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UK, 1922–1991

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UK, 1900–1983

Charles Dunn,
UK, 1915–1995

Charles Haguenaer,
France, 1896–1976

Wieslaw Kotanski,
Poland, 1915–2005

Bruno Lewin,
Germany, 1924–2012

Fosco Maraini,
Italy, 1912–2004

Martin Ramming,
Germany, 1899–1988

Alexander Slawik,
Austria, 1900–1997

Frits Vos,
The Netherlands, 1918–2000

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Farewell Message from the Outgoing EAJS President

Esteemed colleagues and friends,

I am very grateful to you for your confidence that has given me the possibility to serve as the EAJS President and, before that, as a member of the extended Council. I have also had the pleasure of being the head of the local organizing team of the Conference in Tallinn 2011. Moreover, I have had the privilege to be President at the time of the inaugural EAJS Japan Conference in September 2013, which proved to be a great success, thanks to the efforts of our Immediate Past President Harald Fuess and the hospitality of the University of Kyoto. All in all, my time in the EAJS Council and at its lead has provided me with a lot of valuable and memorable experience, which I have enjoyed very much. I would like to sincerely thank everyone in the EAJS Council, my colleagues and friends who have supported me in my time as the EAJS President, and I am very much looking forward to continue serving the EAJS as the Immediate Past President.

In the last year, our 14th EAJS International Conference was held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and I am delighted that this conference, the biggest yet in EAJS history, proved to be successful as well. Much gratitude goes to Andrej Bekeš and his organizing team, our colleagues at the University of Ljubljana, for their hard work to make this conference an event to be remembered – as we surely will. Prior to the EAJS Conference, the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop was held near Ljubljana, in which 19 PhD students from European and Japanese universities took part. We appreciate their participation, and hope that it was a fruitful experience for all of them.

My best wishes go out to the next EAJS Council, and I trust that our association will continue to support the development of the Japanese Studies community in Europe and beyond.

Yours,
Rein Raud

Message from the New EAJS President

Dear Colleagues,

This is my first message to you as President of the EAJS. I am honoured to have been elected and am looking forward to serving the association in this role. With the elections of officers and council members over, I would like to thank everybody who agreed to be nominated as candidates in the elections and also to thank all the members who voted.

We like to remind ourselves regularly that the EAJS is the largest dedicated Japanese studies association in the world. With 898 registered participants and a total of 562 presentations over four wonderful days at the end of August 2014, the 14th conference of the EAJS in Ljubljana fully lived up to this billing. Reports of the conference appear inside this bulletin, but I want here to thank again the organizers of the conference who gave so much time and work to prepare the conference and make it the tremendous success it was.

In the General Meeting at the conference in Ljubljana, we discussed the need to change the constitution of the EAJS to conform to German law and agreed the substance of changes. An extraordinary GM held in Berlin on 20 April 2015 has formally adopted the revised constitution. In June 2015, the EAJS PhD workshop was held at the University of Edinburgh, and we are very grateful to our colleagues there who organized that important event so successfully.

In keeping with – a very new – tradition, an EAJS Japan Conference will be held in the year before the triennial EAJS International Conference in Europe. Following on from the inaugural EAJS Japan Conference in Kyoto in 2013, next year's Japan conference will be held at Kobe University in September 2016. More information to follow.

Finally, I want to mention the venue of the next EAJS International Conference, which was announced at the meeting in Ljubljana. The 15th EAJS International Conference will be held from 30 August to 2 September 2017 in Lisbon. Preparations are already under way and I think I can safely say that we are all looking forward to meeting in Portugal, which holds such a special place in European-Japanese relations.

Yours sincerely,
Bjarke Frellesvig

EAJS Council Elections 2014-2017

Procedure

As required by the constitution, the new EAJS Council was elected to serve during the period 2014–2017. EAJS members could vote for the Officers (President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and the Members of Council by postal vote.

The constitution allows each member one vote for President, one for Treasurer, one for Secretary and one for a Member of the Council. Eligible voters (personal, institutional and student members, paid-up at least until 2014) have received a ballot slot by mail.

Those members whose names appeared on the ballot sheet – and in the list below – had confirmed that they were willing to accept the nomination. Candidates could be nominated until March 15, 2014. The deadline for receiving mail-in-ballots was August 19, 2014.

The candidates were as follows:

President

Prof Dr Bjarke FRELLESVIG

Treasurer

Prof Dr Verena BLECHINGER-TACOTT

Secretary

Dr Laura MORETTI

Extended Council

Dr Anna ANDREEVA
Prof Dr Andrej BEKEŠ
Prof Dr John BREEN
Prof Dr. Anca FOCSENEANU
Dr Andrea GERMER
Prof Dr Linus HAGSTRÖM
Prof Dr Michael KINSKI
Prof Dr Yulia MIKHAILOVA
Prof Dr Hirochika NAKAMAKI
Dr Dick STEGEWERN
Prof Dr Raji C. STEINECK
Prof Dr Dimitry STRELTSOV
Dr Kristin SURAK
Dr Jan SÝKORA
Dr Nataša VIŠOČNIK

Results of the Election 2014

President

Prof Dr Bjarke FRELLESVIG	178 votes
Blank	20

Prof Dr Bjarke FRELLESVIG is elected.

Treasurer

Prof Dr Verena BLECHINGER-TALCOTT	184 votes
Blank	14

Prof Dr Verena BLECHINGER-TALCOTT is elected.

Secretary

Dr Laura MORETTI	173 votes
Blank	25

Dr Laura MORETTI is elected.

Candidates for the Extended Council

Prof Dr John BREEN	24 votes
Dr Andrea GERMER	21 votes
Prof Dr Andrej BEKEŠ	15 votes
Prof Dr Michael KINSKI	15 votes
Prof Dr Urs Matthias ZACHMANN	15 votes
Dr Anna ANDREEVA	14 votes
Prof Dr Raji C. STEINECK	14 votes
Dr Nataša VISOČNIK	14 votes
Dr Dick STEGEWERN	13 votes
Dr Jan SÝKORA	10 votes
Dr Kristin SURAK	8 votes
Prof Dr Ellen VAN GOETHEM	6 votes
Prof Dr Yulia MIKHAILOVA	6 votes
Prof Dr Dimitry STRELTsov	5 votes
Dr Georg SIPOS	4 votes
Prof Dr Anca FOCSENEANU	3 votes
Blank	1

According to the constitution, the extended Council may consist of up to six members. Since a parity of votes occurred, based on Paragraph 6 (4) of the EAJS constitution, the acting president of the EAJS, Professor Rein RAUD, cast his decisive vote for the candidate Dr. Anna ANDREEVA. Therefore,

Dr Anna ANDREEVA
Prof Dr Andrej BEKEŠ
Prof Dr John BREEN
Dr Andrea GERMER
Prof Dr Michael KINSKI
Prof Dr Urs Matthias ZACHMANN

are elected as members of the EASJ council.

Profiles of the new council members can be found on the EAJS homepage:
<http://www.eajs.eu/index.php?id=280>

New Council Members' CVs

EAJS President



Prof Dr Bjarke Frellesvig
University of Oxford
(Linguistics)

Curriculum Vitae

Present positions

Director, Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics, Oxford (from 2009)

Professor of Japanese Linguistics, Oriental Institute, University of Oxford (from 2008)

Official Fellow of Oriental Studies, Hertford College, Oxford (from 1999)

Education

1993 PhD in Japanese Linguistics (University of Copenhagen)

1990 MA (Danish: cand.mag.) in Japanese and in General Linguistics (Copenhagen)

Main current collaborative research projects

Principal Investigator of the project Verb semantics and argument realization in pre-modern Japanese, funded by a grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) of approximately £990,000. (See <http://vsarpj.orinst.ox.ac.uk/>)

Director, The Oxford Corpus of Old Japanese (see <http://vsarpj.orinst.ox.ac.uk/corpus/>)

Service to the profession

Secretary to the Council of the European Association for Japanese Studies (2011-14).

Member of Council of the European Association for Japanese Studies (2008-2011).

Co-editor of the book series Conceptual History and Chinese Linguistics (Brill)

Associate Editor of the book series Languages of Asia (published by Global Oriental)

Editorial board member of the book series Brill's Studies in Historical Linguistics

International editor, Gengo kenkyū
Member of the Editorial Board of Acta Linguistica Hafniensia

Recent visiting posts

2013 (July and August) Visiting Professor (客員教授), National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, Tokyo

2012 (March - September) Visiting Professor (客員教授), National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, Tokyo

2012 (April – July) Invited Lecturer (非常勤講師), University of Tokyo.

Recent publications

2013: "Remarks on the verb suru in Old Japanese – A corpus based study. 上代日本語の「スル」について -- コーパスによる研究". NINJAL Project Review Vol.3 No. 3, pp. 152-77.

2010: (with Stephen W Horn, Kerri L Russell and Peter Sells). "Verb Semantics and Argument Realization in Pre-Modern Japanese: A

Preliminary study of Compound Verbs in Old Japanese". Gengo Kenkyū 138:25-65.

2010: A history of the Japanese language. Cambridge University Press. [Paperback 2011]

2008: Proto-Japanese: Issues and prospects (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory 294). Amsterdam: John Benjamins. [Paperback 2013]

Edited book (with John Whitman).

Authored contributions:

"Introduction" (with John Whitman), pp.1-12.

"Evidence for seven vowels in proto-Japanese" (with John Whitman), pp.15-41.

"On reconstruction of proto-Japanese and pre-Old Japanese verb inflection", pp. 175-92.

2007: Current issues in the history and structure of Japanese. Tokyo: Kurosio Publishers.

Edited book (with Masayoshi Shibatani and John Charles Smith).

Authored contribution:

"On the verb morphology of Old Japanese", pp. 219-52.

EAJS Secretary



Dr Laura Moretti
Cambridge University
(Literary Studies)

Curriculum Vitae

I am currently Lecturer in Pre-modern Japanese Studies at the University of Cambridge (Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies), where I teach classical Japanese at both undergraduate and graduate level. I am also an Official Fellow at Emmanuel College, where I serve as Director of Studies for Asian and Middle Eastern Studies as well as a member of the Research Fellowship Committee and of the Committee for Scholarships to Harvard University.

I studied Japanese Language and Culture at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia (BA and MA) and got my PhD in Japanese literature there in 2003. While doing my PhD, I was a MEXT research fellow at Tokyo

University from 1999 to 2001. Before moving to the University of Cambridge in 2012, I taught at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia (2003-2010; from 2005 as Lecturer), Università degli Studi di Bergamo (2006-2010 as Adjunct Professor) and Newcastle University (2010-2012 as Lecturer in Japanese Studies). In addition, I have been Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of British Columbia (2008-09) and Visiting Scholar at Leiden University (February 2009), Keio University (November 2009), Leuven University (March 2010) and the Art Research Centre of Ritsumeikan University (2010 and 2011).

My field of research is Japanese early-modern literature and I am currently working on three projects. The first is a monograph entitled *The Everyman's Library: a new literary history of seventeenth-century Japanese popular prose*. The second is a monograph containing the critical edition, the English translation and the analysis of Utagaruta (1756), a piece of graphic prose intended for children that rewrites Ise monogatari. The third is a newly launched project on pre-modern ephemera, with a focus on early-modern *kawaraban* and *kobanzuke*.

I have been an active member in the research project on *shunga* led by Prof Andrew Gerstle (2009-2014) that culminated in the exhibition displayed at the British Museum (3 October 2013-5 January 2014). Recently, I have started a collaborative project with the Fitzwilliam Museum (Cambridge) that focuses on a newly acquired *shunpon* that rewrites Nise Murasaki inaka Genji.

In my free time, I am actively engaged in the organization of workshops that aim at the formation of young scholars in the field of early-modern Japanese literature and textual scholarship. In particular, I teach on an annual basis *hentaigana* and *kuzushiji* at the University of Pennsylvania (since 2012). Moreover, in collaboration with Prof Yamabe Susumu (Nishōgakusha University), I am launching a European summer school that teaches the palaeographical and linguistic skills necessary to read a vast range of early-modern documents (in *bungo*, *sōrōbun* and *kanbun*). The first summer school ran at Emmanuel College (the University of Cambridge) from 4 to 16 August 2014.

For other details, please refer to my website: <https://sites.google.com/site/drlauramoretticambridge/home>.

Selected publications

(2013): 'Onna enshi kyōkun kagami and Onna genji kyōkun kagami: sexual education through entertaining parody', *Japan Review* 26, Special Issue on Shunga, pp. 195-212.

(2013): 'The Japanese early-modern publishing market unveiled: a survey of Edo-period booksellers' catalogues', *East Asian Publishing and Society*, 2/2, pp. 199-308.

(2011): 'Kanazōshi revisited: reconsidering the beginnings of Japanese popular literature in print', *Monumenta Nipponica*, 65/2, pp. 297-356.

(2010): 'Kinsei bungaku to Ise monogatari – Ise monogatari no mojiri to tsūzokuteki bungaku e no shintō' 近世文学と『伊勢物語』—『伊勢物語』のもじりと通俗的文学への浸透 ('Edo-period literature and Ise monogatari – minimal parodies of Ise monogatari and its appropriation in popular literature'), in Yamamoto Tokurō 山本登朗, *Ise monogatari kyōju no tenkai 伊勢物語—享受の展開*. Tokyo: Chikurin, pp. 342-352.

(2010): 近世初期・前期の散文文学における『伊勢物語』の書き直し、パロディーおよび新展開 ('Kinsei shoki – zenki no sanbun bungaku ni okeru Ise monogatari no kakinaoshi, parodi oyobi shin tenkai), in

Yamamoto Tokurō e Joshua Mostow
(eds.), *Ise monogatari sōzō to
hen'yō*伊勢物語創造と変容. Osaka:
Izumi shoin, pp. 269-301.

EAJS Treasurer



Prof Dr Verena Blechinger-Talcott
Freie Universität Berlin
(Political Science)

Curriculum Vitae

Verena Blechinger-Talcott (*1966) is Professor of Japanese politics and political economy and Director of the Graduate School of East Asian Studies at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

Previous appointments include: Visiting Professor, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo (2008), Assistant Professor, Department of Government, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY (2003-2004), Advanced Research Fellow, Program on US-Japan Relations, Harvard University (2002-2003) and Research Fellow (1997-2002) and Deputy Director (2001-2002),

German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ), Tokyo.

At FU Berlin, she was Associate Dean (2007-2009) and Dean of the Department of History and Cultural Studies (2009-2011). Since 2009, she has been Head of the FUB's Center for Area Studies. She is a member of FUB's Academic Senate (since 2013).

She is the Speaker of the Advisory Board for Japan and Korea in the German Association of Asian Studies (DGA) (since 2011) and a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Japan Forum (since 2011) and of the International Editorial Advisory Board of Social Science Japan Journal (since 2013). She also is a member of the International Advisory Board of the Institute of Social Science (ISS), University of Tokyo (since 2014).

Her research interests include Japanese politics in comparative perspective, institutional change in Japanese politics, and government-business relations in both domestic politics and international relations. Most recent research has focused on issues of corporate social responsibility and the relationship between business and society as well as on Japan's international trade and global commodity chains.

The author of many articles and book chapters, her main publications include the monographs:

Vosse, Wilhelm, Blechinger-Talcott, Verena, Drifte, Reinhard (eds.) (2014): *Governing Insecurity in Japan. The Domestic Discourse and Policy Response*. London: Routledge.

Blechinger-Talcott, Verena, Chiavacci, David, Christoph Brumann (eds.) (2013): *Ein neues Japan? Politischer und sozialer Wandel seit den 1990er Jahren [A New Japan? Political and Social Change since the 1990s]*, Special Issue, *Asiatische Studien/Études Asia-tiques* LXVII, 2/2013

Blechinger-Talcott, Verena, Krauss, Ellis, and Christopher Hughes (eds.) (2007): *Managing the MedUSA: comparing the political economy of US-Japan, US-German, and US-UK relations.* Special issue *Pacific Review*, Vol 20, No. 3

Blechinger-Talcott, Verena, Frantz, Christiane and Mark Thomposon (eds.) (2006): *Governing Japan. Political System, Reform Processes and International Relations in International Comparison [“Politik in Japan. System, Reformprozesse und Außenpolitik im internationalen Vergleich”]*, Frankfurt/Main: Campus

(1998): *Political Corruption in Japan: Causes, Consequences, and Reform [“Politische Korruption in Japan. Ursachen, Hintergründe und Reformversuche”]*, Hamburg: Institute of Asian Affairs.

Members of the Extended Council



Dr Anna Andreeva
Heidelberg University
(Religious Studies)

Curriculum Vitae

I earned my doctorate at University of Cambridge in 2006, and spent a year at Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard, before returning to Cambridge as a Junior Research Fellow in 2007. In 2010, I joined the Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" at University of Heidelberg, where I work as a research fellow (Akademische Mitarbeiterin) and teach courses on Buddhism and pre-modern Japan. During 2012-2013, I was a visiting researcher at International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) in Kyoto, before coming back to Heidelberg where I currently direct

a project on the economies of the sacred.

My recent research has focused on the relationship between the systems of knowledge and beliefs related to Esoteric Buddhism and their impact on the fields of the religious and cultural production in medieval Japan (for example, the worship of Japanese deities, *kami*). I also work on the cultural history of pregnancy, childbirth and child-rearing, and the cross-cultural development and transmission of medical and religious knowledge, particularly that related to female body and gender in pre-modern Japan.

Educational Background

2006 PhD, Japanese Religions/ Cultural History, University of Cambridge (aw. May 2007), UK

2002 MPhil, Japanese Studies/ Literature, University of Cambridge, UK

2001 MA, Japanese Studies/Literature, Kanazawa University, Japan

1997 BA, Japanese Studies, Irkutsk State Linguistic University, Siberia, Russia

Recent Publications

Assembling Shinto: Buddhist Approaches to Kami Worship in Medieval Japan (monograph, accepted for publication).

(2014): "The 'Earthquake Insect': conceptualising disasters in pre-modern Japan". In Monica Juneja and Gerrit Jasper Schenk, eds., *Disaster as Image: Iconographies and Media Strategies across Europe and Asia*, (Regensburg: Schnell & Steiner, 2014), pp. 81-90.

(2014): "Childbirth in aristocratic households in Heian Japan". *Dynamis*, special journal issue, *Childbirth and Women's Healthcare in Pre-modern Societies*, eds. Anna Andreeva, Erica Coutu-Ferreira, and Susanne Töpfer. Forthcoming.

(2011): "Miwaryû no seiritsu" 三輪流の成立 (The Formation of the Miwa Lineage). In Ito Satoshi, ed., *Chûse Shinwa, Chûsei Jingi, Shintô no Sekai 中世神話・中世神祇、神道の世界* (Medieval Myths and Kami Worship). Tokyo: Chikurinsha, pp. 221-239.

(2010): "The Origins of the Great Miwa Deity: The transformation of a sacred mountain in pre-modern Japan", *Monumenta Nipponica* 65/2: 245-295

(2010): "Medieval Shinto: new discoveries and perspectives",

in *Religion Compass*, Volume 4, Issue 11, pp. 679-693. Blackwell Publishing Ltd. Permanent link: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1749-8171.2010.00243.x/abstract>

Academic Service

International symposia and conference organisation

2014 Section convener, European Association of Japanese Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

2011a "Kami cults and notions of transculturality in Ancient Japan", Heidelberg.

2011b "Childbirth and women's health in pre-modern societies", Heidelberg.

2011c Section convener. European Association for Japanese Studies, Tallinn, Estonia.

2010 "Imagining the feminine in medicine and religion in pre-modern East Asia"
Cluster "Asia and Europe", Heidelberg.

Panel chairing and discussing

2012 Panel organizer and chair, “Cultural mobility and religious practice in pre-modern Japan”, British Association of Japanese Studies, University of East Anglia, UK.

2011a Discussant at a research conference on Shinto Ritual Archaeology, Alsace, France.

2011b Discussant and chair, “Healing throughout the six realms: transformative rituals in Japanese Buddhism”. European Association of Japanese Studies, Tallinn, Estonia.

Summer schools and PhD workshops

2013 Advisor at a PhD dissertation workshop, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain.

2012 Ten-day international summer school on pre-modern Japanese texts, Heidelberg

Professional Affiliations

Research Associate, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Cambridge

Research Associate, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard

Member, Section Convener, European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS)

Association of Asian Studies (AAS)



Prof Dr Andrej Bekeš
University of Ljubljana
(Linguistics)

Curriculum Vitae

Education

February 1971: BS in mathematics, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Sciences and Technology.

March 1975: MS in mathematics, Osaka University, Graduate School.

March 1981: MA in Japanese Linguistics, Osaka University of Foreign Studies, Graduate School.

March 1986: PhD (Bungaku Hakushi) in Linguistics, University of Tsukuba, Graduate School,
Thesis Title: "Tekusuto to shin-takusu" (Text and Syntax).

Major Teaching Positions

Sep. 1988 - Mar. 1990: Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana.

Apr. 1990 - Sep. 1995: Gaikokujin kyoshi (Foreign professor), University of Tsukuba.

Oc. 1995 - Oct. 2002: Associate Professor of Japanese Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Nov. 2002 - 2011: Full Professor of Japanese Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Sep. 2010 - Mar. 2013: Full professor, University of Tsukuba, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences;

April 2013 - present: Full Professor of Japanese Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Major Research Positions

Jan. 2004 - Dec. 2008: leader, Research Project "Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa", ARRS, Slovenia.

Jan. 2009 - present: member, Research Project "Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa", ARRS, Slovenia.

Dec. 2005 - Mar. 2006: visiting researcher, Nagoya University, GSID (Invited JSPS fellow).

