To ensure that our language faculty

From the Executive Editor

In March, thanks largely to the efforts of Mayumi Oka, CJS hosted the 18th Annual Conference of the Central Association of Teachers of Japanese in Ann Arbor that welcomed 120 participants from across the country. Ms. Oka also is founder and director of a summer program at Michigan that provides instruction in Japanese language pedagogy to instructors.

To support the 380 students that studied Japanese in the 2005-06 academic year, CJS provided funding for "language tables" at which students are required to speak Japanese only (in exchange for free pizza).

CJS has strengthened its connections with area K-12 educators and students of Japanese. For the second year, CJS hosted the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl in March 2006, which attracted over 300 K-12 students from 22 schools. This event is gaining greater recognition each year.

This past year, CJS worked with U-M’s Language Resource Center and the Faculty of Education at Mie University to offer three video-conferencing opportunities for undergraduate students to discuss various topics in their target languages. This exploratory program was well-attended and plans to expand it are under way.

As we enter the new academic year, we look forward to continued opportunities for enrichment and growth.

Mark D. West, Director

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We’ve Moved!

The Publications Program has moved yet again, but we hope that we are now in a permanent home. Our phone and fax numbers remain the same. Our new address is: Center for Japanese Studies – Publications, The University of Michigan, 1007 E. Huron Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1690.

We’re happy to note that we have four new publications online. Two of our out-of-print monographs — A Japanese New Religion, Risshô Kôsei-kai in a Mountain Hamlet, by Stewart Guthrie, and The Three Jewels: A Study and Translation of Minamoto Tamenori’s Sanbôe, by Edward Kamens — and one of our out-of-print papers — “The Sting of Dokus” and Other Stories, by Shimas Toshio, translated by Kathryn Sparling — are now available in searchable and downloadable formats. These titles are numbers 1 and 2 in our Monograph Series and number 12 in our Papers Series, and they are available without charge for individual or classroom use. We are committed to having all of our out-of-print titles online, and so if you can’t find a particular title on our series pages, please go to http://www.hti.umich.edu/c/cjs/ and browse.

We have also added a new title to our Michigan Classics Online: David Bordwell’s Ozu and the Poetics of Cinema (1988). This title compliments the other titles on film that can be found on Abe Mark Nornes’s Motion Pictures Reprint Series page and our own monograph on Ozu, Gena’s Anti-Cinema, by Yoshida Kiju. And, the journal Concerned Theatre Japan, edited by David G. Goodman (with a new introduction),...
Sayonara to CJS
July 13, 2006

It is hard to believe that in two days I will be back in my home in Israel. Going back to that area of the world in yet another period of strife and political unrest only highlights the benefits of having this marvelous and productive year away from a hectic life. I spent my year as the TVP at the Center for Japanese Studies working on my own research on Japanese “charisma housewives” (karisma shufu) and teaching a course on women in modern Japan from an anthropological perspective.

Being an anthropologist gives an academic a great advantage as in any situation you can apply the position of a participant observer and learn about the people you meet, and through this encounter, learn more about yourself and about your own field of study. My students at the University of Michigan taught me not only about the American academic system but also about the way they as young people think and the way they see their world. Our (sometimes) heated conversations about gender, race, and intercultural and intertribal marriage were as valuable to me as the hours I spent in the wonderful library or the hours of work I spent in my pleasant office at CJS. I will not easily forget the productive conversations I had with colleagues as well as with my talented research assistants, who together with me studied the “secrets” of the “way to become a charisma housewife” (karisma shufu e no michi). I doubt if this process has taught me to become a “charisma housewife” (karisma shufu) myself, but it surely deepened my knowledge on Japanese society and culture and about Japanese women today.

Leaving is always not easy, (at least speaking for myself) but leaving a place which made all the effort to make me feel at home like Ann Arbor and CJS, is even more difficult. I am grateful for the support of Viz Pictures, for a wonderful year in the wonderful library or the hours I spent in my pleasant office at CJS. I will not easily forget the productive conversations I had with colleagues as well as with my talented research assistants, who together with me studied the “secrets” of the “way to become a charisma housewife” (karisma shufu e no michi). I doubt if this process has taught me to become a “charisma housewife” (karisma shufu) myself, but it surely deepened my knowledge on Japanese society and culture and about Japanese women today.

