience and wisdom with his colleagues and students touched many at CJS, including me who benefited from his insightful feedback even though he was long retired by the time I arrived at Michigan.

All these historical reflections renewed our commitment to carry the torch and ensure a thriving future for CJS in the next 70 years and beyond. Toward that end, we have ramped up our activities in Japan in recent years and established Michigan in Tokyo as an annual event in May featuring prominent speakers such as Taro Kono, the current Foreign Minister of Japan, Toshiyuki Shiga, the former executive of Nissan and the current head of the Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, and Keiko Ihara, the car racer known as "the fastest woman in the world," who then became the first woman, and the youngest person ever, to be named Nissan's external director. I also had an opportunity to rekindle our ties with Okayama in June, visiting Okayama University to meet its president and board members. In addition to exploring possible collaborations with Okayama University, I was particularly pleased to learn that the memories of the Okayama Field Station are alive in Okayama. Not only local city officials and university administrators but also taxi drivers and izakaya masters recounted the stories about the Okayama Field Station as a site where many Americans came and mingled with local people soon after the end of World War II.

Perhaps the most significant for ensuring the bright future of Japanese studies, we are deeply grateful to Mayumi and Masao Oka for their generous donation that would enable us to expand our support for Japanese language education. Announced by Dean Andrew Martin at our year-end reception, this multi-million-dollar donation is a game-changer in our program and will help us carry Mayumi's legacy as the dedicated leader of our Japanese Language Program for decades to come.

Looking forward to the next year, 2018 marks the 30th anniversary of the Toyota Visiting Professorship (TVP). It was established in 1988 with a generous donation by the Toyota Motor Corporation, and has brought rising stars in Japanese studies to Ann Arbor every year since then. To celebrate this anniversary, we are organizing a series of lectures featuring past TVPs in the fall semester, starting with Ikuo Kabashima, the University of Tokyo political scientist who went on to become the governor of Kumamoto. He will return to Ann Arbor in September with Kumamon, one of the most popular *yurukyara* (mascots)—not just in Japan, but in all of Asia. The series will be bookended by an English Noh performance by 2018-19 TVP Mariko Anno and her colleagues. In this vein, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the opening of the documentary film *The Big House*, both in Japan and in the US this summer. Filmed by a team led by the acclaimed documentary filmmaker Kazuhiro Soda (TVP 2016-17) and our own Markus Nornes in film studies, it offers a behind-the-scenes look at our beloved football stadium and has received much critical acclaim. If you find it at a theater near you, you wouldn't want to miss it!

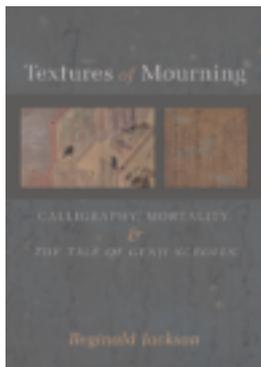
**Kiyoteru Tsutsui**  
*Director*



# Publications Program

The CJS Publications Program is proud to present a beautiful new book by Reginald Jackson. Titled, **Textures of Mourning**, it is a unique approach to *The Tale of Genji* (1008). Jackson explores how mourning emerges to reshape Japanese visual culture in several distinct historical moments.

Filled with dozens of sumptuous images from the famous 1150 handscrolls, *Textures of Mourning* pursues mortality's progression over four sections—"Dying," "Decomposing,"



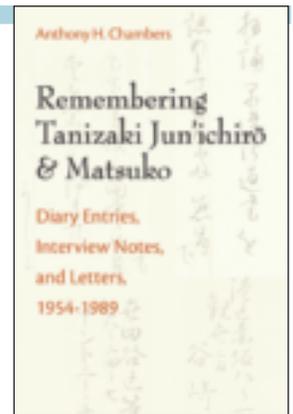
"Mourning," and "Resurrecting." *Genji* and its adaptations are filled with engrossing literary and visual portrayals of death and its aftermath. Jackson contends that the work of mourning unfolds through interwoven practices of reading, writing, painting, and public exhibition. He charts how mourning spurs artistic composition, triggers visceral responses, and seduces spectators in both premodern and contemporary Japan.

*Textures of Mourning* centers on three historical tipping points: the height of imperial power in the early eleventh century, when the literary masterwork *The Tale of Genji* was written; the collapse of imperial hegemony in the late-twelfth century, when *Genji*'s most famous handscroll adaptation was composed (1150); and the post-bubble recessionary context in which those handscrolls were refashioned as the "Resurrected *Genji* Handscrolls" (2006). As material objects wrought at comparable moments of social upheaval, these texts become vehicles through which to mourn perished ideals of vitality, prosperity, and belonging.

The book is a major intervention in premodern literary studies for its theorization of the riveting opacity, coarse materiality, and skewed temporality of premodern forms and their capacity to trouble modern regimes of looking, feeling, and knowing. Drawing upon scholarship in premodern Japanese literary studies, art history, and performance studies, the book's innovative trans-disciplinary readings reorient psychoanalytic criticism and performance theory to map the fluctuating topography of calligraphic gestures.

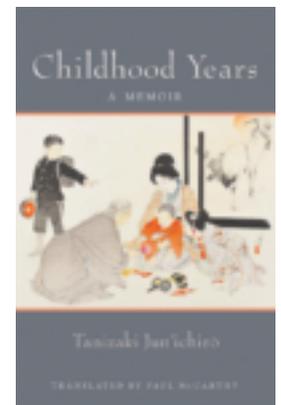
CJS has two other books to announce. **Remembering Tanizaki Jun'ichiro and Matsuko** is a wonderful addition to our Tanizaki list. Editor Anthony Chambers provides previously unpublished memories, anecdotes, and insights into the lives, opinions, personalities, and writings of the great novelist Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886–1965) and his wife Matsuko (1903–

1991). They are gleaned from the diaries of Edward Seidensticker and two decades of Anthony Chambers's conversations with Mrs. Tanizaki and others who were close to the Tanizaki family.



J. Keith Vincent of Boston University writes that the book "is a must read for Tanizaki lovers. Once I started I couldn't put it down and found myself squealing with delight at each new morsel of detail about the life and opinions of Tanizaki and his remarkable third wife and muse, Matsuko. The book takes an unapologetically biographical, if not downright gossipy, approach. This perhaps makes it more of a book for fans than for scholars. For those of us who are both, it feels at times like a bit of a guilty pleasure. It is both a record and an example of the kind of fan-like devotion that Tanizaki continues to inspire."

Our third book to present is **Childhood Years**, an autobiography of Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886–1965). Originally published serially in a literary magazine between 1955 and 1956, the novelist takes a meandering look back on his early life in Tokyo. He reflects on his upbringing, family, and the capital city with a conversational—and not necessarily honest—eye, offering insights into his later life and his writing. In *The New York Times*, Mary Jo Salter wrote, "Readers of Tanizaki's fiction will recognize in this tour not only his acute sense of place but his gift for the essential, often unsavory detail."



I would like to invite all authors to submit their newest work to the CJS Publications Program. Our books are thoroughly peer reviewed, carefully edited and proofread, produced and designed with the highest quality—and priced right. Your book can join a list containing works by luminaries of Japan studies such as John Hall, Richard Beardsley, Barbara Ruch, Amino Yoshihiko, Jan Bardsley, Helen Hardacre, and Aaron Gerow. We are interested in all fields, publish monographs and essay collections, and we love translations!

If you are finishing up a manuscript, by all means submit it to us; instructions are on our website at [ii.umich.edu/cjs/publications](http://ii.umich.edu/cjs/publications). We are waiting!

**Markus Nornes**

*Chair, CJS Publications Advisory Committee*

# University of Michigan Museum of Art

In June 2018, UMMA welcomed Princess Akiko of Japan and a research group from Gakushuin University. As part of a project to study Japanese art collections and their histories in American institutions, they visited cultural organizations in Southeast Michigan, including UMMA and the Detroit Institute of Arts. UMMA's new director Christina Olsen and I took the group on a tour of a current exhibition, *Exercising the Eye: The Gertrude Kase Collection*, featuring an important collection of 20th-century American art; our permanent display of decorative arts by Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933); and the Asian art galleries. After the tour, the group viewed additional works from collection storage and related archival materials.



UMMA Director Christina Olsen gives a tour of the Tiffany glass collection to Princess Akiko at UMMA.

A specialist in the history of Japanese art collecting overseas, Princess Akiko was particularly interested in the impact on local museums of the circle of Japanese art collectors in the greater Detroit area active in the early twentieth century. The industrialist Charles Lang Freer (1854–1919), was a mentor to Margaret Watson Parker (1867–1936), whose extensive collection of Japanese paintings, prints, and ceramic wares was donated to UMMA after her death. Although Freer's collection was donated to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC and became the foundation of the Freer and Sackler Galleries, part of it was first shown to the public in UMMA's A. Alfred Taubman I Gallery (then called the West Gallery) in 1910. In Detroit, the group visited the Freer House, the residence in which Freer lived and entertained many art enthusiasts of the era, which nicely complemented their UMMA visit.

In the 2018–19 academic year, UMMA will present an exciting roster of permanent gallery and special exhibitions of Japanese and Japanese-American art. In early September, the Japanese Art Gallery will open a new, multimedia display of Edo period and modern art related to Mount Fuji, including paintings, prints, a poster, and a kimono. *Proof: The Ryoichi Excavations* will also open in September in the Photography Gallery. This solo exhibition of the work of Patrick Nagatani (1945–2017), known for his poignant representations of Japanese-American experiences during World War II, features a series of photos documenting an archeological project by a fictitious Japanese

*Taima Temple Mandala: Amida Welcomes Chūjōhime to the Western Paradise*, 16th century, hanging scroll, ink, color and gold on silk. Museum purchase made possible by the Margaret Watson Parker Art Collection Fund, 2002/1.169.



archeologist known only as Ryoichi. Nagatani's carefully staged images include excavations of automobiles buried in prehistoric, ancient, and modern sites such as Stonehenge, an Egyptian tomb, and Manzanar, California (a former site of a Japanese internment camp); artifacts; and even pages from Ryoichi's journals. Through an elaborate visual narrative that embraces the absurd, Nagatani challenges the notion that photography is a reflection of the truth and questions how we use it to construct histories.



Katsushika Hokusai (1760–1849), *A Solitary Fisherman at Kajikasawa, Kai Province*, 1823–29, color woodblock print on paper. Bequest of Margaret Watson Parker, 1948/1.150

In early 2019, UMMA will open the exhibition *Making Sense(s) of Buddhist Experiences* on the Jan and David Brandon Family Bridge. Curated by Susan Dine, the 2017–18 Mellon Curatorial Fellow and a PhD candidate in History of Art at the University of Michigan, the exhibition offers multisensory experiences of Buddhist ritual objects drawn mostly from the museum's Japanese art collection. In a religious context, these objects were experienced through the senses of smell, touch, sound, taste, sight, and mind-thought—the sixth sense. This ambitious exhibition challenges the conventional display of Buddhist objects in modern museums, which privilege the sense of sight. Through innovative interpretive tools such as fragrance cards and touch panels, visitors will be immersed in a layered experience of Buddhist rituals and gain a historical understanding of these objects.

**Natsu Oyobe**  
*Curator of Asian Art*

# Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection

**N**ew Japanese copy cataloger, Ms. Etsuko Kosuge, joined us in April 2017. She brings her expertise from experience working in professional organizations to the task of efficiently processing a growing number of new acquisitions.

**The growing collection** continues to form a sturdy foundation for scholarship and education. We have added 6,511 monograph titles and 7,760 volumes to the collection, which now totals 349,680 monograph volumes including E-books. Since 2012 we have paid special attention to building a strong media collection and electronic resources. In collaboration with the Askwith Media Library, we have placed 541 new media titles—including documentary films on the East Japan Great Earthquake disaster, feature films, TV dramas, performing arts, and animation films—into a collection now numbering 3,472 media titles. Our Japanese collection is the fourth largest in volumes among research university libraries in North America.

