

JAPANESE STUDIES AT OXFORD



Welcome

to the latest issue of the Oxford University Japanese Studies Newsletter

オックスフォード日本研究ニュースレター

改善 'change for the good' points to the importance of striving for continuous improvement in both our individual lives and organisations. It is in that spirit that we have consolidated and revised our existing master's courses into a single programme, and so from October 2017 we will launch our improved MSc and MPhil schemes. The main impact will be to bring all master's teaching about Japan into a single programme so that courses about pre-modern literature and language are offered alongside social science analyses of contemporary Japan and modern Japanese literature and language. Students will be able to mix and match, or to follow classical, literary, or linguistic pathways, or modern social scientific routes. Not all change is for the good though. As the British government moves to re-negotiate its relationship with Europe and the rest of the world, the cosmopolitan community of scholars and students that is the University of Oxford remains committed to the pursuit of international values in both research and teaching. A glance at the list of colleagues in the next column shows how Japanese studies here is supported by scholars from all over the world. Recent recruits to our undergraduate and graduate courses have come from all over Europe, North America, Africa, and Asia. The descriptions of the research that some of them are now doing that appear on pages 3 and 4 will give an idea of the broad range of topics they are addressing. Whatever changes the next few years will bring, we will continue to look for excellent research collaboration, and for the best recruits to our programmes wherever we can find them. We are in no doubt that our students emerge from their studies here well equipped to contribute to 'change for the good'.

Ian Neary
Bjarke Frellesvig

Faculty teaching about Japan and doing research on Japan in the University of Oxford

Jennifer Corbett (PhD Michigan)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese Economics

Inge Daniels (BA Leuven, MA Nara, PhD UCL)

Associate Professor in Social Anthropology

Linda Flores (MA Washington, PhD UCLA)

Associate Professor in Japanese (Modern Japanese literature)

Bjarke Frellesvig (MA, PhD Copenhagen)

Professor of Japanese Linguistics and Director of the University's Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics

Roger Goodman (BA Durham, DPhil Oxford)

Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies and Head of Social Sciences Division

Philip Grover (MA Dundee, MSc Oxford)

Curator & Head of Photograph and Manuscript Collections, Pitt Rivers Museum

Jennifer Guest (MA Waseda, MA/PhD Columbia)

Associate Professor in Japanese (Classical Japanese literature)

Junko Hagiwara (MA Ealing College of Higher Education)

Senior Instructor in Japanese

Phillip Harries (MA, DPhil Oxford)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese (Classical Japanese literature)

Hiroe Kaji (MA Ulster, MA Brookes University)

Instructor in Japanese Language

Takehiko Kariya (BA MA Tokyo, PhD Northwestern)

Professor in the Sociology of Japan

Sho Konishi (PhD Chicago)

Associate Professor in Modern Japanese History

James Lewis (MA, PhD Hawai'i)

Associate Professor in Korean History

James McMullen (MA, PhD Cambridge)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese (Intellectual history)

Ian Neary (BA Sheffield, DPhil Sussex)

Professor in the Politics of Japan and Course Director for the MSc/MPhil in Modern Japanese Studies

Paul Newman (MEng Oxford, PhD Sydney)

BP Professor of Information Engineering

Kaori Nishizawa (BA Tsukuba)

Instructor in Japanese Language

Clare Pollard (MA Cambridge, DPhil Oxford)

Curator of Japanese Art at the Ashmolean Museum (Japanese ceramics)

Brian Powell (MA, DPhil Oxford)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese (Japanese theatre)

Kerri L. Russell (MA, PhD Hawai'i)

Departmental Lecturer in Japanese Linguistics

Heath Rose (MEd, PhD Sydney)

Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics (Department of Education)

Mari Sako (MSc, PhD London)

Professor in Management Studies (Saïd Business School; Japanese management and labour)

Jonathan Service (MA SOAS, PhD Harvard)

