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Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund

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The Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund Endowment (PTJCMF) was established to honour the legacy of His Imperial Highness Prince Takamado, who was a longtime friend of the University of Alberta and of Canadian post-secondary education. After studying at Queen's University in Canada for three years, Prince Takamado worked for the Japan Foundation, during which time he dedicated himself to the promotion of Japanese language and culture throughout the world. The Fund aims to encourage student mobility, fostering new teaching, research and cultural exchange programs with a Japanese dimension, and thereby building stronger links between Japan and Canada.

I. Report from the First Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum (February 15-22, 2010)

The Prince Takamado Japan Canada Memorial Fund provided support for the Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum, the first major event for the Japan Canada Academic Consortium since the Prince Takamado Japan Centre assumed the role of Canadian secretariat. Support was also received from the Japan Foundation, the Government of Canada, Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Meiji University.

The Japan Canada Academic Consortium (JACAC) is a group of universities across Canada and Japan, which aims to promote the exchange of undergraduate and graduate students, researchers, and teachers, and to encourage a movement of ideas and knowledge between the two countries.

In February 2009, the Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research became the secretariat representing the Canadian universities in JACAC. In cooperation with Meiji University, the Japanese secretariat, the Prince Takamado Japan Centre organized a very successful first Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum. During this week-long event, which took place from February 15-22, 2010, 13 students from 6 Canadian universities and 17 from 11 Japanese universities gathered in Tokyo, Japan to discuss the theme of "Environmental Issues." Students conducted group-based research projects to discuss topics related to "governance," "culture," "economy and business," "technology," and "rural and urban systems."

The JACAC Student Forum was held in conjunction with a conference where researchers and graduate students gave presentations from a Canadian perspective and/or a Japanese perspective. They also served as mentors and provided guidance for student discussions, which were conducted in preparation for a group presentation given at the end of the forum. Each groups' presentation provided an overview of the understanding acquired through the forum and proposing how or in what areas Canadian and Japanese students could collaborate or exchange views on their chosen topic.

The opportunity for interaction between researchers, graduate students and undergraduate students allowed participants to discuss issues relevant to their studies and research with their peers from a different country, gaining valuable insight from a multicultural viewpoint.

One of the major highlights of the forum was the closing ceremony which took place on February 22, 2010 at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. Students presented their final group projects in front of an audience which included contributors of the PTJCMF and government officials. The closing ceremony and the following reception were also attended by Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado and His Excellency Jonathan Fried, Ambassador of Canada to Japan, as well as friends and alumni of the University of Alberta.

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The entire group of Forum participants included 13 undergraduate students and 8 researchers from Canada, as well as 15 undergraduate students and 7 researchers from Japan.



II. Updates on the PTJCMF and Canadian Advisory Committee

The University of Alberta welcomes Dr. Lesley Cormack as its new Dean of the Faculty of Arts. Dr. Cormack and her team, with support from Anna Biscoe, Senior Development Officer with the Faculty of Arts and Dr. Kaori Kabata, Director of the Prince Takamado Japan Centre, are continuing in their efforts of meeting the fundraising goals of the PTJCMF.

The Canadian Advisory Committee, chaired by Mr. Donald Campbell, former Ambassador of Canada to Japan and Senior Strategy Advisor, Davis LLP, has begun fundraising activities in Canada and hopes to meet its goal of creating a total endowment of \$3 million.

As of March 31, 2010, the book value of the endowment was \$1,489,293.26 and the market value was \$1,399,064.15. Based on this amount, \$57,000 is budgeted for spending in 2010/11. Since March, there has been an additional contribution of \$25,601.24, and the spending allocation for 2010/12 is anticipated to be similar to that in 2010/11.

III. PTJCMF Student Mobility Program Awardees (October 2009 - September 2010)

1st Princess Takamado Essay Contest, November 2009

The aim of the Princess Takamado Essay Contest is to encourage English language study and to facilitate a greater understanding and interest in Canada among Japanese university students.

The theme of the 2009/10 Essay Contest was centered around environmental issues and how Canada and Japan can cooperate to resolve those issues. Ms. Rika Tanaka of Ritsumeikan University received the first place prize for her essay, "Advantages of Canada and Japan Change Environment." Ms. Tanaka received an award of one term at the University of Alberta's English Language Program and \$750 travel allowance. She has decided to start her studies at the UofA in September 2010, and will be extending her stay in the English Language Program until December 2010.

Ms. Erika Saito of Kwansai Gakuin University won the second prize award of program fees for one term in the University of Alberta English Language Program for her essay, "Learning environment from birds." She will be studying at the UofA beginning in July 2010, and has decided to extend her studies until December 2010.

1st Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum, February 15-22, 2010

The PTJCMF supported the travel of Canadian undergraduate students to attend the Forum in Tokyo, Japan. For more a more detailed summary of the 1st JACAC Forum, please see Section I of this newsletter.

JACOS-JAPEX Scholarship in Engineering

The JACOS-JAPEX Scholarship in Engineering is awarded to undergraduate students with superior academic achievement entering the second, third or fourth year of study in Mining Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering, or Environmental Engineering. Beginning in the 2011/12 Academic Year, the University of Calgary will also begin awarding the JACOS-JAPEX Scholarship in Engineering at their institution.