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18th Annual Meeting of the Central Association of Teachers of Japanese

On March 4-5, 2006, the University of Michigan hosted the 18th annual conference of the Central Association of Teachers of Japanese (CATJ). This conference was organized by the Japanese Language Program of the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures with support from the Center for Japanese Studies. Since 1988, instructors of Japanese at “Big 10” and other Midwest institutions have held these conferences to exchange ideas and experiences to help improve their Japanese programs. This year, over 120 Japanese language teachers and professionals participated, not only from the Midwest but from across the nation in this conference based around the theme of: "The 5 Cs of the National Standards for Teaching Japanese: Communication, Connection, Community, Comparison, and Culture.” During the two-day conference, there were 32 presentations in sessions of three concurrent panels.

The first day of the conference was highlighted by a keynote speech presented by Professor Seiichi Makino of Princeton University, the former president of the Association of Teachers of Japanese. The title of his talk was “The plural marker ‘tachi’ as a window into the Japanese language and culture.” Later in the afternoon, a panel discussion on the current topic of Advanced Placement Japanese was held as it is a goal of the Association for Teachers of Japanese to include Japanese among the subjects in advanced placement tests.

On the second day of the conference, participants exchanged ideas on the use and implementation of computer-assisted language learning. In addition, the authors of three major textbooks were on hand for discussion: Professor Yasuhiko Tobaksu (University of California, San Diego: Yôkoso), Professor Yukiko Hatasa (University of Iowa: Nihonjô), and Professor Michi Noda (Ohio State University: Japanese: The Spoken Language). This conference provided a valuable opportunity for many key persons in Japanese teaching to meet together and to bridge Japanese teaching in Michigan high schools and universities.

For the conference schedule and the presentations’ abstracts, please visit this website: http://www.lsa.umich.edu/asian/japanese/catj/index.html. The proceedings of the 18th Annual CATJ were published and available by contacting Mayumi Oka, Coordinator of the Japanese Language Program in the Department of Asian Languages & Cultures, University of Michigan (mayoka@umich.edu).

International Pavilion at the 3rd Annual Ann Arbor Book Festival

Since its inception, U-M’s International Institute (II) has taken part in the Ann Arbor Book Festival’s Street Fair with CJIS coordinating those activities. This year, the II’s International Pavilion sponsored music by Mijoyo (koto and shakuhachi), Afro-American storytelling, Russian folk music, Japanese poetry (as translated and performed by Jeffrey Angles, assistant professor of Japanese, Western Michigan University) and Chinese poetry, as well as international kids crafts. Along with the activities, the II Centers displayed a selection of books for adults and children from their world areas. These books were later donated to the libraries in Willow Run Schools. The 2007 Ann Arbor Book Festival’s Street Fair will be held on May 19. Visit this website for more details: http://aabookfestival.org/.

Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl

Thirteen years ago, a group of Japanese language teachers in Michigan organized a quiz bowl competition for K-12 students who were studying Japanese. The Michigan “Japan Bowl” began as a qualifying competition for the National Japan Bowl (http://www.us-japan.org/dc/education/JBpage.html) which was created in order to test the Japanese levels of high school students and to promote the study of Japanese across the country. From the very beginning, Michigan expanded the scope of the Japan Bowl by including elementary and middle school students in its competition in order to build interest and motivation at earlier ages. Today, the renamed Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl (MJQB) focuses less on being a qualifying event for the national competition and more on providing an opportunity for K-12 students to meet and take part in friendly (yet very serious) competition and also be exposed to a little Japanese culture along the way.

For the second year in a row, CJIS coordinated and hosted this event at the Modern Languages Building on U-M’s central campus with more than 300 K-12 students competing for top honors in one of four divisions. In addition to the competition, cultural activities were on hand for the students, their families, and teachers through the coordinated efforts of CJIS and U-M’s Japan Students Association (JSA). For the first time ever, the MJQB and JSA’s Japan Culture Festival were held on the same day, resulting in a wider range of activities for the MJQB participants and higher attendance numbers for the culture festival.

