

**THE PRINCE TAKAMADO JAPAN CENTRE
FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH
ANNUAL REPORT
June 1, 2015 – May 30, 2016**

Affiliated Faculties: Faculties of Arts and Education

Directors: Dr. Aya Fujiwara, Adjunct Professor
Department of History and Classics
fujiwara@ualberta.ca (1 July 2015 – 1 October 2016, 31 March
2016 – 30 May 2016)

Dr. Walter Davis, Associate Professor
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Submission Date:

MISSION OF THE CENTRE

Prince Takamado Japan Centre for Teaching and Research continues its efforts to fulfill the four mandates as listed below:

1. to promote teaching and research in Japan Studies;
2. to provide opportunities for interdisciplinary study and research which calls upon knowledge of Japanese language, culture, and/or Japan Studies;
3. to provide support for teachers in Japanese language and culture at all levels; and,
4. to become the focus of a network of expertise in these areas

SUMMARY

During the 2015-2016 academic year, the PTJC was in the transitional year due to the fact that Dr. Kaori Kabata, who served as the director for eight years, had finished her term. The new director, Dr. Aya Fujiwara, took the position on 1 July 2015 but entered maternity leave between 1 October 2015 and 31 March 2016. During her leave, Dr. Walter Davis was appointed as Acting director. Although in transition, PTJC successfully

completed a number of existing programs, including the JACAC student forum and prepared for the unit review, which began in May 2016.

For this academic year, our primary goal was to examine PTJC's past activities so that they would fit into the Faculty of Arts' mandates and research interests. The highlight of the year was the international conference, which commemorated one of the most significant events in human history – the 70th anniversary of the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan – hosting a SSHRC-funded conference, in collaboration with the Department of History and Classics. The event received overwhelming attention from other universities, media, and community.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2015-2016

Major Achievements:

Academic / Research

- Organized the '70 Years after Hiroshima' Conference and obtained grants from the Faculty of Arts, Kule Institute for Advanced Studies, and SSHRC.
- Began collecting papers for an edited book based on the Hiroshima Conference

Japanese Language and Japanese Studies Academic Events

- Organized two Japanese Language Proficiency Tests
- Served on the organizing committee for the Alberta District Japanese Speech Contest
- Attended the Japanese Consortium Meeting for Japanese Language instructors in Alberta

Japan-Canada Academic Consortium

- Co-organized the seventh Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum in Nagoya University, Japan
- Began preparation for the eighth Forum with UBC and Kwansei Gakuin University

Community Outreach

- Hosted with the Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary a tour for the students who visited the U of A campus under the Kakehashi Project, a Canada-Japan youth exchange program organized by the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada and Japan Foundation.

Event Details

July 5, 2015: Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

This is the fourth time the University of Alberta has hosted a summer edition of JLPT. As the sole institution that organizes this exam in summer, we received 95 applicants throughout North America. It provides both high school and university students with a great opportunity to visit the U of A campus and Edmonton. It also strengthens the tie with Japan Foundation as one of the significant collaborators of its major project.

September 18-19: International Conference: 70 Years After Hiroshima: Conceptualizing Nuclear Issues in Global Contexts

PTJC and Department of History and Classics organized an international conference to commemorate 70th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan. PTJC, the Department of History and Classics, the Faculty of Arts, the Kule Institute for Advanced Studies, the McRory Law Firm, SSHRC, and the China Institute were official sponsors. The idea was to analyze how the world has coexisted with the atom for 70 years. The participants discussed what messages and lessons Japan, as the rare country that experienced both atomic bombs and nuclear incidents, could send to the rest of the world. The conference was interdisciplinary, covering a wide range of fields. We received participants from many countries – Japan, Canada, France, Italy, United States, and New Zealand.