Feb. 2010 - Aug.2010: visiting researcher, Tokyo Institute of Technology (Japan Foundation Fellow).

Supervisor, Doctoral Dissertations

Supervisor: 4 completed dissertations.

Co-supervisor: 1 completed dissertation.

Management

Oct. 1995 - Sep. 1999: Head of the Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Oct. 1999 - Dec. 2001: Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Oct. 2007 - Sep. 2009: Head of the Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Oct. 2013 - present: Head of the Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

Decorations

Nov. 3, 2008 'The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette (旭日小綬章)' (Government of Japan)

Important Recent Publications

(2012): Possibility of content shifts as predictors of the wa-topic in Japanese narrative. In Nishina K. (ed.) *Nihongo gakushuusha shien no kouchiku gengo kyouiku koopasu*

shisutemu kaihatsu. 157-174. Tokyo: Bonjinsha.

(2012): Suppositional Adverb-based Brackets in Discourse. In Tomiya R. and Tsutsumi M. (eds) *Modaritei to nihongo kyoiku*. Tokyo: Hitsuji shobo.

(2011): Images of pre-WW II: national language policies as reflected in the field of "national language studies" itself. *Acta linguistica asiatica*, Volume 1, No. 1: 39-51.

(2008): *Text and Boundary: A Sideways Glance at Textual Phenomena in Japanese*. Ljubljana: ZIFF.

SRDANOVIĆ, Irena, BEKEŠ, Andrej, NISHINA, Kikuko (2008): Distant collocations between suppositional adverbs and clause-final modality forms in Japanese language corpora. *Large-Scale Knowledge Resources*.

(2008): Construction and Application. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* Volume 4938, pp 252-266.



Prof Dr John Breen
International Research Center for
Japanese Studies (Nichibunken)

Curriculum Vitae

John Breen is Professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto. Previously, he taught Japanese at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He did his undergraduate study and postgraduate research at Cambridge University. He has published widely in English and Japanese on issues relating to the imperial institution and Shinto.

His recent publications include the following:

(2011): A new history of Shinto (co-authored with Mark Teeuwen), Wiley- Blackwell.

(2011): Girei to kenryoku: tennō no Meiji ishin (Ritual and power: the

emperor and the Meiji restoration), Heibonsha.

(2012): “Kindai gaikō taisei no sōshutsu to tennō” (The making of modern Japanese diplomacy and the emperor) Arano Yasunori et al eds., Nihon no taigai kankei 7: kindaika suru Nihon, Yoshikawa Kōbunkan.

(2013): “Shinto monogatari”: Meiji ki no Ise” (Tales of a sacred city: Ise in the Meiji period) in Takagi Hiroshi ed., Kindai Nihon no rekishi toshi: koto to jōka machi, Shibunkaku.

(2014): “The nation’s shrine: conflict and commemoration at Yasukuni, modern Japan’s shrine to the war dead,” in Tsang and Woods ed. The cultural politics of nationalism and nation-building: ritual and performance in the forging of nations, Routledge.



Prof Dr Andrea Germer
Kyushu University
(History and Gender Studies)

Curriculum Vitae

Since 2011 Associate Professor at
Kyushu University

2010-2011 Japan Foundation
Research Fellow, Hiroshima City
University

2007-2010 Lecturer in Japa-
nese Studies, School of Modern
Languages, Newcastle University

2001-2007 Research Fellow,
German Institute for Japanese
Studies (DIJ), Tokyo

2001 PhD in East Asian Studies
(Japanese Studies), Ruhr-University
Bochum

1994 Magistra Artium in Japa-
nese Studies, Political Sciences

and German Literature, Heidelberg
University

Most Recent Publications

(2013): Visible Cultures, Invisible
Politics: Propaganda in the Maga-
zine Nippon Fujin, 1942-1945. In:
Japan Forum, 25, 4, pp. 505-539.
[awarded the 'Western Association
of Women Historians 2014 Penny
Kanner Prize'].

(2013): Japanese Feminists after
Versailles: Between the State and
the Ethnic Nation. In: The Journal
of Women's History, 25, 3 (fall), pp.
92-115.

(2013): Kunst und Politik: Transkul-
turelle Flows in visueller Propa-
ganda [Art and Politics: Transcul-
tural Flows in Visual Propaganda].
In: Ostasiatische Zeitschrift [East
Asian Journal], 26, pp. 37-47.

(2013): Exhibition and conference
report: Women in Between – Asian
Women Artists アジアを繋ぐ一境界
線を生きる女たち、1984-2012. In:
Jendā-shigaku - Gender History 9
(October), pp. 146-147.

(2014) [Ed. with Vera Mackie and
Ulrike Wöhr] Gender, Nation, and
State in Modern Japan. London;
New York: RoutledgeCurzon.



Prof Dr Michael Kinski
Goethe University, Frankfurt am
Main (History)

Curriculum Vitae

Michael Kinski teaches Japanese cultural and intellectual history at Frankfurt University since 2009. He received his training in Japanese Studies and Political Sciences at Ruhr University Bochum and Tokyo University. With a doctoral degree from Tübingen University and a "Habilitation" from Humboldt University Berlin he invested a considerable part of his professional career in the development of close relations with Japanese universities. Of importance in this regard was his time as first director of Tübingen University's Japanese Language Center in Kyoto (hosted by Doshisha University). His research interests concentrate on Edo period intellectual history, the appearance of encyclopedic literature and advice books in early modern times, the culture of food (table manners), and (recently) the history of childhood.

Educational Background

1987 MA at Ruhr University Bochum
(Japanese Studies)

1988-90 Post Graduate Studies,
Tôkyô University

1991 PhD, Eberhard-Karls-Universi-
tät Tübingen

2004 Habilitation at Humboldt-
University Berlin

Professional Experience

1991-93 Lecturer at Institute of
Japanese Studies, Tübingen Univer-
sity

1993-98 Director of the Tübingen
Center for Japanese Language at
Dôshisha University in Kyôto

1998-2000 Lecturer, Center for
Japanese Studies, Humboldt-
University Berlin

2000-2006 Assistant Professor,
Center for Japanese Studies,
Humboldt-University Berlin

2006-2007 Visiting Professor, Insti-
tute of Japanese Studies, Zürich
University

2007-2009 Assistant Professor,
Center for Japanese Studies,
Humboldt-University Berlin

since summer 2009 Professor for Japanese Culture and History of Ideas, Institute for Japanese Studies, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt

Interests

- Intellectual history of early modern Japan (Confucianism, ethics, political thought)
- Polite behaviour and the culture of etiquette in early modern Japan: (table manners since the 16th century and their social import)
- Lifestyles and the popularization of knowledge seen through early modern advice book literature
- Medicine and the natural sciences in 18th & 19th century Japan; the case of “Dutch Studies”
- Material culture: Japanese Foodways
- History of childhood and conceptions of childhood in Japan

Memberships

- Academia Europea (AE)
- EAJS
- Gesellschaft für Japanforschung (GfJ)
- Nihon shisō gakkai



Prof Dr Urs Matthias Zachmann
University of Edinburgh, UK
(History)

Curriculum Vitae and Research

I have received my MA (2000) and PhD (2006) in Japanese Studies from the University of Heidelberg. In a parallel course of education, I have graduated from Heidelberg Law School and passed my final state exam in 2002. In 2010, while being an Assistant Professor at the Japan Center at Munich University, I completed the Habilitation in Japanese Studies at this university. After a brief stint as Acting Full Professor at Heidelberg University (2010-11), I have been appointed to the inaugural Handa Chair in Japanese-Chinese Relations at the University of Edinburgh in October 2011. Since 2012, I also serve as Head of Department in Asian Studies at Edinburgh University.

My research focuses on the intellectual and cultural history of modern Japan within the context of East Asian international relations. I am particularly interested in the transfer of political ideas and cultural institutions, their strategic re-interpretation in discourses of modernization and subjectivity and the practical consequences this has in the foreign relations of Japan, especially with China and Korea. I have published major studies on the Japanese discourse on civilization, race, and empire in the context of late Meiji Sino-Japanese relations (Routledge 2009) and, more recently, on the Japanese discourse on international law and its re-appropriation and application during the interwar and early postwar period (Nomos 2013). Currently, I am conducting research for a new project on “narratives of excess and destitution”, i.e. on the correlation of economic discourse and popular imagination in the transitional period from Japan’s bubble economy into the “lost decade”.

List of Selected Publications

(2014): “Does Europe Include Japan? – European Normativity in Japanese Attitudes towards International Law, 1854-1945”, *Rechtsgeschichte – Legal History* 22 (forthcoming Sept. 2014).

(2013): *Völkerrechtsdenken und Außenpolitik in Japan, 1919-1960*

(The Discourse on International Law and Foreign Policy in Japan, 1919-1960), Baden-Baden: Nomos, 436 pp. (Studien zur Geschichte des Völkerrechts/Series History of International Law, vol. 29)

(2013): "Race and International Law in Japan's New Order in East Asia, 1938-1945", in: Rotem Kowner and Walter Demel (eds.), *Race and Racism in Modern East Asia: Western and Eastern Constructions*, Leiden: Brill, pp. 453-473.

(2012): "The Postwar Constitution and Religion", in: John Nelson and Inken Prohl (eds.), *Handbook of Contemporary Japanese Religions*, Leiden: Brill, 2012, pp. 215-240.

(2009 / 2011): *China and Japan in the Late Meiji Period: China Policy and the Japanese Discourse on National Identity, 1895-1904*. London: Routledge/Leiden Series in Modern East Asian Politics and History, 2009 (Hardcover) and 2011 (Paperback).

(2007): "Blowing Up a Double Portrait in Black and White: the Concept of Asia in the Writings of Fukuzawa Yukichi and Okakura Tenshin," in: *positions: east asia cultures critique*, vol. 15, no. 2 (fall 2007), pp. 345-368.

News from the EAJS Office

Dear EAJS members,

It was very good to see so many of you at the EAJS International Conference in Ljubljana last year. Since the 2014 General Meeting, the EAJS Office has been busy implementing our members' decisions while at the same time striving to provide you as EAJS members the best possible service.

Please also accept our most humble apologies for the delay in sending this bulletin to you. Due to some changes in the EAJS Office staff and especially due to a high level of administrative and legal work related to the new EAJS constitution, the production of the EAJS bulletin took longer than expected. Today, we provide you with a double issue of the EAJS bulletin.

The EAJS office in Berlin has welcomed some new staff members since the 2014 EAJS International Conference. Ronja Meising and Lorenz Denninger, who did an exceptional job in coordinating the EAJS conference in Ljubljana, have moved on to assume new responsibilities in late 2014. We were very happy that we could win Tim Herbort to become the new office representative who administers the day-to-day operations of the office and takes care of the logistics of EAJS Ph.D. workshops and conferences. Stefanie Reetz and Jens Oliver John, both M.A. students in FU Berlin's Japanese Studies program, support the office as student RAs and especially in membership management and technical administration.

The most remarkable EAJS-related event in the last year was of course the 14th EAJS International Conference, which took place from 27 to 30 August 2014 in Ljubljana. The conference turned out to be the largest EAJS conference ever held, with almost 900 participants and over 560 given presentations. We would like to express our gratitude that so many of you joined us to make this event as memorable as it has been. We are especially indebted to Professor Andrej Bekeš and the organising team at the University of Ljubljana, who over many months have put in enormous work to make sure the conference would be well prepared and enjoyable for every participant. The Conference report as well as the reports by Section Convenors can be found in this

bulletin. We would also like to use this opportunity to say thank you again to all section convenors for their cooperation with the EAJS Office in the process of conference preparations.

The 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students was held in conjunction with the conference in Ljubljana in 2014, and brought together nineteen doctoral students from all over Europe under the supervision of Professor David Chia-vacci from Zurich University. The participants' reports in this bulletin attest to the unique atmosphere of an intensive academic get-together on a remote farm in the beautiful scenery in the mountains of Slovenia.

The EAJS conference in Ljubljana also allowed the members who were elected during the Council elections in summer 2014 to personally introduce themselves at the EAJS General Meeting. You can find the election results and profiles of all council members in this bulletin. Personally, I am very grateful to have been re-elected as EAJS treasurer, and I look forward to working with the new Council on the future business of the association.

Equally impressive surroundings were provided to the participants of the 11th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students, which took place in the beautiful city of Edinburgh in the summer of 2015. Under the supervision of Professor Urs Matthias Zachmann from the University of Edinburgh, twenty participants were invited to present and discuss their research in this venerable and vibrant center of scholarship. Furthermore, the EAJS office is currently in the final stages of planning for the first EAJS Publication Workshop, which will be held in Berlin from 16 to 18 November 2015. This workshop will provide an opportunity for young scholars to discuss their publication projects with senior academics and publishers and help them get to know the tools of the trade in the increasingly important field of academic publication. We will publish reports from these two workshops in the next bulletin, which is scheduled to be published in the spring of 2016.

A major milestone regarding the governance of the association has been the adoption of a new EAJS constitution in April 2015. This step had become necessary due to changes in the German Law on Associations related to the tax-free status of pro-bono associations. The contents of the constitution were discussed extensively at the EAJS General Meetings in Tallinn in 2011 and in Ljubljana in 2014. In early 2015, the office sent a draft constitution to all EAJS members which incorporated our members' suggestions. Prior to

sending out the text, we made sure that it was screened for legal compliance by a specialist lawyer. We also asked for an assessment by German financial authorities to ensure that the tax-free status of our association was secured. The new constitution was adopted at a special general meeting held on 20 April 2015 in Berlin. Thanks so much to all who participated in the discussion leading up to the vote on the new constitution. Now, the EAJS is well equipped to continue working as a non-profit organization also in future years.

The main task of the EAJS office and the treasurer, however, are to ensure that our organization's business is conducted smoothly and that the financial situation of the EAJS is sound. We have some positive news to report:

First, we are delighted to report that our applications to the Japan Foundation for support for the years 2014-15 (which included generous funding for the EAJS International Conference in Ljubljana) and the fiscal year 2015-16 were successful. The continuing financial support by the Japan Foundation enables us to operate the EAJS office and to provide our members with valuable services, such as the EAJS-L mailing list or the EAJS website. At the same time, Japan Foundation funding allows us to plan for key activities in the near future with a reasonable degree of certitude. We are immensely grateful for this support.

Second, our cooperation with the Toshiba International Foundation has moved to a new level. Over the last years, the Toshiba International Foundation has been providing generous funding for EAJS Ph.D. Workshops as well as for Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships for young scholars. Thus, the Toshiba International Foundation has become the central donor for EAJS activities in the context of promoting young scholars. In 2014, the EAJS was pleased to learn that the Toshiba International Foundation decided to change the status of the Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships to that of a non-grant program. This secures the funding for the Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships for the next years and we are happy that our organization will thus be able to offer Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships annually to outstanding doctoral students for the purpose of short-term research in Japan. The Toshiba International Foundation also provided generous funding for the 2014 and 2015 EAJS Ph.D. Workshops. We are working hard to prove ourselves worthy of the trust placed into our organization. At the same time, we are continuously striving to provide the best possible support for our early career members.



At the same time, the growth of our organization also requires permanent enhancements of our services. Currently, we are working hard to improve our online services and to make our website more useful for members. The office also welcomes all suggestions and comments you may have.

Verena Blechinger-Talcott
EAJS Treasurer, and the EAJS Office Team

In Memoriam

Former EAJS Treasurer Dr Erika de Poorter

It is with great sadness that the EAJS learns that Dr Erika de Poorter passed away on 21 October 2014. Erika served as the treasurer to the EAJS from 1991 to 1995 and provided invaluable service to the association during an important period in our history. She was also a most regular participant in the EAJS conferences and a staunch supporter of the performing arts section. She will be greatly missed by us all.

Berlin, 17 November 2014

Bjarke Frellesvig
EAJS President

On October 28, we were informed that our long-time friend and colleague Erika de Poorter had died on October 21, after several years of an unequal struggle against cancer. We lose in her a dear friend, a beloved colleague, and a great scholar.

Erika was born in 1943 in Elsene, in the outskirts of Brussels. She studied Japanese at the University of Ghent, then went to Japan with the usual two-year Monbushō grant where she studied in Osaka and Kyoto. After her return from Japan she came to Leiden, where she finished her studies, did her doctoral examination, and was appointed in 1971 as an assistant of Prof. Dr. F. Vos, teaching Japanese in the Department of Japanese and Korean Studies of Leiden University. She taught there until her retirement in April 2004.

Erika was a specialist of the Japanese theatre, more specifically of Nō, which she studied with Prof. Omote Akira of the Nōgaku Kenkyūjo of Hōsei Daigaku. In June 1983 she defended her Ph.D. thesis on

Motoyoshi's *Sarugaku Dangi. A description and assessment with an annotated translation*. Three years later, it was re-issued under the title *Zeami's Talks on Sarugaku* (Japonica Neerlandica, vol. 2). She was also involved in organising performances of Japanese Nō groups in the Netherlands, published a number of Dutch translations of Nō and Kyōgen pieces (*De Kraanvogel en de schildpad*, 1978; *Ukai, de aalscholvervisser*, 2010), and a short introduction, also in Dutch, entitled *Nō: het klassieke theater van Japan* (2001). Her work was not restricted to the Netherlands, however. She also participated in Europe-wide research in the field of the Japanese theatre, as is apparent from her contributions to *Maske und Kothurn*, "Nō which is no Nō: The Ritual Play 'Okina'" (1989), and to *Japanisches Theater: Tradition und Gegenwart*, "Sakrale Aspekte im Nō: Schamanismus und Tabu" (1990). After her retirement, Erika translated two of Natsume Sōseki's novels, *Kokoro* and *Mon*, into Dutch, which were published in 2013.

Although Erika's specialty was Nō, she was also interested in Kabuki and in the modern Japanese theatre. When it turned out that the tastes of the students ran in that

direction, she was also willing to teach classes on Japanese soap series. This resulted in another publication, "De wind uit de hoofdstad: soapseries in Japan" (in *Decorum*, 2000). As a teacher, she principally taught classical Japanese (literature), including classes on *hentai-gana*.

Erika was active as a member of the board of the European Association for Japanese Studies (1991-1995). She also served for several years as chair of the Netherlands Association for Japanese Studies (1997-2002).

We gratefully remember her contributions to the study of Japan, to the tuition of our department, and to the running of the university institutions and scholarly associations that form part of Japanese Studies.

Leiden, 31 October 2014

On behalf of the Japan Studies programme, Leiden University
Ivo Smits

On behalf of the Netherlands Association for Japanese Studies
Wim Boot

14th EAJS International Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia, August 2014

Conference Report

1. Conference time

August 27-30, 2014

2. Conference venue

Ljubljana, Slovenia

The conference opening, keynote lecture and welcome dinner were held at Cankarjev dom, Slovenias largest convention, congress and culture center. All the main activities, sections panels and presentations as well as academic events were held at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. The EAJS General Meeting and the closing ceremony were held at the Slovenian Philharmonic, while some pre-conference academic events were held at the University of Ljubljana.

All the mentioned places are in the vicinity of each other and very close to Ljubljana's city center and old town.

3. Participants

3.1 About the participants

There were altogether 898 participants from 36 countries who registered for the conference. One third of the participants came from Japan. Other countries with many representatives were the UK, Germany, USA, Italy, and France.

3.2. Active participants

Altogether there were 562 presentations which were either given in a panel or as individual paper or poster presentations. They were contributed by 612 authors and co-authors. There was a keynote lecture by Karatani Kojin on the opening day. All other presentations and panels were scheduled for the second to fourth day of the conference.

Except for the interdisciplinary panel, each section had two section convenors and one keynote speech.

4. Registration data

Registration opened on March 1, 2014, and altogether 898 people registered for the conference in three different billing periods: early (March 1 – April 30), mid-term (May 1 – July 31), and late period (August 1 – August 30).

Participation fees also varied depending on whether the registering person was a member of the EAJS/AJE, and whether he or she was a regular participant, a student, or an accompanying person.

5. Conference programme

5.1. Social events

5.1.1. Welcome dinner

The welcome dinner was held at Cankarjev dom and open to all conference participants. More than half of all participants attended.

5.1.2. Gala dinner

The gala dinner was held at the Grand Hotel Union in the Ljubljana city center. It was an optional event. More than half of all conference participants attended.

5.2. Conference sections

There were altogether 11 sections. Some sections were divided into subsections, and some sections were run in parallel due to a large number of presentations and panels.

The list of sections and subsections is as follows:

0: Interdisciplinary section

1: Urban, Regional and Environmental Studies

2: Language and Linguistics

3a: Modern Literature

3b: Pre-modern Literature

4a: Visual Arts

4b: Performing Arts

5a: Anthropology and Sociology

5b: Media Studies

6: Economics, Business, and Political Economy

7: History

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8a: Religion and History of Ideas | - | Introducing new approach: learning Japanese through learning about Japanese culture |
| 8b: Intellectual History and Philosophy | - | Global Culture Nasu Workshop |
| 9: Politics and International Relations | - | OJAD presentation |
| 10: Japanese Language Education | - | 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students |

5.3. Accompanying academic events

- International Society for Akutagawa Studies 9th annual conference
- JAWS general meeting
- AJE general meeting
- University of Ljubljana and University of Tsukuba Joint Research Forum
- 4th network meeting for Japanese studies and Japanese language education in Central and Eastern Europe
- Japanese database workshop
- Workshop on Japanese »character« in communication and grammar
- AJE forum
- Special invitational lectures
- Japanese crowdsourced translation as language service disruptor

5.4. Accompanying cultural events

- The Touch of Life (solo dance performance by Ryūzo Fukuhara)
- From Chaos to Cosmos (painting exhibition by Noriaki Sangawa)
- Fragments of Japan - Portraits, Landscapes (photography exhibition by Matija Brumen)

6. Services at the conference

6.1. Lunch and coffee breaks

There were 3 lunch breaks and 5 coffee breaks. Participants were served lunch boxes and drinks during lunch breaks, and coffee, tea or soft drinks with snacks during coffee breaks.

