

オックスフォード  
日本研究

ISSUE 5 | 2013

# 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学ニュースレター

Japan is back' – or at least, that's what PM Abe claimed while he was in Washington earlier this year. Certainly, Abe Shinzo is back as prime minister, and 'Abenomics' has succeeded for the time being in creating a sense of optimism about the future of Japan and its political economy.

However, the LDP was not as popular among voters in December 2012 as its electoral victory seemed to suggest, and the PM has so far proceeded with caution. Still, if, as seems likely, the LDP really does well in the forthcoming House of Councillors elections, PM Abe will have a stable majority in both houses and not need to face a national election for three years. Will he be able to provide the leadership he promises? And, in which direction will he take Japan?

Japan's first formal links with the UK were established in the summer of 1613, when the captain of the *Clove* brought letters and presents from King James I to the court of the Shogun. In return, he received a suit of armour, paintings, and a *shuinjō* ('vermillion seal letter') from Tokugawa Ieyasu that gave permission to the British East India Company to reside and trade in Japan. This *shuinjō* is held in the Bodleian Library, and we will host a workshop on 2 October to discuss the significance of this exchange as part of the UK Japan 400, which celebrates the four-century relationship between our two countries.

Japan never went away from Oxford. Student numbers at undergraduate, masters, and doctoral level remain strong. As is clear from the reports you will read in the rest of this newsletter, we contemplate both past and future with enthusiasm.

Ian Neary

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

Inge Daniels (BA Leuven, MA Nara, PhD UCL)  
University Lecturer in Social Anthropology

Linda Flores (MA Washington, PhD UCLA)  
University Lecturer in Japanese (Modern Japanese literature)

Bjarke Frellesvig (MA, PhD Copenhagen)  
Professor of Japanese Linguistics

Roger Goodman (BA Durham, DPhil Oxford)  
Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies

Philip Grover  
Assistant Curator, Photograph and Manuscript Collections,  
Pitt Rivers Museum

Jennifer L Guest (BA Yale, MA, MPhil, PhD Columbia)  
University Lecturer in Japanese (Classical Japanese literature)

Junko Hagiwara (MA, Ealing College of Higher Education)  
Senior Instructor in Japanese

Ekaterina Hertog (MA Moscow, MSc, DPhil Oxford)  
Career Development Fellow in the Sociology of Japan

Stephen Wright Horn (MA Osaka, PhD Ohio State University)  
Postdoctoral Researcher in Japanese Linguistics

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)  
University Lecturer in Modern Japanese History

James Lewis (MA, PhD Hawaii)  
University Lecturer in Korean History (Japanese diplomatic and economic history of the pre-modern period, Japanese-Korean relations)

Hiroaki Matsuura (BA Keio, MA Chicago, MSc Northwestern, ScD Harvard)  
University Lecturer in the Economy of Japan

Ian Neary (BA Sheffield, DPhil Sussex)  
Professor in the Politics of Japan

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)  
Assistant Keeper at the Ashmolean Museum (Japanese ceramics)

Kerri L Russell (MA, PhD Hawaii)  
Postdoctoral Researcher in Japanese Linguistics

Mari Sako (MSc, PhD London)  
Professor in Management Studies  
(Saïd Business School; Japanese management and labour)

Tuukka Toivonen (MSc, DPhil Oxford)  
Junior Research Fellow (Management) at Green Templeton College

Izumi Tytler (MA London)  
Bodleian Japanese Librarian (Bodleian Japanese Library)

M Antoni J Üçerler (DPhil Oxford)  
Research Scholar (Campion Hall; Japanese-Western contacts in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries)

Pamela Wace (MSc Reading, DPhil Oxford)  
Research Associate (The Pitt Rivers Museum; Japanese Archaeology)



©Nisair Hamid

## Student Research

All degrees in Japanese at Oxford, including the BA, entail the writing of a substantial piece of research, from the undergraduate 15,000 word dissertation to the doctoral dissertation. Here we present some examples of the research done by our students.