**Digital resources** allow our users to check out materials instantly from wherever in the world they are located. We have added the online database Foreign Office files for Japan, 1910-1951 (the National Archives, UK), and E-journals and monographs such as *Ajia Yugaku* アジア遊学, *Shin Kokushi dainenpyo* 新国史大年表, *Seiyaku Genji monogatari* 正訳源氏物語, and *Iwanami shin Nihon koten bungaku taikai Meiji-hen* 岩波新日本古典文学大系明治編 among 53 E-reference books and 37 E-book titles. The Japanese Studies librarian proactively works with the electronic resource providers in Japan to secure more E-books and to improve access for our patrons.

Resource support continues for students wishing to learn the Japanese language. In addition to reading materials, we provide online test preparation books at every level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)—a test conducted each December on the U-M campus.

**Digital Scholarship** interest is growing among CJS students. A workshop on English-language text mining and OCR in Japanese Studies was offered. The CJS Thursday Lecture Series hosted the “Visual Narrative of Japan and Self” lecture by Mr. Steven Geoffrey Braun, Data Analytics/Visualization specialist at the Northeastern University library (see the Videos of Past Events page on the CJS website, September 21, 2017). Following this lecture we offered a hands-on consultation to cater to individual students’ research needs.

One of our notable collections, *Mushi no utaawase emaki* 虫歌合絵巻 was digitized in the IIF (International Image Interoperability Framework) and is now available in the U-M



From the left, Etsuko Kosuge, Kazuko Anderson, Keiko Yokota-Carter, Mari Suzuki

Library Digital Collections. The IIF images may be downloaded by users, promoting emerging research. We also provide digital scholarship technical assistance in addition to research data management and digital resources. Faculty and students can preserve a variety of data—text, images, movies, sounds, etc.—in *Deep Blue* ([deepblue.lib.umich.edu](http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu)) making them available as open access resources.

**Asia Library Travel Grants** were awarded to Assistant Professor Kendra Strand of the University of Iowa, Ms. Tokiko Y. Bazzell, Asia Collection Department Chair and Japanese Studies Librarian at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Mr. Robert Mowry of the University of Notre Dame, and Assistant Professor Meghan M. Jones of the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.

**Guests** from Japan (9) visited the Japanese collection, discussed library service, and researched our materials. Guests included researchers, librarians, publishers, and local governmental officers, and they represented Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Kanazawa University, Toyama University, Osaka University, Chubu University, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, and Ann Arbor Sister City Association and Hikone city. We continue to build a global network, among professionals in various fields, to enhance the infrastructure of Japanese Studies across the world, while strengthening cooperation among Japanese Studies Librarians nationally.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the Japanese Studies collection and digital scholarship, please visit Keiko Yokota-Carter in 412 Hatcher Graduate Library or contact her by email ([kyokotac@umich.edu](mailto:kyokotac@umich.edu)) or phone (734.764.7774). More information about the collection is available on the U-M library website **Japanese Studies Research Guide**.

**Keiko Yokota-Carter**  
*Japanese Studies Librarian*

# Japanese Language Program



LSA student and Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest winner Sakila Islam (center) with Japanese Language Program faculty.

**Sakila Islam,** an LSA senior with majors in Asian Studies and International Studies, won first prize at the 23rd Annual Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest. The contest, held on February 24, 2018 at the Novi Civic Center, was organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit.

Ms. Islam's speech focused on her experience visiting Ishinomaki as a participant in the 2017 GIEU Japan: Community Revitalization Program. The goal of this program was to connect various nonprofit organizations in Detroit, Michigan and Ishinomaki, Japan in order to encourage simultaneous rebuilding and revitalization in both communities.

*In her speech, she says:*

It was in Ishinomaki that I saw the ocean for the first time in my life. As I stood on the shore with the waves of the Pacific crashing near my feet, I could truly feel the interconnectedness we were to create thanks to the program. The fact that only that one ocean was separating me from someone in the US was a symbol of how no matter how great the physical distance is, our hearts remained close. Despite no longer being near Ishinomaki, I still have a lifelong bond with that city, just as I do with Detroit, the city that raised me.

Expressing all of this in Japanese is one of the greatest challenges I've faced since I first started learning the language. However, with the help of the excellent Japanese instructors at the U-M, I was able to write something that truly expressed the epiphanies I'd realized while in Ishinomaki. I'm grateful for having had a chance to express the emotions I've experienced thanks to this fantastic program. It was nothing short of life-changing. I am honored to have been a participant, and cannot thank CJS enough for the opportunities they have given me thus far, and have created for me in the future.

# CJS 70th Anniversary Conference Series: **A RETROSPECTIVE**

*by Brad Hammond*



In commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of its founding in 1947, the Center for Japanese Studies (CJS) hosted a series of three conferences throughout Fall 2017. Over the course of the series, **more than 1,800** attendees packed venues across Ann Arbor and Detroit for workshops, lectures, and exhibitions reflecting on the center's storied history while also outlining an exciting vision for its future. This special photo feature looks back at the splendor, speakers, and spectacle of the CJS 70th Anniversary Conference Series...





## Building Community in Detroit and Regional Japan

With the generous support of the University of Michigan Bicentennial Office, CJS and its partners at the Center for Global and Intercultural Study (CGIS), Community-Engaged Academic Learning (CEAL), the Stamps School of Art and Design, and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning convened a week-long symposium titled Building Community in Detroit and Regional Japan. The symposium consisted of nine workshop, lecture, and exhibition-style events convened on September 27–30, 2017.

The Building Community symposium brought to Detroit six representatives from four leading Japanese community-building organizations. Their workshops, lectures, and exhibitions served as forums in which a total of ten community organizations from Detroit and northeastern Japan could discuss common challenges and plan future collaborations to address them.

The symposium marked the cohering of a transnational community-engaged learning network called the Ishinomaki-Detroit Collaborative (IDC), consisting of three community organizations based in Ishinomaki, Japan (Makigumi, ITNAV, and Ishinomaki Laboratory) and three community organizations based in Detroit (Revival Detroit, Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation, and the Brightmoor Maker Space)

The Building Community symposium also marked the debut of the Brightmoor Bento Workshop, a collaborative, kit-based furniture building activity which has since become a revenue stream for the Brightmoor Maker Space. The debut workshop was featured in MOVE HERE. MOVE THE WORLD—a promotional video developed for Detroit’s Amazon HQ2 bid.

石巻  
工房

ISHINOMAKI  
LABORATORY  
IN DETROIT

SEP 28 | 5 PM  
STAMPS DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER EVENT  
BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH DIY DESIGN  
MICHIGAN THEATER, ANN ARBOR

SEP 29 | 7 PM  
U.S. DEBUT EXHIBIT RECEPTION  
THE CARR CENTER, 1005 WOODWARD  
EXHIBIT OPEN SEP 28-30

SEP 30 | 10 AM  
MAKER WORKSHOP  
BRIGHTMOOR MAKERSPACE  
12675 BURT ROAD

TO REGISTER,  
SEE [UMICH.EDU/CJS](http://UMICH.EDU/CJS)

PRESENTED IN  
PARTNERSHIP WITH

Center for Japanese Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Brightmoor  
makerspace

Carr Center  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

STAMPS  
SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DETROIT FESTIVAL  
2017

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
BICENTENNIAL

# CJS 70th Anniversary Conference Series: A Retrospective



## The University of Michigan and Japan's Auto Industry

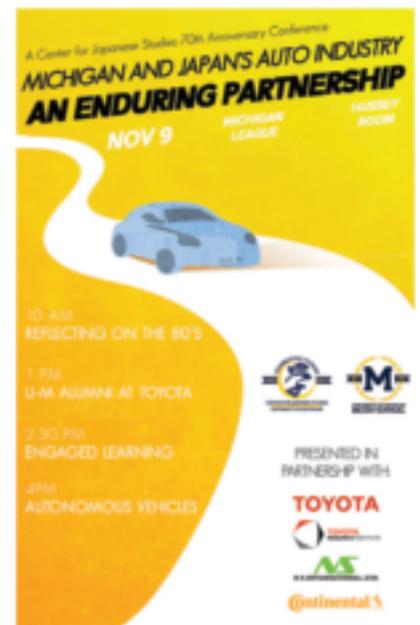
On November 9, 2017, CJS hosted a day-long conference called The University of Michigan and Japan's Auto Industry: An Enduring Partnership. In partnership with representatives from Toyota, Toyota Research Institute, and Continental Automotive. CJS faculty reviewed the past, present, and future of the relationship between the University of Michigan and Japan's auto industry.

vehicle technology, and spotlighted such U-M collaborations as the Ann Arbor-based Toyota Research Institute and Mcity. Throughout the rest of the day, **Yas Kohaya** (CLO, Toyota Research Institute), **Ryan Eustice** (Senior Vice President of Automated Driving, Toyota Research Institute), **Kristen Tabar** (Vice President of Technical Strategy, Toyota Motor North America), and **Kunizo Oka** (Continental Automotive Corporation) spoke on topics including the multinationalization of Japan's auto industry, connected and autonomous vehicle technology, and U-M's engaged learning partnerships with the Japanese auto industry.

CJS extends its sincere gratitude to Professor Allison Alexy, Professor Jennifer Robertson, and Professor Dyron Dabney (Earlham College) for their service as panel moderators.

10

The day began with a panel discussion between past CJS faculty members Robert Cole, John Campbell, and Michael Flynn, which reflected on the achievements of the US–Japan Automotive Conference series of 1981–1989 and the US–Japan Automotive Study of 1984. Next, a keynote address by **Shinichi Yasui** (Executive Vice President of Toyota Motor North America Research and Development) discussed Toyota's pathbreaking innovations in autonomous and connected



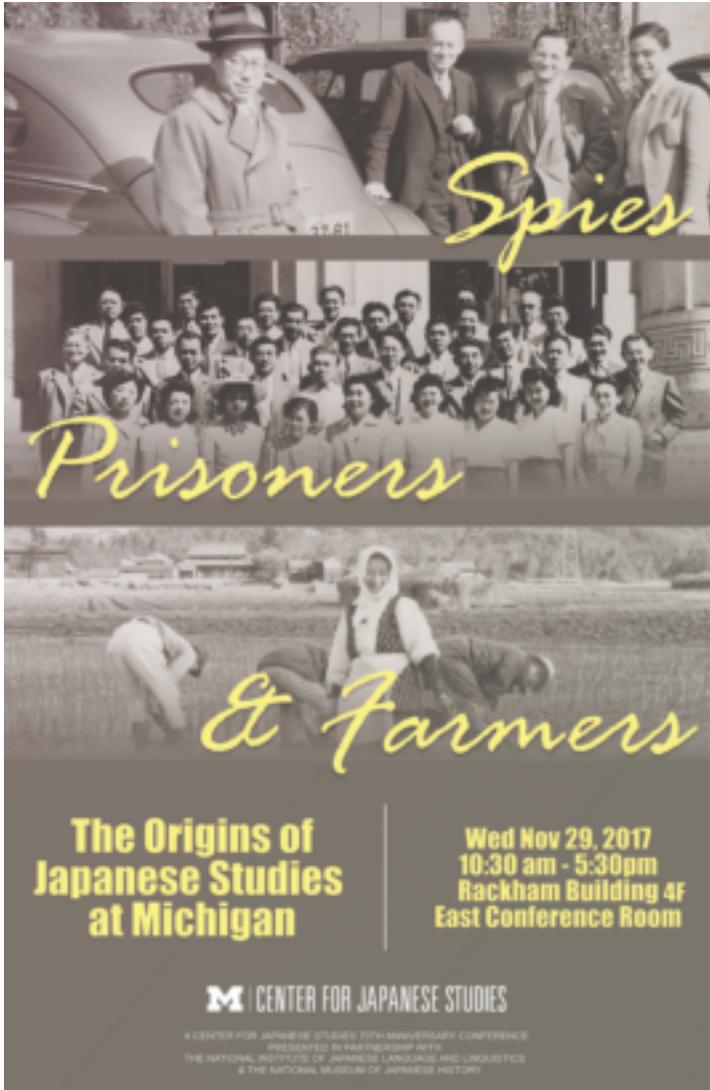


# Origins of Japanese Studies at Michigan

On November 29, 2017, CJS hosted a day-long conference titled *Spies, Prisoners, and Farmers: The Origins of Japanese Studies at Michigan*. In partnership with the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (*Kokuritsu Kokugo Kenkyujō*) and the National Museum of Japanese History (*Kokuritsu Rekishi Minzoku Hakubutsukan*), the conference traced how the twin legacies of Professor Robert B. Hall and the Army Intensive Japanese Language School laid the foundation for the creation of the University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies and its historic Okayama Field Station. The symposium’s keynote panel featured a discussion on the important role of CJS in the history of Japanese Studies in the United States by **Professors Ezra Vogel** and **John Campbell**.