6.2. Baby sitting

Otroška univerza was the official child-care organizer for the conference. Applications in advance were preferred, but child-care applications on the spot were also accepted.

7. Publishers

The following publishers attended the conference:

- IUDICIUM Verlag
- Kinokuniya Bookstores
- Kurosio Publishers
- NetAdvance
- JPT Europe Ltd.
- Roellin Books
- Nichibunken
- Ask Publishing Co.
- Brill Publishers
- Routledge (JAWS Series)

8. Promotion

Publishers, educational institutions and companies were able to promote themselves on bookstalls, literature table, or through programme advertisements and conference bag flyers.

9. People involved in the organization of the conference

9.1. The local organization board and the teaching staff of

Japanese Studies, Department of Asian and African Studies at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

9.2. Students volunteers, undergraduate and postgraduate students of Japanese Studies, Department of Asian and African Studies at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

Thirty-five students worked throughout the four days of the conference. Eighteen students were allocated into the classrooms in order to support the section convenors. The other students were either working at the main information desk or circling around the venue, helping with basic logistics.

9.3. The Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana, its offices and support staff

9.4. The conference company Albatros

Albatros was the official conference company in charge of the online registration process. Albatros furthermore organized accommodation, transfer services, and excursions for the conference participants.

Section Reports

Section 1: Urban, Regional and Environmental Studies

Convenors: Maren Godzik (Fukuoka University) and Richard Ronald (University of Amsterdam)

The topic of the Urban, Regional and Environmental Studies section was „Disparities in and between urban and rural spaces“. In our call for papers we specified this topic by referring to the 2011 triple disaster that has drawn particular attention to issues beyond the major cities and the ongoing polarization between conditions in the regions and rural communities, and the metropolitan centers of economic and political activity. Ageing, shrinking and stagnation was a common thread throughout the section.

In his keynote speech „Rebuilding Housing and Communities after the Great East Japan Earthquake“ Hirayama Yōsuke, Kobe University, analyzed the difficulties of reconstruction, also against the backdrop of the 2020 Olympic Games that has serious repercussions on the rebuilding process in Tohoku by slowing the reconstruction process further down.

Eighteen researchers from Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands and Switzerland/ Czech Republic (according to their affiliation) presented twelve individual papers and two panels.

The papers of the first session focused on the topics of energy and transport. Tarek Katramiz examined the acceptance of nuclear power at nuclear power sites, while Nicolas Leprêtre looked into the development of smart communities and transport in various parts of Japan. Christopher Hood presented on recent developments of intercity transport. In the second section on disasters and pollution, the rebuilding policies in the tsunami-stricken Sanriku area were called into question by Remi Scocimarro. Yoshiko Imaizumi took a historic perspective to analyze practices of dwelling after the Great Kantō Earthquake. Brian Harrison’s paper focused on air pollution issues between China and Japan.

The next session dealt with topics concerning recent developments in the city. The session started

with a paper by Evelyn Schulz on the slow city discourse. A quantitative paper by Ralph Lützeler gave insights into Tokyo's shifting suburbia. Richard Ronald gave a talk about the increasing number of single living people in Japan's urban centres.

The issue of urban-rural tensions was the common background of the next three papers. Volker Elis focused on the discourse of socio-spatial inequality, Isabelle Prochaska-Meyer and Pia Kieniger reported their fieldwork results on the strategies of revitalization of ageing communities, and Adrian Favell talked about artistic approaches to rural decline on Inland Sea Islands.

One panel chaired by Yoshihiro Yokote concentrated on the relocation of buildings within the process of changing urban landscapes, with Silvana de Maio looking into tea house relocation, Yoshihiro Yokote taking up an example of a bank that has been relocated a few times, and Mizuko Ugo elaborating on the changing meaning of buildings after their relocation.

The second panel chaired by Kaiko Miyazaki dealt with low-class districts at rivers and *burakumin* by focusing on the *dōwa* areas with a shrinking number of *burakumin*

inhabitants (Kaiko Miyazaki), the vulnerability of areas close to rivers (Marie Thomas), and the identities of *burakumin* not living in *burakumin* areas (Martin Sturdik).

Section 2: Language and Linguistics

Convenors: Sven Osterkamp (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) and Tomasz Majtczak (Jagiellonian University)

Section 2, Language and Linguistics, met for two and a half quite busy conference days. It began with a keynote speech, which was followed by regular papers grouped thematically in ten sessions.

Our keynote speaker, Professor Kida Akiyoshi of Kyoto University, gave an outline of the origin and evolution of the Japanese conjugational system in his paper. With respect to the somewhat controversial issue of the chronological ordering of the various inflectional classes of verbs, he argued in favor of the antiquity of the vocalic (chiefly bigrade) verbs, and hence the innovative character of the consonantal (or quadrigrade) ones, thereby drawing upon his well-known earlier work in this field.

The regular part of the section featured thirty presenters in total, forming a group of scholars that was as diverse as it was balanced. In terms of institutional affiliations, we had fifteen presenters from European countries, but also fifteen from non-European countries, thus rendering the section a truly international gathering of scholars. A similar balance could be achieved as regards academic experience, so that both promising PhD students and long-established scholars were equally represented. The section was therefore a place of scholarly exchange across various borders.

In terms of topics, the full range of Japonic linguistics was represented: Besides Japanese as such, several contributions also addressed the Ryukyuan languages or others such as Ainu and Korean. Both modern and pre-modern stages of these languages were taken into consideration – the former covering recent and even currently ongoing developments, the latter spanning virtually all periods from Nara up to Meiji and beyond. In addition there was a good balance between synchronic and diachronic approaches here. All language systems, i.e. phonetics and phonology, prosody, morphology, syntax and semantics, the lexicon, as well as socio-

logical and pragmatic aspects of language were covered to a lesser or greater extent. Special mention should be made of corpus studies, which was the main subject of three papers and constituted the basis for another four. Finally, script usage in both Japanese and Korean and the interface between language and writing was addressed as well.

The quality of the contributions to our section was generally above average, and every presentation concluded with an interesting and stimulating discussion. The meeting in its entirety can be regarded an undoubted success, for which many thanks are due to all contributors as well as to the local organizers.

Section 3a: Modern Literature

Convenors: Ina Hein (University of Vienna) and Simone Müller (University of Zurich)

The Modern Literature Section consisted of five panels, one roundtable discussion, and twelve individual presentations given by scholars from a number of European countries, Japan, as well as from the US, Canada, and Australia.

In selecting the panels and individual papers, we had given priority to contributions relating explicitly to the special theme of this year's modern literature section: reflecting on the benefits and limitations of 'Western' literary currents and theories for the analysis of modern Japanese literature.

We started with a keynote speech for which we could win Brett de Bary (Cornell University), an expert in theoretical questions concerning translation, postcolonialism, and gender issues. The opening panel "The benefits and limitations of using Western gender theory for the analysis of modern Japanese women's literature" and the round-table "Literary theories in Japan – between western models and local traditions" on the second conference day focused on our section's special topic.

We also had panels on "Identity and otherness in 'zainichi' literature"; on phantastic elements in otherwise realist literary texts; on "Gender in post-bubble literature" and on "Japanese literature of crisis from postwar to post-Fukushima".

The individual papers covered a wide range of topics, but we could actually group them together under

certain thematic headlines such as:

- "Feminism and Japanese literature" (treating as examples texts by Miyamoto Yuriko, Dazai Osamu, Hiratsuka Raichō and Kanezaki Tsune);
- "Literary movements" (e.g. naturalism, avant-garde, and other concepts of art);
- "Aesthetics" (analyzing the famous literary debate between Akutagawa and Tanizaki about the plotless novel; Taishō discourses of poems; as well as aesthetic ideals of the contemporary *haiku*);
- and "Case studies on Japanese authors" such as Murakami Haruki, Kanai Mieko, and Abe Kazushige.

Despite this variety, many papers touched upon similar politically and / or socially relevant issues such as colonialism and postcolonialism, gender relations, or transculturality.

Having called for papers that would take up the problem of the adaptability of Western theories when analyzing Japanese literature, we were particularly happy that over the three conference days we actually discussed ques-

tions such as: Can the terms “naturalism” or “avant-garde” be adequately applied to Japanese literary movements? To what extent can we find mutual or unidirectional impacts, similarities, and differences between literary currents in Japan and Western countries? Which Western literary theories have or had a strong impact in Japan and why? To what extent can we analyze Japanese texts with parameters borrowed from Western literary theories such as narratology, gender theories or post-colonialism – and what are their limitations? How would readings of the same literary text differ if Western theories were applied – or if completely different approaches were taken?

The section was well-visited throughout and met with much positive response. We enjoyed lively Q&A sessions following the presentations. We would like to thank the presenters as well as the audience for making the section a success. Last but not least we wish to thank the local organizers in Ljubljana for their efficient and always friendly support.

Section 3b: Pre-modern Literature

Convenors: Michael Watson (Meiji Gakuin University) and Joshua Mostow (University of British Columbia)

The pre-modern literature section consisted of seven organized panels and three sessions of individual papers. The sessions were arranged in roughly chronological order. In total, we heard thirty papers on subjects ranging from early waka and kanshi to Edo-period publishing. Attendance was good throughout, averaging between twenty and thirty participants for most sessions, with many participants attending all three days. More than forty people crowded into our room for the keynote speech by Yamanaka Reiko (Hosei University), who gave a well-received talk on the subject of “Nō: The Study of Literature in Motion.”

Both convenors were pleased to hear several people comment that the first session seemed more like a panel on classical poetry than a sequence of individual papers by three scholars working independently of each other. There was of course no designated discussant for the session, but instead there was a lively series of questions

from the floor, which got us off to a very good start.

As there has been at least one session on kanbun literature at most recent EAJS conferences, it was good to see again a strong panel on the subject, focussing on works “outside the mainstream” of early kanbun literature. The remaining panel on day two dealt with the pictorial reception of *Ise monogatari*, with each of the speakers looking at a different form of illustration. Yamamoto Tokurō was the discussant.

Day three began with three individual papers by younger scholars from Finland, France, and Japan on Heian literature. This was followed by a panel that gave a good overview of the cultural and literary history of the *Sanjūrokkasen-e*. Medieval literature was represented by three energetically argued papers on war chronicles, origin stories, and encyclopedias. The last panel in the afternoon is sometimes a time when attentions are flagging, but in this case the day ended on a high note, with three very lively presentations on aspects of Kōwaka ballad and its influence. Patrick Schwemmer’s paper was of particular interest,

Both panels on day four were devoted to the subject of publishing and the history of the book. Ivo Smits was an effective discussant on three papers in Japanese, each looking at illustrations in different genres of early-printed books. The last panel focussed on *zōhan mokuroku* or “publishers’ blurbs”, a fascinating new source of information for how books were marketed and read in the Edo period.

The section closed with three individual papers. The first speaker was caught out by new passport requirements and unable to travel, but the local organizers kindly helped the convenor to set up a Skype link in advance. This allowed her both to give her paper on biwa recitation and to respond to questions from the audience in Ljubjana. The section ended with two well-researched papers by graduate students in Naples and Paris on Edo narrative and drama, respectively.

From the difficult stage of selection to the end of the conference, I benefitted greatly from the help of my experienced co-convenor Joshua Mostow. I would like to thank our keynote speaker and each one of the participants for what was by all accounts a

successful session. I look forward to meeting you again in Lisbon.

Section 4a: Visual Arts

Convenors: Ewa Machotka (Leiden University) and Amaury A. García Rodríguez (El Colegio de México)

The call for papers “Japan’s visual culture – ‘national’, ‘universal’, ‘local’, ‘global’, ‘transcultural’?” invited proposals offering innovative views on the issues revolving around the place of Japan’s visual culture within global art discourse. It aimed to trigger discussion on how Japan’s visual culture has been narrated, interpreted, and presented via academic discourse, writing and curating in the last few decades, as well as how it should be approached in the future.

As a reaction to the call, the subsection convenors received proposals approaching the topic from a variety of perspectives and investigating diverse material from medieval Buddhist sculptures kept in European collections to contemporary manga and their reception abroad. On the basis of the quality of the proposals and their response to the call, the convenors selected 18 individual papers and 2 panels to be presented during the EAJS Conference in Ljubljana.

They were especially glad to be able to select papers by scholars in all stages of their academic careers, from a Ph.D. candidate to professors, and from institutions in Europe, Japan, the USA, and Australia, which facilitated versatile networking and exchange. The individual papers were grouped by topic and arranged in chronological order. The convenors invited renowned scholar Prof. Timon Screech (SOAS, University of London) to give the keynote speech. Prof. Screech delivered an insightful presentation on current research issues. In general, the presenters focused on cultural exchanges with the West and only a few referred to Japan’s great neighbour China. The papers discussed early modern exchanges with Europe, the development of modern art and construction of art history vis-à-vis the West, as well as the importation of objects to Europe, the location of Japan’s art in the global context, and the role of manga in contemporary cultural exchanges. The presentations were well attended (for example the keynote speech was attended by ca. 80 people) and triggered lively discussions.

In concluding we’d like to mention that the subsection also ventured outside the conference venues

and on Wednesday, August 27, visited the Slovene Ethnographic Museum, which keeps a Japanese art collection. The participants of the subsection as well as a number of scholars from other sections were received by Dr. Ralf Čeplak, the curator. And finally, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the University of Ljubljana, the hosts of the conference, for organizing such a successful event for the Japan Studies specialists.

Section 4b: Performing Arts

Convenors: Andreas Regelsberger (University of Trier) and Peter Eckersall (CUNY)

The performing arts section was co-convened by Profs Peter Eckersall (The Graduate Center, The City University of New York) and Andreas Regelsberger (University of Trier). Our Call for Papers invited scholars to address the theme of 'Dramaturgy' in relation to their current research. The theme attracted considerable attention and was a focus of discussion during the conference. We had a good response to the call from the EAJS membership and after some discussion about the location and timing of papers we were able to place more than half of the papers.

Number of presentations

The section had a full program of papers comprising: 12 single presentations, 18 panellists in 6 panels, and one keynote paper from Prof. Dr. Stanca Scholz-Cionca, University of Trier. There were 31 presentations in total. This turned out to be a good and very balanced mix of Japanese, European and American presenters of both, young and upcoming scholars with exciting new ideas and approaches as well as well-established experts in academia.

Attendance

The section was well attended. Not having breakout sessions meant that panellists could attend all sessions and respond to the themes addressed over the days of the conference. Individual sessions had on average an audience of 20-40 people.

Themes

The papers addressed all fields of Japanese performing arts including classical nō drama, kabuki/bunraku and contemporary theatre, performance and music. Almost all of the papers reflected on the panel theme of 'Dramaturgy', a theme that included

studies of theatre histories, production, performance analysis and studies of theatre in the wider context of cultural history.

Panel Highlights

The papers were all of a high standard and many drew on scholars' current research in the field. Themed panels were particularly successful in exploring the wider issues of research topics from various interrelating perspectives. Among the highlights were:

- Prof. Dr. Stanca Scholz-Cionca's (University of Trier) keynote lecture on "The Politics of Performance – Dramaturgies of *shinsaku* Nō". Her deeply historicized presentation was informative and cast light on dramaturgy as political complex in the production of nō. Prof. Scholz-Cionca's paper was distinguished by focusing on three *shinsaku* nō pieces in the context of discourses of power, the distribution of new ideologies and trauma processing.

- The panel "Art, Performativity and Urban Space: 1960s to the Post-Tsunami Present" chaired by Michael Molasky (Wadesa) featured wide-ranging informative discussions on cultures of protest from 1960s Japan up to today. This panel was richly informative.

- The panel "The Power of Woman Performer in Noh: Ideas and Perspectives" chaired by Roberta Strippoli (Binghamton University SUNY, USA) and discussed by Susan Matisoff (University of California, Berkeley) combined various approaches to the topic of women in nō and was very informative.

- The first day of the program largely focused on nō. This was a rare opportunity for nō scholars to introduce current research in the field to an expert audience. It gained further inspiration from Prof. Scholz-Cionca's keynote paper.

Overall we were able to enjoy a smooth running and richly discursive program. We thank our hosts for their excellent work and extend a special thanks to the volunteer helpers who worked so hard to make sure that everything went smoothly.

Section 5a: Anthropology and Sociology

Convenors: Barbara Holthus and Wolfram Manzenreiter (both University of Vienna)

From August 28 to 30, 2014, the Anthropology & Sociology section

(Section 5a) convened at the 14th conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies. The conference was held at the Department of Asian and African Studies in Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia.

Two of the three day-meeting featured parallel sessions, in order to at least partially accommodate the high number of applicants for presentations. The section was initially granted only slots for a total of 30 papers (10 sessions). In total, the EAJS received applications for 68 presentations (42 for individual papers and 7 panel applications). Papers and panels were selected based on their innovativeness, methodological soundness and promising quality. Through negotiations with the EAJS head office, the section convenors managed to receive six additional “parallel” sessions, eventually ending up with one keynote and 16 sessions, five of which were pre-formed panels. Among these, 12 sessions (including 3 of these pre-formed panel submissions) were related to this year’s section topic, 4 sessions were considered general sessions. Of these, two sessions were filled with the panel on “Rubbish! The underworlds of everyday life”, organized by Katarzyna Cwiertka (Leiden University)

and two sessions consisted of individual papers.

The section’s topic of the 2014 conference was entitled “All for the good life – anthropological and sociological perspectives on happiness in Japan”. We asked what the meaning of happiness for Japanese today and in the past is. What is their take on what makes life worth-living? To what degree is the individual’s pursuit of happiness and well-being constrained or facilitated by society and its institutions? We especially invited papers that address the cultural variability of happiness and well-being across Japanese society and among different social groups. The high response to this section topic reflected the viability of this topic for anthropologists and sociologists working on Japan and resulted in a large range of presentations on the topic and showed the diversity of approaches and research questions.

The keynote was delivered by Uchida Yukiko, cultural psychologist from the Kokoro Research Center at Kyoto University, who spoke on the “Cultural Construal of ‘Interdependent Happiness’ in Japan – Cultural psychological theories and empirical evidence”. By looking at how culture shapes human emotion as well as what

happiness constitutes from a Japanese perspective, she made her argument in defense of cultural psychology and for culturally specific levels of desirability or ideals of happiness.

Showing a lot of comparative data, Uchida pointed to the fact that most theories on happiness are too global and that most people do not fit under these explanatory “Western” models, as they are not “WEIRD”, an acronym standing for “western, educated, industrialized, rich, and democratic”. For the case of Japan, in particular interdependence, balance seeking between one’s own desires and the needs of society, and the ideal of collectively achieved well-being are elementary elements. The keynote was a great starting point as people kept referring to her throughout the conference.

The session entitled “Civil society and communal life” indicated the significance of belonging, and that practices and activities, which are conducted in a committed way, also contribute to people’s sense of well-being. Patricia Steinhoff demonstrated through her network analysis of political activists how friendships between and within groups and the sharing of knowledge and working together for a common cause has contributed to

higher levels of social capital and that political activism may increase participants’ levels of happiness.

Martin Lieser who studies organized football fans in Japan argued that football passion provides a social space of exchange and bonding for people that otherwise would never meet. But pleasure is not only derived from the integrating forces of football fandom transcending the social structure, but also from the deviant behavior enabled within the same social framework. A study of community level happiness was the focus of Tolga Oezsen’s presentation. Oezsen, one of the few quantitative sociologists at this year’s conference, studied administrative approaches to rural community revitalization in Kumamoto prefecture. As communities suffer severely from depopulation, over time the idea of who belongs to the community is changing, so that even the ones that moved away are still considered to be part of the village communities. Yet there is a difference between the administrative views on community well-being and the individual level of well-being.

The panel on “Social and political institutions as facilitators and constraints to the pursuit of happiness: The family in modern and

contemporary Japan” provided an interdisciplinary group of scholars. A historical view on how the discourse on happiness has evolved was presented by Torsten Weber. Already since the 1870s, a politicization of ideas on happiness can be found in Japan. Weber has analyzed the public discourse of Abe Isoo and Hani Motoko in the women’s magazine *Fujin kōron*, finding that happiness in early 20th century discourse was constructed as a goal of individual pursuit and the freedom of the individual rather than the concern for the well-being of the group. Weber further distinguishes between “smaller”, meaning everyday, happiness and “greater” happiness, such as the pursuit of happiness as envisioned through the Meiji constitution. Chris Winkler also provided a longitudinal study through his analysis of LDP manifestos between 1955 and 2011. The manifestos show three phases in regards to family policies, pointing to a much greater interest by the LDP in welfare politics than family politics. The pursuit of quality of life only began in the second phase, after the urgent quest for material wealth shifted to the LDP having to adapt to the public’s post-materialist policy preferences as well as the harsh fiscal realities of the time. Tim Tiefenbach’s quantitative study on neighborhood associa-

tions and the distinction between voluntary versus involuntary participation stresses the significance of free choice in the participation. Phoebe Holdgruen presented preliminary results from a project she conducts with Barbara Holthus on parental well-being in response to Japan’s nuclear radiation crisis. Findings from their participant observation among activist mothers in Chiyoda-ku were summarized as the motherhood dilemma of women who feel they cannot protect their children as traditional gender roles prevent them from rallying against what they perceive as a threat for their children.