### Mikael E J Bourqui (DPhil in Sociology, St Antony's College)

Mikael is doing research on social change in contemporary Tokyo, with a special focus on the changing social makeup of different areas within the larger Tokyo region. His thesis engages with the many hypotheses that are being put forward about the impact of financial globalisation, technological change, and other economic factors on the social composition of major cities, without neglecting to consider the ways in which Tokyo's future is constrained or influenced by its past and by institutional structures specific to Japan, to the extent that such specificity survives today. The project involves testing broad hypotheses using innovative statistical methods and verifying those results on the ground through fieldwork. In that connection, Mikael is spending the 2013-14 academic year at the Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo, on a fellowship from the Japan Foundation.

### James Kane (BA in Oriental Studies (Japanese), The Queen's College)

James's dissertation investigates the role of the House of Peers, the upper chamber of the prewar Japanese legislature, during Japan's period of 'party government' in the 1920s. Concentrating on an attempted reform to the House in 1924-25, he seeks to synthesise contemporary sources, later Japanese studies, and a modern analytical framework to understand the reform and its failure as the product of an extremely strong form of bicameralism and in the context of the growing influence of lower house political parties in the second chamber.

### Anna Schrade (DPhil in Modern History, Pembroke College)

Anna's research is on something few people know actually existed: Japanese anti-pollution movements (*'kogai undo'*) between 1945 and 1970. Anna tries to show that Japan's environmental movements had already started in the late 1940s, and that local networks, in an effort to help themselves, often took on functions usually ascribed to the state. The main focus of Anna's research is on what she terms the 'conservative revolt' in Kitakyushu, where local women's organisations conducted large-scale pollution research and successfully petitioned local government and industry between 1949 and 1967. In a broader sense, Anna's dissertation focuses on Japanese social movements, civil society, democratic participation, environmental consciousness, and local politics between 1945 and 1970. (Anna will finish her research at Kobe University, where she was offered a position as Lecturer starting in October 2013)

### Reece Scott (MSc in Modern Japanese Studies, St Antony's College)

Reece's dissertation seeks to contribute to studies of current Japanese foreign policy by examining the role of universal values in the foreign policy rhetoric of the first and second premierships of Shinzo Abe. It will place particular emphasis on how Japanese cooperation with 'like-minded democracies' such as Australia and India, as well as with organisations such as ASEAN and NATO, stems from a diplomatic philosophy that has come to be known as 'values diplomacy'.

### Sakumi Shimizu (MSc in Modern Japanese Studies, St Antony's College)

Sakumi's dissertation explores Japanese employees' attitudes towards cause-related marketing. In examining cause-related marketing as part of the CSR project, which is viewed as a potent marketing tool to increase revenues and strengthen communication between companies, non-profit organisations, and customers, she examines how Japanese employees' involvement in the cause-related marketing project have increased communication within organisations.

As part of her research, Sakumi conducted surveys and interviews with employees of one of the leading socially responsible firms in Japan, and its overseas branches. She found that not only do employee perceptions of ethical projects differ in response to different market environments; they also change depending on an employee's position within the organisation. She is now analysing how different attitudes towards cause-related marketing influence the effectiveness of the practice in enhancing communication between employees.

### Agnieszka Zbieranska (BA in Oriental Studies (Japanese), Hertford College)

Agnieszka's dissertation examines the work of three contemporary Japanese writers – Murakami Haruki, Yoshimoto Banana, and Murakami Ryū – from a new perspective. By engaging both English and Japanese discourses on trauma and healing, she explores the sources of trauma, methods of healing, and accompanying psychological states that appear in works by these authors from the 1980s onwards. Living in the shadow of war, death, and abandonment, the protagonists of these works are subjected to the contingencies of loneliness, exile, and displacement; their experiences are described in terms which closely replicate Freud's theories of trauma. In her dissertation, Agnieszka also demonstrates that analysing Murakami Haruki's, Yoshimoto Banana's, and Murakami Ryū's novels, essays, and interviews in consideration of what the psychiatrist Saitō Tamaki called the 'trauma and healing boom' reveals a continuous and conscious dialogue taking place between these authors and their readership; a dialogue which enables both the authors and their readers to work with, work through, and overcome their traumas.