Okinaga Junior Research Fellow in Japanese (Wadham College)

Arthur Stockwin (PhD ANU)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese Politics

Izumi Tytler (BA Keio, MA London)

Bodleian Japanese Librarian

M. Antoni J. Üçerler (DPhil Oxford)

Research Scholar, Campion Hall; Japanese-Western contacts in the 16th and 17th centuries)

Pamela Wace (MSc Reading, DPhil Oxford)

Research Associate, Pitt Rivers Museum, Japanese Archaeology

Ann Waswo (PhD Stanford)

Emeritus Fellow in Japanese History

Hugh Whittaker (PhD Imperial College London)

Professor in the Economy and Business of Japan, Director of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies

Research and teaching associates

Professor Roger Buckley

Dr Toshie Okita

Dr Chigusa Yamaura

Dr Ekaterina Hertog

Student research

All degrees in Japanese at Oxford, undergraduate, masters and doctoral involve a substantial piece of research. Here we present some examples of the research being done by our students this year.

Filippo Cervelli

DPhil Oriental Studies, Pembroke College

Through the analysis of works in contemporary Japanese literature, manga and anime appeared between 1995 and 2015, Filippo's dissertation project argues that present-day Japan is characterised by an emphasis on immediacy, summarised aptly by the popular TV slogan *ima deshō* by teacher turned TV celebrity Hayashi Osamu. The emphasis on immediacy reveals the perception that society is no longer providing solid ideologies for prosperity or meaning in life. In this ideological vacuum individuals feel disoriented and misrepresented by institutions. Thus, they refrain from engaging with broad social issues, and focus on the circumscribed dimension of the present moment, acting with quick, not well thought-out actions to fill the void for an instant.

In April Filippo made a fieldwork trip to Tokyo, where he collected sources at the Diet Library and interviewed relevant personalities such as the sociologist Ōsawa Masachi, and the writers Taguchi Randy, Hirano Keiichirō, and Abe Kazushige.

Matthew Gracey-McMinn

DPhil in Traditional East Asia, St Anne's College

Matthew's project examines the actual social experiences, social structures, and modes of interpersonal interaction of the lower and middle classes in Tokugawa Japan to determine how closely they matched the models created by philosophical works and how they interacted with legal demands. His conclusions are that philosophical works presented an extreme version of interpersonal relations: with women subordinated to men, inheritance down the male line, men performing productive tasks while women performed reproductive ones and a hierarchical class system based upon Neo-Confucianism with strict class boundaries. However, in practice these philosophical ideals were ignored in favour of socio-economic demands and pre-Tokugawa customs. Women could inherit, lead households, and had the power to initiate divorce; men and women both performed productive and reproductive tasks according to their talents and the needs of the household; and class boundaries were blurred

by inter-marriage and the diversification of modes of income. The law stood somewhere between these two: it ostensibly mimicked the philosophical ideal, but, in application, magistrates adhered to regional customs and socio-economic realities; to do otherwise would engender anti-*Bakufu* sentiment. The *Bakufu* was willing to compromise in legal matters in order to allow people to meet their socio-economic needs and the demands of local customs, but reserved the right to interfere should they stray too far from the philosophical ideal and present a threat to the social order.

Maximilian Jost

BA Oriental Studies (Japanese), Pembroke College

Japanese people still believe they are "peculiar," not just culturally, but also physically. The body as a marker of membership in an imagined community such as a nation is underestimated in social sciences. Max's dissertation project, 'Imagining Corporeal Communities in Japan: Culture and the Body in Aikido', focuses on an Aikido dojo in Japan and interviews with Aikido practitioners in the Kansai region, revealing that Japanese people do not just imagine their nation as a cultural community, as is described for example in Benedict Anderson's work – they also imagine Japan as a "corporeal community," where certain physical attributes are prerequisite to membership. These attributes are born at least in part vis-à-vis a stereotypical Western body. Increased contact with other nations through globalization has, at least in Japanese martial arts such as Aikido, not led to weaker, but stronger national consciousness.