In the session on “Happiness and education”, Anne-Lise Mithout asked if Japan’s special education reform has contributed to offering a happier life to disabled youth. Mithout sees the situation rather critical, due to the neoliberal impact on politics, the diversity of impairments and the ability of the teachers who might not be suitably trained to diagnose disability. Besides special support programs and integration, also autonomy and self-esteem are equally important elements to increase happiness. Christopher Bondy’s ethnographic research in junior high schools in Buraku districts focuses on how schools can

function as a “protective cocoon” from having to face the possibility of being detected as outsider of society and thus contribute to the youth’s sense of well-being. The implementation of gender equality guidelines was the focus of Aline Henniger. Through a detailed distinction of all actors on the local school level Henniger paints a critical picture by pointing at the difficulties in the implementation process.

The presentations in session “Emotions and happiness in familial relations” showed how the ideals of a happy marriage can greatly vary. Dalit Bloch determined the importance of social context and the shifting conjugal roles in her in-depth case study of one couple, whereas Laura Dales concentrated on the connection between marriage and friendship. Marriage influences friendships in a myriad of ways. Overall, marriage does not delimit the emotional needs for friendship, yet reduces the time for friendship. Hiroko Umegaki Constantini studied recently retired men searching for happiness and their place within the family. In the case of one grandfather, he chose grandchild-rearing as the right solution, providing him regular access to his own daughter, nurturing emotional bonds and

his desire to still be the financial provider of sorts.

“Gendered Views and experiences of well-being in contemporary Japan” saw three papers that focused on the youth subculture, youth’s desires, values and elements creating happiness for gyaru and gyaru-o (Arai Yusuke), on the creation of fantasies of happiness for middle-class wives (Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni), and the study of the workplace and its relationship to the happiness of Japanese women (Maya Todeschini). Todeschini points to women choosing a “winding road” approach, distancing themselves from “traditional” corporate Japan, by working on the margins, either in smaller companies, having multiple career switches, or becoming free-lancers working as consultants or advisors, complementing the activities of traditional companies.

The panel on “Re-imagining masculinities in contemporary Japan: How marginalized men seek happiness and well-being” ran over two sessions. Presenters Kato Etsuko, Ono Mayumi, and Suzuki Ayako focused on lifestyle migration of young men to Canada, the US, Ireland and Southeast Asia in the search for *ikigai*. *Hikikomori* were the focus

of Horiguchi Sachiko's presentation, in which she concentrated on support groups trying to provide jobs, dismantle salaryman ideals, further communication and intimate relationships with a significant other. The search of young Japanese salarymen for self-fulfillment through physical appearance rounded out this panel with the presentation by Kristina Barancovait-Skindaraviciene. The desire to be accepted is the driving force for young salarymen to understand their bodies as a "project" to be worked on, as part of their self-identity, and as an expression of their individuality.

In the session on "Happiness and sexualities" Erick Laurent argued that there is happiness in the Japanese closet for Japanese homosexual men. Western activism understands "coming out" not just as a rite of passage but as the universal key to freedom and happiness. Through his in-depth ethnographic research however, Laurent has found that happiness cannot be automatically linked to coming out, but that there can be happiness in the closet indeed. Takeda Hiroko and Ishiguro Kuniko in their paper analyzed young non-elite women working in kira, meaning sexual or pornographic services jobs. These jobs are advertised

as transforming the women into something special. Adrian Ovidiu Tamas and Carmen Tamas in their joint ethnographic research at an Osaka bar described the late night customers as lonely and looking for companionship. The spontaneously created community of customers acts as a surrogate for the basic human need of companionship. Customers develop the habit to going to the bar, even on weekdays, which the researchers analyzed in terms of addiction.

Iza Kavedzija's presentation on old people's attempts to create a meaningful and fulfilling life opened the first Friday morning parallel session on "Constructions of happiness". Happiness of the elderly is searched for in the enjoyment of hobbies, a more contemplative lifestyle, and gratitude for the little things in life. But her account also countered the stereotypical image of the dependent seniors. Since her informants were well aware of the difficulties in balancing between their own desires for securing a certain sense of freedom with maintaining warm interpersonal relationships, achieving a sense of happiness turned out to be a practical form of moral judgment. Nataša Visočnik researched the role of machizukuri, public housing policy, and community projects on bringing

happiness to the socially and spatially marginalized buraku and Korean neighborhoods in Southern Kyoto. Debra Occhi also looked at the spatial dimensions of action and emotions. Her research compared interaction patterns between masked characters and participants of traditional community festivals with the ubiquitous consumption of the more recently designed, regional tourism characters; both are clearly about raising strong emotional responses, such as anxiety or laughter, to chase away evil or simply to bring about instant moments of happiness.

The second parallel section on Friday morning presented “Survey data on happiness” and thus only featured quantitative studies. Economist Sebastian Lechevalier asked if increasing inequality in Japan is correlated with unhappiness and if so, if widespread dissatisfaction will eventually lead to a heightened interest in redistributive policy. His findings indicate that particularly those forces in society that expect the state to level off socio-economic disparities are dissatisfied with their life in general and the result of government interference in particular. Sociologist Carola Hommerich discussed the contribution of social capital to social and subjective well-being. David Green studied

regional and work-related issues of happiness and their impact on fertility outcome. Estimation results of regression analyses revealed that marriage age, spouse’s education and working hours are negatively associated with the number of children, while spouse’s income, the living arrangement with parents and regional satisfaction are positively associated.

The panel entitled “Phenomenologies of Japanese Happiness” concluded the last two sessions of the Anthropology and Sociology section. Gordon Mathews’ twenty year-long study of the changing life trajectories of Japanese adults demonstrated great variability of sources of happiness and unhappiness. While work turned out not to have been a calling for most of his informants, in retrospective they regretted putting too much pressure on their own offspring in order to follow in their footsteps, by placing work over family roles. Osawa Makoto who researches urbanites turning farmers discussed the pursuit of happiness in the context of individual motivations, lifestyle patterns and the institutional framework of regional political economy. Susanne Klien revisited her informants from a previous research project on volunteering in disaster-hit Tohoku to find that post-volunteering activi-

ties consist of spatially differentiated and diversified lifestyles that combine economic activities to make a living with contributions to society for making sense out of living. Continuing the panel, Joy Hendry presented first reflections from a recent research stint on what is retired life is like. Her Kyoto-based informants revealed that health and grandchildren are as much a source of happiness as are social encounters and “work-like” activities. Finally, Lynne Nakano looked at women’s take on marriage, comparing Japan, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. With universal marriage remaining the ideal, single life is seen as an unconventional life choice, demanding conscious efforts to negotiate between societal expectations and personal desires. Singlehood, considered by family members and others a transitory state, eventually becomes accepted as permanent with women getting older.

Rounding up three days of intense scholarly exchange, the session organizers initiated the final discussion by reflecting on “What we came to know and still would like to know about happiness in Japan”. In sum, the overall impression gained from the presentations was that Japanese seem rather happy through the anthropo-

logical lense, with the sociological approach delivering a less happy picture. Since the majority of presenters were from the field of anthropology, with only a small number of sociological analyses, we wonder if this cleavage is partly caused by the disciplinary self-selection bias or related to separate disciplinary conceptualization and research strategies. We have seen throughout the conference that there is a methodological tendency in anthropology for making use of biographies, and it is not unlikely that the human drive of making sense out of one’s life is ultimately conducive to more positive assessments.

The great variety of case studies reminded the audience that happiness is not universal, and it is not the same emotional state of mind to any and all, and that it even cannot be taken as a cultural construal. When asked, people tend to see happiness as a very personal and immediate issue. They give less significance to the weight and impact of socio-structural conditions, which are rather taken for granted, even though they are seen as shifting, whereas the self remains rather stable. The life stages people find themselves in are putting different demands on their lives and thus

exert changing influences on their personal desires.

Some questions however have not yet been fully addressed throughout this dense, three-day section, yet which are worthwhile and should be the subject of future, ongoing investigations. Uchida in her keynote speech presented a noticeable gap between the ideal state of happiness between Japan and the U.S. How are other societies faring in regards to their ideal states of happiness and in comparison to their actual levels of happiness? We further wonder to what degree findings from the case studies can be generalized. What is the interaction between larger data sets and ethnographic data, and what kind of interaction can be beneficial for sociologists and anthropologists working on the topic? We also think that the role of the mass media, whether on the generation of desires and emotions, or on the public discourse about and the perception of happiness deserves further investigation. And finally, what is the connection between the subjective appraisal of institutions and structural conditions and their objective conditioning within the larger framework of happiness and well-being? In other words, more research is needed to come to terms with the conceptualization

and the materiality of happiness in Japan.

In late 2015, the section convenors will publish an edited volume of selected anthropological contributions to the conference.

Section 5b: Media Studies

Convenors: Griseldis Kirsch (SOAS, University of London) and Blai Guarné (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

This was the first time that a section on Japanese media studies has been convened at an EAJS conference. For that reason, we had an open call for papers and welcomed scholars of all levels working on any aspect of Japanese media. As convenors we were very happy to see the interest aroused by the section and, due to the high number of quality proposals received in the call for papers, we were glad to schedule a parallel session on the third day of the conference.

As inaugural keynote speaker we had the honor to have Professor Iwabuchi Koichi (Monash University, Australia) who delivered a lecture titled "Paradigm Shift in the Critical Study of Media Culture? – Some Thoughts from Japanese Cases." In his keynote

address, Professor Iwabuchi highlighted the significance of critical media studies in the wake of 3/11, combining both theoretical considerations on media and their role in society with more practical elements of analysis. His trip to Europe was possible thanks to the co-founding of the Great British Sasakawa Foundation, the University of Vienna, and the Faculty of Languages and Cultures at SOAS, University of London.

After Professor Iwabuchi's keynote speech on Thursday morning, we had an entire day on media and gender. Three panel-sessions took place: "Interdisciplinary Analysis of TV Dramas: The Example of *Kaseifu no Mita*," chaired by Hilaria Gössmann (University of Trier, Germany); "Culture of Their Own? Questioning Gender Normativity in Japanese Media Cultures," chaired by Elizabeth Grace (University of Cambridge, UK); and the individual papers presented under the rubric "Media and Gender," in a session chaired by Blai Guarné (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain). The papers presented in those panels approached the constructions of gender in the media from various angles and through various genres. Two of the panels had been pre-organised, one of which ran entirely in Japanese and was

on a television drama that was extremely successful after 3/11, *Kaseifu no Mita*, and the other one on gender normativities in various media/genres.

On Friday, we ran parallel sessions throughout the day. In one of the sessions, we had a panel on Fukushima and film titled "3.11 Cinema – Disaster and the Nuclear Unconscious in Post-Fukushima Films." The panel was chaired by Livia Monnet (University of Montreal, Canada), and Thomas Lamarre (McGill University, Canada) acted as discussant. This panel was followed by various individual papers gathered in three different panels around the topics of "Historical Media," "Media and Memory," and "Media and Politics." Simultaneously, in the parallel sessions, we enjoyed two subsequent panels on historical picture postcards as media focused on the topics of "Imagi(ni)ng History" and "Imagi(ni)ng Modernity," that were respectively chaired by Sepp Linhart (University of Vienna, Austria) and Susanne Formanek (University of Vienna, Austria). These panels were followed by individual papers that addressed the two main topics to which the day was devoted, media and disaster, and media and historical records, as well as another pre-organised session on mediated

voices chaired by Kerim Yasar (Ohio State University, USA) under the rubric “The Voice in the Machine – Mediated Voices in Historical and Anthropological Perspectives.”

On Saturday, we started the day with another pre-organised session on “Trans-national Agents and Social Change in Japanese Cinema – 1920s-1960s,” that was chaired by Griseldis Kirsch (SOAS, University of London, UK), and we closed the section program with the individual papers presented in the panel session “Media and the Fantastic.”

All in all, we ran seven pre-organised panels and nineteen individual papers. The speakers came from various countries, including, but not limited to, Japan, Canada, the US, the UK, Germany and Spain. We had far more submissions than we could accommodate, and it was a very successful first conference for the Media Studies section.

The convenors wish to thank the organising committee in Ljubljana for their efficiency and swift help for whichever problems arose, as well as the EAJS and the funding bodies that made Professor Iwabuchi’s trip to Europe possible. We are looking forward to another

successful section in Lisbon in 2017.

Section 6: Economics, Business, and Political Economy

Convenors: David Chiavacci (University of Zurich) and Sébastien Lechevalier (EHESS)

Diversity and institutional change in the Japanese economy were proposed as topics in the call for papers of the section of economics, business, and political economy. Still, as at earlier EAJS conferences, we also accepted good papers on other topics related to the section. Our keynote speaker was Prof. Mari Sako of Oxford University, who had kindly accepted our invitation. Her presentation “Whither the Japanese Model?” was a stimulating introduction into the section topic. It gave an overview of the localization and theorization of Japan as economic model in political economy research and raised the question if the Japanese economy could still today be regarded as a model of its own in view of economic and structural reforms and increasing diversity since the burst of the bubble economy in the early 1990s.

The section included a total of 29 papers and an invited round-

table. We had in the section two organized panels. One contained three papers on the persistence of life-time employment in Japan under the pressure of economic stagnation. The other was devoted to Japan's economic history. Its four papers focused on economic development and global finance in inter-war Japan. The other seven sessions consisted of 21 individual papers in total, which covered a wide range of economic topics on Japan like homelessness, history of whaling, or entrepreneurship and innovation. Some papers analysed aspects of certain markets and industries in Japan by focusing on cosmetic industry, digital product market, medical engineering, or tourism industry. Furthermore, inter- and transnational topics of Japan's economy were also discussed like trade agreements, female foreign workers, or foreign-owned firms. The theme of the round-table was "Board Diversity and Leadership in Japanese Corporations", which included as participants external board members of Japanese companies. It was a welcome opportunity to bring academics and practitioners together, which led to new insights into changing practices of boards in Japanese corporations.

We thank again our keynote speaker Prof. Sako and all participants for joining us in Ljubljana and for their efforts! The local organizers made a perfect job, and the section of economics, business, and political economy had very interesting and intensive days of scholarly exchange.

Section 7: History

Convenors: Hans Martin Krämer (University of Heidelberg) and Ellen van Goethem (Kyushu University)

The History Section was convened by Hans Martin Krämer (University of Heidelberg, Germany) and Ellen van Goethem (Kyushu University, Japan). We decided to issue a call for papers for two subsections, which would allow for openness in terms of both historical period as well as methodological approach. In other words, subsection 1, "Japan in World History," aimed more at modern and political history, while subsection 2, "Reorientation: Alternative Sources for Japanese History", was designed to draw more proposals from the perspectives of premodern and cultural history. Overall, we received 13 proposals for panels and 51 individual paper proposals. Although we had the privilege of being able to fill slots for two

parallel sessions throughout all three conference days, we could only accommodate two thirds of the applications we received.

Thankfully, the applications were divided nicely between the two subsections, so we were able to select papers for strong three-day programs for both topics. Much like in previous years, the early modern period and the early twentieth century figured most prominently in the papers eventually selected. In contrast, the history of the ancient, medieval, and post-World-War-II periods were grossly underrepresented. In terms of speakers, the anonymous selection of papers did little to change the geographic pattern also visible in the past. Almost half of all speakers in the section came from either German or English speaking countries, while contributors from Southern Europe, including France, were far and few between. A positive development is that there were more representatives of Eastern Europe than usual.

In fact, one of the highlights of the subsection "Japan in World History" was that two whole slots were devoted to Russia and Japan, one being a grouped panel on Soviet Russia. This session also sparked a lively debate due to the presence of

many Russian specialists in the audience. Another highlight was the section's keynote speech by Yamashita Norihisa (Ritsumeikan University, Japan) on "The 'Long Twentieth Century' and Japan as a Non-Axial Civilization". Professor Yamashita's broad placement of Japan within world history fit in very well with the first subsection's theme and also, somewhat surprisingly, with the conference key note by Karatani Kōjin held one day earlier.

Thanks not in the least to the local organizers, everything went very smoothly. There were no last-minute cancelations; turnout was high throughout, averaging between 30 and 50 per subsection; and the quality of the papers was also generally perceived to be very high. Some topical clusters other than "Russia and Japan" were the role of non-state actors in foreign relations of Japan during the second half of the nineteenth century and new approaches to fascism in Japan. In both cases, controversial discussions ensued from the audience concerning the feasibility of new approaches to the subject matter at hand, and this is perhaps the most that one can hope from a large and interdisciplinary meetings such as the EAJS International Conference.

Section 8a: Religion and History of Ideas

Conveners: Erica Baffelli (University of Manchester) and Anna Andreeva (University of Heidelberg)

The meeting of the section 8a “Religion and History of Ideas” opened with the keynote lecture by Professor Paul L. Swanson (Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nanzan University, Nagoya). He noted that several trends gained prominence in the scholarly publications on Japanese religions over recent years: the discussion of the very term “religion” and the applicability of its Japanese counterpart “shūkyō”; the investigation of Japan’s religiosity in the Meiji to early Shōwa periods; the scholarly attempts to elucidate the history of “Shinto”; and the study of Japanese religions in the aftermath of the “Aum affair” in 1995. In addition to other important topics, Professor Swanson also drew attention to the state of academic publishing and raised the issue of “open access” and “business model”, regarding the future and challenges the scholars are facing in the twenty-first century.

The second session of day one started with three individual

papers. Janine Tasca Sawada’s (Brown University, USA) paper focused on the historiography of what she calls “people’s religion”, drawing on the example of the Fuji-kō in early Tokugawa Japan. Mick Deneckere (University of Cambridge, UK) discussed the periodical press and Buddhism in early Meiji Japan, while Tinka Delakorda Kawashima (University of Tsukuba, Japan) presented a paper reappraising the history of “kakure kirishitan” through the World Heritage Site nomination process.

The afternoon was busy with two panel sessions. One, chaired by Ian Reader (Lancaster University, UK), was entitled “Mediated Religion and Charismatic Imagery in Contemporary Japan.” John Schultz’s (Kansai Gaidai University, Japan) presentation zoomed in on the rising popularity of mascots used by Buddhist temples and organizations, while Isaac Gagné’s (Waseda University Institute for Asia-Pacific Studies, Japan) paper approached the issue of charisma and sociality of religious groups online. Erica Baffelli (University of Manchester, UK) discussed the shifting patterns of authority in Japanese ‘New Religions.’

The second afternoon panel, chaired by Fabio Rambelli (University of California, Santa Barbara, USA) was dedicated to a new research angle in the study of Japanese religion: the maritime themes and links with the sea. The exploration of new perspectives for the study of maritime religiosity was the focus of the first paper (Fabio Rambelli). Gaynor Sekimori (SOAS, UK) investigated the status of maritime deities throughout the period of critical reassignment of religious roles and purposes during the Meiji Restoration. Emily Simpson's (University of California, Santa Barbara) presentation focused on the image of Empress Jingū and maritime religiosity in medieval Japan. Max D. Moerman (Barnard College, Columbia University) responded with comments on the panel's introduction and presentations and suggested further research questions for this new field of inquiry.

Day two started with the roundtable entitled "The Sensorial Construction of the Body in Medieval Religion: Voice, Taste, Form, Performance," and was presided over by Lucia Dolce (SOAS, University of London, UK). The presenters, including Abe Yasurō (Nagoya University, Japan), Itō Satoshi (Ibaraki University, Japan), Shiba Kayono

(Chiba University, Japan), Yoneda Mariko (Kobe Gakuin University, Japan) and the panel chair, Lucia Dolce, introduced the new sources recently discovered in Japanese temple archives and proposed new approaches to the study of medieval Japanese Buddhism. The topics discussed ranged from enacting of the "living body of the Buddha" (Abe), voice as a part of religious body (Shiba), drinking tea and the thought of the medieval monk Yōsai's (Yoneda), to the impact of Tantric notions on the medieval Shinto discourses on sexual desire (Itō), and conceptualizations of colour and form in Tantric visualization practices (Dolce).

The late morning session, chaired by Anna Andreeva (University of Heidelberg, Germany) was dedicated to individual papers. Steven Trenson (Hiroshima University, Japan) continued the theme of esoteric Buddhism with the paper on the cult of 'Tripartite Wish-Fulfilling Jewel' in medieval Shingon. Peiyong Lin (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel) presented her analysis of the *tathāgatagarbha* theory in a text known as Shōtoku Taishi's Commentary to the Śrīmālā Sūtra, from a comparative perspective. Fumi Ouchi (Miyagi Gakuin Women's University, Japan)

questioned the dynamics of ritual performance, focusing on its aspects as ritual and entertainment.

The afternoon of day two was busy with two stimulating panels. One, entitled “From temple archive to public performance” presented a range of case studies focusing on ritual texts and preaching the Buddhist doctrines. The panel’s chair and first presenter, Chikamoto Kensuke (University of Tsukuba, Japan) elucidated the role of religious preaching through the texts penned by the Kōfukuji monk Jōkei found at the Tōdaiji temple library. Unno Keisuke’s (National Institute of Japanese Literature, Japan) paper focused on the ritual procedures of *waka kanjō* involving the image of Kakinomoto Hitomaro. Michael Jamentz (Kyoto University, Japan)’s paper continued the theme of poetry and Buddhist liturgy by discussing the twelfth-century *Fugen kōshiki* lectures.