## New Books



**Mari Sako  
(with Masahiro Kotosaka)**

"Continuity and Change in the Japanese Economy: Evidence of Institutional Interactions in Financial and

Labour Markets". In Walter, Andrew and Xiaoke Zhang, eds. *East Asian Capitalism: Diversity, Continuity and Change*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

# events

## Conference on Engaging with Japanese Studies: revisiting the question of 'why Japan matters'

**Convenors: Professor Takehiko Kariya and Professor Roger Goodman, Dr Yuki Imoto, Keio University and Mrs Suzuko Anai, Oxford Brookes University**



Professor Eyal Ben-Ari and Professor Takeo Funabiki

This two-day conference was held on the 14 and 15 March 2013, with the aim of engaging scholars and public figures working on 'Japan' as a field of study in a reflexive discussion on the state and future of Japanese Studies: specifically to reconsider 'why Japan matters'.

While this question has been a recurrent theme for those in the field, and even been emphasised specifically aligned with China's rising power and the crises following the 3-11 disasters, we discussed why and how it has been answered over time, who gets to define why Japan matters, and how we can situate and understand the present situation of Japanese Studies in the context of larger patterns of discourse.

A second aim of this conference was to promote intergenerational dialogue between scholars across different institutions and from different countries. We invited junior researchers from British universities whose posts have been funded by the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, as well as representatives of the younger generation of scholars based in Japan to meet and discuss these issues with eminent senior scholars from different countries. Amongst those senior scholars, we invited Professors Yoshio Sugimoto and Chihiro Kinoshita-Thomson from Australia, Patricia Steinhoff from the US, Takeo Funabiki from Japan and Eyal Ben-Ari from Israel.

The themes of our discussions included: the changing institutions of Japanese Studies; the shifting boundaries and identities of Japanese Studies; looking beyond Nihonjinron; Japanese Language Teaching and Japanese Studies; images and realities of Japan and Japanese Studies; and changing models of Japanese Studies. Nearly sixty people attended and joined the conversations. From the presentations and

discussions, we learned that situation of Japanese Studies and Japanese language teaching and their recent trends differed between the US, Australia, Japan, and Britain and that despite a short-sighted impression of rising Chinese Studies vis-a-vis declining Japanese Studies, Japanese Studies has even tended to expand in the US. Japan based scholars, on the other hand, reported that under the pressure of 'globalisation', programmes of Japanese Studies taught in English had been developed in Japanese higher education; yet faculties committed to the programmes had faced difficulties with the least 'internationalised' parts of Japanese universities – the bureaucracies

We also discussed how we could articulate the importance and significance of Japanese Studies in the wider context of 'Western dominating' social sciences, in which Japanese Studies is often located as 'peripheral'. It became clear that it was important not only to understand the current situation of Japanese Studies but also to specify the purposes of research and teaching of this discipline more strategically in wider, often intractable, academic settings.

Last but not least, this conference was financially supported by the Nippon Foundation, the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, the Japan Foundation Endowment Committee, the Oxford Sasakawa Fund, and the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies. We appreciate their generous support.



Dr Tomoko L Kitagawa and Dr Hiroaki Matsuura

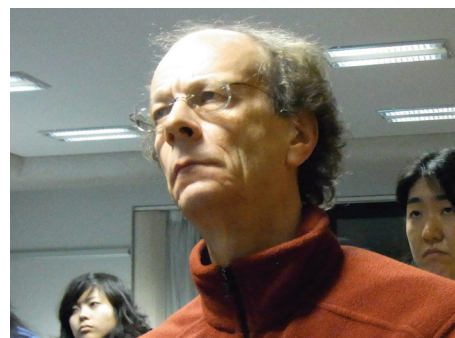
## Nissan Institute seminars

The Nissan Institute Seminar in Japanese Studies (Nissan Seminar) series of lectures has been instrumental as a forum for academics in a variety of different disciplines, including the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, to discuss ideas related to Japan.