The following students were awarded JACOS-JAPEX Scholarships in September 2010:

Jennifer Kugler (UA)	Clayton Robinson (UA)	Jung-Lynn Yang (UA)
Hyun-Seung Lee (UA)	Contessa Short (Keyano)	
Nina Marshall (Keyano)	Tyson Swain (Keyano)	

IV. Upcoming PTJCMF Events

2nd Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum, February 21-27, 2011

Senior undergraduate student representatives from JACAC member institutions in both Japan and Canada will meet and exchange opinions and ideas on the topic of international trade and economic sustainability. The upcoming forum will be hosted by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre at the University of Alberta. The PTJCMF will provide travel support for the undergraduate students travel from across Canada to Edmonton, Alberta.

The theme of next year's forum is International Trade and Environmental Sustainability, with sub-topics of Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Food Security. Both academic and industry professionals have been invited to give lectures to students at the forum. A field trip to Banff, followed by a closing ceremony in Calgary, Alberta is also planned. For more information about the 2011 JACAC Student Forum, please visit www.ptjc.ualberta.ca.



Undergraduate students at the Japan Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum, 2010

V. Report on the Canadian Network for Japanese Studies (CANJAS)

CANJAS links the University of Alberta with six other universities in Canada: the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria, the University of Calgary, Concordia University, the University of Toronto, and Saint Mary's University. The following CANJAS lectures took place over the past year and were broadcast via videoconferencing:

October 30, 2009

Presentation by Dr. Karl Friday: *Honor Bounds: Loyalty, Reputation & Probity in the Samurai Tradition*

This lecture examined samurai notions of honor and how they defined loyalty and other values of behavior over the course of the nearly ten centuries during which "the samurai tradition" evolved.

March 9, 2010

Presentation by Dr. John Bentley: *What Ryukyuan can teach us about Classical Japanese*

The relationship of classical Japanese and Ryukyuan is often misunderstood, but a proper understanding of the relationship between these two languages is not only of great importance to linguists, but also to historians and literature specialists. This talk discussed how Ryukyuan can be a helpful tool for a better understanding of classical Japanese.

March 11, 2010

Presentation by Dr. Joshua Fogel: *The Afterlife of a Material Object: The Mysterious Gold Seal of 57 C.E.*

In 57 C.E. the Guangwu Emperor awarded an emissary from somewhere in what is now Japan with a gold seal. It promptly disappeared until a farmer dug it up in Kyushu in 1784. This lecture attempts to sort out the waves of debate over the "gold seal" and see it in a larger context of Japan's cultural and political relationship to the Mainland of Asia.

October 1, 2010

Presentation by Dr. Keller Kimbrough: *Wondrous Brutal Fictions: Buddhist Sermon-Ballads and Miracle Plays of Seventeenth-Century Japan*

Keller Kimbrough will spoke about the early seventeenth-century history of the sekkyō and ko-jōruri puppet theaters. He sought to illuminate the wondrous and brutal world of early Edo-period stage performance while exploring the visual representational conventions of miracles, interrogations, and superhuman feats of resistance in the printed media of seventeenth-century Japan.

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The following is a list of the student participants from Canada and Japan:

Canada

Diane Connors (University of Alberta)

Lindsay Sutton (University of Alberta)

Geoff Kershaw (University of Alberta)

Jennifer McGetrick (University of Alberta)

Kristyn Housman (University of Alberta)

Abby Dacho (Queen's University)

Mark Ouseley (Queen's University)

Jennifer Whittaker (University of Prince Edward Island)

Sophia Lavergne (University of Manitoba)

Raj Maharaj (University of Manitoba)

Victoria Latter (University of Manitoba)

Bruno Desparts (University of Ottawa)

Angele Cyr (University of Ottawa)

Japan

Kensaku Ichikawa (Meiji University)

Yota Kitade (Meiji University)

Sohei Sakamoto (Meiji University)

Tamami Endo (Sophia University)

Yingwei Wang (Sophia University)

Yoko Higuchi (Tsuda College)

Haruna Aoyama (Tsuda College)

Masahiro Ohara (Keio University)

Masaki Honda (Keio University)

Hiroki Taguchi (Ritsumeikan University)

Mika Onishi (Ritsumeikan University)

Ikuya Kurata (Orbelin University)

Tomoaki Yoshida (Hokkaido University)

Tomohiro Koba (Nagoya University)

Yuto Ogawa (Kwansei Gakuin University)

Nobukane Fujita (Hosei University)

Mari Yoshida (Osaka University)



Student presentations at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, February 22, 2010.

Some comments from participants:

"Japan and its environmental efforts have gained an entirely new dimension for me as a result of the JACAC Forum. The trip has inspired me to dedicate future environmental research to studies of Japan and its environmental practices [...] My experiences during the trip sparked in me an even greater fascination for this beautiful country."
- Mark Ouseley, Queen's University

"The Japan Canada Academic Consortium was one of the best experiences in my academic life [...] I was able to have discussions about environmental problems and share my own thoughts with many people from different academic and cultural backgrounds and schools. Discussing and sharing thoughts are what I could not do only by myself, so, the [forum] was a great chance to deepen my thoughts and gain many different perspectives. It was a brilliant and sophisticated experience for me, and I would love to recommend this [forum] to students who seek to make a further step in their academic background."
- Tamami Endo, Sophia University



Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado is surrounded by students eager to converse with her during the JACAC Student Forum reception at the Canadian Embassy, February 22, 2010.

The great success of the first JACAC Student Forum will serve as a template for future Consortium events, including next year's Student Forum which will be hosted by the Prince Takamado Japan Centre at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Around 30 undergraduate students from across Canada and Japan will gather from February 21-27, 2011 to attend lectures by academic and industry professionals, conduct group sessions, and experience Canadian culture.

For more information about the Japan Canada Academic Consortium and its current members, please visit <http://www.ptjc.ualberta.ca/Consortium.cfm>.