The day began with an overview of the Army Intensive Japanese Language School at the University of Michigan by two scholars from the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics: **Professor Yoshiyuki Asahi** and **Professor Tomokazu Takada**. Next, **Professors Katsumi Nakao** (J.F. Oberlin University) and **Kosuke Harayama** (National Museum of Japanese History) discussed the wartime service of CJS’s founding director Professor Robert Hall and one of his associates, Koji Ariyoshi. Lastly, **Professors Hitomi Tonomura** (University of Michigan) and **Yoko Taniguchi** (Senshu University) spoke to the history of the CJS’s landmark Okayama Field Station.

CJS was especially proud to host at the conference several descendants of Professor Robert Hall and Professor Robert Ward—two essential players in the founding of the Center for Japanese Studies. **Steven Hall, Robert Hall Jr., Paula Brown-Gray, Charles Hall, Erica Ward**, and their families kindly shared their memories of these two pivotal figures in CJS history. The center extends its deepest gratitude for their enriching presence at the final conference in our series.



# Michigan in Tokyo



12 In May 2017, CJS launched an annual Tokyo-based symposium called *Michigan in Tokyo*. This symposium serves as a forum for convening leaders and innovators in politics, business, culture, and academia, for the purpose of deepening public understanding of major contemporary issues in Japanese society and the world. The inaugural symposium, titled *The US–Japan Relationship and East Asia in the Trump Era*, featured the current Foreign Minister Taro Kono, U-M alum Yoshihide Soeya (Keio U), former U-M faculty member Kenneth McElwain (U of Tokyo), and Yoshiko Kojo (U of Tokyo), and drew a large and thoroughly engaged audience at the University of Tokyo in 2017.

Building on the success of the inaugural symposium, CJS hosted the second *Michigan in Tokyo* event on May 19, 2018. This year's conference, titled *The Future of the Japanese Economy: Innovation and Restructuring in the Competitive Global Economy*, brought together prominent scholars, executives, and government officials to discuss the future of Japan's automotive industry and the future of innovation in the Japanese economy. This theme was chosen in order to celebrate the 70th anniversary of CJS, the 30th anniversary of the Toyota Visiting Professorship, and the University of Michigan Bicentennial. As director Kiyoteru Tsutsui highlighted in his opening remarks, U-M played a significant role in the economic history of Japan—Eijiro Ono's PhD thesis submitted at U-M in the late 19th century was the first English-language study of the Japanese economy, and he went on to become the president of the Industrial Bank of Japan (as well as grandfather of Yoko Ono)—and in the development of the Japanese auto industry, having been the home of the US-Japan Auto Conference/Studies in the 1980s.

The first panel, dedicated to the Japanese auto industry, was moderated by **Keiko Ihara**, a Specially Appointed Associate Professor at the Keio University Graduate School of Media Design and one of the most celebrated professional race car drivers. In June 2018, Ms. Ihara became the first female outside board member of Nissan Motor Company, as well as the youngest board member in the company's history. The first presentation was given by **Ken Koibuchi**, Executive General Manager of Advanced R&D and Engineering for the Toyota Motor Company. Mr. Koibuchi's talk outlined Toyota's vision for the incorporation of cutting-edge technology into its vehicles for the purposes of improving safety and enabling autonomous mobility, with a special focus on the company's "Mobility Teammate" concept. The second

presentation was given by **Takahiro Fujimoto**, Professor at the University of Tokyo Graduate School of Economics. Fujimoto, a leading expert on Toyota's integrated *monozukuri* practices, provided a thorough overview of the history of global competition and innovation in the automotive industry, and the lessons that history holds for challenges that Japanese auto manufacturers will face as they navigate the rapidly-shifting mobility landscape.

The second panel was titled *The Future of the Japanese Economy: The Roles of Industry, Government, and Academia in Japanese Business Innovation*. The panel was moderated by **Mitsuhiro Fukao**, Professor of Economics at Musashino University, Professor Emeritus at Keio University, and a leading scholar of international finance and corporate



From left to right: Kazuo Ichijo, Shinobu Kitayama (CJS Associate Director), Toshiyuki Shiga, Takahiro Fujimoto, Keiko Ihara, Mitsuhiro Fukao, Tatsuya Terazawa, Ken Koibuchi, Kiyoteru Tsutsui

governance (U-M Economics PhD, 1995). The first panelist was **Toshiyuki Shiga**, Chairman & CEO of the Innovation Network Corporation of Japan and board member at Nissan Motor Company. Mr. Shiga's talk pondered the gap between Japan's extremely high R&D expenditures (ranked 3rd globally in 2015) and its relatively low ranking on the Global Innovation Index (ranked 14th in 2017). His talk made a powerful case for boosting innovation in the automotive industry by fostering deeper collaboration between traditional automakers and a diverse array of actors in the engineering, IT, and software sectors. The second panelist was **Tatsuya Terazawa**, Director-General of the Commerce and Information Policy Bureau at the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI). Mr. Terazawa highlighted the anemic growth of Japan's IT sector and its extremely low levels of venture capital investment relative to the United States, China, and Europe. As potential countermeasures, he noted METI's J-Startup program (which nurtures the global competitiveness of Japanese start-ups) and new legislation that has significantly reduced the amount of time highly-skilled foreign residents must live in Japan before becoming eligible for permanent residency.



Tatsuo Okazaki (left) and Kiyoteru Tsutsui (right)

This year's *Michigan in Tokyo* event enjoyed an even larger turnout than last year, with over 200 participants crowding into Ito Memorial Hall at the University of Tokyo. The event reached its crescendo at the post-symposium reception, when CJS Director and Professor of Sociology Kiyoteru Tsutsui presented a commemorative plaque to **Tatsuo Okazaki** (General Manager, Overseas External Affairs Division, Toyota Motor Company). This plaque celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Toyota Visiting Professorship.

The 2018 *Michigan in Tokyo* symposium would not have been possible without the support of a great many U-M alumni. **Kazuo Ichijo** (Dean and Professor, Hitotsubashi University Business School & Ross School of Business PhD, 1995) played a central role in symposium planning. Board members of the U-M Alumni Association in Japan provided generous support in the form of event promotion and on-site support on the day of the conference. With two successful symposia under its belt, CJS plans to continue this annual event in Tokyo in late May. We hope that many alums and affiliates will be able to participate in our future *Michigan in Tokyo* events.



Toshiyuki Shiga



Ken Koibuchi



# CJS Welcomes Princess Akiko of Mikasa

by Professor Kevin Carr and Brad Hammond



University of Michigan PhD candidate Paula Curtis presenting her research to Princess Akiko and Gakushuin University representatives.



Princess Akiko before student presentations in Weiser Hall.



Right to left: Kevin Carr, Natsu Oyobe, Midori Sano, Sayoko Seki, and Mami Kimura before student presentations in Weiser Hall.

On June 12 and 13, CJS welcomed **Her Imperial Highness Princess Akiko of Mikasa** to southeast Michigan. She spent the first day of her visit at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). The day began in the auditorium with a two-part program: a panel discussion and a lecture by the princess herself.

The panel of scholars and community leaders was titled, “Interconnections through Art and Culture: American Museums and the Building of US-Japan Relationships.” Kiyoteru Tsutsui, the director of CJS, outlined U-M’s long connection with Japan through art and culture and pointed out that Princess Akiko’s visit was the first by members of the Imperial House since the visit by the then-Crown Prince Akihito in 1953. **Takashi Omitsu**, Executive Advisor of the Japan Business Society of Detroit (JBSD), recounted the crucial role of the Japanese community in the Grand Bargain. Alison Jean, DIA Interpretive Planner, discussed the process of conceptualizing and creating the Japan gallery for the DIA; while Katherine Dasdorf, DIA Curator, elaborated on the themes of the gallery, especially “stillness and movement.” Natsu Oyobe, University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) curator, discussed the role of the university in the history of Japanese art, starting with Alumni Hall’s 1910 inaugural “Exhibition of Oriental and American Art,” which displayed the collection of Charles Lang Freer (1854-1919). The panel concluded with comments by William Colburn, Executive Director of Wayne State’s Freer House, on the development of Freer’s collection from the end of the 19th into the early 20th century, culminating in his donation of the first national art collection, now the Freer|Sackler Galleries in Washington, D.C.

After the panel presentation, Princess Akiko presented, “One British and Three American Collectors: Collecting Japanese Paintings from the 19th Century to the Present.” She recounted the fascinating histories of several major collectors of Japanese art, starting with William Anderson (1842-1900), who wrote one of the first books on Japanese painting and who amassed the pieces that formed the core of the British Museum’s collection of Japanese art. She contrasted Anderson with Ernest Fenollosa (1853-1908), another early scholar of Japanese art history from whom the Museum of Fine Arts Boston received many of its most notable Japanese artworks. The paper further considered two collectors who helped to shape Japanese art studies in the United States: Freer, whose close connections with Detroit are still evident in the Freer House near the DIA, and Joe D. Price (b. 1929), whose Shin’enkan Collection has attracted so much attention both in Japan and abroad.

At lunch, Princess Akiko received a diverse group of dignitaries, including the Consul-General of Japan in Detroit, leaders of the Japanese business community, and other cultural lights of the region. In the afternoon, she viewed the galleries and collections.

On June 13th, the princess graced Ann Arbor with a visit, spending the morning at UMMA with colleagues from Gakushūin University (Tokyo). That group, lead by Professor Midori Sano, included

Professors Ezaki Yukari and Mamiko Itō, and two graduate students: Sayoko Seki and Mami Kimura. Between intensive viewing sessions of the UMMA collection, the group broke for lunch with the princess, during which five students presented some of their dissertation research. In addition to the two visitors from Japan, three PhD candidates from UM discussed their work: Paula Curtis (History), Susan Dine (History of Art), and Robert Morrissey (History of Art). The conversation was spirited, punctuated by many insightful comments from Princess Akiko, Professor Sano, and the other distinguished scholars who attended.

Princess Akiko concluded the day with a visit to CJS itself. In a meeting with Professor Tsutsui and CJS staff, Princess Akiko and Professor Ito examined photographs and documents showcasing the history of Japanese students in Ann Arbor, the U-M Army Intensive Japanese Language School, and the early history of the Center for Japanese Studies. While reviewing photographs of a 1952 Christmas party at the CJS Okayama Field Station, Princess Akiko noted that none other than Her Imperial Highness Princess Atsuko (the current Emperor's older sister) was among the attendees.

In two very full days, Princess Akiko demonstrated the great potential of art and scholarship to transcend cultural, linguistic, and national boundaries. CJS is honored to continue to promote southeast Michigan as a center for this dynamic interchange. We extend our profound gratitude to Princess Akiko, as well as to Takashi Omitsu for making her immensely fruitful visit a reality.



Mamiko Ito (left) and Princess Akiko (right) review University of Michigan PhD student presentation materials.



Group photograph with the Center for Japanese Studies.



Group photograph of Princess Akiko; University of Michigan faculty, staff, and PhD students; and Gakushuin University faculty and graduate students.

# Opportunity Time

by Regina H. Boone

At this time a year ago, I was preparing to move to Ann Arbor to join the University of Michigan's prestigious Knight-Wallace Fellowship.

I was both grateful and curious about the amazing opportunity I was embarking upon with 18 other veteran domestic and international journalists for the 2017-18 academic year. I likened this to hitting a personal lottery.

This unique program allows mid-career journalists to take a big exhale and clock out completely from the newsroom, from daily deadlines and the demanding stresses of the day to day grind.

It provides an academic year of study, a time to broaden one's perspective, to travel, to develop new personal and professional relationships and ultimately to grow while working on a personal study plan.