The Seminar series for Michaelmas term began with a lecture by Dr Mark Pendleton (University of Sheffield) on the aftermath of the Tokyo Subway Gassing of 1995. Dr Pendleton drew upon examples from the victims of the attack in order to explore issues of memory, storytelling, and forgetfulness. (A recording of this lecture is available via iTunes U, Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, University of Oxford). In Hilary term, most of our speakers were from among Oxford faculty; but in early March, Professor Ito Peng (University of Toronto) came to speak on issues of demography in Japan. As numerous societies, Japan included, now face a combination of aging populations and falling birthrates, family responsibility for child- and eldercare, the supply of and demand for public services, and demand for foreign care workers are just a few of the important factors that policymakers must take into account. Professor Peng's talk, supported by her own qualitative research in Japan, provided interesting insights on these issues.

Overall, the Institute hosted 22 seminars this year and 24 speakers in all as part of this series – too many to mention in this small space. However, we regard the Nissan Seminar as one of our most important of public activities, as all of the papers presented have had an impact on thinking about Japan both within and outside Oxford. The seminar series is open to public, and we are always happy to see new faces in attendance.

Details of seminars in the coming terms will be publicised on our website as soon as they have been determined.



Professor Ian Neary

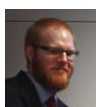
## East Asian linguistics seminar

The East Asian Linguistics Seminar (EALS) is a seminar series that takes place every year in Hilary term.

In 2012 there were three talks on Japanese linguistics in the series. In his talk entitled 'On Modern Standard Japanese within



the history of the Japanese language', Bjarke Frellesvig (Oxford) first provided a general overview of the history of the Japanese language and the major changes it has undergone, and then discussed the place of 'Modern Standard



Japanese' within this overall historical context. Sven Osterkamp (Ruhr University Bochum) next presented his paper 'Prenasalization in Japonic languages as seen in pre-modern foreign transcriptions: A look at the sources and their interpretation' detailing prenasalisation in early Japanese and Ryukyuan on the basis of evidence from foreign texts.



Finally, Elisabeth de Boer (Leiden University) spoke on 'The modern Japanese tone and accent systems', discussing the ways in which the modern Japanese dialect accent systems are derived from a far richer set of tonal distinctions found in Middle Japanese.

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](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling)

## Taught graduate courses in Japanese Studies at Oxford

### MSc/MPhil in Modern Japanese Studies

School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies  
[www.nissan.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students](http://www.nissan.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students)

### MSt in Japanese Studies

Faculty of Oriental Studies  
[www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/html/ea/japanese/japanese\\_mst.html](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/html/ea/japanese/japanese_mst.html)

### MPhil in Traditional East Asia

Faculty of Oriental Studies  
[www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/ea/mphil\\_tradea.html](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/ea/mphil_tradea.html)



## Threads of Silk and Gold: Ornamental Textiles from Meiji Japan

From 9 November 2012 to 27 January 2013, the exhibition 'Threads of Silk and Gold: Ornamental Textiles of Meiji Japan' was held at the Ashmolean Museum. While the Japanese kimono has long been appreciated worldwide, this exhibition introduced the lesser-known but equally spectacular ornamental textiles that were made for the Western market during the Meiji era (1868-1912). Included in the show were some 40 examples of the highest-quality Meiji textiles, drawn largely from the newly acquired collection of the Kiyomizu Sannenzaka Museum in Kyoto and also from the Ashmolean's own holdings.