The last session of the day, chaired by Michael Conway (Otani University, Japan) was dedicated to the images of the Kamakura-period Buddhist thinker Shinran (1173-1262) in twentieth-century Japan, and offered perspectives from inside and outside the Shin denomination. Through the case

of Kurata Hyakuzō’s (1891-1943) play, *The Priest and His Disciples (Shukke to sono deshi)*, Ama Michihiro (University of Alaska, USA) analyzed the literary representations of Shinran and the burgeoning production of the Buddhist literature in the Taishō period (1912-1926). The panel was closed by the response by Robert Rhodes (Otani University, Japan). Inoue Takami (Otani University, Japan) investigated the revival of Shinran’s ideas in Japan’s contemporary thought, through the writings of Japan’s leading intellectuals: Yoshimoto Takaaki (1924-2012), Karatani Kōjin (1941-), and others. Michael Conway offered an analysis of significant shifts in the Otani-ha doctrinal studies regarding Shinran during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

The last day of the conference started with the morning session chaired by Erica Baffelli (University of Manchester, UK). The session consisted of two individual papers. Elizabeth Kenney (Kansai Gaidai University, Japan) cast light on the daily life of the Yoshida Shinto shrine priests, Yoshida Kanemi (1535-1610) and his younger half-brother, Bonshun (1553-1632). Jane Alaszewska (SOAS, UK) re-examined the ritual performances of kagura on the Southern Izu islands.

The second morning panel, chaired by Carina Roth (University of Geneva, Switzerland), was dedicated to the creation of sacred sites and focused on the relationship between the histories of temples and shrines (*jisha engi*) and religious space. Heather Blair (Indiana University, USA) questioned the nature of medieval *engi* as a genre, arguing that such texts have been 'in flux from their very inception' and could better be understood as 'representations of constantly re-negotiated institutional identity'. Kawasaki Tsuyoshi (Shūjitsu University, Japan) traced the evolution of mountain ascetic practices (Shugendō) and the perceptions of sacred mountains during the Insei period via the literary representations of En no Gyōja. Carina Roth followed this theme with an analysis of the tales of En no Gyōja's travels to the Kumano region, and the competing claims laid by different lineages over the Ōmine mountains.

The last panel of the conference, chaired by Fabio Rambelli, was entitled "The Faces of Shinto in Modern and Contemporary Japan". Its first presenter, Michael Wachutka (Tübingen University, Germany) surveyed the process of canonization of the Shinto scriptures by the Ōkura Institute

for Research of Japan's Spiritual Culture (Ōkura seishinbunka kenkyūjo) in the early twentieth century. Elisabetta Porcu (International Research Center for Japanese Studies, Kyoto, and Leipzig University, Germany) offered an ethnographic account of the neighbourhood and 'preservation' associations (*chōnaikai* and *honzonkai*, respectively) and their activities during the Gion festival in contemporary Japan. Paul B. Watt's (Waseda University, Japan) paper focused on the representations of Shinto as seen through the case of Ōmiwa shrine in nowadays Nara prefecture.

During the several busy and stimulating days in Ljubljana, the participants of Section 8a brought forth a wealth of new ideas and lively discussions on a multiplicity of topics, ranging from 'New Religions', religious preaching, and esoteric Buddhism to the studies of *engi* texts, Shinran, maritime religions, and much more. Thanks to the support of the Japan Foundation, the 2014 keynote lecture was very well attended and was a great success. These fruitful discussions, lectures, and events amply demonstrate that the studies of Japanese Religions, set in both pre-modern and contemporary contexts, continue to be a vital area of scientific inquiry in the

studies of Japan in the twenty-first century. Thank you, Ljubljana, and see you next time in Lisbon!

Section 8b: Intellectual History and Philosophy

Convenors: Raji Steineck (University of Zurich) and Wim Boot (Leiden University)

At this year's EAJS conference, section 8b "Intellectual History and Philosophy" was initiated as a new branch of what was formerly section 8 "Religion and the History of Ideas." The motive behind this decision had been to allow for more room for papers dedicated to non-religious aspects of the intellectual history of Japan, and for papers with a distinct focus on ideas (religious or otherwise) as opposed to religious practices, rituals, and so forth. The number of proposals the convenors received proved that there was ample demand for this new subsection from the side of potential participants. The scholarly quality of the presentations and the ensuing discussions, as well as the size of the audience, which even necessitated a change of venue to a larger room, further substantiates this evaluation.

The convenors decided to place, for this initial running of the sub-

section, an open call for papers, which was met with a large number of incoming proposals (53 papers, among which were 23 individual papers and 8 panels with a total of 30 papers). In spite of initial misgivings on the side of the convenors about accepting panels, a close review of each proposal with respect to their subject, originality, and scholarly quality led to the decision to accept 8 individual papers and 7 panels (with a total of 22 papers). Speakers came from all regions of Europe, as well as from Japan, North America, and New Zealand.

As keynote speaker, we invited Prof. Sueki Fumihiko, renowned for his works on the intellectual history of Japanese Buddhism. Prof. Sueki gave a tour d'horizon of current issues in the field, focussing on the conceptualization of, and taxonomical distinction between, intellectual history and philosophy. He combined this with a forceful call for a new approach in Japanese philosophy, one that would be characterized by a "critical continuation" of older traditions, as opposed to apologetical hermeneutics, historicist positivism, or an all-out rejection of these traditions.

The program of the subsection covered all periods of Japanese

intellectual history, from ancient Japan to the contemporary era, and a wide range of approaches, from close philosophical-hermeneutical readings to institutional history. A recurring theme was the relation between the spheres of the religious and the secular, and the different conceptualizations of both over time.

As was to be expected, we received some complaints that the creation of this subsection forced difficult choices on members of the audience between the subsection on religion and that on intellectual history and philosophy. All things considered, we still believe, however, that this is a good problem to have, because it points to the high level of interest generated by both sub-sections.

Section 9: Politics and IR

Convenors: Ian Neary (University of Oxford) and Paul O'Shea (Aarhus University)

Coming back to this job after 20 years – I was section convenor for Politics twice in the early 1990s – I was pleasantly surprised by how much easier it is now that the EAJS office is much better staffed and the local organisers play a more positive supportive role. This plus the assistance of my

co-convenor Paul O'Shea made the whole process relatively painless.

There is a trend within US political science to undervalue and move away from anything that might be considered 'area studies' such that there is a declining number of political scientists there who have the language and regional skills. Happily I can report that this has not happened (yet?) in Europe if we are to judge from the evidence of the number and quality of papers presented in our session.

We began with a keynote presentation from Professor Takayuki Hirokawa from Fukuoka University. His comments on the corporate dominated society recurred at various points in our discussion over the three days.

Altogether we had 28 papers with eight of them firmly in the area of IR with the rest mainly focused on domestic politics, although there were several on the boundary of the two. On topics we heard about a broad range – energy, gender equality, agriculture protection, the new growth strategy. But predictably there were a number of papers about developments in the relationship with China and which commented on some way on the

record of and prospects for PM Abe Shinzo.

There has been some criticism recently that political science writing about Japan has been ‘theory taking’ rather than ‘theory making’ but in this area too I can report that a healthy number of the papers in our session sought not merely to report but also to contribute to the development of political science method and theory. On the evidence of the papers presented in our session we can conclude the political science studies of Japan are able to contribute to the broader knowledge about Japan but also to the development of the twin disciplines of Politics and IR.

Section 10: Japanese Language Education

Convenors: Noriko Iwasaki (SOAS, University of London) and Anca Focseneanu (University of Bucharest)

Section 10 was convened by the Association of Japanese Language Teachers in Europe e.V. (AJE). AJE has held an annual symposium on Japanese language education in different parts of Europe since 1996, in collaboration with other organizations keen to promote Japanese

language education in Europe. (For example, the 2013 symposium was co-organised by AJE and Asociación de Profesores de Japonés en España; it was held in Madrid.)

It was the second time for the AJE to take part in the EAJS conference to hold its annual symposium as an EAJS section, following the 2011 conference in Tallinn, Estonia. Because the participation in the EAJS conference was very successful and rewarding, we took part in the EAJS conference in Ljubljana as well. We are truly grateful that we were given the opportunity to do so again.

Our theme was “Mediating between languages and cultures”, which represents one of the important capacities that we aim to promote among learners of Japanese as a second language. This is closely related to “plurilingualism” and “pluriculturalism”, the key concepts embedded in CEFR, the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (Council of Europe 2001). Though this framework was originally developed for language learners and educators in Europe, recently it is increasingly used in other countries, including Japan. Plurilingual and pluricultural individuals

are not just familiar with more than one language and culture. By using multiple linguistic and cultural repertoires, they could also play an important role in mediating between languages and cultures.

The programme consisted of a keynote speech, a special guest speaker's lecture, and an invited panel, in addition to panels, oral and poster presentations selected from the submissions. We received over 120 proposals in total, from which we accepted 4 panels, 33 oral presentations and 30 poster presentations. The presenters came from 16 countries altogether. (The programme was also preceded by a pre-symposium joint event on Japanese language education and networking, co-organised by AJE and the University of Ljubljana. This event featuring Professor Jae-ho Lee's (University of Tsukuba) report on remote language learning system was very well attended.)

The keynote speaker, Professor Noriyuki Nishiyama (Kyoto University), specializes in language policy, foreign language education, and French language education. He gave a talk about the objectives of (foreign) language education. Prof. Nishiyama maintains that the goal of foreign language education is not just to meet students' needs

by helping them to improve their language skills. Learning another language helps learners develop their capacity for mutual understanding and respect, which are fundamental in democratic citizenship.

The guest speaker was Mr Saburo Shimada, who is the stage director of a theatre group called Lasenkan, based in Berlin, Germany. He shared his stories about how he became interested in theatres performed in multiple languages (Japanese language varieties, German and Spanish). His lecture was accompanied by powerful performances by two actors, Ms Kei Ichikawa and Ms Kana Torino.

The invited panel, chaired by Dr Nana Sato-Rossberg, discussed the potential of translation work and insights from translation studies for language education. Three talks were given by Dr Sato-Rossberg, Professor Jeffrey Angles (Western Michigan University) and Professor Kikuko Tanabe (Kobe College).

Both the EAJS office and the organising committee at the Ljubljana University were extremely helpful and accommodated a number of requests we made in order to meet the needs

of the large number of participants and special arrangements required (e.g. for poster presentations). We are wholeheartedly grateful for the efficient and friendly support we received from EAJS staff, colleagues from the University of Ljubljana and their students. We thank them all again!

Minutes of the EAJS General Meeting

TIME: 30 August 2014, 16:00-18:30

PLACE: Slovenian Philharmonic Building, Marjan Kozina Hall, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Moderation by Rein Raud, outgoing EAJS President

The outgoing EAJS President Rein Raud (hereafter RR) welcomed the members to the General Meeting and expressed gratitude to both the participants and the Section Convenors for their contributions to what proved to be an extremely successful and stimulating Conference.

(1) Report by the EAJS President: Report on activities of the association (RR)

The President gave a detailed report on the activities promoted and organized by the EAJS in the last three years (2012-14).

1. TIFO (Toshiba International Foundation) scholarships were generously offered to support the research of three grantees in 2013:

- Alessandro Bianchi (University of Cambridge)

- Miriam Grinberg (University of Warwick)
- Oliver Kühne (University of Trier)

RR also reported that TIFO has decided to upgrade the fellowship program from a grant program to a non-grant activity; the implication being that the TIFO Scholarships will be treated as a continuous programme, funded without any need for the EAJS to apply for grants on a yearly basis. RR expressed deep appreciation and contentment about this positive development. With regard to the future uses of the TIFO scholarships, RR announced the EAJS Council's intention to ensure that one of the scholarships will be allocated to a meritorious candidate who studies in a European country with fewer scholarship opportunities in the field of Japanese Studies (e.g., Eastern Europe countries).

2. EAJS PhD workshops

RR reported about the three successful PhD workshops organized by the EAJS since 2012 (Newcastle University, 30 May - 2 June 2012; organizer Laura Moretti), 2013 (Goethe University Frankfurt,

March 07 - 08 2013; organizer Cornelia Storz) and in 2014 (Ljubljana University, 23 – 26 August; organizer David Chiavacci).

3. RR reported about the 1st EAJS Japan Conference (Kyoto University, Sept 28 - 29 2013; organizer Harald Fuess). This conference was considered a real success, both in terms of its scale (118 presented paper and about 250 participants) and of the academic quality of the papers. The EAJS Council expressed the intention to continue this activity in the future, as it is deemed to be an invaluable way to establish closer connections with the academic community in Japan.

(2) Report by the EAJS Treasurer: Financial report and budget (VBT)

In her report, the Treasurer Verena Blechinger-Talcott (VBT) reported about the following points.

1. EAJS membership development

VBT identified a satisfactory trend is the steady growth in membership, moving from 1174 members in 2011 to 1500 members in 2014. While most members live in Europe (followed by Japan and the Americas and Oceania), a closer look reveals that the EAJS still has far more members in Western Europe

than in Eastern Europe. To address the issue of weak participation from Eastern Europe is considered a priority for the EAJS and VBT has re-confirmed the intention of the EAJS Council to work hard on the promotion of Japanese Studies in Eastern Europe.

2. EAJS financial situation

VBT explained that the EAJS finances are supported by three forms of funding: Japan Foundation (main sponsor of the EAJS), Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO) and membership fees. TIFO's financial support is proving stable and can be expected to remain so in the next years. The membership account has also developed rather positively in the last years, thanks to the increase in members' numbers that has been mentioned above. It is a rather normal trend to witness a decrease of membership applications in non-conference years. This means that a lowering in membership fees is expected in the period between the 2014 Conference and the 2017 Conference. As regards the main sponsor, though, concerns have been expressed around the funding to be expected from the Japan Foundation. VBT noted a net decrease in funding from this main sponsor due to a combination of causes: the Japan Foundation itself has undergone financial cuts; the

strength of the Japanese currency in recent years has resulted into an unfavourable exchange rate. The direct consequence of this unfortunate situation is the need for the EAJS to find alternative ways to sustain costs in the future. This means, in turn, that membership fees will need to be raised around 50%, a measure that had been already decided upon at the General Meeting 2011 in Tallinn.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by the General Meeting (one abstention).

(3) Membership fees

This topic has been discussed as part of the treasurer's report. See above (2) 2.

(4) New EAJS Constitution

A draft of the new Constitution was distributed among the members attending the General Meeting. The Treasurer explained what happened after the EAJS General Meeting in Tallinn (2011). Upon scrutiny from legal advisors, the draft of the new Constitution that had been adopted by EAJS members back in 2011 unfortunately proved legally invalid. This meant that a new, revised draft had to be produced in the interim. The new draft is worded by a lawyer and is

thus legally valid. In order to adopt this draft officially as the new EAJS Constitution, the following procedure was suggested:

a) EAJS members are given time to consider the new draft until November 1, 2014.

b) A Special General Meeting will be scheduled for spring 2015 to be held in Berlin. It was agreed that all members will receive the text of the new draft of the Constitution as well as an invitation for the extraordinary meeting in due time.

c) During the meeting in Berlin, members will be asked to vote on the adoption of the new Constitution.

d) Once the new Constitution is adopted by the EAJS members, the Association's seat can finally be registered in Berlin and the newly Elected Council can be registered with the Berlin court.

VBT then outlined the major changes in the new draft of the Constitution by comparing it with the old Constitution that is still in use.

Questions were then taken from the members sitting in the audience. One member asked whether the EAJS Elected Council is considered big enough. RR replied positively but emphasised the possibility for those members who are unhappy with the current number to bring in a motion to increase

the size of the Council. A second question was addressed around what happens in the eventuality of the Treasurer being somebody not from Germany. VBT reassured the members about this point, by explaining that should that eventuality arise, no problems are foreseen. This is because all the banking is now done online and will be accessible from any country.

At this point the General Meeting discussed briefly the conditions for becoming Supporting Members and the role of such a category. It was agreed that associations, companies or individuals can become Supporting Members and are indeed welcome to do so, as long as they share the goals of the EAJS.

(5) Outcome of council elections, appointment of incoming council members and farewell to outgoing council members (RR)

RR reported about the outcome of the Council election. For details see the records of election outcomes in this volume. The President is Bjarke Frellesvig, the Treasurer is Verena Blechinger-Talcott, the Secretary is Laura Moretti. The extended Council includes Anna Andreeva, Andrej Bekeš, John Breen, Andrea Germer, Michael Kinski, Matthias Zachmann.

RR then introduced each of the Elected Members and welcomed them in their new role. He also thanked the outgoing Council members for their hard work and precious contribution for the EAJS in the past years.

Bjarke Frellesvig (BF) assumed the Chairmanship. He thanked the EAJS for participating in the vote and made the motion to invite RR as Immediate Past President to join the Council. RR was confirmed by the General meeting as member of the Council as Immediate Past President. BF thanked RR for his efforts and successes as the past EAJS President.

Moderation by Bjarke Frellesvig, new EAJS President

(6) EAJS conferences

1. 15th EAHS International Conference (2017)

BF announced that the site decided for the 15th EAJS International Conference by the EAJS Extended Council (both old and new) will be Lisbon. Questions were addressed to the new Chair about this choice. One member asked the EAJS Council to explain and give some background for the choice of Lisbon for the 2017 Conference.

BF explained that Lisbon was chosen for a variety of reasons: the attractiveness of the venue; the low-cost budget presented by the local organizer; the existence of an online paper submission system already well-thought through. BF also emphasized how this choice will allow the EAJS to contribute to the development of Japanese Studies in Portugal, where, despite the long history of contact between Japan and Portugal, Japanese Studies are not yet fully developed.

There was some discussion about whether the decision of future conference venues should be made by the General Meeting rather than the Council. It was agreed that this issue would be put on the agenda for the next Ordinary General Meeting, to be held at the end of the conference in Lisbon in 2017, but that current practice would continue until then.

2. Panels, anonymity and Convenor guidelines

BF noted the decision of the EAJS Council around anonymity in Panel submissions. In order to avoid panels with no regional, institutional and gender variety, the Council decided the first round of reviews of Panel submissions to be anonymous and the second round to reveal the composition of the Panel.

BF noted that, as usual, there will be an open call for Convenors. The Council will then decide upon Convenors for each Section. The General Meeting was reminded that members can nominate others or themselves. In case two convenors are selected, they will have equal rights. BF also noted that no more than 50% should be 'closed panels' (submitted as such by a Panel Organizer) and that the rest of the space should be allocated to 'open panels' or individual presentations.

Discussion followed around a variety of issues related to the above point (6)2.

1. Some convenors expressed unease about the lack of anonymity of Convenors (who organize and oversee the review process) and about the fact that they had been contacted by rejected candidates receiving unpleasant complaints. They asked that the Convenors should be somehow 'protected'.

2. Concerning the desire for written feedback justifying the rejection of submissions, some Convenors noted that this would mean an unreasonable increase in the amount of work requested to Convenors.

3. Some Convenors and members expressed disagreement with the rule of the 50% of closed panels, by pointing out that while closed panels were generally good, individual presentations were not

always so. However, the opposite view was also advanced, and it was decided that the established practice will continue.

4. It turned out that we had cases of Presenters who presented twice in the Ljubljana Conference. It was agreed that this should be avoided and that the names of those who presented twice should be reported by the Convenors to the EAJS Office.

5. It was noted that an author-index should be added to the Conference booklet.

There followed the reports by Section Convenors (convenor who reported):

Section 1 (Maren Godzik)
 Section 2 (Sven Osterkamp)
 Section 3a (Simone Müller)
 Section 3b (Michael Watson)
 Section 4a (Ewa Machotka)
 Section 4b (Andreas Regelsberger)
 Section 5a (no convenor present)
 Section 5b (Griseldis Kirsch)
 Section 6 (David Chiavacci)
 Section 7 (Hans Martin Krämer)
 Section 8a (Erica Baffelli)
 Section 8b (Raji Steineck)
 Section 9 (Ian Neary)
 Section 10 (Noriko Iwasaki)

(7) Any other business

The General Meeting agreed to the Extended Council co-opting the

Local Organizer of the next conference in Lisbon.

(8) Closing ceremony

Thanks were expressed by the Local Organizer. BF joins the General Meeting in thanking the Local Organizer and all its team. The General Meeting was closed.

15th EAJS International Conference in 2017 Conference Site

By the deadline of July 30, 2014, six bids were received to host the 15th EAJS International Conference in 2017. All bidders presented their bid to the EAJS Council during the conference in Ljubljana. There was a number of very strong bids, but the Council eventually decided on Lisbon, Portugal, as the venue of the next conference, after carefully scrutinizing and discussing each of the bids. The 15th EAJS International Conference will be held in Lisbon from 30 August to 2 September 2017.

Changes in the EAJS Constitution

As decided at the EAJS General Meeting in Ljubljana on 30 August 2014, the Council of the European Association for Japanese Studies invited all ordinary EAJS members to a special general meeting in accordance with § 6 (7) of the EAJS constitution.

The reason for the Special General Meeting was the need to vote on the new EAJS Constitution. As had been discussed in Ljubljana, the German associations law has recently been changed. As the EAJS is chartered as a non-profit association according to German law (“eingetragener Verein, e.V.”), the EAJS constitution needed to be adjusted to the new legal requirements. Failure to do so would have resulted in the loss of the EAJS’ tax-exempt status.

In cooperation with a lawyer specialized on association law, the EAJS office has been working on a draft constitution which was discussed by the EAJS Council and at the General Meeting in Ljubljana in August 2014. All aspects of the draft were debated in great detail. All points raised by EAJS members during the discussion were included into the new draft, which

was then checked by the lawyer and presented to the German tax authorities for a screening.

The EAJS constitution required that changes to the EAJS constitution need to be voted on by a general meeting, and German association law requires that all constitutional changes are communicated to association members in writing prior to the general meeting. Therefore, the general meeting in Ljubljana decided that once the text of the new constitution has been screened by the appropriate tax authorities, a special general meeting should be held with the sole purpose to vote on the new constitution.

Invitations to the special general meeting were sent by email and postal mail to all ordinary EAJS members in February 2015. The special general meeting was held in Berlin on 20 April 2015, and the new constitution was unanimously adopted on that occasion. After the meeting, the EAJS office has initiated the necessary steps to update the entry in the German register of associations in cooperation with a notary.