16 This all sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?

Well, it is undeniable fact, and there is no "fake news" here.

Although I am a photojournalist, I opted for something completely different and very personal.

My project, in a nutshell, was to piece together an elusive family mystery: The disappearance of my Japanese grandfather, Tsuruju Miyazaki, who was arrested on December 7, 1941 in my father's hometown of Suffolk, Virginia.

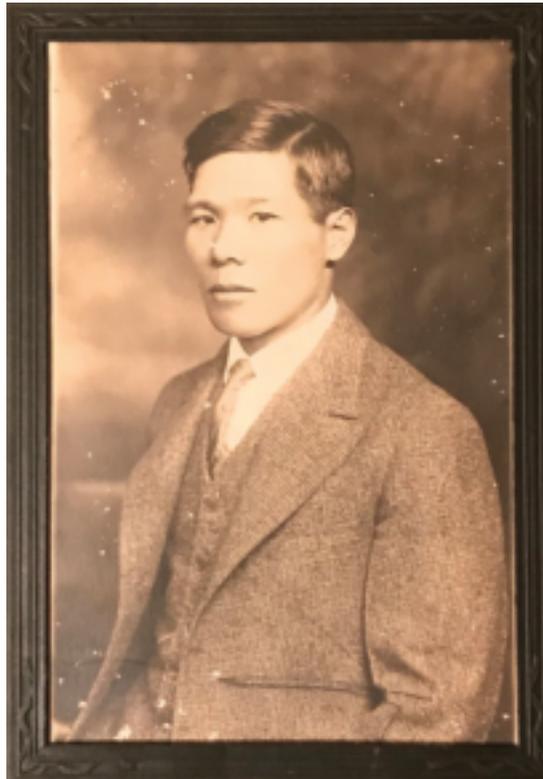
His sudden arrest followed Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor during World War II. He was forcibly detained by the FBI and never returned home to my grandmother and their two young sons—my dad who was then 3 and my uncle who was just 2.

My dad died in 2014 without ever seeing his father again. He, too, was a journalist—an editor, publisher and the founder of the *Richmond Free Press* in partnership with my mother, Jean Boone.

As he lay in bed dying, we had unreserved conversations we had never fully had before. The most memorable and impactful one was about his Japanese dad whom he barely remem-

bered. He revealed he missed out on knowing him, he wanted to know the truth about his wrongful incarceration and assumed death and he encouraged me to want to know more about our shared history too.

His openness and candor were shocking since I had always asked questions on and off most of my life, but barely got answers.



A portrait of my grandfather Tsuruju Miyazaki given to me by my father. Family photo.

Now he was challenging me from his hospice bed to find out: In which incarceration camp had he been held? Why hadn't he returned home to Virginia to his awaiting black family? Did he have another family? Do we have Japanese family somewhere in Japan still living? When did he die? Where is he buried? How did he end up in Virginia living in the segregated South in a black community with a black family in the first place? Among others, these were all the questions we thought about.

I was given a heavy task.

He gave me comfort by reminding me, we are journalists and that we have told many other people's stories, and now it was time to tell our own.

Fast forward to Ann Arbor last fall.

I was a Knight-Wallace Fellow with access to all of the resources on the University of Michigan's campus. Luckily for me I was quickly introduced to Kiyoteru Tsutsui, Director for

the Center for Japanese Studies. Meeting him was priceless.

I approached him with a worn folder full of information hoping he would be able to help me piece some of the story together and to help with basics like using the correct Kanji for my grandfather's name and helping me brainstorm on how I could further my research of my family from campus.

I met Keiko Yokota-Carter, the Japanese Studies Librarian in the Hatcher Graduate Library.

In addition, I met professors including Donna Nagata in the Psychology department, who focuses on the pain and trauma that was caused by the impact of the Japanese incarceration period of World War II in the United States. Soon, I begin to see that I identify with her research.



Two portraits of my grandfather, Tsuruju Miyazaki. The one on the left my cousins have had since before World War II on the family's Buddhist altar in their home and the other is mine that I brought with me to Japan. It was to our surprise that we each had this photo and now they reunited after at least 75 years. Photo by Regina H. Boone.

Within my short stay, I was able to answer many of the nearly lifelong questions with the invaluable time and the resources I was given while on campus.

It felt like I learned something new almost every day.

Fast forward again to Nagasaki in March of this year.

The most exciting part of my research during my fellowship was the opportunity I had to share my story with NHK-World which in turn broadcasted my story throughout Japan and helped me find the family members I had only dreamed of. With their assistance I was able to meet two cousins—a 92-year-old matriarch of the Miyazaki family and her 84-year-old sister, both of whom would have been my father's first cousins.

This all felt like a dream, a miracle and an unimaginable reunion of lost family that we each never knew we had.

This all happened during spring break. I traveled to Japan, landing in Tokyo, taking the Shinkansen to Osaka, and then on to Nagasaki. From the city of Nagasaki, I took a two-and-half-hour ride to the tiny seaside town of Minamishimabara, where I



I am posing with my cousins Sumie Miyazaki, 92, and Yurie 84, who are sisters and would have been my father's first cousins. We met just hours before this photo was taken in my grandfather's and their hometown of Minamishimabara, Nagasaki in March of this year. Photo by Fumio Kondo/NHK.

met my family and I stood in the hometown where my paternal grandfather was born. Imagine this.

I also stood at the port from which my young grandfather, then 15, left and never returned. I cried with my elderly cousins as they led me to a Butsudan, a traditional Buddhist altar in their home, where a copy of the exact photo of my grandfather that my dad gave me sat framed with them. They now met.

All of this happened in the span of eight months.

It all came together because of an opportunity given to me by the Knight-Wallace Fellowship, because of assistance from University of Michigan staff, professors, other Fellows and friends in the community of Ann Arbor, that I was able to follow through on my father's last request. And frankly, because of my own courage to investigate my personal unknowns.

My time and experiences at the University of Michigan forever changed me and connected me to Japan and my Japanese ancestry forever.

Regina H. Boone

*Richmond Free Press Staff Photojournalist*

*Richmond, Virginia*

*University of Michigan/Knight Wallace Fellowship Class of 2018*

Rboone08@gmail.com | IG/FB/T: @reginahboone

# A Champion for Japanese Language

by Brian Short

In 2011, the Japanese Language Program (JLP) in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) didn't have enough students to fill up the classes it had planned for the semester. Administrators in ALC had been stymied by the situations, suggesting that some JLP lecturers be shifted from full-time to part-time status. But JLP Director Mayumi Oka knew what to do.

"Enrollment was down so low after the disaster of the Great East Japan Earthquake," Oka explains, "so I took a no-payment break of one semester so that I could protect my colleagues' income. But that alone wasn't enough. We knew that we had to do something to help our program to get more students to join us, so we figured out what was appealing about studying Japanese and did some promotion to return enrollment to its previous levels."

Since Oka joined the department in 2000 and became the director of JLP in 2004, the JLP has gone from being a solid program with unrealized potential to, according to Oka's assessment, one of the best Japanese programs in the country. Serving between 650 to 700 students every year, the program is particularly remarkable for its upper-level retention rates, where about 100 students study very advanced Japanese.

But there were challenges in making the program strong. Even before the 2011 dip in enrollment, one major factor for student involvement at the upper level was the lack of a comprehensive and compelling textbook for third-year Japanese language students. Oka and her team couldn't find one that they thought was good enough, so they wrote it instead.

"That was a big project," Oka says with a laugh. "We started working on it in 2004 and then, in 2009, it was published. At that time, we just wanted to use this textbook for our students in U-M, and so there would be a strong textbook available. Now, it's used all over the world, in Europe and Oceania and Asia and, of course, in the United States."



*Mayumi Oka has built  
a tradition of excellence  
as the director of LSA's  
Japanese Language Program.  
Now she and her husband  
are making a gift to build  
that program's future.*

## Stronger Students

Oka received her master's degree from the University of Rochester. From there, she taught Japanese at Sophia University in Japan, at Columbia University, and at Princeton before moving to Ann Arbor and teaching at the University of Michigan. She has published nine Japanese books (some of them co-authored), including volumes on the training of Japanese rapid reading skills and a dictionary of common metaphors between English and Japanese. In addition, three more books, coauthored with her colleagues will release in a few years.

"I adored the U-M students I met when I came here, actually," Oka says. "And I knew then that they had a very strong potential to be good Japanese speakers and to really gain proficiency in the language. I knew we could do a lot here, and I was inspired a lot from my U-M students to produce these books."

The affection and respect that Oka felt for her students was and continues to be mutual.

LSA student Jordan Cleland studied with Oka for her entire first year in the Japanese language program. Cleland attributes the joy she found in language study for changing her mind about her academic plan—she went from being a single major political science student to a double major political science and Japanese language student—and for changing her career trajectory. Cleland now hopes to go to graduate school to continue studying Japanese language and culture after graduating and to eventually become a translator.

Asian studies major Sakila Islam also worked with Oka during her third year of Japanese study, and remembers the experience fondly.

"I still remember her as the teacher who would share funny personal stories with us in class," Islam says. "I quickly realized how devoted she was to her students when I started going to her office hours to share my worries and questions about moving forward with Japanese. The fact that I can always rely on



Oka-sensei to help me find a solution to my problems is unimaginably reassuring.”

LSA student Noah McNeal, a physics and math major, says he didn't know if he'd be able to balance language learning classes along with his STEM work. But learning a language kept him grounded, and he stuck with the coursework and even found time to participate in a traditional performance of Japanese *Rakugo* and to co-found the Japanese Language Circle club on campus. It was at the Japanese Language Circle that he interacted most with Oka.

“We were fortunate to receive support from the Japanese language program and to work with Oka-sensei on developing a relationship between our student organization and the department,” McNeal says. “Her generosity and guidance has been an important part of our success.”

“I talk to Oka-sensei a lot,” Cleland says, “and I want to thank her for the skills she's given me and the grace she's shown me in this whole endeavor. Even when I didn't have her as a sensei, she always made time to communicate with me about my post-graduate endeavors. She's just so willing to help you and talk to you, and I totally appreciate her.”

“Once, during an announcement,” McNeal recalls, “Oka-sensei expressed her hope that we would move from seeing Japanese as only a hobby toward having it be part of our lives. After all, when you learn a language, you take part of its culture with you, and you can't separate it from its context, from the people that give it life.”

### Leaving a Legacy

As the director of the JLP, Oka does even more than directing and educating U-M undergraduates.

Oka also runs a Japanese pedagogy course during most summers, where both U-M undergraduate and graduate students, other current Japanese instructors, and Japanese people who want to teach Japanese can train and learn here, benefiting from the program's—and Oka's—expertise. In this course, she also trains many PhD candidates with an interest in language instruction, which can help candidates looking for tenure track professor positions to fill a wider range of potential positions. Oka has taught and trained about 200 Japanese instructors through her course and sent them out into the world.

Now that the program is on such a strong footing, Oka is thinking about the next chapter of her own life.

“It took almost 15 years, and now I'm thinking of retiring,” Oka

says. “My younger colleagues are all excellent teachers. I've learned a great deal from all of them, and I think they are ready to make JLP really flourish.”

Along with a major donation, Oka and her husband made a bequest of \$3 million to strengthen the Japanese Language Program in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and the Center for Japanese Studies financially. The money will be used to financially support study abroad opportunities for students and for professional development and for other purposes for Japanese language education.

“I recently asked one of my upper-level classes if anyone had been to Japan,” Oka says. “And only 8 out of 20 had been there. They are studying Japanese so seriously for years, but they don't have a chance to go to the country.

“I want to support these students. Even just to visit Japan for one or two weeks would be great. If students can speak with some people in Japan, I think it can be such an instructive and enjoyable experience.”

Mayumi and Masao Oka were recognized for their generosity during a ceremony at Weiser Hall that included remarks by Dean Andrew Martin and Center for Japanese Studies Director Kiyoteru Tsutsui.

“We thought that it would be very meaningful for us to use our assets to support the Japanese language program, students of Japanese, and the Center for Japanese Studies community,” Oka said in remarks at the ceremony.