The conference hosted a keynote speaker and two invited guests from Canada and Japan respectively. Ritsuko Komaki, a radiation oncologist at MD Anderson Centre, University of Texas, who lived through the reconstruction era in Hiroshima after 1947, gave the keynote speech that combined her personal history with her research. The three Japanese scholars were Osamu Ieda, Professor of Central Europe and Environmental History at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Centre at Hokkaido University, Takao Takahara, Professor of International Relations and Director of International Peace Research Institute at Meiji Gakuin University, and Nobuyuki Kawano, Professor from the Institute of Peace Science at Hiroshima University. The two invited guests from Canada were Professor David Bercuson, University of Calgary and David Welch, Professor of Political Science at Waterloo University, Senior Fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation, and Chair of Global Security at the Balsillie School of International Affairs. Due to the contribution from the China Institute, we could also invite Liu Huaping, Professor of International History, Arms Control, International Security for undergraduates and graduates at the School of International relations, Beijing Language & Culture University. The Hon. Douglas Roche, O.C., former Canadian MP, Senator, Ambassador for Disarmament, and honorary citizen of Hiroshima, gave short remarks at the conference banquet.

September 22, 2015: Lecture, “EU and Hungary,” by Professor Osamu Ieda, Slavic-Eurasian Centre, Hokkaido University

PTJC facilitated Professor Ieda’s talk for approximately forty students in a EU course taught by Dr. Lori Thorlakson, Director of the European Union Centre for Excellence. Dr. Ieda, a specialist of Hungarian studies, examined a very topical issue about how Hungary controlled the EU border against the Syrian refugees. Students were very interested in

finding the gap between the media portrayal of Hungary's immigration policy and the dilemma it faces.

December 3, 2015: Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

PTJC organized the winter edition of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test. 69 people applied for the test. From the Japan Foundation Toronto, Deputy Director Chieko Kono came to observe the test.

January 2016: Princess Takamado English Essay Contest

This year, the theme of the competition was "What would be your ideal internship in Canada? What would you want to learn from it, and how would the experience help you to contribute to Japan's role in the global community in the 21st Century?" Masaru Yamamoto's "An Internship in School in Canada: The Window to the Further Advancement of Japan" won the first prize, and Sae Takebe's "Triangular Relationship between Canada, Japan and Cambodia" won the second prize. The winner will be taking part in the English Language Program at the Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta.

12-21 February 2016: Japan-Canada Academic Consortium Student Forum

The Japan-Canada Academic Consortium held its seventh annual Student Forum in Nagoya and Tokyo. With support from the Mitsubishi UFJ Foundation, the Embassy of Canada, the Government of Alberta's Japan Office, and the PTJC, Meiji University and Nagoya University organized a highly successful forum, the former university acting as the consortium's Japanese Secretariat and the latter serving as the forum's 2016 host. Fourteen student participants from the consortium's ten Canadian universities joined fourteen peers from the consortium's eleven Japanese universities in exploration of the theme "Energy and Society: Increasing Efficiency and Improving our Quality of Life."

Through a week of sessions at Nagoya University and on-site visits to Nagoya-area museums and experimental facilities, students considered such topics as developments in natural resource use, the history of scientific innovation, the material basis of urban life, the political implications of energy, and how to articulate plans for change through delivering effective presentations. Highlights of the students' educational experience included a lecture by Dr. Hiroshi Amano, winner of the 2014 Nobel Prize for Physics, and a presentation at the Toyota Commemorative Museum of Industry and Technology by Mr. Tatsuo Teratani, a former executive at Toyota Motor Corporation and lead engineer in the development of the Toyota Prius. Student participants worked together to formulate proposals for addressing critical issues in energy efficiency and conservation that Japan and Canada face, developing personal, transnational relationships that will enrich their lives and position them to make a difference in their diverse, future careers. At the forum's closing ceremonies, which the Embassy of Canada graciously hosted in Tokyo, participants publicly delivered their group proposals, and a panel of judges selected the finest presentation for delivery to the closing ceremonies' guest of

honour, Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado. After an ebullient closing reception at the Embassy of Canada, students celebrated privately with alumni of past forums.