Kimiko Kuga

DPhil in Politics, St Cross College

Kimiko's thesis examines the issues of commercial sexual exploitation and the Technical Intern Training Programme (TITP) between 1990 to 2014 as cases of human trafficking. She argues that they show how Japan has faced institutional changes related to otherness including women and foreigners in society. Investigating human trafficking helps us understand how feminist and labour movement activists working for the integration of immigrant workers use human trafficking discourses to protect human rights in Japan. She conducted her first period of fieldwork from October 2015 to January 2016 in Tokyo where she collected materials at the National Diet Library and NGO offices and conducted interviews with activists and lawyers. In the process of this first fieldwork she identified TITP in the textile industry as worthy of further investigation as a labour side issue. This will be the focus for the second fieldwork visit from September 2016.

Chinami Oka

MSc in Modern Japanese Studies, St Antony's College

Chinami's research focuses on the emergence and development of transnational cooperation between Japanese and Burmese civil activists against the Burmese military state since 1988. Her research offers a new way of looking at the Japanese and Burmese relationality beyond the contemporary international history of Japan and Burma, which often depicts Japan-Burma state relations as a legacy of WWII. Behind the dominant historical views, Japanese grassroots actors have coordinated with Burmese civic activists and refugees in Japan, Burma, and Thailand against a background of socio-political control by the Burmese military. Their connectivity emerges by looking beyond their professional life and examining unofficial time, particularly weekends. Compared to hierarchical state relations between Japan and Burma, their grassroots relationality has an emphasis on non-hierarchical relationships between Japanese and Burmese activists and continuous dialogue between them. Chinami's research hence uncovers a grassroots contemporary history of Japan and Burma alternative to the dominant Japan-Burma history at the state level.

Artur Olszewski

MSc in Modern Japanese Studies, St Antony's College

In June 2015 Japan introduced its first corporate governance code, which brought substantial *de jure* convergence with the Anglo-American model through introducing a mandate of maintaining at least two independent directors. However, has a *de facto* paradigm shift from the 'community firm' to the Anglo-American model truly occurred in the last decade and particularly following the introduction of the corporate governance code? My research question arises from this debate and I address it based on examining the changing role of independent directors in Japanese companies throughout this period of regulatory and economic change, between 2005 and 2016. I aim to elucidate my research through conducting fieldwork in Tokyo, consisting of interviews with asset managers and consultants focusing on Japanese corporate governance. As part of this process I will be completing an internship in the fund management department of Schroder Investment Management (Japan) Ltd. The internship opportunity should provide me with substantial insight regarding stakeholders' perspectives on the role of independent directors in Japanese companies.

New member of staff



Heath Rose
Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics

I initially trained as a high school Japanese language teacher in Australia, but then spent most of my early career in Japan teaching English. After completing a M.Ed. and Ph.D. at the University of Sydney, I returned to Japan for eight years to take up a position at a university in Tokyo. During this time, I helped set up the language curriculum for one of Japan's first bilingual business degree programs at Rikkyo University. In 2012, I moved to Trinity College Dublin to take up a lectureship in the school of linguistics, and then came to Oxford in September 2015. Although most of my research these days explores the impact of English as a global language, I still maintain an academic interest in Japan and Japanese language education. I have an upcoming book titled "The Japanese Writing System: Challenges for Second Language Acquisition" (Multilingual Matters), and have authored a number of papers on language education practices in Japan. Even though my own Japanese language knowledge has faded considerably since 2012, I am thankful to be able to maintain contact with Japan through Oxford's strong Japan-related interests and activities.

New research publications

Roger Buckley

War and Rumours of War 1918–1945, Japan, the West and Asia Pacific – selected contemporary readings on crises and conflict Series 1 1918–1937 From Armistice to North China.