“At first, my husband and I wanted to make this donation anonymously. However, our donation coordinator, Gail, suggested that by clearly expressing our wishes for the fund, we would help ensure that they are realized, and that by making the donation public we can encourage others to make similar donations,” Oka said. “We appreciated the advice.”

Oka will also be donating royalties from her books, including many best-selling textbooks from around the world, to the fund in the hopes of supporting students, staff, and Japanese language and cultural education at U-M for many years to come.

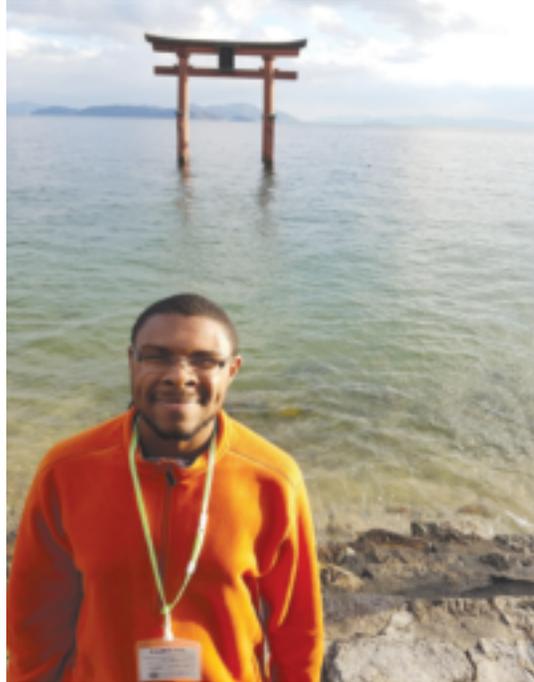
“If we can experience different cultures when we're young, it can mean a big life change,” Oka says of her family's gift. “I want all of my students to have this opportunity. And I think that supporting my students and colleagues, it's very worthwhile.”

Lastly, Oka added, “By doing this, I can continue to be involved with Japanese education at U-M, which has been my passion, even after I am gone.”

# Undergraduates Connect with Japan and Japanese Studies

by Professor Allison Alexy

The Center for Japanese Studies is lucky to have many creative, hard-working, and curious undergraduate students within our community. For the last year, it has been my pleasure to serve as the Director of Undergraduate Studies here at CJS, which put me in an ideal position to witness the incredible things our students are doing. They are adept at building connections between course work and the broader world, finding (and making) opportunities to expand their knowledge of Japan, and learning from the diversity of interests in Japanese Studies within our community—from literature, to dance, popular culture, and art. I find their intelligence and enthusiasm contagious, and am happy to briefly summarize some of their accomplishments in the last year.



Zari Smith explores Japan as part of the Kakehashi Project.

Much undergraduate student interest in Japan stems from, and is increased by, the excellent Japanese language program. Our dynamic sensei have created an incredibly popular set of language courses that students simply love. From new students thrilled to start Japanese learning through *anime* and *manga* (with Mori-sensei), to fourth-year academic Japanese (with Oka-sensei), the language program facilitates a wide range of student interests.

Our students have travelled to Japan through a number of study-abroad opportunities. For instance, Jiayin Yuan



Professor Mahalingam's students decorate pottery in Kyoto.

participated in a course on “Mindfulness Leadership, Creativity, and Engaged Learning” led by Professor Mahalingam (Psychology), which included both students with extensive Japanese abilities and those with other academic interests. With Professor Pincus, students in the “Community Revitalization” study abroad course compared social, economic, and demographic challenges that confront Detroit and northeastern Japan (Tohoku), spending time with activists in both regions.

There has been tremendous interest in CJS's growing internship program, which placed 21 students in positions across Japan. Students worked in a community organization rebuilding after the 3/11 disasters, a digital technology company, a financial firm, medicine, and the automotive industry.

(Longer profiles about their accomplishments are available on CJS's website.) Organized by Bradley Hammond, the internship program has seen truly exponential growth. Two years ago, we received 11 applications for 3 internship positions; this year we received 219 applications for 21 positions. That growth reflects student interest in spending a summer in Japan, our fantastic alumni network, and organizational partners who have found professional opportunities for our students.

In January 2018, Zari Smith a junior in the Residential College majoring in Japanese Studies, won an opportunity to travel to Japan through the Kakehashi Program. This program enables students interested in Japan a brief introduction to the country. Zari, who has been studying Japanese for years but had never visited the country, was able to learn about Japan's parliamentary system, Kyoto's public transportation network, and tour Studio Ghibli, as well as practice his Japanese while staying with a host family. It was a tremendous opportunity made possible with support from the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit.

The undergraduate students affiliated with CJS have brought, and continue to bring, energy and creativity to our center's activities. It has been my pleasure to work with them over the past year.

# In Memory of Roger Hackett, 1922-2017

by Professor Emeritus John Campbell

I came to U-M in 1973 and Roger Hackett was one of the first Japanese Studies professors I met. He was very kind and helpful to me, but then he was kind and helpful to generations of young faculty and students at Michigan.

Roger was born in Kobe in 1922 and studied Japan all his life. He started at the Canadian Academy there and after graduating he enrolled at Carlton College in Minnesota. Then the war broke out and Roger enrolled in the Navy—little knowing this meant he would be dispatched to the Navy Japanese Language School in Colorado rather than the Army Japanese Language School in Ann Arbor. One imagines he could have been on the faculty, rather than being a student, at either school. In any case, he became a Marine and served in the Pacific and in the occupation. Then he returned to Carlton, got married, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1947.

Roger did his graduate work at Harvard, which John K. Fairbank and Edwin O. Reischauer had made the leading center of East Asian studies in the immediate postwar period. He took an MA in regional studies in 1949 and completed his PhD in History in 1955. He had already started to teach history at Northwestern, and then he headed East to U-M in 1961.

I first took notice of Roger when I was in graduate school at Columbia, when I read his chapter on Yamagata Aritomo in a new, much heralded book on Japan. I was impressed when I read it then, and I am even more so on rereading it now. The facts in the chapter certainly were drawn from Roger's 417 page PhD dissertation, "Yamagata Aritomo: A Political Biography," but his analysis reflected and developed important new ideas in the Japan field.

That is, to digress a little: in the late 1950s U-M was the leading center of Japanese studies in the US. Robert Hall (geography), John Hall (history), and Robert Ward (political science) were key leaders. These three scholars convened a small conference in Ann Arbor, under the auspices of the Association for Asian Studies, to encourage "modernization" as a framework for studying Japan. The purpose was to bring a comparative dimension, one in tune with contemporary research on other countries, into the somewhat parochial field of Japanese studies. With a grant from the Ford Foundation, this new venture—"The Conference on Modern Japan"—organized big scholarly symposia in Hakone and then Bermuda to prepare the first volume: *Changing Japanese Attitudes Toward Modernization* (ed. Marius Jansen, Princeton University Press, 1965). Five more conferences and volumes soon followed. Roger served on the planning committee and helped organize discussions early in

the process, as well as contributing his own significant work.

Roger's chapter brought out a major theme in the modernization literature: how traditional values can be mobilized for modern ends (or in a sense, how modern organizational principles can be mobilized for traditional ends). The obvious example was the army, requiring rigorous training of rural conscripts; another just as significant was the local government reform, which combined genuine popular participation with top-down decision making. Both were modern, highly efficient organizations which promoted loyalty and national unity. Yamagata, the most important and interesting of the Meiji oligarchs, was primarily responsible for both these achievements.

Roger continued to research and write about significant topics in Meiji-Taisho Japan throughout his career. In 1976, the Japanese journal *Shokun* listed him as one of America's five outstanding historians of Japan. Beyond that, Roger's graduate and undergraduate teaching was greatly respected, particularly his keen attention to the written word. Organizationally, Roger served in many posts, including chairman of the Department of History and director of the Center for Japanese Studies. He was also a leader in the Association for Asian Studies, where he was a board member and editor of the *Journal of Asian Studies*, plus probably holding the longevity membership record (1948-2017).

Roger's wife Caroline was also a mainstay of the AAS as its comptroller for many years—I was briefly the Secretary-Treasurer there but luckily, she did all the Treasury part. My wife Ruth and I visited Roger and Caroline at Glacier Hills, the retirement community in Ann Arbor where they lived, in 2016. They had then been married for 70 years—a model for us of a mutually supportive marriage of two strong personalities. That afternoon Roger and I had just as entertaining a talk as we used to—a little about current news events, some about our various colleagues over the years, a lot about sports. I have no interest in tennis, let alone squash, and so as usual we mostly talked about football and basketball.

Roger Hackett was a great colleague and friend for me and many others. To read many personal tributes, please see the fine obituary by Frank Joseph Shulman for H-Asia ([h-net.org/node/20904/discussions/840260/obituary-roger-fleming-hackett-1922-2017](http://h-net.org/node/20904/discussions/840260/obituary-roger-fleming-hackett-1922-2017))



# From the Toyota Visiting Professor Kazuhiro Soda



22

It was Professor Markus Nornes' long time ambition to make a documentary on Michigan Stadium, or the Big House. His idea was to create a class through which students would collaboratively make a feature length documentary in the observational style. He was about to get a green light from the Athletic Department for the project in the spring of 2016, when he invited me to the University of Michigan as a Toyota Visiting Professor. I have been making "kansatsu eiga" or "observational documentaries" since 2005, so it was only natural for me to join the class to co-teach with Markus and Terri Sarris.

The class turned out to be a luxurious one. Three professors taught 13 students for 7 hours a week for a semester. We were granted almost complete access to every corner of the Big House—from the field, to the locker rooms, to the gigantic kitchen, to the VIP rooms. We freely roamed around the stadium on four game days, shooting amazing footage.

The result is a 119-minute direct cinema style documentary, titled *The Big House*. Its world-premier was at the Berlin Critics' Week in Germany in February 2018, and it was also shown at the Ann Arbor Film Festival to an enthusiastic sold-out audience. We signed a deal with the highly regarded distributor Tofoo for a national theatrical release in Japan. The Big House was opened on June 9th at the Theatre Image Forum in Tokyo, where Markus, Terri, and I greeted the audience and did Q&As. The film is now playing in Tokyo, Osaka, Sapporo, Hiroshima, Nagoya, Toyama, and Kanazawa. In total, it will be shown in



about 30 cities across the nation. In Japan alone, I did about 50 interviews with journalists and critics!

I also wrote a book entitled *The Big House—America o Toru (Shooting America)*, published by Iwanami Shoten in May 2018 in Japanese. The book chronicles the process of making the documentary, which turned out to be a process for examining American society and culture. I hope that the book will one day be translated into English. So, if anybody is interested in translating the book, or showing the film, please get in touch!



The Big House Official Website (Japan) | [thebighouse-movie.com/](http://thebighouse-movie.com/)

English Website | [kazuhirosoda.com/thebighouse](http://kazuhirosoda.com/thebighouse)



# Eric C. Rath

## “Will There be Sushi with That?”

I get the same question whenever I teach a class or give a talk: “what are you serving to eat?” My research focuses on Japanese dietary cultures from early modern confectionery to Kyoto heirloom vegetables to the *kaiseki* cuisine of the tea ceremony. Such topics seem to demand that I provide edible examples. But I am a historian, not a professional chef. I try to satisfy my audiences with the culinary images on my PowerPoint presentation, even though that leaves everyone wanting more. I never had the same problem when I was researching medieval *noh* theater, the subject of my University of Michigan doctoral dissertation and first book. Audiences did not assume that I would try to chant part of a *noh* play, and when I did, no one asked for an encore. Yet, thanks to the help of CJS Director Kiyoteru Tsutsui and CJS Engaged Learning Coordinator Bradley Hammond, I was able not only to offer one of my audiences authentic Japanese food, but I was also able to invite a professional chef to prepare it.

During the 2017-18 academic year as Toyota Visiting Professor, I taught my History of Sushi course, which introduces students to Japanese food culture. The class makes a thematic survey of Japanese food history and introduces the methodology of food research. Students visit local eateries and supermarkets on their own to discover examples of how Japanese food has globalized, and we discuss food manga and films in class and online. But apart from the occasional rice cracker I distribute, the course’s usual treatment of food is in the abstract not the physical. I hope that leaves my students hungry... to learn more.