The 2007 Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl will be hosted by CJIS on March 24. For more information, contact Jane Ozanich (jovanich@umich.edu).

PAST EVENTS

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Philippe Bousvier (Independent Scholar, CJS; Doshisha University) has been working with Bruce Belesowski at the Automotive Division at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI). This collaboration will take a formal appointment as visiting professor in September 2006. Professor Bousvier has also been appointed as the Honorary Consul for the Kingdom of Belgium for Kyoto, Shiga, Nara, and Mie prefectures (http://www.mfa.go.jp/jumidui/ u/n/a/europe/belgique.html).

Michael Fetters (Family Medicine) gave several talks in the past year in Japan. In December, he spoke at the Department of General Medicine at Nagoya University, he also spoke at the Shiga University of Medical Science, and the Department of General Medicine at Me University’s Medical College. In February, Dr. Fetters presented “Clinical Pearls from a Family Physician to Preliminary Residents” at the present “Clinical Pearls from a Family Physician to Preliminary Residents” at the present Medicine at Nagoya University, and several talks in the past year in Japan.

William P. Malm (Professor Emeritus, Music and Ethnomusicology) has been invited to speak at a Global Forum meeting “Cultural Dialogue through the Arts” and to the graduate program of the Academy of Korean Studies in Korea in November.

Gayle Ness (Professor Emeritus, Sociology) continues to work with the Asian Urban Information Center of Kobe (http://www.quick.org). The AUIC works with nine Asian cities to undertake studies and train urban administrators in Kobe, and produce a newsletter and website on Asian urban issues. The nine AUIC Associate Cities include: Faisalabad, Pakistan; Chennai, India; Chittagong, Bangladesh; Kuwait; Malaysia; Khon Kaen, Thailand; Bandung, Vietnam; Surabaya, Indonesia; Ongapogo City, The Philippines, and Wei Hai, China. AUIC was formed as a joint effort of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the City of Kobe in 1989.

In addition to his work mentioned above, Professor Emeritus Ness will teach a fall term seminar on “Population, Development, and Environmental Change” at the new Advanced Research Institute for Science and the Humanities (ARISII) at Nihon University, Tokyo. This will be the second year of ARISII’s existence and his teaching there.

Jennifer Robertson (Anthropology) is serving on the Program Committee for the East Asia Section of the American Anthropological Association (2006-09). Professor Robertson recently received two research grants: a Fullbright Research Scholar Grant for Tel Aviv University in Israel for her work on Food Identities in Brazil and Japan (April-August, 2007) and CJS’s Faculty Research Grant for her study of Humanoid robot development in Japan. In addition, she was recently invited to be the co-editor of Critical Asian Studies (Roundtable).


Ruth Tosflar (Women’s Studies, Comparative Literature) has accepted a new joint position in Women’s Studies and Comparative Literature. Her book The Stains of Culture: An Ethno-Reading of The Tale of Genji, has been reprinted in an anthology, Heiner Müller’s (Anthropology) is forthcoming in The Stains of Culture: An Ethno-Reading of The Tale of Genji, has been reprinted in an anthology, Heiner Müller’s (hoontext-gloss), has been reprinted in an anthology, Heiner Müller’s (Advance contract, University of California Press).


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Jonathan Zwicker’s (Asian Languages & Cultures) book, Practices of the Sentimental Imagination: Meikoden, the Novel, and the Social Imaginary, will be published this fall by the Harvard Asia Center. The Shuman Drum book store in Ann Arbor will feature his book at a reception on Thursday, October 12 at 4pm. His publications, “The Long Nineteenth Century of the Japanese Novel” and “Japan, 1850-1900” both appeared this summer in The Novel, Volume One: History, Geography, and Culture (editor, Franco Moretti, Princeton University Press). Finally, Professor Zwicker received a combined Rackham Fellowship and Grant to support his research in Tokyo this past summer for his new book, Stage and Spectacle in an Age of Print: Drama and Cultural Consumption in Nineteenth Century Edo.

Shinsuke Hanai, Associate Professor at Waseda University, is a CJS 2006-07 visiting scholar. His research interests include Japanese business and economic history, corporate governance, and comparative industrial systems. During his stay in Ann Arbor, Professor Hanai is conducting research on investment behavior of firms in the U.S. and Japan as well as development of the present silk industry in Japan.