Bjarke Frellesvig. 2015.

"Why romanize a corpus of (Old) Japanese?" コーパスと日本語史研究 *Corpus-Based Historical Studies in Japanese*, edited by Yasuhiro Kondo, Makiro Tanaka, and Toshinobu Ogiso, pp. 167–175. Hituzi Syobo Publishing.

Horn, Stephen Wright and Kerri L. Russell.

2015. "The Oxford Corpus of Old Japanese." In Kondo, Yasuhiro, Makiro Tanaka, and Toshinobu Ogiso (eds.). 『コーパスと日本語史研究』 *Corpus-Based Historical Studies in Japanese*. pp. 177–195. ひつじ書房 Hituzi Syobo Publishing, Tokyo.

Irwin, Mark, Miyashita, Mizuki, and Russell, Kerri.

The Rendaku Database v2.9. http://www-h.yamagata-u.ac.jp/~irwin/site/Rendaku_Database.html

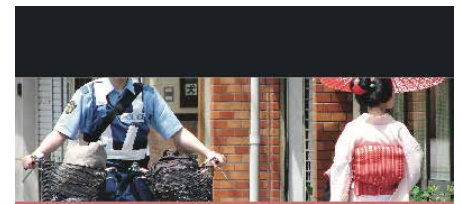
Russell, Kerri L. 2016. 上代東国語の移動動詞について — コーパスによる研究 —

(Motion verbs in Eastern Old Japanese: A corpus based study). In Takubo, Yukinori, John Whitman, and Hirako Tatsuya, ed. 『琉球諸語と古代日本語』 pp. 39–56. くろしお出版 Kurosio Publishers, Tokyo

Pia Jolliffe, Gefangnisse und Zwangsarbeit auf der japanischen Nordinsel Hokkaido, LIT Verlag 2016

Silvia Croydon

The Politics of Police Detention in Japan – consensus of convenience, Clarendon Studies in Criminology, Oxford, 2016.



The Politics of Police Detention in Japan

Consensus of Convenience
SILVIA CROYDON

Clarendon Studies in Criminology

research

INCAS

Members of the Nissan Institute have joined colleagues at the Saïd Business School in Oxford, EHESS Paris, Freie Universität Berlin, and Waseda University Tokyo to create an advanced research and training network. Entitled 'Understanding institutional change in Asia: A comparative perspective with Europe' ('INCAS' for short), the network is funded under the EU Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions Rise Program, and runs from 2015–19.

Oxford participants include Professors Mari Sako and Colin Mayer of Saïd Business School, and Professors Ian Neary and Hugh Whittaker of the Nissan Institute. They will bring their particular focus on

liberalization and financialization from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Japan is of particular interest given significant changes in corporate governance and its regulation over the past couple of years, in part designed to dismantle some of the distinctive features of the post-war high growth era, and relatedly, changing political balances in policy making. These changes will be explored comparatively, both with other Asian countries, and with European countries.

The goal of INCAS is to create and transfer knowledge on comparative institutional change within the network and beyond it.

events

Suntory Foundation workshop

In 2012 the Suntory Foundation launched a research project 'Re-examining Japan in a Global Context'. Eight forums have followed, each focussing on the work of two scholars, one of whom is Japanese. This year the theme was 'Future challenges for medical care – from a comparative perspective' and the two keynote speakers were Dr Naonori Kodate from University College Dublin and Professor James Tiessen of Ryerson University. Dr Kodate focused his remarks on the challenges faced by the Japanese health care system and research agendas for the future while Professor Tiessen considered the difficulties and pay-offs of trying to learn from the experience of other health care systems. Each paper was addressed by discussants – Roger Goodman, Rebecca Surendran and Stuart Basten of Oxford University and Ken Endo from Hokkaido University.

The forum was generously funded by the Suntory Foundation who brought scholars not only from Japan and the UK but also the USA to participate in the discussions.