Bradley Hammond put me in touch with the Japanese Consul General in Detroit, and helped arrange for Nakano Kaede, the resident chef for Consul General Wada Mitsuhiro, to visit my History of Sushi class. Chef Nakano and consul-general staff member Eguchi Mizuki provided a lecture demonstration on making hand-pressed *nigiri* sushi and *makizushi* rolls. Then students tried making their own sushi using the fine ingredients like salmon, tuna, and even salmon roe that Chef Nakano provided. The experience was the highpoint of my course. After that day, my PowerPoint lectures seemed to remind us that despite the importance of visuality for Japanese cuisine, there



is no substitute for the sensuality and the taste of real rice and fish.

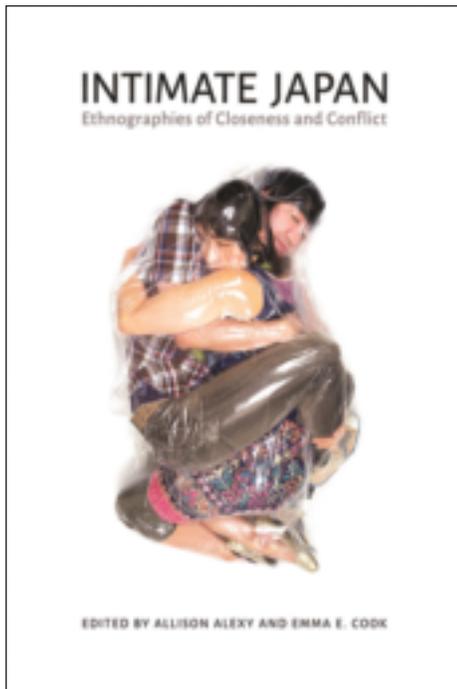
Food has come to play an important role in Japanese cultural influence abroad. In 2013, UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) added the “traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese (*washoku*)” to its list of Intangible Cultural Heritage, marking a culmination of the Japanese government’s attempts to use the country’s culinary heritage to promote a positive image globally and to improve the domestic balance of trade. Such efforts continue. In May,

I was invited to the Detroit residence of Consul General Wada to give a condensed version of my History of Sushi class to an audience of local business leaders and media representatives. Rick Lopus of Great Lakes Wine and Spirits spoke about sake, and he brought some spectacular examples for us to sample. Chef Nakano created a sumptuous pairing menu, and she even borrowed a few recipes from my talk. She made a salad with *okara*, the crushed soybeans leftover from making tofu. *Okara* substitutes for rice in the recipe for “*deutzia flower*” (*unohana*) sushi, which layers an oily fish like Pacific saury (*sanma*) on top of the mashed soybeans. Beyond the food and sake, the star of the evening was Chef Nagura Tadashi of Slurping Turtle restaurants in Chicago and Ann Arbor. Chef Nagura demonstrated how to fillet a fish and slice it for sushi. After his talk, guests lined up for Chef Nakano’s buffet and for a chance to learn how to make hand-rolled (*temaki*) sushi with Chef Nagura. When I tried that, I overstuffed the nori with rice and fillings, but my mistake still tasted good.

It was an honor to return to Michigan as Toyota Visiting Professor. I had dreamed of doing so when I was a graduate student at Michigan; and in many ways, I felt as if I had returned to graduate school. I could consult with my advisor Professor Hitomi Tonomura; meet with Professor Jennifer Robertson who was on my doctoral committee; learn from CJS faculty; and attend the CJS weekly brownbag talks. CJS staff immediately made me feel at home, and working with Michigan undergraduates and graduate students was a privilege. Now that my daughter is enrolled in Michigan’s School of Music, Theatre and Dance, I have additional reasons to return to Ann Arbor. I always think—and eat—well there.



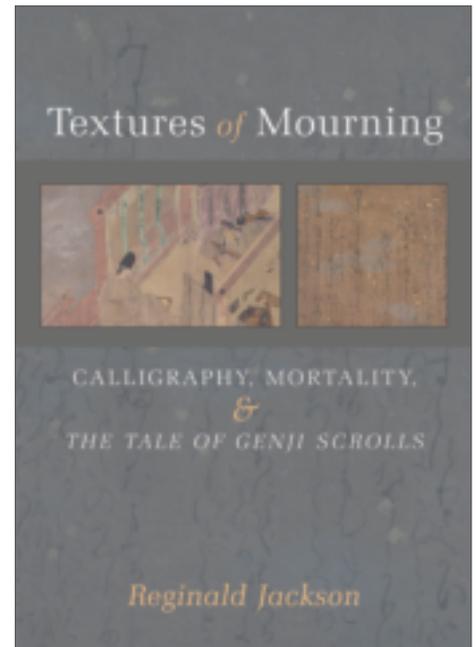
# Faculty Updates



24 **Allison Alexy**, Assistant Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures, has a new volume forthcoming: *Intimate Japan: Ethnographies of Closeness and Conflict*. Co-edited with Emma E. Cook the volume will be published by the University of Hawai'i Press. This volume explores a broad range of intimate practices in Japan in the first decades of the 2000s to trace how social change is becoming manifest through deeply personal choices. From young people making decisions about birth control, to spouses struggling to connect with each other, parents worrying about stigma faced by their adopted children, and queer people creating new terms to express their identifications, Japanese intimacies are commanding a surprising amount of attention, both within and beyond Japan. With ethnographic analysis focused on how intimacy is imagined, enacted, and discussed, the volume's chapters offer rich and complex portraits of how people balance personal desires with feasible possibilities and shifting social norms.

**Micah Auerback**, Associate Professor, Japanese Religions, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, has received a Grant for Critical Editions and Scholarly Translations from The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies (administered through the American Council of Learned Societies). With the support of the grant, he plans to spend the 2018-2019 academic year on leave, pursuing a translation project. Under the working title "*The Light of the Three Ages: A Japanese Nun Illumines the Life of the Buddha in India*," his project will eventuate in the first English rendition of *Miyo no hikari (The Light of the Three Ages)*, an early nineteenth-century Japanese biography of the historical Buddha, Śākyamuni. Although based on deep and critical reading of scriptural sources in Chinese, this biography was in fact composed and printed principally in elegant, neoclassical Japanese. Its author, a specialist in Buddhist monastic discipline and onetime court-lady-turned-nun, Kōgetsu Sōgi (1756-1833), studied under one of the great eighteenth-century revivers of Japanese Buddhism, Jiun Onkō (1718-1804). The translation work made possible by the grant will point up not only the continuing relevance of the figure of the Buddha to the later Japanese Buddhist tradition, but also the continuing vitality of Buddhist thought and practice in early modern Japan.

**Erin Brightwell**, Assistant Professor, Pre-modern Japanese Literature, was awarded the 2017 Kyoko Selden Memorial Translation Prize by the Asian Studies Department at Cornell University. The prize was awarded for her translation of "The Torrent" (奔流, Hon'ryū, 1943) by the Taiwanese writer Wang Changxiang (王昶雄, also known by his Japanese name, Ō Chōyū), who lived from 1916 to 2000. She has also been awarded a Hakuho Foundation Japanese Research Fellowship that will enable her to spend the 2018-19 academic year at Kyoto University.



**Reginald Jackson**, Assistant Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures, has recently published the academic monograph *Textures of Mourning: Calligraphy, Mortality, and The Tale of Genji Scrolls* (University of Michigan Press). His article, "Gallows Hospitality: Visiting Hangman Takuzō's Garden Theater," is forthcoming (Fall 2018) in the journal *TDR: The Drama Review*. Jackson was recently awarded a 2018 Institute for Research on Women and Gender Faculty Seed Grant for his book manuscript, *Spectacular Dominion: Slavery, Performance, and the Boundaries of Personhood in Premodern Japan*, and earned a Japanese Studies Course Development Seed Grant for the practice-based undergraduate class "Japanese Narrative Design Lab." In February 2018 he gave the invited lecture, "Staging Enslavement: Gestural Economies and the Question of Personhood in Medieval Japanese Performance," at the University of Washington, and has been invited to present at the interdisciplinary conference, "Medieval Unfreedoms: Slavery, Servitude, and Trafficking in Humans before the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade," at SUNY Binghamton (November 2018). He was selected to give the

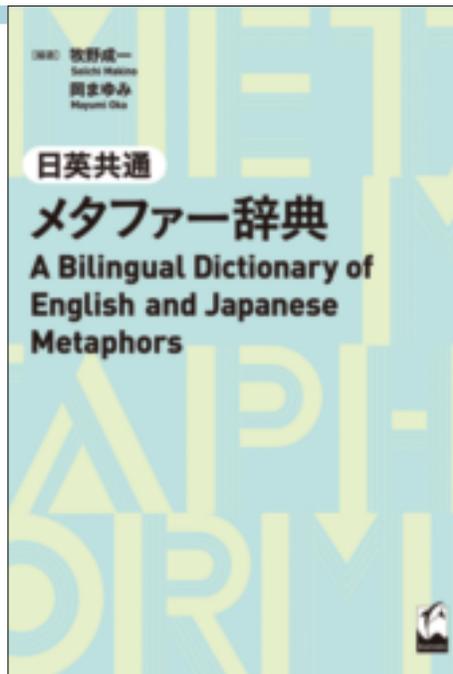


keynote address at the 23rd Annual UCLA Japan Studies Graduate Student Conference, "Remolding Conceptions of Materiality and the Body in Japan," in October 2018.

**Yoshihiro Mochizuki**, Japanese Language Lecturer, became the new Administrator of the Japanese Language Division (JLD) of the American Translators Association (ATA), on October 27, 2017, during the ATA 58th Annual Conference in Washington, DC. He took over the position after having served as JLD's Assistant Administrator for the past two years. He will now serve as JLD's Administrator for two more years in accordance with the ATA Governing Policy for Divisions until the ATA 60th Annual Conference in Palm Springs, CA.

**Markus Nornes**, Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures, was on sabbatical at Waseda University for the 2017-2018 academic year. At Waseda he finished a book manuscript on the intimate relationship between calligraphy and East Asian cinema. He also edited an anthology of Japanese film theory with Iwamoto Kenji and Aaron Gerow, entitled *Nihon Senzen Eiga-ronshu—Eiga Riron no Saihakken* (Rediscovering Classical Japanese Film Theory—An Anthology), as well as the film section of Maruzen's *America Bunka Jiten* (American Culture Dictionary).

He finished "Afterthoughts" on his well-known essay on "abusive subtitling"; the Japanese and Chinese translations are already in print, and an English version is on its way; the Japanese version is "Ranyôteki Jimaku no Tame ni" Saikô" (Afterthoughts on "For an Abusive Subtitling"), *Honyaku Tsuyaku Kenkyû no Chihei*. Nornes also published essays several essays, including "The Hand that Wrote *Everything Visible is Empty*: The Traces Left by Matsumoto Toshio," *Sputnik*, and "Teaching Audio Visual Translation," in *Teaching Translation: Programs, Courses, Pedagogies*, ed. Lawrence Venuti.



Nornes continued his programming activities at U-M and abroad, including a tribute to the late Matsumoto Toshio at the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival and "Axes of Dwelling: The Video Art of Yuan Goangming" for the Ann Arbor Film Festival. And he appeared on NHK's J-Flix program to discuss Japanese cinema's "French connection" and the recent screenings at Cannes Film Festival.

His biggest news, however, is the completion of two documentaries. The first is a 5-screen video installation on the first shot of Robert Altman's *The Player*, which explores Altman's unique approach to screenwriting and the serendipity of the set. He also co-directed *The Big House* with Soda Kazuhiro, Terri Sarris and 13 students. This film emerged from Soda's visit as Toyota Visiting Professor in 2016-2017. The feature documentary uses Soda's direct cinema approach of observing the world—in this case Michigan Stadium on game day—and observes the world without adding music, titles or narration. The film premiered at the Berlin Film Critics' Week in February, and is currently enjoying a national release in Japan. Soda wrote a book about the class and the production of the film, his first on his adoptive country of America; it is entitled, *The Big House: Amerika o Toru* (Iwanami), for which Nornes wrote an afterword.