CJS Alumni & Student Updates
Three CJS MA students graduated in the spring of 2006. They were: Sian Chivers, Joshua McBride, and Noriko Yamaguchi. Joshua McBride is currently in Japan working on the JET program and Noriko Yamaguchi taught Japanese at the Concordia Language Village in the summer and is starting a PhD program in history this fall at the University of Chicago.

Marnie Anderson (History, PhD, 2005) is teaching in the Department of History at Smith College.

Alex Bates (ALC, PhD, 2006) completed his graduate work with the successful defense of his dissertation, “Fractured Communities: Class and Ethnicity in Representation of the prewar silk industry in Japan. His research interests include industrial systems. During his stay in Ann Arbor, Professor Hanai is conducting research on investment behavior of firms in the U.S. and Japan as well as development of the present silk industry in Japan.

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CJS’s 2006-07 Faculty Research Grants Announced

The Center for Japanese Studies is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2006-07 Faculty Research Grants. This grant program supports individual or group research projects that investigate aspects of Japanese society and culture. This year’s recipients and their projects are as follows:

Kevin Carr, Assistant Professor of History of Art and Asian Languages and Cultures, was awarded funding for his project, “Presenting the Prince: Envisioning the Life of Shimazu in Medieval Japan—History.” This project examines a group of medieval hanging scroll sets depicting the life of the Japanese Prince Shōtoku (574-622) about seven centuries after his death. The grant will help Professor Carr visit temple and museum collections in Japan and gather additional research materials.

Jessica Fogel, Professor of Dance, was awarded a grant for her “Garden Dances: A Japanese/American Botanical Dance Performance Project.” She will bring a Japanese dancer to UM to create a collaborative dance in the indoor conservatory of the Matthaei Botanical Garden in February 2007 in honor of its 100th anniversary. During the dancer’s residency at U-M, they will start developing a dance workshop to be held in June 2007 in the gardens of Eiun-in Temple in Kyoto.

Ken Ito, Associate Professor of Japanese Literature, received funding for his project, “Status and Class in the Women’s Prose of the Meiji Period.” Over the course of the Meiji period, social hierarchy was contested through a redefinition of the role of women. Initially individual and eventual. This project seeks to explore how these conditions were negotiated and articulated on the level of discourse, specifically in Meiji fiction and particularly in relation to the representation of status and class.

Tomoaki Maazuawa, Professor of History and Comparative Literature, was awarded a grant for her project, “Modernity, University, the Science of Religion.” This is a collaborative publication project by Professor Maazuawa and several Japanese scholars of religion. Its aim is three-fold: (1) to examine the development of the academic study of religion in modern Japan in relation to comparable and contrasting developments in Europe, North America, and elsewhere; (2) to contribute to the growing critical literature on the formation of the modern discourse on “religion” and its relation to the cultural politics of “modernization,” especially in localities where the concept of religion was a foreign import; and (3) to bring a body of contemporary scholarship on religion produced in a non-European language to the English-speaking world.

Abé Markus Nornes, Associate Professor of Screen Arts and Cultures, was awarded funding for three projects that he is working on simultaneously: (1) electronic printing of “On and the Portals of Cinema,” (2) a major collective study of the pink film in Japan, and (3) a publication project on the relationship between film and translation.

Jennifer Robertson, Professor of Anthropology, received a grant for her two-part pilot project, “From Standardized Humans to Humanoid Robots.” This research points to humanoid robotics as the newest modality of eugenics, and the latest subject of anthropometry, with the objective of creating intelligent and aesthetically superior androids to enhance and augment human society.

Satoru Takahashi, Assistant Professor of Art and Design, was awarded funding for his project, “Security Blanket for Ninchù-shō and Hikkōkumon.” An aging population and low birth rates are growing concerns in Japan, where the care of “Ninchù-shō” (elderly Alzheimer patients) and the rehabilitation of “Hikkōkumon” (withdrawn youth who retraunt into their rooms for six months or more, cutting off all contact with society) have become major social issues. This project will bring Alheimer patients and withdrawn youth together through the creation of art, fostering a new community and communication between generations.