The textile industry played a central role in Japan's emergence onto the international stage as a modern economic and industrial power in the mid-19th century. Textile production methods were rapidly modernised, and a new genre of ornamental silk textiles emerged that catered specifically to the new overseas market. These exquisite embroideries, *yūzen* resist-dyed silks and cut-velvets, grand tapestries and appliqué work, made mostly in Kyoto, entranced Western audiences with their sophisticated designs and brilliant craftsmanship and became some of Japan's best-known export items. Displayed to great acclaim at international exhibitions and sold through top textile merchants, they were often used as diplomatic gifts by the Japanese government and imperial household.

During the craze for things Japanese that swept the West in the late 19th century, no fashionable home was without its Japanese textiles. However, unlike the Japanese woodblock prints, ceramics and metalwork of the time, these textiles have been largely overlooked – not least because of their extreme fragility, which means that relatively few examples survive in reasonable condition today. It is hoped that 'Threads of Silk and Gold' and the accompanying catalogue by Hiroko T McDermott and Clare Pollard will contribute to the revival of interest in this still little-explored field of Japanese art.

Above: Embroidered silk hanging of cranes, wisteria and cycads at Ashmolean Museum



## Joint Oxford – NINJAL Symposium: Corpus Based Studies of Japanese Language History

On 31 July 2012, Oxford's Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics held a joint symposium with the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL) in Tachikawa, Tokyo.

The symposium, entitled 'Corpus Based Studies of Japanese Language History', presented the two major linguistic corpora of pre-modern Japanese (the *Oxford Corpus of Old Japanese* and NINJAL's *Diachronic Corpus Project*), as well as research on the history of the Japanese language based on these two corpora. From Oxford, Bjarke Frellesvig, Stephen Horn, Kerri Russell, our DPhil student Dan Trott, and Peter Sells from York gave presentations

(see [www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling/news12.html#noj](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling/news12.html#noj) for further details). The symposium, which was open to the public and generated a great deal of general interest, with close to 200 people attending, was a good opportunity to showcase to a wider audience the work on Old Japanese texts and language carried out at Oxford.

Above: RCJLL at NINJAL

# events



## 'Tales in the Round': Japanese woodblock prints and *manjū* netsuke

The Eastern Art Paintings Gallery of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford is now filled with an array of warriors, monsters, poets, dancers and many more dynamic images carved onto the surfaces of over forty *manjū* netsuke. Beside these are displayed eighteen Japanese woodblock prints to show similar images. All the *manjū* are from the collection of the late Dr Monica Barnett, a collector for over thirty years.

The exhibition is divided into six themes. Characters from Chinese history and folklore, whose lives and exploits have been depicted by Japanese artists. The Japanese New Year festival and the Seven Gods of Good Fortune feature beside prints of their treasure ship. Two contrasting subjects, a stately performance of the Nō play Okina and a depiction of Saigyō Hōshi sitting in a ferry flanked by two entertainers are included in the theatre, dance and poetry section. The display of warriors, folktales and monsters shows some very dynamic scenes; the fight on the Gojō Bridge between Minamoto no Yoshitsune and the warrior-monk Benkei, the splendid palace

of the *Shuten dōji*, who is seen in a drunken stupor, about to be slain by Minamoto no Yorimitsu's band of brave warriors, and the witch of Adachigahara wielding a large knife over a young girl whose blood she needs as medicine, to save her master. These stories were also a source of inspiration for artists to design woodblock prints, several of which are hung beside the *manjū*.

These and many more lively depictions from Japanese history and literature can be viewed until 22 September 2013.

Above: *Manjū* netsuke depicting Benkei leaping over the warrior Minamoto Yoshitsune

# news

## Announcement of Retirement and New Appointment

We are sad to announce that during the summer of 2012, Dr Mark Rebeck decided to take early retirement from his post as University Lecturer in the Economy of Japan. We hope that in joining Dr Ann Waswo and Professor Arthur Stockwin as an Emeritus Fellow of the Institute, he will continue to take an active role in its development.