Nissan Institute seminars

The Nissan Institute seminar in Japanese studies is the main regular seminar series in Oxford on Japan and has been instrumental as a forum for academics discussion on a wide variety of themes. In the latter part of 2016 this included presentations on mapping in late Edo, Japan as a sea power and the legacy of Japanese imperial cinema.

Many of the past seminars are available as podcasts here: <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/nissan-institute-japanese-studies>. Details of seminars in the coming terms will be publicised on our website as soon as they have been decided.



Kabuki — On Stage, Behind the Scenes: Photographs by Akio Kushida and Stephanie Berger

12 July–16 October 2016

Pitt Rivers Museum | Long Gallery | admission free

Actor Nakamura Shichinosuke II applying his make-up prior to a performance of the kabuki play Sumidagawa Gonichi no Omokage, also known as Hokaibō. On the back of his mirror can be seen the mon (family crest) of the celebrated Nakamura family of kabuki actors, a ginkgo leaf. Photograph by Stephanie Berger. July 2007. For more information about the exhibition, please visit www.prm.ox.ac.uk/nakamura

forthcoming events

Hiroshige's Japan: Views of Mount Fuji

15 Nov 2016–26 March 2017

Ashmolean | Gallery 29 | admission free

Mount Fuji has long been praised by poets and depicted by artists for its beautiful shape and sacred status. In the mid-nineteenth century the great landscape print designer Utagawa Hiroshige (1797–1858) produced numerous views of Mount Fuji in different seasons and weather conditions – a subject which had already been made popular by Katsushika Hokusai in his famous series of 1830–33. A new exhibition in the Ashmolean's Eastern Art Prints and Paintings Gallery highlights prints from several different series and in different formats. It is the second in a series of displays focusing on woodblock prints by Hiroshige from the museum's collection – some of the prints can be found in the catalogue, Landscape, Cityscape: Hiroshige Woodblock Prints in the Ashmolean Museum, by Clare Pollard and Mitsuko Ito Watanabe

The Sukiya Embankment in the Eastern Capital, from the series 'Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji', 1858, presented by Mrs. E. Allan and Mr and Mrs. H. N. Spalding, EAX.4379



East Asian linguistics seminar



The East Asian Linguistics Seminar (EALS) is a seminar series that takes place every year in Hilary term in the Faculty of Oriental Studies. During 2016, our talks included Bjarke Frellesvig (University of Oxford) on 'Verb Verb Complex Predicates in Old Japanese', Anna Bordilovskaya (Kobe University/University

of Oxford) on 'A Study of English Loanword Adjectival Modifiers in Contemporary Japanese', Jieun Kiaer (University of Oxford) on 'Emoji-ing Matters in the Translanguaging Turn: The Case of Korean', Naoko Hosokawa (University of Oxford) on 'Language and Identity in Contemporary Japan: National Sentiment Expressed through Public Attitudes towards Western Loanwords', Jaeuk Park (Newcastle University) on 'A Korean Digital Kitchen', Sofia Rüdiger (University of Bayreuth) on 'Spoken English in South Korea: A Corpus-Based Investigation', Miyuki Kamiya (University of York) on 'Japanese Mimetics as Prenominal Modifiers: the case of tenseless sita', and Hae-Sung Jun (University of Central Lancashire) on 'The role of prosodic context in word segmentation: a word spotting experiment in Korean'. More information about Japanese language and linguistics research at Oxford, including current and past schedules for the EALS and downloadable files of many of the presentations, can be found on the Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics website:

www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling

Filming of 徳川家康朱印状 (Tokugawa Ieyasu's shuinjo)

The Bodleian's Shuinjo – a vermilion-seal document which constitutes the first trade agreement between England and Japan – featured prominently in 'Sekai e Go Part II: the Shogun and Anglo-Japanese Relations', broadcast in October 2015 on NHK.