Minutes of the Special General Meeting

TIME: 20 April 2015, 10:30-11:55

PLACE: Hittorfstr. 18, 14195 Berlin, Germany

PRESENT: Bjarke Frellesvig, Verena Blechinger-Talcott, Laura Moretti, Matthias Zachmann, Katja Schmidpott, Marie Roesgaard, Roger Greatrex, Susanne Brucksch, Cosima Wagner, Oliver Hartmann, Anastasiya Skavysh, Gerhard Krebs, Andrej Bekeš, Ljiljana Markovič, Alexandra Vraneš, Ljiljana Bajič, Dinah Zank, Tim Herbort, Matthew Königsberg.

The meeting started at 10.30am.

BF welcomed all present and expressed gratitude for attending the EAJS Special General Meeting.

BF explained that the EAJS Special General Meeting has been convened in order to vote on the new EAJS Constitution. BF highlighted that the changes to the old Constitution had been already discussed during the General Meeting in Ljubljana. He also pointed out that the German text is the one which is legally binding while the English version is

simply an explanation of what the German text says and has no legal status.

VBT reminded to the members the process that has been followed to produce the draft of the New Constitution:

1. The old Constitution was in need of revision because of three main reasons: a) changes in the German Association Law that were not reflected in the old constitution; b) allow the legal change that is necessary to move the Seat of the EAJS from Munich to Berlin, upon decision made at the General Meeting in Tallinn; c) the old Constitution stated a precise number for the membership fee and this needed to be made more flexible in order to have a sustainable Constitution.

2. A preliminary draft of the Constitution was discussed in great detail by the EAJS Council and at the General Meeting in Ljubljana in August 2014.

3. All the points raised by EAJS Members during the discussion were included into the new draft and then checked with a lawyer who is specialized in German Association Law.

4. The draft was presented to the German tax authorities for a screening and considered correct.

5. In accordance with German Association Law, after having been screened the revised draft of the new Constitution was sent to all EAJS members two months prior to the deciding meeting (20 February 2015) for them to be able to comment on the final text. No comments have been received during these two months.

6. The EAJS Special General Meeting was convened for 20 April 2015.

VBT also noted that three members who were not physically present at the Special General Meeting had sent written authorization for the officers to vote on their behalf. She also noted that the quorum, viz. at least 12 ordinary members of the EAJS, was reached by the physical bodies in the room.

The Members attending the Special General meeting were asked to go through the constitution and VBT explained what changes had been made and why they had been made.

§1

The change of the Seat of the Association to Berlin mirrors what was agreed in Tallinn. The new Seat will become active once the new Constitution will be successfully registered.

§2

The following changes in wording were made:

GERMAN: “Der Satzungszweck wird verwirklicht insbesondere durch [...] ideelle Unterstützung der Bildung internationaler und nationaler zweckverwandter Einrichtungen auf dem Gebiet der Japanstudien sowie Zusammenarbeit mit diesen zur Erreichung der Vereinszwecke insbesondere durch den regelmäßigen Austausch von Informationen über geplante Veranstaltungen, die Einladung von Vertretern solcher Einrichtungen zu wissenschaftlichen Veranstaltungen des Vereins und die Entsendung eigener Vertreter zu den wissenschaftlichen Veranstaltungen dieser Einrichtungen.“

ENGLISH: “The objectives of the Association shall be implemented through [...] non-monetary support for the formation of national and international organizations in the field of Japanese studies

that pursue similar objectives; co-operation with such organizations to foster the objectives of the Association; especially through the regular exchange of information on planned events, the invitation of representatives of such organizations to events organized by the Association and the dispatch of its own representatives to events of such organizations.”

► Insertion of “non-monetary”.

§3

The category of ‘supporting members’ is new to the EAJS. It allows associations, companies and individuals to financially support the association, thus becoming a type of ‘sponsor’ to the Association. Supporting members, though, do not have a right to vote and therefore hold a form of passive membership. It was noted that this is standard practice in German Associational Law. It was also noted that the EAJS has no supporting members at present, and that there therefore is no need to consult supporting members about the provision in the constitution that supporting membership does not give the right to vote.

In reply to AB, it was noted that JF is not a supporting members. We are grantees of JF.

The following change to the text of the Constitution was adopted in the meeting.

GERMAN: “Ordentliches Mitglied des Vereins kann jede an der Verwirklichung der Vereinsziele interessierte natürliche oder juristische Person, ungeachtet des Wohnsitzes und der Nationalität, werden. Wissenschaftliche Vereinigungen, Unternehmen oder natürliche Personen können Fördermitglieder werden, sofern sie bereit sind, den Verein durch jährliche Zahlungen zu unterstützen.”

ENGLISH: “Any individual or institution interested in the achievement of the objectives of the Association may become a regular member, irrespective of residence or nationality. Scholarly associations, business enterprises or individuals may become supporting members, as long as they are committed to support the objectives of the Association through annual financial contributions.”

► Insertion of “regular”.

► Replacement of “Scholarly associations or business enterprises” by “Scholarly associations, business enterprises or individuals”.

§4

The second paragraph in this article is new and is standard procedure in German Associational Law. The reason for this change lies in the fact that we have many Members who have not paid their membership fees for a long time and there was not system in place to deal with this difficult situation. The new clause allows a clear process to be in place.

The third paragraph is new and is standard procedure in German Associational Law.

§5

This point was discussed at length at the General meetings in both Tallinn and Ljubljana. Due to the structure of EAJS, it is important to ask for paying a membership fee for three years in order to ensure smooth and uninterrupted running of the Office.

§8

The election of Council Members was not regulated in the old Constitution but the lawyer has asked to describe the process that is in place.

Because of the wish among membership to have more than one vote for the Members of the Extended Councils, the new Constitution allows up to three votes in the election for the extended council, but noting that no more than one vote could be given to one candidate.

The following changes were made in the text of the Constitution.

GERMAN: “Bei der Wahl des BGB-Vorstands (§ 8 Abs. 2) hat jedes Mitglied jeweils eine und bei der Wahl des erweiterten Vorstandes jeweils drei Stimmen.“
[...] „Ergibt sich bei der Wahl in das Amt des Vorstandsvorsitzenden Stimmgleichheit, wählt die Mitgliederversammlung in einer Stichwahl in geheimer Wahl zwischen den Kandidaten mit den meisten Stimmen den Vorstandsvorsitzenden.“

ENGLISH: “For the election of the other members of the Council, each voting member can vote for up to three people.” [...] „In case of a parity of votes for the position of the President of the Association, the General Meeting shall decide by secret-ballot vote on the candidates with the highest number of votes as received in the ballot-by-mail process.”

- ▶ Replacement of “shall have three votes” by “can vote for up to three people”.
- ▶ Replacement of “by voting on the two candidates” by “by secret-ballot vote on the candidates”.

BF thanked VBT and her team for putting together a Constitution which is legally viable and also clear and accessible.

The meeting ended at 11.55am.

§11

This article was not present in the old Constitution but is now required by the new German Associational Law.

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VBT invites questions and comments.

In reply to RG, VBT noted that there is no need to mention in the Constitution financial audits. This is because there is a legal requirement on the part of the Fiscal Authority to audit Charitable Associations every three years, and the EAJS has always gone through this process.

BF invites the members to vote. 21 members (17 individual members, 1 institutional member and 3 members whose vote was delegated to the three Officers) voted in favour of the new Constitution. The new Constitution was therefore unanimously adopted.

Constitution of the European Association for Japanese Studies

§ 1 Name, Seat and Business Year

The name of the Association shall be “European Association for Japanese Studies” (EAJS). The Association shall be listed in the Registry of Associations. The Seat of the Association shall be in Berlin. The business year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

§ 2 Objectives of the Association; Non-Profit Status

The Association shall pursue exclusively and directly charitable objectives as defined in the section on tax-privileged purposes in the German Fiscal Code.

The objective of the Association shall be the promotion of scholarship and research.

The objectives of the Association shall be implemented through:

- the organization of conferences, workshops, academic events, seminars and symposia in the field of Japanese Studies;

- support for young scholars in Europe, for example through the organization workshops for doctoral students or through the provision of short-term grants; the respective research results of which shall be made publicly available;

- publications in the field of Japanese Studies, especially publication of the results of scholarly research;

- publication and distribution of a Bulletin for EAJS members;

- non-monetary support for the formation of national and international organizations in the field of Japanese studies that pursue similar objectives; co-operation with such organizations to foster the objectives of the Association; especially through the regular exchange of information on planned events, the invitation of representatives of such organizations to events organized by the Association and the dispatch of its own representatives to events of such organizations.

The Association shall not pursue private interests; it shall not pri-

marily pursue its own economic gain. Association funds shall only be used for the objectives stated in this Constitution. The members shall not receive remuneration from the funds owned by the Association. No person may receive compensation for expenses that are not in accord with the objectives stated in this constitution. No person may receive unreasonably high compensation.

All officers of the Association and all members of the Extended Council shall serve on a voluntary basis. Council members may only be reimbursed for actual expenses spent according to the objectives of the Constitution.

§ 3 Membership

The Association shall have regular members and supporting members.

Any individual or institution interested in the achievement of the objectives of the Association may become a regular member, irrespective of residence or nationality. Scholarly associations, business enterprises or individuals may become supporting members, as long as they are committed to support the objectives of the Association through annual financial contributions. Supporting members shall

not have voting rights in the General Meeting.

Precondition for membership shall be an application, in written or electronic form, addressed to the Council of the Association. The Officers of the Association shall decide about the acceptance of the membership application. In the application, the applicant shall declare to adhere to the terms of this Constitution.

Persons who have made eminent contributions to the objectives of the Association may be appointed honorary members by the General Meeting after having been nominated by the Council.

§ 4 Termination of Membership

Membership shall end by voluntary resignation. Termination of membership shall only be possible at the end of the calendar year. For a termination of membership to become effective, members who would like to terminate their membership shall notify the EAJS Council in written or electronic form no later than September 30 of a calendar year.

In cases where a member has not paid his/her membership fees despite being reminded twice, the membership may be terminated by Council decision.

A member may be expelled by a decision of the Council when he or she has grossly violated the interests of the Association. The expelled member may lodge a complaint, which shall be heard and voted on in the next General Meeting.

§ 5 Membership fees

Members shall be required to pay a membership fee for a three-year period. The amount of the membership fee shall be decided by the General Meeting. New members shall pay their first membership fee at the time of joining the Association.

In special cases, the Council may reduce or waive the membership fee for members in need.

Honorary members shall pay no membership fees.

A member terminating membership shall have no claims to have all or part of his/her membership fee refunded.

§ 6 General Meeting of the Association

The General Meeting shall be convened at least once every three years. The Council shall call a

General Meeting by a written or electronic invitation which includes the General Meeting's agenda at least four weeks prior to the General Meeting. The invitation shall be considered as received if it is directed towards the last known contact address of each member.

An extraordinary General Meeting shall take place on the basis of a decision by the Council or at the request of at least one tenth of all members, stating the reason and the objective of the request in written or electronic form to the Council.

The General Meeting shall decide on the following items:

- Receipt and approval of the Council's report on budget and spending over the past three years;
- Approval of the Council's report of activities during the past three years;
- Decisions about the amount of membership fees;
- Decisions about changes to this constitution as well as about the dissolution of the Association;
- Decisions about the appointment of honorary members nominated by the Council.

The General Meeting shall be chaired by the President, or if he or she is absent, by any other Council member, preferably the Treasurer.

Decisions of the General Meeting shall be recorded in minutes of the General Meeting. The minutes shall be signed by the chair of the General Meeting and the keeper of the minutes.

The General Meeting shall reach a quorum when at least twelve or more members who are entitled to vote are present. Decisions shall generally be made by open ballot. However, a secret ballot may be held when it is requested by one third of those members who are present and eligible to vote.

If not stated otherwise in this constitution, decisions at the General Meeting shall be passed by a simple majority of all votes cast. Abstentions shall not count. A member who is not present may authorize another member to exercise his/her voting right. In such cases, a letter of authorization must have been received by the Council at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Changes to this constitution and decisions about the dissolution of the Association shall require a majority of three quarters of all valid votes cast.

§ 7 Officers and Council

The Council consists of the following elected members (the Officers):

- the President
- the Treasurer
- the Secretary

and six further members of the Council.

The Council may pass a resolution to add the Local Conference Organizer of the next conference and the Immediate Past President as part of the Council.

The Association shall be represented judicially and extra-judicially by the President and the Treasurer according to Section 26 BGB (German Civil Code). Both may individually represent the Association.

President, Treasurer and Secretary shall have the right to make decisions on behalf of the Association as long as their actions do not interfere with the rights of the Council and the General Meeting.

Responsibilities of the Council include:

- Preparation of the General Meeting; setting of the agenda;
- Implementation of the deci-

sions made by the General Meeting;

- Allocation of responsibilities within the Council as well as decision on rules and guidelines on procedures;
- Decision about the exclusion of members.

§ 8 Election of Council Members

As long as not stated otherwise in this constitution, members of the Council shall be elected by the members of the Association for a period of three years. Members of the Council shall remain in office until the new council has been elected.

The President may be elected for one term only, the Secretary may be elected for two terms, and the Treasurer as well as further members of the Council may be re-elected up to three terms. Only members paying membership fees may be elected as Council members.

For the election of the Officers (President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer), each voting member shall have one vote. For the election of the other members of the Council, each voting member can vote for up to three people.

Members of the Council shall be elected through a ballot-by-mail process, if not provided otherwise in this Constitution. Ballots letters must reach the office of the Association no less than six weeks prior to the date of the General Meeting; ballots that are sent in late or that are not according to standard shall be treated as invalid and shall not be counted.

Each member shall have the right to nominate candidates for the council. Nominations must be submitted in writing and must be received by the office of the Association no less than six months prior to the date of the General Meeting. A specific nomination form provided by the Association shall be used for nominations of candidates for Council membership.

Candidacies for Council positions must be announced to the membership within a reasonable time period prior to the date of the next General Meeting (usually no less than four months prior to the date of the next General Meeting). The announcement of candidacies may also be made through the website of the Association.

The Office of the Association shall send out voting documents (separate ballot sheets for the different positions on the Council, listing

candidates' names, as well as an anonymized envelope for the ballot sheet and a return envelope) usually three months prior to the date of the General Meeting to all members entitled to vote. Return envelopes for anonymized ballot envelopes shall contain the number of each voter as listed in the electoral roll.

All ballots must be received by the office of the Association no less than six weeks prior to the date of the General Meeting. Upon receipt by the office, ballots shall be kept in a sealed ballot box. Ballots shall be counted by the staff members of the Association's Office under the supervision of an electoral committee. The members of the electoral committee shall be nominated by the Council. Council members may not be members of the electoral committee.

If a candidate receives a simple majority (plurality) of votes, he/she shall be elected. In case of tied votes for the position of Treasurer or Secretary, or for a seat as a member of the Council, the vote by the President of the Association shall be decisive. In case of a parity of votes for the position of the President of the Association, the General Meeting shall decide by secret-ballot vote on the candidates with the highest number of

votes as received in the ballot-by-mail process.

§ 9 Decision-Making by the Council

The Council shall make decisions in board meetings. A written record of the meetings shall be filed. The Council shall meet at least once every three years.

The President shall send out the invitation for a board meeting at least four weeks prior to the date of the Council meeting; when prevented from doing so, the Treasurer shall replace him/her.

Council decisions may also be made in writing or through electronic communication (by email), as long as no Council member disagrees. Council decisions shall be made by simple majority (plurality). In case of tied votes, the vote of the President shall be decisive. The Council shall also be able to have a quorum in times when positions on the council are vacant.

§ 10 Amendments to the Constitution by the Officers

The Officers may decide on amendments to this constitution in case they are required by a court of law or government authorities.

§ 11 Dissolution of the Association, Liquidation of Assets

The dissolution of the Association may only be decided by the General Meeting with a three-quarters majority. Unless the General Meeting decides otherwise, the President and the Treasurer shall act jointly as representatives in the liquidation process. The regulations for dissolution shall also apply in the case that the Association is dissolved for another reason or in case it loses its legal status.

In the event that the Association is dissolved or that its tax-privileged status does no longer exist, the assets of the Association must be transferred to a legal entity under public law or another tax-privileged corporation for the purpose of the promotion of scholarship and research.

Decisions about changes to this Constitution or about the dissolution of the Association shall be announced to the responsible tax office. Amendments to the constitution that affect the non-profit objectives stated in Section 2 must be approved by the responsible tax office.

The new version of this constitution was adopted by the General Meeting on 20 April 2015 in Berlin. According to Section 71 BGB, the authorized Council of the Association shall take responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of this constitution as follows:

Bjarke Frellesvig
Laura Moretti
Verena Blechinger-Talcott
Andrej Bekeš
Matthias Zachmann

10th EAJS PhD Workshop, Ljubljana, Slovenia August 23-26, 2014

Report by the Academic Organizer

In 2014, the EAJS PhD workshop could celebrate its tenth anniversary. Like earlier EAJS PhD workshops, it was a unique opportunity for PhD students to reflect on their own research project, to receive feedback and new input from specialists in their field and to discuss their projects with fellow students and senior scholars. It was also event of European integration that allowed academics from all over Europe with different academic traditions and systems to meet, to network and to exchange ideas. All participating PhD students and senior scholars agreed that the workshop had been highly successful and that the workshop gave us all not only new ideas in our research, but enlarged also our academic horizon about Japanese studies in Europe. From August 23 to August 26, the tenth EAJS PhD workshop took place at the Davcen Tourist Farm in the mountains near Ljubljana in Slovenia. It preceded the 14th International EAJS Conference that was held from August 27 to August 30 at the University of Ljubljana. In total 55 PhD students attended

for the EAJS PhD workshop. The senior scholars participating at the workshop and the board of the EJAS selected among these submissions twenty promising projects for the workshop. The main criteria for the selection was the quality of the project, but a balance between disciplines, the PhD students' countries of origin, and their institutional affiliations were also taken into consideration in the selection process. The final selection included four PhD students from East Europe, three PhD students from South Europe, five Japanese PhD students, two PhD students from the United States, one PhD student from Northern Europe, and four PhD students from continental Western Europe. All accepted PhD students were enrolled at European or Japanese universities. Two PhD students represented a university from Southern Europe, six PhD students were affiliated to a university in continental Western Europe, ten PhD students studied at a northern European university, and two PhD students came all the way to Slovenia from a Japanese university. According to research field, social sciences were represented by four PhD students in

social anthropology, three in political sciences, and one in sociology. Two PhD students were writing their thesis on Japanese history. Art and art history was the research field of five accepted PhD students. Finally, Japanese literature and linguistic were each the field of specialization of two PhD students. As advisors of the PhD students, we had at the workshop a team of six senior scholars: Dr Erica Baffelli (East Asian Studies Department, University of Manchester), Prof Andrej Bekeš (Department of Asian and African Studies, University of Ljubljana), Prof David Chiavacci (Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of Zurich), Dr Helen Macnaughtan (School of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of London), Dr Jordi Mas López (Department of Translation and Interpretation, Autonomous University of Barcelona), and Prof Fabian Schäfer (Department of Middle Eastern and Far Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg). This team of senior scholars covered a wide range of research interests: religion and media studies (Erica Baffelli), linguistic and second language acquisition (Andrej Bekeš), sociology and political sciences (David Chiavacci), economics, economic history and gender studies (Helen Macnaughtan), literature and translation (Jordi

Mas López), and philosophy and cultural studies (Fabian Schäfer). The program of the PhD workshop consisted of eight sessions with two or three projects. For each project about 40 minutes were reserved. PhD students first presented their project (about 15-20 minutes) and received constructive comments and feedbacks from a senior scholar working in their field of research (about 10 minutes). Then the floor was open for a discussion of the project with all PhD students and senior scholars (about 10-15 minutes). In order to prepare discussions and feedback, each PhD student had submitted a project report of about 5,000 words in early July that had been read before the workshop by all participants. In these project reports the PhD students discussed the current state of research in their field, their concrete research question, the theoretical framework and methodological approach of their project, hypotheses and/or preliminary results as well as (possible) difficulties in realizing their research project. This comprehensive preparation of the workshop allowed a very lively and qualitatively good discussions of the PhD projects. As the workshop took place in a quite remote location, the whole group stayed over the time of the workshop together and developed into a real academic community. During the free time

at Davcen Tourist Farm, we had many bilateral and multilateral discussions and exchanges about the research projects, research on Japan in general, and the differences between academic systems in European countries. In the final discussion all the participants agreed that the workshop had been a very intensive, but scholarly rewarding and also enjoyable time with a lasting impact. Not only the PhD students benefited from the advice and comments of the senior scholars and discussions among themselves, but the workshop gave also the senior scholars the opportunity to meet a young, innovative and enthusiastic generation of upcoming scholars working on Japan. It is my pleasure to thank in the name of all participating PhD students and senior scholars the people and organizations that made the realization of the workshop possible. We are grateful to the Toshiba International Foundation for their generous financial support of the workshop. We thankfully acknowledge the kind and time-consuming support by the local organization board of the 14th EAJS International Conference in Ljubljana and in particular Dr Nataša Visočnik who took care of all our transportation and accommodation. A special thank goes also to Prof Andrej Bekeš. Although he was very busy as the leader of the local organiza-

tion board of the 14th EAJS International Conference, he still managed to join part of the EAJS PhD workshop as senior scholar. Finally, organizational support by the EAJS office and especially Ronja Meising was also of crucial importance for the success of the workshop. We hope that this year's workshop was not the last anniversary and that many PhD students and senior scholars will be able to profit from the workshop in the future.