Dr Jenny Corbett, Nissan Reader in the Economy of Japan, has taken up the position of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training) at the Australian National University for a five year period. She will be on leave from Oxford for that time but will continue to visit the Institute each year for a part of Trinity Term. In January 2013, Dr Hiroaki Matsuura was appointed as Departmental Lecturer in the Economy of Japan. He will continue to teach Japanese economy at the Nissan Institute and the Oriental Institute.

## Oxford Japan 400 event

The Bodleian Library was refounded by Sir Thomas Bodley in 1602, and thanks to its long history, has inherited numerous unique treasures since its early days, including some Japanese material such as Tokugawa Ieyasu's shuinjō issued to the British East India Company (MS Jap.b.2) (Japanese Studies at Oxford, Issue 2, 2010).

This year, the Library will celebrate its 400th anniversary; to mark this special occasion, the University plans to organise an event on 2 October in the Old (Bodleian) Library.

There will also be a special display of the shuinjō and a number of accompanying lectures, which will serve as our contribution to this year's nation-wide 'Japan 400' event, aimed at enriching dialogue and understanding between Japan and Britain, and creating a

positive legacy for our future relationship based on the openness and mutuality that began four centuries ago.

(A special loan of the shuinjō to Japan later in October has been proposed by the Oxford University Japan Office, and discussions continue. Hirado and Shizuoka cities have requested for a scanned image of the shuinjō in order to create a replica for a special display at their own event venue respectively this year.)



Jennifer Guest will be appointed as University Lecturer in Japanese (Classical Japanese Literature). Before she joined us, she was a Ph.D. candidate in premodern Japanese literature in

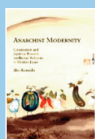
Columbia University, with interests centred chronologically on the Heian period and including kanbun literature, the reception of Chinese texts and systems of knowledge, and the creative or playful literary juxtaposition of wabun and kanbun styles.

Ian Rapley will be Visiting Lecturer in Modern Japanese History for the academic year 2013-2014. He previously took the MPhil in Studies and a DPhil in History, on the topic of the Japanese Esperanto movement, 1906-1944. His research focuses upon twentieth century cultural and intellectual Japanese history, with an interest in transnational events and movements.

## New Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies podcast website

In spring 2012, the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies started a podcast website. Recordings of many Nissan seminars and special events can now be downloaded from <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/nissan-institute-japanese-studies>

## New Books



**Sho Konishi**  
*Anarchist Modernity: Cooperatism and Japanese-Russian Intellectual Relations in Modern Japan*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2013.



**Roger Goodman (editor with Yuki Imoto and Tuukka Toivonen)**  
*Wakamonomondai no Shakaigaku - Shisen to Shatei*. London: Tokyo: Akashi Shoten, 2013.



**Roger Goodman and Takehiko Kariya (editor with John Taylor)**  
*Higher Education and the State: Changing Relationships in Europe and East Asia*. Symposium Books, Oxford (Oxford Studies in Comparative Education Series), 2012.



**Takehiko Kariya**  
*Education Reform and Social Class in Japan: The emerging incentive divide*. London: Routledge/University of Tokyo Series, 2012



Donation of Ishinpō: Lunch for the Delegates at Balliol College

## Ishinpō: donation of Japanese medicine literature

The Bodleian Japanese Library was delighted to receive a collection of precious books on Japanese medicine from Tsumura and Company, a leading pharmaceutical firm in Japan. A presentation ceremony took place at the Library on 19 February. Attendees included Mr N Tanaka, Senior Managing Director of Tsumura, and several of his colleagues, Professor Denis Noble of the Department of Physiology, Ms S Maki, the translator of the modern version of Ishinpō, Dr Sarah Thomas, Bodley's Librarian, Izumi Tytler, the Bodleian Japanese Librarian, and a number of eminent scholars in the field from Japan.

The books presented include two sets of Ishinpō, a compendium of the oldest surviving Japanese medical texts written by Yasuyori Tamba in 984 (the 1993 version of the work, and a facsimile of the Ansei (1860) version), and other titles on Japanese medical history.