**Mayumi Oka**, Director, Japanese Language Program, has published a new book, *A Bilingual Dictionary of English and Japanese Metaphors*. Written in partnership with Seichi Makino, the work was inspired by the realization that English and Japanese share a multitude of conceptually analogous metaphorical expressions and that learning to convey the same meaning in a different language using similar expressions would greatly enhance one's vocabulary and fluency.

**Jennifer Robertson**, Professor, Departments of Anthropology and History of Art, has published the book: *Robo Sapiens Japonicus: Robots, Gender, Family and the Japanese Nation*, University of California Press, 2018. Recent articles include "Edible Eugenics: Dietary Reform and Nation-building in Modern Japan," *Jahrbuch für Kulinaristik: The German Journal of Food Studies and Hospitality*; "Looking Ahead by Going Back. Japanese robotics is imagineering a future dominated by nostalgia and nationalism," Society for East Asian Anthropology (SEAA) column, *Anthropology News*; "Robot Reincarnation: Garbage, Artefacts, and Mortuary Rituals," *Consuming Post-Bubble Japan*, Ewa Machotka and Katarzyna Cwiertka, eds; and "Exploring Japan's 'Genderless' Subculture," CNN Style.

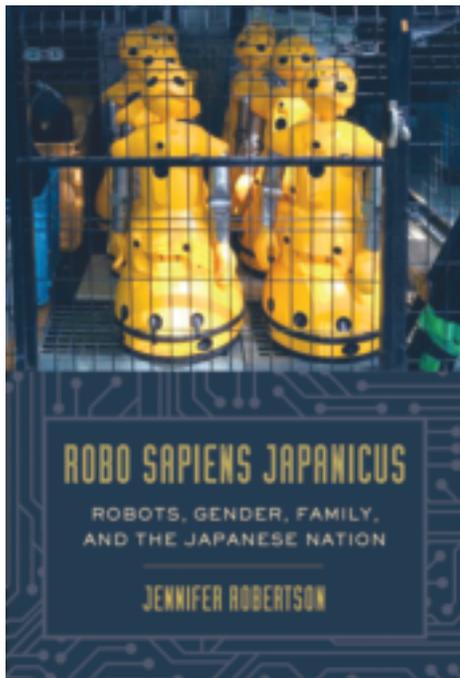
She has been invited to deliver presentations at the University of Aalborg, Denmark; Leiden University, Netherlands; the University of Alabama; Earlham College; and the University of Vienna, Austria.

Her media appearances include an interview with Dr. Chip Colwell (editor-in-chief) on Japanese robots and human-robot interaction for *Sapiens*, the independent magazine/podcast of the Wenner-Gren Foundation; a telephone interview with Lydia Emmanouilidou, Producer, BBC The World, for a show comparing US and Japanese attitudes toward robots and AI devices; a Skype interview with Keren Tsurial, *Calcalist* (top Israeli financial

*continued on page 26*

# Faculty Updates

continued from page 25



26 newspaper), for an article on Japanese robotics and “robot rights”; and a Skype interview with Julia Herrnboeck, *Forbes* (Austrian edition), for an article on robots and artificial intelligence.

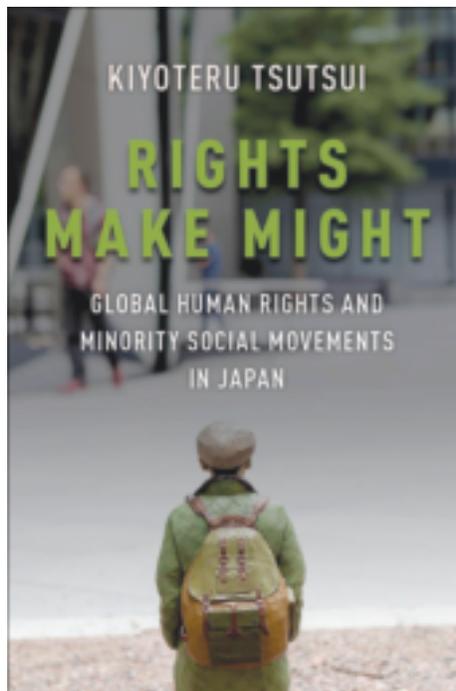
She also sits on advisory boards of organizations in the US, Hong Kong, Denmark, Netherlands, and Israel.

**Hitomi Tonomura**, Professor, History and Women’s Studies, presented a paper, “Writing an ‘authoritative’ history: from prehistory, ancient, medieval through warring times,” on a panel, “Writing Japanese History for *The Cambridge History of Japan*,” which was held at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in March, 2018. In this project, which renews the previous *Cambridge History of Japan*, published twenty-five years ago, Tonomura edits volume 1 (premodern), David Howell, volume 2 (early modern), and Laura Hein, volume 3 (modern). Tonomura will hold a workshop in October, 2018, for the authors and translators of volume 1 at the University of Michigan.

Professor Wakita Haruko, an influential champion of “women’s history” in Japan,

passed away in late September, 2016. Hitomi Tonomura contributed an article, “Nihon kokugai no gakujutsu kenkyū ni okeru Wakita Haruko no kōken to isan (The Contributions and Legacy of Professor Wakita Haruko in the Non-Japanese Scholarly Environment)” in a special issue of *Rekishigaku kenkyū (Journal of Historical Studies)* 969 (April, 2018), dedicated to Wakita Haruko’s scholarly achievements.

**Kiyoteru Tsutsui**, Director, Center for Japanese Studies and Professor, Sociology, has received three awards for his 2017 article, “Human Rights and Minority Activism in Japan: Transformation of Movement Actorhood and Local-Global Feedback Loop.” *American Journal of Sociology* 122:1050-1103: The 2017 Best Scholarly Article Award from the American Sociological Association section on Human Rights; The 2018 Research Paper Award from the American Sociological Association section on Asia and Asian America; and the 2018 Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Article Award (Best Published Article Award) (Honorable Mention) from the



American Sociological Association section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements.

With his book, *Rights Make Might: Global Human Rights and Minority Social Movements in Japan*, Oxford University Press, published over the summer, he will give a number of book talks while intensifying his efforts on his other research projects including two projects funded by the Japan Foundation, “Changing Models of Minority Integration: Cross-National Comparison of Rights Provisions in National Constitutions” and “Japan’s Foreign Relations in Southeast Asia and Beyond”.

**Keiko Yokota-Carter**, *Japanese Studies Librarian*, presented on the topic of “Popularization of Democracy in Post-war Japan: Online Exhibit Project—Making History Alive Again” in Oslo and Kyoto; and also delivered presentations on “Activities of the NCC Cooperative Collection Development Working Group”, “Constructing a Comprehensive Scope of Allied Occupation Resources—Hussey Papers and Beyond”, and “Digital and Data Initiatives at the University of Michigan Asia Library—Individual Practice on Data Support in Japanese Studies”, in Washington, DC. Her publications include “Kokubungaku kenkyū no kokusai tenkai—Chosakuken·deta·toshokan (tokubetsu taidan) (Roundtable talk with Yuichiro Imanishi, the Director of the National Institute of Japanese Literature on International trend in Japanese literature—copyright data library), *Shomotsugaku* No.10.; and “Popularization of Democracy in Post-war Japan” Online Exhibit project – Making history alive again”, *Doshisha Daigaku Toshokangaku nenpo* No.43.

**Fang Zhang**, Lecturer, History of Art and Penny W Stamps School of Art and Design, will co-teach with Professor Markus Nornes a new course—Asian Studies 380—on the topic of contemporary art in Japan and China.



# Alumni Updates

**Lorin Davis** (CJS MA, 2018). Lorin will be headed to Koka, Japan as a JET Program ALT in August to work with middle school students. This will be her second time in Japan, but her first time as an alumnus. She is extremely excited about this first step in her post-University of Michigan career!

**Glenn Hoetker** (Business Administration, PhD, 2001; MA, Economics, 1999). After seven years at Arizona State University, Glenn Hoetker is moving to Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne, this summer. He's excited to be many timezones closer to Japan for both research and teaching. His new contact information is: Glenn Hoetker  
Professor in Business Strategy  
Melbourne Business School,  
University of Melbourne  
200 Leicester Street, Carlton,  
Victoria 3053, Australia  
Email: Glenn.Hoetker@mbs.edu

**James Huffman** (CJS MA, 1967; History, PhD, 1972). In March 2017, at the AAS meeting in Toronto, James was awarded the Distinguished Contributions to Asian Studies Award. He spent most of his career teaching at Wittenberg University in Ohio, and since retirement, he has lived and done research in Chicago while teaching as a visiting professor at Dartmouth College, Williams College, and on the Semester at Sea program. His book, *Down and Out in Late Meiji Japan*, just came out from the University of Hawaii Press. It examines the daily lives of the very poor (especially slum-dwellers) in Japan's cities of the late 1800s and early 1900s, with comparative chapters on rural poverty and poverty among emigrants to Hawaii.

**Arif Iqbal** (CJS MA/MBA 1995). Arif is transitioning from being the Global CFO for the Benesse Holdings Inc. (group of 40+ companies publicly traded on the Tokyo Stock Exchange) to a Tenured Professor of Management and Asian Studies at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, Japan. Now leveraging his unique experience of being one of the very few foreign CFO's in the Top 500 companies in Japan, he is teaching classes in Business and Japanese Studies. More specifically he is teaching about the Japanese Business System, Leadership, and Managing Yourself on the Business side and a unique semester long class on the Evolution and Role of the Geisha in Contemporary Japan for his Asian Studies program. To him this feels like a perfect use of the MBA/MA in Japanese studies dual degree that he received at the University of Michigan, as well as a great opportunity to give back for all the help he received in his career and personal development. He also works as an Executive Coach developing the next generation of students and leaders in Japan.

**Jieun Kim** (Anthropology, PhD, 2015). In August, Jieun will start her new job as a lecturer in the department of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds, UK. Following her PhD in 2015, she had a two-year postdoc fellowship at the Graduate School of East Asian Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, where she was also affiliated with the Institute of Korean Studies.

**Catherine Ryu** (ALC, PhD, 1991) (Associate Professor, Japanese literature and culture, Michigan State University) Over the last two years, she has developed—working with Michigan State University Digital Humanities librarians—Tone Perfect, a web-based, interactive, Mandarin Chinese database (tone.lib.msu.edu). Tone Perfect was launched in fall 2017 and was selected for the 2018 Esperanto Access to Language

Education. The home page of this database website features two trailers that explain how it came about and how to use it. This is an open source and users can download audio assets (nearly 10,000) directly from the website. Initially they produced the audio assets to support Picky Birds, a Mandarin tone perception training app, which she developed with an interdisciplinary team at MSU. Picky Birds is not yet released, but it has gone through a third-party quality assurance and a beta test with six focus groups. Catherine is currently working on another app to support Japanese language students to learn classical Japanese poetry (waka) through a small poetry anthology (Hyakunin Isshu: one hundred poets, one poem each). For these projects, she uses her own language learning game platform.

**Ann Sherif** (ALC, PhD, 1991). Ann's recent publications include "Fascism as History in Early Postwar Literary Criticism," *Literature among the Ruins: Postwar Japanese Literary Criticism*, eds. Atsuko Ueda, Michael K. Bourdagh, Richi Sakakibara, and Hirokazu Toeda (New York: Lexington Books, 2018); "Japan's CCF Affiliate, Jiyū, and Covert Public Diplomacy" Giles Scott-Smith and Charlotte Lerg, Eds. *Campaigning Culture and the Global Cold War* (London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2017), and "Book Histories, Material Culture, and East Asian Studies." *Verge: Studies in Global Asia*. 3.1 (Spring, 2017). Sherif was the organizer of the AJLS (Association of Japanese Literary Studies) Annual Meeting held in February 2018 at Oberlin College.



# Faculty Research Grant Recipients 2017-18

## Endi Poskovic

*Professor of Art and Design*

From Bit-map File and Laser-engraving to Classical Moku-hanga on Washi: Applying Present-day Technologies to Explore Traditional Japanese Water-based Printmaking

In recent years, Professor Poskovic has integrated traditional Japanese moku-hanga (water-based woodblock printmaking) methods on washi with laser engraving from digital files.