It explored in some detail the conflicting interests of the major European powers in Japan at a time of intense diplomatic and commercial competition. While England's East India Company viewed Japan as a major opportunity for development, the Dutch, Spanish, and the Portuguese were already attempting to ingratiate themselves with the Shogun and displace their rivals. In the end it was the Dutch who gained the upper hand, forcing the British trading house to close after only ten years.

[An article on the Shuinjo, co-authored by Derek Massarella and Izumi Tytler, 'The Japonian Charters: the English and Dutch Shuinjo' was originally published in Monumenta Nipponica and is now available online in the Oxford Research Archive (ORA).]



Slow Cities and the Revitalisation of Shrinking Communities in Japan

The idea of the 'Slow City' originated in Europe as a sustainable rural development movement. Can it provide an alternative way for the revitalisation of rural Japan? This was the theme for a seminar organised by the Nissan Institute in March this year. Participants came from Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, and the UK, presenting work based in a range of disciplines from economics, geography, history, and politics to sociology. Professor Gert-Jan Hospers (University of Twente) reviewed the pervasive shrinkage of rural communities in Europe, and suggested that accepting shrinkage would be the most suitable approach, even though it would require a shift from the dominant pro-growth mind-set. Mr Oliveti (Cittaslow International) considered the Slow City concept as an alternative vision of modernisation in response to the "social desertification" of the contemporary world, and discussed its transferability to shrinking communities in Asia. Ms Chang, a DPhil student in the Geography and the Environment Department, talked about the

theoretical relevance and practical limitations of the Slow City approach in enhancing the resilience of Japanese shrinking communities, based on the fieldwork she has conducted in Japan, Italy, and Germany. Professor Sakuno (Shimane University) introduced his research on severely marginalised communities, and questioned the direction of current Japanese policy that prioritised efficiency over the survival of shrinking communities. Dr Matanle (University of Sheffield) suggested that rural regions could take a lead in achieving "depopulation dividends", referring to his studies on post-growth development activities in remote islands in Japan and New Zealand. Dr Hirai's (Hiroshima University) analysis of recent youth counter-urbanisation

indicated that the phenomenon was a result of long-term economic stagnation and demographic shifts in Japan. A round table discussion ended the workshop revealing the multidimensionality and complex nature of shrinkage.

The Japanese Embassy financially supported the event.



The Kyoto Prize Comes to Oxford



The Vice-Chancellor Professor Louise Richardson visited Tokyo on 9 May 2016 to sign an agreement for a major new collaboration between Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government and the Inamori Foundation to bring the Kyoto Prize to Oxford. From May 2017, laureates of the Kyoto Prize will be invited to Oxford every year and will take part in lectures, panel discussions, and celebratory events aimed at highlighting their achievements and the values that underpin their work.

Joining the Vice-Chancellor at the press conference were officials from the Inamori Foundation, Professor Ngaire Woods dean of the Blavatnik School of Government, and the British Ambassador to Japan, Tim Hitchens.

The Kyoto Prize is an international award presented annually in three categories. Candidates for the prizes are chosen by the Inamori Foundation but final selection is by a Kyoto Prize committee. The laureates for 2016 were announced June.

Dr Takeo Kanade in the **Advanced Technology** category is being recognised for his pioneering contributions to computer vision and robotics in particular the development of an artificial intelligence system capable of self-driving.

Dr Tasuku Honjo in the **Basic Sciences** category works the field of molecular biology, cell biology, and neurobiology. He discovered the mechanism responsible for the functional diversification of antibodies that has led to the development of effective cancer immunotherapy.

Dr Martha Nussbaum in the **Arts and Philosophy** category challenges the conventional ideas of equality and has established a new theory of justice which introduces human capabilities into the criteria for social justice.