More than one attendee of the 2016 Student Forum noted the high quality of the students' work and educational experience. As the Canadian Secretariat for the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium, the PTJC is looking forward to carrying on this positive momentum by helping organize the 8th annual forum, which will take place at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver in the spring of 2017.

19 March: 27th National Japanese Speech Contest

PTJCMF offered support for the 27th National Japanese Speech Contest. From the University of Alberta, Brogan Gordon won the grand prize, Gillian Froilan won the second prize in advanced category, and Vivian Kham won the second prize in intermediate category.

22 March 2016: Kakehashi Project

PTJC welcomed participants in the Kakehashi Project—a Japan-Canada student exchange program organized by the government of Japan and facilitated by the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada—to the University of Alberta. Six Japanese high school students and two teachers from Fukuoka toured PTJC's new facility and the Department of East Asian Studies. They also met with representatives of KGK, the East Asian Studies undergraduate student association, with whom they discussed their interests and for whom they demonstrated karate and kendo routines. Acting Director Walter Davis taught a mock art history class for the visitors in the university's Print Studies Centre, where they viewed early modern and modern Japanese prints from the university's art collection.

June 2016: Ritsumeikan Summer Program

Sixteen students were selected to attend this year's Ritsumeikan Summer Japanese Program, which takes place in Kyoto Japan. PTJC offered five scholarships to the participants. Students will participate in a language course, field trips, and attend Japanese cultural activities.

DIRECTOR'S MISSIONS

11 August 2015

Director Fujiwara organized a meeting with Consulate-General Ryosaku Tamura, Acting Dean Lise Gotell, and Associate Dean Research Michael O'Driscoll.

18 September 2015

Director Fujiwara held a meeting with Mr. Takeshi Ishida, Director of the Japan Foundation Toronto, Associate Dean Research Michael O'Driscoll, and Walter Davis, Interim Chair of the Department of East Asian Studies.

24 September 2015

Director Fujiwara met with Dr. Masakazu Iino, Dean of the Centre for International Education, Waseda University

24 September 2015

Acting Director Davis promoted summer programs organized by PTJC at the Department of East Asian Studies' table at the university's Go Abroad Fair.

26 November 2015

Acting Director Davis represented tPTJC at a celebration of the Emperor's birthday at the Japanese Consul-General's residence in Calgary.

11 December 2015

Both Acting Director Davis and Director Fujiwara met Mr. Mackenzie Clugston, Canadian Ambassador to Japan by the invitation from the Provost's Office.

19 February 2016

Acting Director Davis attended the JACAC closing ceremony with Acting Dean Lise Gotell at the Embassy of Canada in Japan.

12 March 2016

Acting Director Davis served as a judge of speeches presented at the Alberta High School Japanese Language Contest held at Harry Ainlay High School in Edmonton.

4 February 2016 and 24 March 2016

PTJC held information sessions for students interested in spring and summer programs that the centre assists and organizes at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto.

26 May 2016

Director Fujiwara met with Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado in Tokyo and reported to her on the centre's activities.

26 May 2016

Director Fujiwara met with Mr. David Anderson, Managing Director of the Alberta Japan Office in Tokyo and discussed our future collaboration.

ANNUAL PLAN 2016-2017

Regular Ongoing Activities/Events

- Applying for external grants

- Japanese Language Proficiency Exam
- Speech Contests (March).
- Japan Studies: Kyoto Summer Program.
- Liaise with the Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary and the Japan Foundation.
- Communications and public relations for the PTJC (including publications, website, etc.).
- Fundraising activities for the Centre.
- Japan-Canada Consortium.

Special Events

- The Director will apply for a SSHRC Insight Grant
- Publish an edited book for the Hiroshima Conference (Spring 2017)
- JACAC Forum under the title “Immigration policy, Foreign Workers, and Refugees” at UBC; the Director will be an academic lead for this event.
- Organize a special seminar by Joshua A. Fogel, York University in coordination with the Department of History and Classics
- Organize a lecture with Consulate-General of Japan in Calgary