In 2017, he participated in a week-long moku-hanga intensive artist-in-residence workshop at the Moku-hanga Innovation Lab (MI-LAB) in Tokyo. MI-LAB is the only artist-in-residence program in the world which offers extensive professional study in moku-hanga to international artists and teachers of printmaking, as well as enabling them to make use of traditional Japanese tools and materials. With the support of the CJS Faculty Research Grant, Professor Poskovic will attend a comprehensive five-week advanced moku-hanga study program at MI-LAB in Fujikawaguchiko as one of only six international artists to participate in this highly selective program. The grant will also help him conduct a week-long research project on traditional washi-making in the historic village of Kurotani where the washi process has changed little in the past 800 years. The summer research as well as the production residency will enable Professor Poskovic to conduct more ambitious research into many different aspects of moku-hanga and washi and also expand on his teaching vocabulary and further familiarize himself with classical moku-hanga processes for the Japanese Color Woodcut Printing class he will be teaching in Fall 2018.



## Natsu Oyobe

*Curator of Asian Art, University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA)*

Summer 2018 Research

### (1) Art of Communication and Expression in Contemporary East Asia

In AY2019-20 UMMA will present *Art of Communication and Expression in Contemporary East Asia*. This exhibition will focus on the long and rich tradition of utilizing written language as an important means of artistic expression in Japan, China, Taiwan, and Korea and will be the first US exhibition on typographic design in contemporary East Asia. Surveying works of more than 40 artists—including Ikko Tanaka, Kôhei Sugiura, and Daijirô Ôhara—the exhibition will demonstrate that the art of written language remains an integral and vital part of the visual culture in contemporary East Asia. In summer 2018 Dr. Oyobe will focus her research on female graphic designers, meeting with Mariko Takagi, Chikako Oguma, and others.

### (2) Mari Katayama

Dr. Oyobe will meet with contemporary Japanese artist Mari Katayama, who after losing both legs at the age of nine due to a congenital limb disease has spent her life using prosthetic limbs. In her sculptural works and self-portraits, she makes use of prosthetic limbs modeled on her own body, continuing to build the relationship between her body, her spirit and the world. Katayama graduated from Tokyo University of the Arts Graduate School in 2012, was awarded the Grand Prix at Art Award Tokyo Marunouchi 2012, and presented a large-scale installation using video at Aichi Triennale 2013. Her solo exhibition, “Bystander,” was held on Naoshima Island as part of Setouchi Triennale 2016. UMMA is considering an exhibition of Mari Katayama’s provocative and relevant work in AY2020-21.

### (3) Collection and exhibition development

Dr. Oyobe will develop strategies for displaying and interpreting UMMA’s Japanese collection, which will be completely reinstalled in AY2018-19, and conduct research for future acquisitions for the collection. In addition, Dr. Oyobe will conduct preliminary research on shunga (erotic paintings and prints) from the Edo period in consideration of a potential future exhibition of works from a private collection based in the US.

# Alumni Updates

*continued from page 27*

## Yuta Mori

*Lecturer, Japanese Language Program (JLP), Asian Languages and Cultures*

For Immersion and Inclusion: Using VR Technology in the Language Classroom

One of the major problems of foreign language education is that for the majority of students, it is not viable to travel to the target country and speak the target language in real situations. This project aims to apply virtual reality (VR) technology to foreign language education for a more immersive and innovative language learning experience. As there are few studies that investigate the effectiveness of VR technology in language acquisition, Mr. Mori's project team with Mayumi Oka (Director, JLP), Ayaka Sogabe (Lecturer, JLP), and two research assistants (U-M alumni and former JLP students) will use the CJS Faculty Research Grant to conduct a pilot study in Academic Year 2018-19 to examine the effectiveness. First, the team will record several major places in Japan which relate to and appear in textbooks with 360° and 180° cameras and also have college student volunteers in Tokyo to record and share aspects of their typical weekend, which may include little-known areas, local customs, and perspectives different from those presented by the textbooks. Then, the team will utilize the VR technology in the two exercises in 1st and 3rd year Japanese classes: vocabulary and grammar structure acquisition and cross cultural competence.

**Ali Zamiri** (CJS MA, MBA, 1991). Ali grew up in the Detroit area, obtaining a BA in economics and an MBA/MA in Asian Studies (1991) from U-M. He worked in Japan as a brand manager for Sunstar Inc. in oral hygiene products, where he had to undergo the rigorous training and lifestyle (living in a company dorm!) of a "*shinyuushaiin*" at a Japanese corporation from 1991-94. He then joined Adidas Japan as a product manager for footwear from 1994-97 where he had the chance to take a tennis lesson with Steffi Graf. Since 1998 Ali's job in international business development for Qualcomm saw him take leading roles in China, Middle East, and Africa. Recently, he left the semiconductor industry to join Xevo which provides software solutions in the connected car space. Ali works with the Asian automotive OEMs to help enhance the overall driving experience by connecting drivers and their vehicles to mobile applications, content, and services. He continues to enjoy living in San Diego, playing tennis and surfing the waves at Torrey Pines year-round. He would greatly enjoy hosting a mini-reunion in Southern California one of these days!

**Leah Zoller** (CJS MA, 2009). Leah Zoller (pronouns: they/them/theirs) began working as an International Admissions Specialist at Bellevue College in July 2017. They are an active member of the BC LGBTQ Task Force, where they help represent the Office of International Education. They currently reside with Chelsea Robinson (they/them/theirs), their partner of three years, who is also a fellow former JET Program CIR.

29

## Supporting CJS – Give Online

The University of Michigan's Center for Japanese Studies (CJS) is one of the nation's foremost institutes for interdisciplinary research and training on Japan. Founded in 1947, CJS is the oldest interdisciplinary center in the United States devoted exclusively to Japanese Studies. CJS's outstanding faculty of more than 60 area specialists come from varying humanities departments, social science departments, and professional schools. The center offers an interdisciplinary MA program and joint MA/MBA. and MA/JD programs. Together with the University of Michigan's Kenneth G. Lieberthal and Richard H. Rogel Center for Chinese Studies and the Nam Center for Korean Studies, CJS is part of the East Asia National Resource

Center supported by the Department of Education's Title VI grant program, and serves the community through public events and outreach.

For years, CJS has been supplementing federal and university funding with gifts and endowments. Because federal appropriations to support area studies centers are always at risk, CJS must find ways to assure its financial security independent of federal support.

Your gift will help the Center with this effort and ensure the high quality of its programs.

**To give online, please visit: [ii.umich.edu/cjs/donate](https://ii.umich.edu/cjs/donate)**

# Ann Arbor Japan Week 2018



In June, 2018 the Center for Japanese Studies coordinated the fourth annual Ann Arbor Japan Week. Ann Arbor Japan Week offers a series of free events designed to encourage the public to engage with Japanese culture. Combined event attendance this year surpassed 800, including an enthusiastic crowd for the kickoff event, a screening of *A Letter to Momo*, a 2011 film written and directed by Okiura Hiroyuki, whose credits include the animated features *Akira* (1998), *Cowboy Bebop: The Movie* (2001) and *Paprika* (2006).

Among the offerings this year, Paula Curtis—a U-M PhD candidate in history—offered a special lecture on Japanese crests to serve as a prelude to an Ann Arbor District Library Letterpress Lab highlighting their designs. We were also able to double the number of workshops organized in partnership with the Ikebana International Detroit Chapter at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, and to bring back the popular taiko performance by Godaiko Drummers, which attracts more than 100 people every summer. Other events included Japanese matsuri games at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, story time and family art workshops at the University of Michigan Museum of Art, Judo Club at the Ann Arbor YMCA and Japanese video games at the University of Michigan Library Computer and Video Game Archive at the Duderstadt Center on North Campus.

CJS is once again honored to organize these events, and continues our commitment to increase awareness and understanding of Japanese culture. We are grateful also for ongoing support from the Japan Business Society of Detroit Foundation.

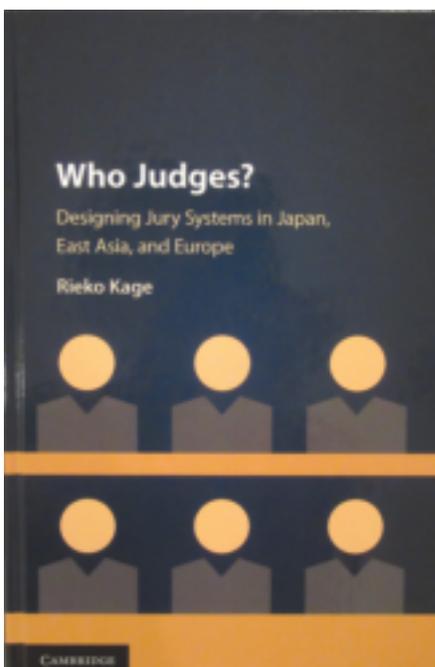
To submit ideas, or to get involved with the planning of next year's Ann Arbor Japan Week, please contact CJS. We look forward already to Ann Arbor Japan Week 2019!



# Toyota Visiting Professor and Visiting Scholar Updates

**Katsuya Hirano**, Winter 2009 TVP, Associate Professor, History, UCLA, participated in a Meiji at 150 Podcast Interview on Meiji Ishin by Professor Tristan Grunow (University of British Columbia), June, 2018. He also published a journal article (in Japanese): “「明治維新」を内破するヘテログロシア — アイヌの経験と言葉” (“Heteroglossia and the Implosion of the ‘Meiji Ishin’ - Ainu’s Experiences and Language”) in 『現代思想 臨時増刊号 総特集 = 明治維新の光と影 -- 150年目の問い』 (Special Issue on The 150th Anniversary of the Meiji Ishin, Contemporary Thought) (Tokyo: Seidosha 青土社, May 2018); an online article: “On the Reproduction of Race, Capitalism, and Settler-colonialism, Response 2” for *Race and Capitalism: Global Territories, Transnational Histories*, Center for Inequality and Democracy; and a journal article: co-authored with Lorenzo Veracini and Toulouse Roy, “Vanishing Natives and Taiwan’s Settler Colonial Unconsciousness” in *Critical Asian Studies*. His interview with Baba Tamotsu “Save the Town”: Insolvable Dilemmas of Fukushima’s “Return Policy” (“町残し”: 福島帰還政策の解決不可能なジレンマ) appeared in *The Asia-Pacific Journal* in January of 2018.

**Rieko Kage**, 2010-11 TVP, Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Tokyo, published a new book, *Who Judges? Designing Jury Systems in Japan, East Asia, and Europe* (Cambridge University Press) in October 2017. The book examines the design of Japan’s new jury system in comparative perspective.



## Center for Japanese Studies International Institute University of Michigan

Weiser Hall  
500 Church Street, Suite 400  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
TEL: 734.764.6307  
FAX: 734.936.2948  
EMAIL: [umcjs@umich.edu](mailto:umcjs@umich.edu)  
WEB: [ii.umich.edu/cjs/](http://ii.umich.edu/cjs/)

Director: Kiyoteru Tsutsui

Programs and Initiatives Manager: Yuri Fukazawa

Engaged Learning and Japan Partnerships

Coordinator: Brad Hammond

Project Coordinator: Barbara Kinzer

Community Outreach Coordinator: Emily Canosa

International Institute Graduate Academic Services  
Coordinator and Asia FLAS Coordinator:

Azumi Ann Takata

East Asia Operations Coordinator: Margaret Rudberg

CJS Executive Committee:

Kiyoteru Tsutsui (*ex officio*)

Kevin Carr

Allison Alexy

Shinobu Kitayama

Keiko Yokota-Carter

Regents of The University of Michigan:

Michael J. Behm, Mark J. Bernstein,  
Shauna Ryder Diggs, Denise Ilitch,  
Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner,  
Ron Weiser, Katherine E. White,  
Mark S. Schlissel, *ex officio*.

*The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or Vietnam era veteran status.*

*The University also is committed to compliance with all applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action.*

*Densho* Editor: David Merchant

*Densho* Design: Seiko Semones (S2 Design)

*Densho* Production: Foresight Group

© 2018 The Regents of the University of Michigan

Weiser Hall  
500 Church Street, Suite 400  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109



**Center for  
Japanese Studies**

International Institute  
University of Michigan  
Newsletter 2018