Following the award ceremony in Kyoto in November, the laureates will travel to San Diego for the Kyoto Prize Symposium, and then to Oxford. The Kyoto Prize at Oxford will provide the chance for students and faculty across Oxford, and more broadly for people across Europe, to hear more about the work of these three prize winners and to learn about the Inamori philosophy and the values of the Kyoto Prize.



Oxford Students at Kobe University

Hannie Knox (3rd year, BA Japanese)

In the current undergraduate course begun in 2011, students studying Japanese at Oxford spend their second year studying at Kobe University. While there students receive fifteen hours of language tuition a week, as well as having the opportunity to take classes alongside Japanese students in the faculty of letters. Each of us was paired with a Kobe student who helped with daily life in Japan, organising mobile phones, opening bank accounts, and the paying of bills. They acted like a mentor throughout the whole year and were a point of call if we ever had any issues. We shared the language classes with international students from countries ranging from China to Bulgaria. Some spoke English, but the common language in the classroom was Japanese, which was a great experience. Losing the ability to revert back to English whenever we wanted to explain something really pushed us to improve our Japanese. Kobe University organised a variety of trips for us: from visiting the atomic bomb memorial museum in Hiroshima to going skiing in Nagano. We visited these parts of Japan with teachers from the area who gave us insight beyond the usual tourist experience. It was the first time in Japan for many of us. The immersive program gave us the chance to experience Japanese student life, improve our language, and see more of our country of study.

Craft Workshop



Last November Professors Misako Inoue and Chie Shimosaka of Otsuma Gakuin held a craft workshop in the Kotaka room at Hertford College. Students from both universities learned how to make traditional Japanese New Year's crafts such as origami, needlework coasters, and new years ornaments. The Kotaka room is named after Kotaka Otsuma, who was a pioneer of women's education in Japan. It celebrates Hertford College's relation with Otsuma Gakuin University and is situated in its graduate centre.

Oxford students in this year's Japanese speech contests

Grace Mayhew (BA Japanese, 4th year) – Finalist, Eleventh Japanese Speech Contest for University Students (UK and Ireland)

Artur Olszewski (MSc in Modern Japanese Studies) – Sir Peter Parker Awards for Spoken Business Japanese: Special prize winner 2016. Topic: Japanese Corporate Governance Reform: Reinventing Corporate Japan?

JAPANESE STUDIES AT OXFORD

Taught graduate courses in Japanese Studies at Oxford

From 2017/8 the masters' programmes operated by the Nissan Institute and Faculty of Oriental Studies will be merged into one to be known as the MSc/MPhil in Japanese Studies. The structure will be essentially the same as in the past combining courses about Japan – past and present – research methods and, where appropriate, Japanese language training.

The MPhil course in Traditional East Asia will continue. For more details please enquire at:

MSc/MPhil in Japanese Studies www.nissan.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students

MPhil in Traditional East Asia, www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/ea/mphil_tradea.html

Doctoral Research in Japanese Studies

From academic year 2017/8 it will be possible to apply to do doctoral work within either the Nissan Institute (School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Social Science Division) or the Oriental Institute (Humanities Division). In the first instance please contact directly the person who you think most appropriate as a supervisor. See the list on p 2 of this newsletter.

Please note that we now have a unified gateway website for Japanese Studies: <http://www.japanese.ox.ac.uk/>

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The Kongyūkai 紺牛会

The Kongyūkai is a society of former students and teachers of Japanese at Oxford. Current students are also welcome to join. Members can network through two internet groups. The society holds an annual dinner in Oxford and occasional events in London.

The 2015 dinner in Wolfson College remembered the life and work of Dr Mark Rebick, who had passed away earlier in the year, and celebrated the 80th birthday of Professor Arthur Stockwin.

The society is open (no membership fee) to all those who have studied Japan or taught Japanese studies courses at Oxford. New members can join through the Kongyūkai Facebook group (Groups: Kongyukai) or at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kongyukai/>. (The Facebook group is the more active).

For further information, contact Brian Powell: b_w_f_powell@hotmail.com

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