Ishinpō, a national treasure in Japan, has provided invaluable source material for an interdisciplinary project, the University of Oxford Multiple Actions via Systems Biology Project led by Professor Noble. The Library is extremely grateful to Tsumura and Company for their

generous support, and also to Professor Noble and Ms Tasaki, who have been instrumental in arranging this splendid donation.

On this occasion, historians from both Japan and Oxford, including Professor Shizu Sakai (Juntendo University), Professor Hiroshi Kosode (Kitasato University), and Dr Sho Konishi (Oxford) also joined the celebration with a vision for future intellectual exchange between Japan and Oxford on medical history and other related areas of shared interest.

## Academic visitors

Over the past year, Oxford has been host to a number of academic visitors working on Japan. The Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies has hosted Dr Adam Komisarof (Reitaku University), Dr Stephen Day (Oita University), Dr Junko Sakai, Dr Kunio Nishikawa (University of Tokyo), Dr Makoto Kobari (Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts), Professor Keizo Yamawaki (Meiji University), and Dr Masaru Yoshimura (Kyoto Women's University).

As our visitors, they contributed by participating in the Nissan Seminars, Graduate Seminars, and other events such as the special seminars for the Level 4 Japanese language class, aimed at providing students with the opportunity to experience academic lectures in Japanese. The Faculty of Oriental Studies has hosted Professor Reiko Yamanaka (Hosei University) and Dr Park Jong Seung (Gangneung-Wonju National University).

Finally, the Mobile Robotic Group (MRG) of the Department of Engineering Science, lead by Professor Paul Newman, has hosted Dr Yosuke Matsuno (Nissan Motor Company). From September 2013, the Nissan Institute expects Professor Ikuya Sato (Hitotsubashi University),

Professor John C Maher (International Christian University), Professor Wilhelm Vosse (International Christian University), and Professor Hirofumi Nakano (Kitakyushu University) as academic visitors.

### Roger Goodman has recently started on his second term as Head of the Social Sciences Division within the University

In the last year, Professor Goodman has been invited to speak about his research on Japanese education and social welfare at numerous venues including the Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, San Diego; Ca' Foscari, University of Venice; the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, London; the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation Seminar Series, Barcelona; Tohoku University (Japanese Prime Minister's Office International Invitee Programme); IE University, Madrid.

In April 2012, he was invited as a guest of the Japanese Prime Minister's Office (Kantei) to review the reconstruction work being undertaken by the Japanese government on educational and welfare institutions in Fukushima, Sendai and Miyagi.



Professor Ikuya Sato

## The University of Oxford Japan Office

The University of Oxford has one of its three overseas offices in Tokyo, where it is located in Sanbanchō (Chiyoda-ku) and managed by Alison Beale and Mayumi Azuma.

While the role of the office is quite broad, its main objective is to create partnerships and make connections for the University in Japan. We therefore work extensively with businesses, foundations, universities, alumni, and individuals to connect them with Oxford, and explore how we can develop mutually beneficial and long-lasting relations for Oxford in Japan.

In the six months since I started in the post of Director, we have been pleased to see a steady stream of visitors from Oxford, including the Heads of Linacre, Exeter, Jesus, Wolfson and Hertford Colleges, the MD of Isis Innovation, and several visitors from the Said Business School. We have also welcomed two of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, including PVC Professor William James, who during his visit met the Vice Presidents from RU11 – the association of top research universities in Japan – to discuss how to encourage greater research collaboration between Oxford and the represented universities. PVC Professor Nick Rawlins also visited Tokyo to meet some of our major Japanese donors including Nissan – which of course funds the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies – the Uehiro Foundation, which funds Oxford's Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, and Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai, which funds our Numata Chair in Buddhism Studies. Professor Rawlins also gave the second in our 'Oxford Academics in Japan' lecture series on the theme of how the brain experiences and anticipates pain to a group of alumni and friends.