David Chiavacci
Mercator Chair in Social Science of Japan
Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies
University of Zurich

Reports by the Participants

I was fortunate to be selected for the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop in Ljubljana. It was a unique opportunity both to develop my research, and to interact with colleagues with similar interests.

At the end of my first year as a PhD student, I had narrowed down my research questions, and given my dissertation project a direction that was satisfactorily definite, for that stage. However, I had never confronted the state of my research as a whole outside of my home University. I found such an opportunity at the workshop, where I was able to discuss my project in general with other students and faculty members from across the world. Rather than being at a conference, or at an examination where a presenter needs to deal with the uneasiness of having his/her work criticized, the workshop had in fact a friendly atmosphere, where the professors' and the students' comments were mainly aimed at giving advice on how to improve the dissertation. Personally, I found it very helpful, because it was an important chance to confront the solidity of my project against a board of competent academics and students. I received very useful feedback, which prompted me with renovated energy and confidence in the valid-

ity of my dissertation.

From the point of view of human relations, the workshop was a fun experience. At first, I was a little skeptic at the idea of having to spend three days in a very close community up in the Slovenian mountains. However, I found good friends from across the world (an astonishing three other fellow countrymen from Italy!), with whom I shared doubts and hopes about the future, but also fun nights playing games or eating together. That applies also to faculty members, who always welcomed a private chat on our topics and encouraged us to pursue our interests while coping with the difficulties of PhD life – a stage in their life they still remembered vividly. All along, the environment was always of an informal tone, which promoted free discussion and a degree of comradeship.

All of this took place in the beautiful scenery of the Slovenian countryside, where we could take nice walks to see breathtaking views, and obviously enjoy the good local food.

In conclusion, the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop was a very well-organized experience. Not only did it give me a valuable opportunity to gain confidence about my work and envision ways to improve it, but it

also helped me build good contacts with future colleagues in my chosen field of research. My gratitude therefore goes to the Toshiba Foundation, EAJS, the faculty members and to all who took part in the workshop and made it possible. I recommend it strongly to all PhD students in Japanese Studies.

Filippo Cervelli
University of Oxford, UK

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My doctoral research is on the history of military medicine in Japan at the turn of the twentieth century, and I feel very fortunate to have been selected to present my dissertation at the 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students in Ljubljana on 23-26 August 2014. This was a great opportunity to discuss my research outside the usual context of cultural historians at my home institution, who do not necessarily possess much background context in Japanese history. It was a stimulating experience for me to shape my thoughts in dialogue with the current debates and research at the forefront of Japanese Studies. The most valuable features of the Workshop were its interdisciplinary nature and international environment. Participants from several universities in and outside

of Europe delivered presentations on a wide range from diverse viewpoints, while also reflecting different national traditions of Japanese studies.

Another nice feature of the workshop were the joint breakfasts, lunches and dinners that provided invaluable opportunities to exchange ideas and opinions about each other's research projects in a more detailed manner. Away from the noise of the city center, the working atmosphere was most inspiring and the forum of discussions was highly supportive for my ongoing research process.

I want to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to the EAJS, especially Prof. David Chiavacci, for organizing this workshop, and to Dr. Helen Macnaughtan - my supervisor - for the instructive feedback that I received on the methodological framework of my PhD project. Finally, I wish to extend my gratitude to the Toshiba International Foundation and the Japan Foundation, whose generous support made this workshop possible.

Ken Daimaru
Paris West University Nanterre La Défense, France

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The 10th EAJS PhD Workshop was a great opportunity for me to reflect on my dissertation project. Through insightful feedback from my supervisor, Prof. Dr. Fabian Schäfer, other academic supervisors and participants, I could clearly see what kind of problems my research had and how I could improve my research. Getting involved with others' dissertation projects through reading their papers and listening to their presentations was also a useful experience which helped me to objectively understand what stage my dissertation project was at. Furthermore, the multi-disciplinary setting offered me a chance to reconsider how I could effectively present my research to different kinds of audiences, and how I could link up with other research in different disciplines.

I also enjoyed the informal occasions during the three days we spent together. It was very exciting to share and exchange our knowledge and experience as PhD students in the field of Japanese studies. Moreover, since the venue was in the mountain area far away from the city area of Ljubljana, we could spend whole days together. Such an environment, surely, was useful for us to have 'dense' communication with each other

and to get a closer and more relaxed atmosphere among the participants. We were saying with a laugh that this was like "Gasshuku (Japanese summer camp)".

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the organizers, Prof. Dr. David Chiavacci and the University of Ljubljana. I am extremely grateful to my supervisor, Prof. Dr. Fabian Schäfer for his very insightful comments on my research and to the other academic supervisors. I also deeply thank all sponsors of the workshop, the Toshiba International Foundation and the Japan Foundation.

Rie Fuse

University of Tampere, Finland

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Attending the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop in Ljubljana was a wonderful formative opportunity and a great experience. I appreciated and treasured the feedback received by the three expert scholars who supervised the whole event, especially because they each came from a different research area than my own. This assured a multiplicity of points of view and fresh takes on a topic that, given every PhD student's high level of specialization, risks to become solipsistic.

I also appreciated the format of the workshop, which allowed all participants ample time to present their research and receive a number of comments from peers and senior scholars. Because I found it both physically and intellectually demanding, I think that such an event should not last longer than three days and that such an amount of time is appropriate when considering the sort of commitment required of all parties involved. The time spent with other PhD students (at close quarters!) was sufficient to establish an initial relationship (not unlike that of camaraderie) with excellent young researchers from the most disparate fields of inquiry. Here lies, in my opinion, the most valuable aspect of the EAJS PhD Workshop: as well as being a great opportunity for networking, in fact, this event opens up a lively intellectual space for discussion and provides each participant the chance to look back at his or her work from fresh, new perspectives. On yet another level, I found it very illuminating to get to know what a sample of the next generation of researchers on Japan is currently working on: in a way, this provides each participant with an ample overview of what is going on in their common, brother field of studies, over a large number of disciplines and across the whole of Europe and beyond.

In sum, I am extremely thankful to the EAJS and the Toshiba Foundation for giving me the opportunity to attend this wonderful event, and I would recommend all PhD students, especially those at an intermediary stage of their research, to try to take part in it, as it is bound to become a rare occasion to foster fruitful thinking, fruitful working and fruitful fun.

Andrea Giolai
Ca' Foscari University of Venice,
Italy and Leiden University,
Netherlands

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The 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students provided me with a fruitful, stimulating and enjoyable opportunity to interact with scholars and students from different branches of Japanese Studies.

First of all, the constructive feedback I received from Prof. Andrej Bekeš as well as other senior lecturers and participants (both formally and informally) was thought-provoking, encouraging and definitely helpful for the further progress of my study. Furthermore, I was grateful that this workshop gave me a challenging but valuable experience in communicating my on-going research to an audience

from various disciplines.

I also found the presentations of other participants very stimulating and inspiring because of the workshop's interdisciplinary nature. Their presentations and discussions helped me to gain knowledge about various theories, methodologies and approaches in different disciplines, including history, religion, art, literature, media, and anthropology. Furthermore, they also made me take a step back and contextualise my study from a broader perspective. Our lively discussions and exchanges of ideas continued until late at night over delicious meals in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

I am very grateful that I was given this precious opportunity to participate in this workshop, and I would like to thank all the organisers for organising this wonderful workshop for us. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Toshiba International Foundation for generously funding this workshop and making it possible.

Eiko Gyogi
University of London, UK

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I was delighted when my application for the 10th EAJS PhD workshop

was accepted – although I do have to admit that I did not quite know what to expect! This quickly changed when we were given the task to sum up our research projects and exchange our reports with other applicants prior to the actual workshop. I was amazed at the variety of research conducted by PhD students in Europe, and although only a few projects were related to my own research interests (linguistics and translation studies), I really enjoyed reading about what are no doubt going to be valuable contributions to the scientific discourse in Japanese Studies.

The research projects presented during this workshop included a wide range of topics from all areas of Japanese Studies, such as politics, religion, culture, literature, linguistics and translation studies. This presented a great opportunity for PhD students studying at relatively small departments who may not have peers in related areas of research at their home universities. I was positively surprised that research projects from the very early up to the final stages were included, which provided an excellent basis for feedback and discussion among peers.

For me personally, the most important and helpful part of the

workshop was the session with our mentors, who were professors from universities all over Europe with related research interests. My personal mentor, Prof. Andrej Bekeš from the University of Ljubljana, provided me with detailed feedback, constructive criticism and invaluable data sources for my research project.

And last but not least, I have nothing but praise for the location of the workshop: a lovely little farm high in the mountains of Slovenia, where we could watch the sun rise over green valleys covered in mist while enjoying homemade food and freshly brewed coffee. All in all, a thoroughly enjoyable and academically challenging experience that I would wholeheartedly recommend to all PhD students working on research projects in Japanese Studies and related fields.

Mareike Hamann
University of Manchester, UK

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I was very glad to have the opportunity to participate in the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop outside of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Since there are few scholars working on Japanese history in Sweden where I study, the workshop was

a particularly valuable opportunity for me to present my research to experts and fellow graduate students in the field of Japanese studies. I am very grateful for the helpful feedback as well as the encouragement I received. The peaceful rolling hills around the farm where we stayed provided a perfect environment for reflection and intellectual exchange.

Perhaps more important still was the chance to get to know other PhD students in Japanese studies from around Europe. The multidisciplinary character of the workshop exposed me to new perspectives and research fields that I was previously unfamiliar with. Establishing relationships with other junior scholars from Europe will also undoubtedly prove important when I apply for research funding in the future, as European Union multinational grants and international exchange programs come to play an increasingly important role at European universities. More personally, I am grateful for the friendships with other PhD students that began at the workshop. I have already been able to visit two of the workshop participants in the UK while I was there for another conference and look forward to meeting others from the group at events in the future. Japanese studies is still relatively

small compared with many other fields in Europe and I think that the EAJS PhD workshops play an important role in drawing together this community.

Lastly, I am grateful for the workshop's partial sponsorship of my participation in the EAJS conference that was held directly afterward in Ljubljana. I consider the opportunity to present my research to senior scholars and learn more about cutting-edge research in my field at that conference to have been an important step in my career. I would like to express my gratitude to the Toshiba Foundation, the administrators at the EAJS office and the senior scholars who served as commentators at the workshop for making this possible.

*John Hennessey
Linnaeus University, Sweden*

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I would like to express, first of all, my gratitude to the EAJS for giving me an opportunity to present my thesis at the PhD workshop in Ljubljana. For my research focuses on the intersection between 'area studies' scholarship, the conditions of knowledge, and the horizons of political imagery, and therefore not necessarily qualifies as 'Japanese studies,' the workshop

was one that I found exciting and simultaneously very challenging. Yet I believe that this alone exemplifies the magnanimity of the EAJS in accommodating diverse research interests that cut across disciplinary boundaries and slightly unusual interlocutors like myself.

The feedback and suggestions I received from the supervisors had helped me immensely to put things into perspective, and at the same time to go outside the box. I am particular grateful to Professor David Chiavacci for giving me constructive advice on the structure of my thesis, and to Professor Fabian Schäfer for his comment on the philosophical and theoretical underpinnings of the thesis. Other participants of the workshop engaged me in thought provoking debates, and their comments have never failed to be stimulating and challenging. I am certain that many of us will remain friends throughout our careers.

I believe that we, PhD students, benefit greatly from interdisciplinary discussions with scholars and students working in different fields, for those provide us with an opportunity to reflect upon concepts, theories, categories, and data that we otherwise assume as axioms. As one whose interest revolves rather around theoretical

questions, discussions with area specialists certainly encouraged me to reconsider the importance of the empirical, and to question what I hitherto never questioned.

I would like to express once again my appreciation to the EAJS, the supervisors, and the participants, all of whom provided me with an intellectually stimulating environment. I have learnt more than I expected to learn during this unique yet valuable workshop.

Aya Hino
University of London, UK

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I would like to thank the organisers and sponsors very much for holding the 2014 EAJS PhD Workshop, as it was a really beneficial experience for me. The location of the workshop was excellent, and the event was well organised, rewarding and very enjoyable. I was pleased to meet so many interesting and engaging people at the EAJS Workshop, both senior scholars and PhD candidates. Through the disciplinary diversity of workshop participants' topics I learnt a lot about the broader scope of Japanese studies from the other presentations. PhD candidates were also afforded a useful opportunity to write for, and present

to, a general Japanese studies audience, rather than an audience that was specific to our individual fields. This was useful as the variety of disciplinary backgrounds provided questions from a different 'lens' with which to view our own subject and study.

I was grateful to the senior scholars (Fabian Schäfer, Erica Baffelli, Helen Macnaughtan, David Chiavacci, Andrej Bekeš and Jordi Mas-López) who had clearly spent time considering our advance-reports, and the feedback I received was thorough, insightful and constructive. Following the workshop, David Chiavacci kindly gave me contact information for a useful scholar relevant to my topic. Attending the EAJS Workshop gave me an excellent and unique opportunity to meet with other Japanese studies PhD candidates from across Europe. Both during the workshop sessions and in the evenings I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss ideas related to Japan in a stimulating atmosphere with candidates and senior scholars. The friendships and connections made at the workshop continued during the EAJS Conference in Ljubljana following the workshop, and since, with regular updates to our 2014 EAJS Workshop Facebook group.

Overall the 2014 EAJS Workshop

was an invaluable experience for me.

Robert Horn
University of Sheffield

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The 10th EAJS PhD Workshop in Slovenia was a valuable opportunity to meet doctoral students and experts working on a large range of topics within the Japanese Studies field. The mountains around Ljubljana provided an ideal setting for focusing on each research project. I got a better understanding of how my own research topic relates to the broader field of Japanese Studies, learned about the subject matter that the other PhD students are working on, and built networks with them as well as established researchers in the field. I am now entering the final stage of my PhD project, and focusing on the feedback from the other participants, be it students or scholars, really helped solving the last issues I was struggling with.

I am very grateful to the EAJS for organizing the workshop and I thank the staff from Berlin and from Ljubljana University. I am also very grateful to the scholars and the other students for their positive energy and useful insights. I highly recommend to any PhD student in

Japanese Studies to apply to the workshop in the future.

Isabelle Lavelle
Paris Diderot University, France

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I was very happy to be accepted to the 10th EAJS PhD workshop in Ljubljana. I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to present my project to senior scholars and fellow PhD students and to hear their critical remarks. Not only did they comment on my theoretical and methodological approach, but I also got a lot of new ideas from various fields such as political sciences and linguistics that I hadn't previously thought about. What I liked most was that discussions did not end with the presentations, but continued during the breaks, the meals and in the evenings, where academic topics and casual conversations merged to create a highly inspiring atmosphere. Being accommodated on a farm in the mountains turned out great for the group's coherence and I enjoyed the company of people in similar situations and with similar interests. As the PhD process can at times be quite isolating, it was great how supportive the senior scholars and the students were with each other. I am glad I made many new friends that I hope to meet again at similar

events or maybe even work with later on.

I would like to thank the EAJS for this great opportunity, the Toshiba Foundation for the generous funding of the workshop, the organizers at Ljubljana University who made everything possible, the senior scholars for the time and effort they took to give us feedback, and the hosts at Davčen farm for the wonderful meals and their hospitality.

Dorothea Mladenova
University of Leipzig, Germany

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It was a great pleasure for me to participate in the 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Students. It was an intense and challenging experience, surely one of the most useful I have had during my PhD. The workshop format allowed everyone to have enough time to discuss his or her own project in a friendly atmosphere and a supportive and stimulating environment. Moreover, the complete isolation in the beautiful setting of the Slovenian mountains proved to be the absolutely perfect element for an inspiring workshop. I believe that the opportunity to share my ideas and the progress of my work in such a multidisciplinary

environment has been invaluable: the comments and questions coming from people with diverse backgrounds and interests made me reconsider aspects of my research and see it from different perspectives.

From a personal point of view, I am really grateful for the opportunity to meet other doctoral students, to share with them experiences, dreams as well as doubts and preoccupations and to create (hopefully) lasting friendships. This gave me extra strength and certainly improved my morale and motivation.

I would like to thank the EAJS and the Toshiba International Foundation for funding and organizing such a valuable workshop, all the participants, the organizers and commentators and, especially, Dr. Erica Baffelli, for her insightful comments and constructive advice.

Silvia Rivadossi
Ca' Foscari University of Venice,
Italy

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I am very thankful for the opportunity to join the 10th EAJS PhD Workshop in Ljubljana in August 2014. The whole workshop was

very well organized, starting with the precise information regarding the application documents and the preparatory requirements for the workshop. In fact, the application was a great opportunity for me to rethink my PhD project in its overall structure, my methodical approach, and my research goals. I also took the required report for the workshop as an opportunity to write a first draft of my introduction, thus starting to assemble previous text fragments and conference papers into a pre-script of my thesis.

Although Japanese studies served as the overarching frame of the workshop, it was fascinating to notice that everybody was actually socialized in a somewhat different scholarly community due to their local roots and subject-specific direction towards different fields like economy, sociology, literary studies, or art history as in my case. In this regard, the workshop helped me to train presenting my research to an interested, professional, but non-specialized audience and to think about it from various angles. Looking at the different projects presented during the workshop was very inspiring and I gained lots of methodical and practical knowledge. It was also interesting to learn much about the divergent requirements of working on a PhD as well as publishing a

PhD thesis not only in the different fields of Japanese Studies, but also in different European countries. This helped me to reflect my own demands concerning my PhD project in relation to the norms of the field of East Asian Art History.

The general atmosphere of the workshop was very encouraging—I very much appreciated the comments of all senior scholars as well as the ongoing scholarly exchange between the student participants. I am looking forward to see the participants again in the course of future conferences and projects.

Wibke Schrape
Free University of Berlin, Germany

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The 10th EAJS Workshop for Doctoral Candidates in Ljubljana, Slovenia, was a truly interesting and motivating experience.

As I am writing my PhD thesis in Japanese, it was a great opportunity, and I may say also a challenge for me, to try to transfer the core part of the paper into English, and to present it to a non-Japanese audience. I found that many things have to be explained in more detail and that writing in English gives you a clearer

picture of your own ideas and arguments. After the presentation, I received valuable insight into the methodology, structure and approach of my paper, as well as helpful suggestions and comments that allowed me to gain a new, western, perspective on the main focuses of my paper.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the organizers who gave me this opportunity and offer my sincere thanks to Dr. Erica Baffelli, my supervisor, the other academic advisors, EAJS and Toshiba International Foundation. I would also like to thank my fellow participants for generously sharing their projects and experiences, for the advice, insight, and interesting conversations along the workshop. I would highly encourage PhD students researching on Japan to apply for the next workshop. It is an excellent opportunity to interact with researchers from around the world in a stimulating and welcoming environment.

Mihaela Sighinas
Osaka University, Japan

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First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the organizers of this workshop and to the Toshiba International Foundation for making

it possible for PhD students from Europe and Japan to present their research projects, make contact with other researchers, and to discuss different approaches and methodologies. I am grateful to have been invited to participate in the 10th EAJS PhD workshop in Ljubljana. I especially would like to thank Prof. David Chiavacci for his efforts in organizing this event and Prof. Fabian Schäfer for his detailed and supportive comments. It was very helpful for me to receive constructive feedback on my research project from senior scholars. It was informative and encouraging. Also, the comments by other researchers gave me additional information and broadened my view of the topic.

The interdisciplinarity of the workshop offered a stimulating forum for discussions on a wide range of topics and involving different methodological approaches. Prior access to the texts of the research projects gave all participants an opportunity to get acquainted with the details of other research topics and questions beforehand. The fact that the presentations were grouped according to their area of research was helpful for finding connections between research topics and establishing contacts for possible joint projects in the future. The workshop offered an exchange

of knowledge not only regarding research topics, but also regarding scholarships and further work opportunities in Europe and Japan, which is an important issue for doctoral students.

The friendly and informal atmosphere of the workshop allowed for intellectual exchange not only during the sessions, but also in informal conversations outside of them, which I really appreciated.

Anastasiya Skavysh
Free University of Berlin, Germany

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The 10th EAJS PhD Workshop has been an excellent opportunity to interact with senior scholars and fellow students specializing in Japanese studies, all of them a great inspiration for their passion, knowledge and determination. It was also a chance to review my research technique, and I am grateful for the valuable feedback and corrections that I have received from Professor Jordi Mas-López and Professor Erica Baffelli, and for suggestions regarding my method and topic both during and after the workshop from my fellow students. I have felt that the workshop, through its diversity of subjects, many of them multidisciplinary

approaches to a given topic, provided a chance to expand my knowledge in areas I had little familiarity with, but that proved to be exciting and worthwhile for further personal investigation. I was lucky to find inspiration and subjects that had a certain relevance to aspects of my own thesis and that I could make use of in my PhD project.

The workshop's location was marvelously chosen away from the busy city, a beautiful place where students could feel relaxed while focusing on their research and exchanging ideas and experience. Coming from an university located in Japan, it was interesting discussing different European PhD programs and the best chance for me to expand my network of peers in Europe as well.

I would like to express my gratitude to the European Association of Japanese Studies, the Japan Foundation and the Toshiba Foundation for their generous sponsorship and for organizing this academic event. As well, I believe that the workshop's success is greatly due to Prof. David Chiavacci's diligence in organizing it and to the senior scholar's broad perspective on Japanese language and culture, and their interest in our research.

Monica Tamas
Osaka University, Japan

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I am very glad I was given the opportunity to participate to the 10th PhD Workshop in Slovenia. As I hoped – or actually more than I had hoped – it has been an opportunity to receive inspiring comments on my research, but also to meet future colleagues in the field of Japanese Studies.