Akiho takenaka, Assistant Professor of History of Art and Postdoctoral Fellow of the Michigan Society of Fellowes, was awarded a grant for her book project, “The Museumification of Memories: Suffering and Sacrifice on Display in Contemporary Japan.” The project explores the culture of memorializing the war dead in modern and contemporary Japan through an examination of museum architecture and museums dedicated to those who lost their lives during the Asia-Pacific War.

Mieko Yoshidama, Associate Professor of Social Work, received funding for her project, “Masculinities and Violence Against Women in Japan.” This project, a collaboration among U.S. and Japanese researchers and activists, examines various prototypes of masculinities expressed in contemporary Japan and explores the relationships between the dominant prototypic and violence against women and other types of aggression, such as militarism.

Japan in a Box – Reorganized JapanKits

For ten years, CJS has made its JapanKits available free-of-charge to educators throughout the country. Containing curricula, books, and other materials, the original JapanKits were originally categorized by grade levels. This summer, with the help of input from Japanese teachers in Michigan, the kits were reorganized into three themes: Home and Seasonal Observances, School Life and Popular Culture, and the Society of Japan (including history and the arts). The revised kits are now available for teachers to borrow for free (with a $25 refundable deposit). Contact CJS’s outreach coordinator, Gwen Wittweaver (gwittweaver@umich.edu) for more information.

If you have Japan-related items that you are interested in donating to CJS’s JapanKits, please visit this website for the items we hope to include: http://www.med.umich.edu/jfhp/. Send all questions or comments to Gwen Wittweaver (gwittweaver@umich.edu). (734.764.2302).

U-M’s East Asia Center Receives Title VI Funding

This July, U-M’s East Asia Center received award notification of its funding as a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) for the years 2006-10. U-M’s East Asia NRC is a cooperative unit composed of CJS and U-M’s Center for Chinese Studies and the Korean Studies Program. Funding from this grant helps to support language teachers, U-M’s Asia Library, K-12 outreach activities, noon lectures, film series, and other K-12 ERA-related programs. U-M’s EA NRC is one of 17 EA NRC recipients.

U-M’s Department of Family Medicine Welcomes Two New Physicians

U-M’s Department of family Medicine and the Japanese Family Health Program (http://www.med.umich.edu/jfhp/) are welcoming two new Japanese-speaking physicians this fall.

Yousuke Fujikata, MD, PhD, is a family physician and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Family Medicine and a clinician-educator in the Japanese Family Health Program at Domino’s Farms. Dr. Fujikata’s academic interests include medical education and exchange of Japanese and American medical students and physicians. He provides prenatal, newborn, pediatric, adolescent, adult male and female care, geriatric care, and preventive care for all age groups. He has a particular clinical interest in the use of transnasal gastric endoscopy for the early detection of stomach cancer.

Karl Rew, MB, is a family physician and Clinical Instructor in the Department of Family Medicine. He teaches and sees patients primarily in the Japanese Family Health Program, part of Family Medicine. Dr. Rew provides newborn, pediatric, adolescent, adult male and female, geriatric, and preventive care for all age groups. He has a particular clinical interest in urgent care medicine. Dr. Rew also actively assists the Japanese physicians and students who are building Family Medicine as a new specialty in Japan.

U-M Students Take Top Honors in Speech Contest

On March 24th, three U-M students were awarded First Place, Second Place, and Honorable Mention in the Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit, the Japanese Business Society of Detroit, and the Japan America Society of Greater Detroit & Windsor. ALC lecturer, Noko Emi, trained the top winner, Alan Mishler, who received a round-trip airfare and a one-week homestay in Japan. The other top U-M students were Yasuo Watanabe (junior) and Kanna Yon, who received honorable mention. These three students were part of twelve contestants who were selected from approximately 100 Michigan students who submitted manuscripts and recorded tapes for the first round of evaluation, of those twelve, only five received prizes.