In the coming months, we are looking forward to the visits of the Directors of both the Nissan Institute and the Oriental Institute, which will give us the opportunity to explore how the office can better support Japanese Studies in Oxford.

If you have ideas on new connections to be made, or to find out more about our activities in Japan please contact us on [info@oxfordujapan.org](mailto:info@oxfordujapan.org)



### New Books

Adam Komisarof – *At Home Abroad: The Contemporary Western Experience in Japan*. Chiba: Reitaku University Press, 2012.

オックスフォード  
日本研究

# JAPANESE STUDIES AT OXFORD

## Oxford Thinking

The Campaign for the University of Oxford

In May 2008, the University of Oxford launched the largest fundraising campaign in European history, aiming to raise a minimum of £3 billion.

Oxford has to build its future in a world of unprecedented change. The challenge is great. Never before has the University's future been so dependent on the success of a campaign. We need help to secure investment in the next generation, and all those to come. No institution exists and prospers for more than 800 years unless it is skilled at adapting.

The University of Oxford invites you to be part of this ambitious and deeply rewarding endeavour which promises so much for Oxford, for scholarship, and for the common good.

For more information, or to find out how you can support the campaign, please visit the website [www.campaign.ox.ac.uk](http://www.campaign.ox.ac.uk)

### The Faculty of Oriental Studies

Pusey Lane  
Oxford, OX1 2LE, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1865 278200  
Fax: +44 (0)1865 278190  
Email: [orient@orinst.ox.ac.uk](mailto:orient@orinst.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/ea-japanese/index.html](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/ea-japanese/index.html)

### The Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies

27 Winchester Road  
Oxford, OX2 6NA, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1865 274570  
Fax: +44 (0)1865 274574  
Email: [secretary@nissan.ox.ac.uk](mailto:secretary@nissan.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.nissan.ox.ac.uk](http://www.nissan.ox.ac.uk)

### The Bodleian Japanese Library

27 Winchester Road  
Oxford, OX2 6NA, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1865 284506  
Fax: +44 (0)1865 284500  
Email: [japanese@bodley.ox.ac.uk](mailto:japanese@bodley.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bjl](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bjl)  
Librarian: Mrs Izumi Tytler

### The Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics

41 Wellington Square  
Oxford, OX1 2JF, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)1865 280383  
Email: [vsarpj@orinst.ox.ac.uk](mailto:vsarpj@orinst.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling](http://www.orinst.ox.ac.uk/research/jap-ling)

### Oxford University Japan Office

University of Oxford Japan Office  
Sanbancho UF Building 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
6-3 Sanbancho, Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 102-0075, Japan  
Tel: +81 3 3264 0235  
Fax: +81 3 3264 0237  
Email: [oxford@abox4.so-net.ne.jp](mailto:oxford@abox4.so-net.ne.jp)

### Japanese Friends of the Bodleian

*Tokyo contact*  
Treasurer/Membership Secretary  
Jun'ichi Soma  
Email: [tribnia@gmail.com](mailto:tribnia@gmail.com)  
*Oxford Contact*  
Bodleian Japanese Librarian  
Izumi Tytler  
Email: [izumi.tytler@bodley.ox.ac.uk](mailto:izumi.tytler@bodley.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.jfob.org](http://www.jfob.org)

### The Kongyūkai 紺牛会

Former students can keep in touch with each other and their teachers through *Kongyūkai* (dark-blue ox society) which is the name of two internet groups open to all those who have studied or taught for Japanese studies at Oxford University at any time over the past 45 years.

New members can join at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kongyukai> or through Facebook (Groups: Kongyukai).

For further information, contact:  
Brian Powell, [b\\_w\\_f\\_powell@hotmail.com](mailto:b_w_f_powell@hotmail.com)

**Editors:** Hiroaki Matsuura, Asako Kariya and Tamar Groveman  
**Photo credits:** Cover photo by Kei Nikaido  
**Design and artwork:** Ruth Balnave, [ruthbalnave@gmail.com](mailto:ruthbalnave@gmail.com)