RC Japanese Language Tables

In the 2005-06 academic year, more than thirty volunteers attended the Japanese Language Tables in the Residential College. The tables began with

continued on page 11
November

2 Noon Lecture*: "Outcasts, Treaty Ports, and Liberation," Daniel Botzman, Associate Professor, History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
10 Free Japanese Film*: University of Laugh (Hurra no dingo). Directed by Mamoru Hosoda, 2004, 121 min.
13 Noon Lecture*: "The Roles Resisted: Medieval Monastic Guidelines for Interacting with the Opposite Sex," Lori Merk, Assistant Professor, Religion and East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of Southern California.
30 Documentary Film and Discussion: Toru Telematik, Music for the Modern, Directed by Charlotte Zwirner, 1994, 58 min. Includes an introduction and discussion by Peter Grilli, co-producer of this film. 7room, 1636 SSWB (SWIR).

January 2007

6 Special Event: Moehotani, 1-4pm, International Institute Gallery, Free and open to the public.
17 Workshop: Compiling Editing and Critically Evaluating Language Bibliographies on Japan and on Korea: A Bibliographer’s Perspective and Personal Experience (tentative title), Frank Joseph Shulman, Bibliographer, Editor, and Consultant for Reference Publications in Asian Studies, Time T.B.A., 1634 SSWB.
19 Noon Lecture*: Title T.B.A., Assistant Professor of History and Assistant Professor of Asian Languages and Cultures, The University of Michigan

* All noon lectures run from noon to 1pm in Room 1636 SSWB unless otherwise noted. The noon lectures are made possible in part by a Title VI grant from the US Department of Education.
** All films begin at 7pm and are screened in the Jacklin Auditorium in Burdick Hall (117 Iceguy Street, Ann Arbor). The film series is made possible in part by a Title VI grant from the US Department of Education.

Please access CJS’s calendar from: http://www.ii.umich.edu/cjs for up-to-date information.

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the visitors exchanging simple information in Japanese with the students and moving into more specific conversations about customs, pop culture, etc. Volunteers are an important addition to the language tables as they offer a real look at Japanese language and culture. Volunteers for the 2006-07 academic year are needed. For more information, please contact Tetuya Sato, program lecturer. at sato@umich.edu.

Asia Library Travel Grants

Grants up to $700 are available to help defray the cost of travel, lodging, meals, and photo duplication for Japan scholars at other institutions who wish to utilize the collection at the University of Michigan Asian Library from July 1, 2006 until June 30, 2007. More information about the library is available at http://www.lib.umich.edu/asia/, or by contacting the library assistant at 734-764-0060.

Interested scholars should submit a letter of application, a brief statement to the Center describing their research and their need to use the collection (not to exceed 250 words), a list of sources that they would like to access ( tijdapapers must check availability of these sources in the Library’s online catalog before submitting applications), a current curriculum vitae, a budget, and proposed travel dates. The Center accepts applications until May 31, 2007 by email at umj@umich.edu or by mail at:

Asia Library Travel Grants Center for Japanese Studies Suite 3640 410 S. University, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106

Calling All CJS Alumni and Former Visitors

CJS would like to feature short articles written by our former students and visitors who focus on their experiences at CJS-U-M. Please contact us at umj@umich.edu.

We’ve Moved!

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originally published from 1969 to 1973, is now also available in a searchable format. The newest title in our Monograph Series is Revealed Identity: The Yaku Plays of Komparu Zenchiku, by Paul S. Atkins (No. 55, ISBN 1-929280-36-X [cloth], $60.00, xi + 293 pp., 30 black-and-white illustrations, 2 color illustrations). Revealed Identity is the first comprehensive study of the noh plays of Komparu Zenchiku, an actor, playwright, and theoretician of noh drama in fifteenth-century Japan. A renowned performer in his own time, Zenchiku was rediscovered in the modern period as the author of numerous treatises on his art, which he studied under the tutelage of his father-in-law Zunni Mimasaki (1363-1441). Zenchiku is also a major playwright in the Japanese dramatic tradition, and his plays have only recently begun to receive the attention they deserve. We have a number of titles in the queue for our Monograph Series. The next two that are due out are A Cultural History of Japanese Women’s Writing, by Endo Orie, and A Zen Life in Nature: Musō Soseki in His Gardens, by Kei Davidson. Check our website for prices and other details as they become available, and for other titles to follow.


Brute Willoughby

Executive Editor, CJS Publications Program