What I have especially appreciated on this occasion was the decompartmentalizing effect: though Japanese studies is a limited field in each national context, occasions for exchange with scholars from other countries tend to be very scarce, especially for young scholars. Getting to know colleagues from other European countries was indeed very enriching, both on the intellectual and the personal level.

Finally, the isolated location of the workshop ended up being a very positive factor: it helped maintaining an intellectually concentrated atmosphere during the two days of the workshop, but it also provided many daily occasions for getting to know each other. I believe this edition of the workshop to have been particularly rich in this last

regard.

All in all, I think the EAJS PhD workshop is a very precious research and networking opportunity for young researchers, and I do hope many other PhD students might benefit from it in the future.

Sarah Terrail-Lormel
Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO), France

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The 10th EAJS PhD workshop in Slovenia provided us a great experience to present and discuss our PhD projects, in particular from three perspectives.

First, an academic diversity of participants provided breadth of discussions. Participants came from diverse disciplines including history, literature, political science, anthropology and so forth. Thus a great benefit of the workshop was to invite us to think carefully about our topics from different perspectives, but still focused on the Japanese context. I found discussing various topics stimulated me to think of my own topic from different angles and possible approaches which I would not otherwise have thought of.

Second, I was very grateful to receive the feedbacks from the faculty involved in the workshop. The comments and feedback I received during my individual tutoring were not only useful but also inspiring.

Third, meeting and spending four whole days together with PhD students and faculty from various universities in different countries was truly enjoyable and a great contribution to broadening and deepening our academic networks. Staying at a mountain farm was a precious experience!

Lastly, I would like to express all my gratitude to the sponsors for their support of the workshop and all the faculty involved, in particular to the organizer Professor David Chiavacci, and to the PhD participants for the wonderful time together. I do hope that our network stays connected for many years ahead. Thank you very much.

Hiroko Umegaki
University of Cambridge, UK

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We had a privileged encounter where everyone was eager to know everyone else. It had the feeling of a trial, an experiment, and so it felt safe to talk more plainly. We were

encouraged to be more honest about what's wrong - allow you inside my ivory tower. And honesty flowed, like confessions, like chats with the aunts and uncles we miss. Taking turns in being teachers and students and advisors - the interchangeability of those roles became apparent. Academia is created out of micro-communities such as this one: a heterotopia superimposing a micro-European community, a Japan evoked like a family member, and a specific village in Slovenia. A sharehouse. The wine was cheap, the food was great and you could see where it had been reaped from - green hills all around, below the sea of clouds. We were above - a particularly pure form of retreat, pilgrimage, chrysalides; a necessary disconnection since we are Internet addicts, and sceptical of complete meanings. The bald-headed phantom of discourse hovers above - how do we frame ourselves - whose words do we borrow? Everything is online, but it's changing as we speak. The remedy to the vacuum of immediacy is opening up and sharing. I mime my thoughts hoping that you guess what I mean. I push through discourse to a place where I say what I mean. Meaning was never fixed and we should enjoy that, everything is negotiated. We are translators carrying meaning for

a certain stretch of the road – we like to have our pockets full – until we deliver it to someone curious. Telling stories by the fireside, nomadic ideas traveling from one mind to the next.

Radu Alexandru Leca
SOAS, University of London, UK

Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships Reports by the 2013 TIFO Fellows

Report by Oliver E. Kühne, Freie Universität Berlin

Re-Mapping Okinawan Literature: (Resistance) Literature in a Neo-Imperial Context?

Since writing my MA thesis about contemporary Okinawa literature in Trier (Germany), I have had two opportunities to research in Okinawa at the University of the Ryūkyūs. After receiving a formal invitation from Professor Till Weber (Professor of German language at the University of the Ryūkyūs and honorary consul of the Federal Republic of Germany), my first, longer research stay commenced in July 2012 with generous funding of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). This stay enabled me to research at Waseda University in Tokyo afterwards for more than eight months under the guidance of Professor Katsukata-Inafuku Keiko and the Ryūkyū-Okinawa Research Group until April 2013.

While living in Okinawa, I gained access to primary and secondary sources that are unavailable in Germany. Many Okinawan mono-

graphs are not available via international book delivery services such as Amazon or Kinokuniya as they are published by small publishers in Okinawa (e.g. *bōdaa inku* (border ink) or *Nirai-sha*). This creates an enormous obstacle for my research on Okinawan literature. Even important periodicals, such as the *Shin okinawa bungaku* (New Okinawan Literature), and newspapers, like the *Ryūkyū Shinpō*, are not available in Germany.

After meeting experts like Michael Molasky, Shinjō Ikuo, and Yamazato Katsunori, fundamental questions of my project changed or had to be revised. My initial research focused on the question, “What kind of religious and spiritual influences can be found in contemporary Okinawan literature?” centering on the works of Medoruma Shun (*1960) and Matayoshi Eiki (*1947), both renowned authors of Okinawan descent. However, while researching Okinawa and Tokyo, I found out that a much more fundamental issue has not been touched, causing various misconceptions in research

about Okinawan literature: While scholars in the field tend to define the term “Okinawa bungaku” (Okinawan literature) quite differently¹, everybody seems to agree on a certain canon of Okinawan literature as defined by Nakahodo Masanori and Okamoto Keitoku, both former professors for Okinawan literature at the University of the Ryūkyūs until the late 1990s. After meeting younger and ‘un-canonized’ authors, like Ōshiro Ako (*1980) and Ikegami Ei’ichi (*1970), I started to change my research layout and defined a new fundamental question: How should one define the term *Okinawa bungaku* and what caused the changes in the writing of authors with Okinawan descent in the 1990s? Can one perceive a shift away from canonized *Itaikō suru bungaku* (resistance literature) in the writing of young authors like Ikegami Ei’ichi and even in the writing of the Akutagawa prize (most prestigious annual prize for literature in Japan) laureate Matayoshi Eiki? In my research, another related, yet also unanswered

1 For example, there is not even a consensus whether writing by mainland (not from Okinawa prefecture) Japanese authors that incorporates ‘Okinawan elements’ (e.g. Okinawan locations or Okinawa typical issues) should be considered as being part of Okinawan literature, or if only authors born and raised on Okinawan should be considered authors of Okinawan literature.

question arose: How should one read this “canonized” Okinawan literature? How did this canon and its predominant writing strategies actually come into being, and could one grasp it with phrases like “regional” literature, “minority” literature, “minor” literature, or even “postcolonial” or “neo-imperial” literature?

Davinder Bhowmik, who wrote the only monograph solely focusing on Okinawan literature in the English language, tries to answer this question of if Okinawan literature is “regional,” “minority,” or “minor” literature. After a long chronological analysis of various key works of Okinawan literature starting at the end of the 19th century and finishing with the works of Sakiyama Tami (*1954) written in the 1990s, she reaches the conclusion that Okinawan literature should be understood as “minor” literature, as defined by Felix Guattari and Gilles Deleuze. However, she does not take into consideration that Okinawa is a de facto internal colony of Japan², and so its literature could also be understood as a form of postcolonial literature. In support of this, scholars like Ina Hein from the University of Vienna

2 For further reading about the history of colonial powers on Okinawa, please refer to Kerr (2008 [1958]) and Kuehne (2012).

consider Okinawan literature to be postcolonial literature. I take this endeavor up in my research, and also understand Okinawan literature as neo-imperial literature. The contemporary colonial powers of Japan and the USA have rather different goals compared to the imperial colonizers of the 19th century, such as the British Empire and Meiji Japan. In this regard, Pacific islands with a huge presence of US military bases, like Guam or Hawai'i, share various neo-imperial or colonial experiences, like media censorship, ethnic discrimination, territorial disruption, and so forth.

In addition to being introduced to experts in the field, I had the opportunity to meet authors such as Ōshiro Tatsuhiro (*1925) and Ōshiro Ako during this initial period of research. Moreover, I was able to become good friends with the authors Matayoshi Eiki and Ōshiro Sadatoshi (*1949) while the latter worked as a professor for the department of education at the University of the Ryūkyūs. Since Matayoshi does not use the internet, I always had to contact him via letters or through Ōshiro Sadatoshi, who is very good friends with Matayoshi. I had a very interesting interview with both authors in August 2012, but since my research agenda changed

tremendously I strongly hope to get an opportunity for a second interview. The same is true for Ikegami Ei'ichi. This is not due to my personal, positive experiences with these authors, but because my PhD thesis focuses on their literary works. The most fascinating aspect in analyzing the works of these three authors (all nearly untouched in the field of scholarly research) is their diversity. While Ikegami is a well established author of light novels, fictional history novels, and fantasy literature in mainland Japan, Matayoshi and Ōshiro Sadatoshi write prose that could be labeled *jun-bungaku* (high literature) to an Okinawan and mainland Japanese audience.³

I was delighted to receive a positive reply from the Toshiba

³ The author of this report is very well aware of the fact that using taxonomies like "high and low" for the quality of literary products is rightfully disputed, but that it shall suffice here to show the differences between audiences/readers groups and relationships targeted by the authors. While young authors like Ikegami make use of popular media, and even has adaptations of his novels in anime, games and manga, Matayoshi and Ōshiro Sadatoshi do not intend to participate in the popular Media Mix market in mainland Japan. This might also be due to the shift in values - Ikegami's writing is not as esteemed by experts in the field of Okinawan literature when compared to the highly praised writing of authors like Sakiyama Tami or Medoruma Shun.

International Foundation and the EAJS (European Association for Japanese Studies), and to receive the TIFO scholarship in 2013. Thanks to this gracious funding, I was able to travel to Tokyo and Okinawa for a second, final research trip in August 2013. During this very intensive research period, I acquired various additional sources such as print copies, digital scans, and scholarly monographs. Another vital part of my research trip was meeting experts and Okinawan authors with whom I conducted interviews, such as Ikegami Ei'ichi, Ōshiro Sadatoshi, and Matayoshi Eiki.

I spent the first two weeks of my research trip in Tokyo. During this period, I met with some of the members of the Ryūkyū-Okinawa research group at Waseda University and had a very insightful talk about the new layout of my PhD research with Katsukata-Inafuku. I also visited professor Molasky (formerly of Hitotsubashi University; full professor at Waseda University since September 2013), who became (also due to this visit) the second formal advisor of my PhD thesis. I was also very fortunate to meet Ikegami Ei'ichi in Tokyo again, and had an interesting interview with him.

Besides meeting important experts and authors, the second task of my stay in Tokyo was to acquire monographs available in mainland Japan, and to copy various research reports and articles about Ikegami Ei'ichi's, Ōshiro Sadatoshi's and Matayoshi Eiki's fictional writing, as well as reports and research articles about contemporary Okinawan literature in general. Due to my intense research at the Library of Congress and the Waseda University library, I was able to obtain very interesting research accounts about Ikegami Ei'ichi's fantasy writing, something I thought would not exist since many experts on Okinawa appear absolutely uninterested in his work; despite it being tremendously multi-layered literature for Okinawan literature. This seemingly stems from his apparent popularity in the mainland Japanese market. For example, his fictional historical novel *Tenpesuto* (Tempest) that revolves around the last years of the Ryūkyū kingdom (published in 2008 in two volumes as hardcover books and in 2010 printed in four volumes as A6 softcover books) was not only a bestseller, but also adapted as a historical drama (*jidaigeki*) for television.

After these two initial weeks in Tokyo, I made my way to Okinawa

and stayed in Naha for more than four more. Visiting the largest book store on Okinawa (the Junkudō book store in Naha city) for five consecutive days gave me the opportunity to order and acquire various texts on Okinawan war memory, self-perception, colonial history, Okinawan manga, and various light novels written by Okinawan authors. As mentioned above, many of those sources are not even available in Tokyo.

I also visited the libraries of the Okinawa International University and University of the Ryūkyūs, and made copies of various periodicals. The reason why I also focused on acquiring copies of Okinawa periodicals for literature, especially the first periodical of this kind after WWII called *Ryūdai bungaku* (Literature from the University of the Ryūkyūs) is so I could examine how the contemporary canon of Okinawan literature came into being. The perception of Okinawan literature as resistance literature is very much due to the anti-Japanese and anti-US American tone apparent in works such as *Ryūdai bungaku*. The transformation of themes and socio-political connotations in Okinawan postwar literature, also stressed by Bhowmik, Nakahodo Masanori and Kawamura Minato, comes from the fact that Okinawan people felt

like they were being sacrificed by the imperial ruler and hegemonic power Japan, and exploited by the US government. This counter-hegemonic impetus is still vividly displayed in the writing of canonized Okinawan authors like Medoruma Shun and Ōshiro Tatsuhiro. The main canon became the *Okinawa bungaku zenshu* (Complete works of Okinawan literature; published since 1991), which was strongly influenced by people who had helped create the *Ryūdai bungaku* and the following magazine for Okinawan literature, the *Shin Okinawa bungaku*. Since this process of canonization has not been researched thoroughly, it will be mentioned in one chapter of my PhD thesis and in a research article that's still in progress.

I also had the opportunity to meet again with Shinjō Ikuo and also conducted another row of interviews with Matayoshi Eiki and Ōshiro Sadatoshi in Ōshiro's office at the University of the Ryūkyūs. Fortunately, during these interviews I had one of the most insightful accounts for all of my PhD research. After Matayoshi showed me on a map where he lived in different stages of his life, and which places he used in his novels (all in close connection to the places where he was living), Ōshiro started to talk

about his negative experiences that occurred while working on a script for the movie called *Himawari* (sunflower), first shown in 2013. He intended to create a movie about a fatal airplane crash in 1959 in which 17 primary school children got killed. After receiving his script, the people in charge of the movie production actually hired a second Japanese script writer, who wrote a new version for the movie production that focused more on the contemporary dimension of memory with framing story focused on university students in Tokyo who plan a peace concert for people to remember the crash of the US American fighter jet in 1959. Within the next six months, I intend to publish an English translation of this interview in the research journal *Japan Focus*.

While traveling the main island by car, I acquired some footage (photographs and pamphlets) for two articles I'm still planning to write about Okinawa's images as a tourist destination between war, indigenous self-representation and self-*Okinawasation*, reflected in Okinawan theme parks like the *Ryūkyū mura* (the Ryūkyū village) and the Himeyuri Peace Museum at the *Himeyuri no tō* (tower of the princess lilies).

Throughout my research, I came to the conclusion that, even if it is radical, it may be a very fruitful perspective to read Okinawan literature as not being part of "Japanese national literature", but as a form of writing with its own independent history and narrative and topological concepts. Since the colonization of Okinawa, and after standard Japanese (*hyōjungo*) became the standard language on the Ryūkyū Islands at the end of the 19th century, topics and narrative styles in Okinawan literature developed nearly independently from the mainland Japanese context, especially after WWII. This means that one should appreciate Okinawan literature as literature written in Japanese, but as a form of independent literature in its own right.

After coming back to Germany, I immediately started to transcribe the interview with Matayoshi Eiki and Ōshiro Sadatoshi. However, I'm still in the process of reviewing the monographs and research accounts I acquired in those very intense six weeks of research. Moreover, right after coming back from Japan, I got the opportunity to work as a research associate at Freie Universitaet Berlin.

I want to thank the EAJS and Toshiba International Foundation

once again for their kind support and generous funding for my research. Without financial aid, it would have been impossible for me to travel to Japan for a final research, one that brought about very insightful research results and invaluable interviews. Thank you very much.

For further reading:

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**Report by Alessandro Bianchi,
University of Cambridge**

**The practice of satire in
early-modern Japan: political
mockery in manuscripts and
woodblock-printed texts.**

Research topic and methodology

Satire was one of the pivotal aspects of the literary and artistic panorama in Tokugawa Japan (1603-1867) but, despite its cultural significance, this topic has not been granted much recognition in academia so far. For my PhD I aim to describe some aspects of the practice of satire in early modern Japan by focusing on the study of political themes in various instances of popular comic fiction produced between the eighteenth century and the early nineteenth century. It is in fact in this period — which coincide with an era of instability, social distress, and financial crisis — that we observe the creation of a rather consistent body of literature which satirised political authorities.

My thesis mainly focuses on the production and circulation of political satire, both in manuscripts and woodblock-printed texts. The object of my investigation encompasses a wide selection of primary sources which belong to different

textual typologies and publishing genres. In this fashion, my study takes into consideration not only those genres which have been traditionally associated with satire, but also other kinds of comic writings considered germane to the satiric mode. Literary works belonging to the macro-genre termed *gesaku* 戯作 (playful writings) will be the core of my analysis — that is to say, *dangibon* 談義本, *sharebon* 洒落本, *kibyōshi* 黄表紙, and the like. Furthermore, I shall expand my area of enquiry to include ephemera such as *rakusho* 落書 (graffiti) and *jitsuroku* 実録 (true records). Kabuki and jōruri plays, *ukiyoe*, as well as Japanese and Chinese comic poetry will not be examined in my dissertation, for the satirical elements characterising these kinds of texts have been formerly studied by various scholars.⁴

The close reading of primary sources, which is the core of my thesis, has two main objectives: on the one hand, I attempt to identify political and historical particulars within popular comic prose; on

⁴ For instance the articles by Donald Shively 'Chikamatsu's Satire on The Dog Shogun' and 'Bakufu Versus Kabuki' both published in the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* or the book by Asō Isoji and Tōgorō Koike entitled *Senryū-Kyōka* 川柳・狂歌 (*Nihon koten kanshō kōza* 日本古典鑑賞講座23).

the other hand, I am interpreting these data in order to understand whether they were portrayed satirically. Theory on satire developed in the West has been applied in a critical way to examine the contents and mechanisms of satire in each of the chosen texts.⁵ Thus, the analysis of primary sources makes use of a mixed approach, in the attempt to blend together the long tradition of Western literary criticism on satire with Japanese traditional scholarship, which is less speculative and mainly built on a textual-based analysis.

The significance of my research lies in this comparative perspective. The study of early-modern Japanese satire will in fact challenge our understanding of this literary phenomenon itself, for the mild and playful nature of Japanese satirical writings very much differs from the caustic undertone of their Western counterparts. Eventually, this will allow a discussion on satire as a phenomenon of world literature as well as a phenomenon bearing country-specific features.

5 See for example, Dustin Griffin's *Satire: A Critical Reintroduction* or Brian A. Connery and Kirk Combe's *Theorizing Satire: Essays in Literary Criticism*.

Aims and results

The period of research in Tōkyō funded by the EAJS/TIFO scholarship gave me not only the opportunity to finalise my thesis, but also to survey under-researched texts and thus shed light onto unexplored aspects of my PhD topic.

The major goal of my fieldwork was to collect new materials and information concerning the body of satirical texts which I examined in my PhD thesis. This includes secondary sources, which have been recently published in Japan but are not yet available in Europe, and in particular primary sources, which are held by Japanese institutions. Despite the substantial progress in the creation of digital archives and online repositories — such as those sponsored by the Waseda University Library, National Diet library, The University of Tōkyō Library, or the National Institute of Japanese Literature, to name but a few — the accessibility of primary sources still remain a considerable problem for scholars of early-modern literature who are based in Europe. Many useful materials are still available in their original format only, and libraries or archives must be accessed in person in order to make use of these resources. The six weeks I spent in Japan on behalf of the Tōshiba International

Foundation allowed me to collect valuable primary sources which were essential for the completion of my PhD thesis. In addition to that, during this period of research abroad I was able me to engage in enlightening conversations with several scholars and specialists of Tokugawa literature and Japanese bibliography. This was indeed a valuable opportunity to discuss many issues relates to my PhD thesis as well as precious chance to exchange ideas about my research interests.

Archival research

I surveyed several primary sources in search for new or understudied instances of political satire which circulated in manuscript form, mainly *rakusho*. Differing from the vast body of *jitsuroku*, which are widely available thanks to transcriptions and critical editions, there are not many graffiti that survived until nowadays and even less are edited in critical editions, let alone translations.⁶ The canonical reference works on Tokugawa-period graffiti is *Edo jidai rakusho ruiju* 江戸時代落書類聚, a collection of texts compiled

in the Taishō era.⁷ However there are many ephemera which are yet to be transcribed and studied. For example, lengthy collections of graffiti were found in multivolume *zuihitsu* 隨筆 compiled in the late-Tokugawa period, such as *Kokon momoyogusa sōsho* 古今百代草叢書 (National Diet Library) or *Tenpō zakki* 天保雜記 (National Archives, Naikaku bunkō). The analysis of these works proved useful to study the modalities of circulation of graffiti in early-modern Japan: not only as leaflets stapled on trees and doors or scattered on the ground (*otoshibumi* 落とし文), but also as pamphlet or booklets passed down by scribal transmission.

The days spent at the Tōkyō Central Library and Institute of Japanese Literature Library were also very productive, and there I managed to finalise my chapters on satirical writings which circulated as woodblock-printed booklets. Not only I had the opportunity to access the vast collections of *kibyōshi* and other works of *gesaku* which are held by these two institutions. Meanwhile, I was able to compare different editions and reprints of the same texts. This survey was beneficial for

6 See the multivolume collection *Kinsei jitsuroku zensho* 近世実録全書 (vols. 1-20) or the recent scholarship by Kikuchi Yōsuke.

7 Other important studies on Japanese graffiti are Rinoie Masafumi's *Rakugakishi* らくがき史 and Kida Jun'ichirō's *Nihonjin no fūshi seishin* 日本人の風刺精神.

several reasons, most importantly the study of some handwritten marginalia and amendments imposed by censors, which provided useful hints concerning how satirical writings were read and understood in Tokugawa Japan, both by commoners and authorities.

Meetings and Conferences

At the beginning of my fieldwork, I arranged a meeting with Prof Kojima Yasunori, whose recent research interests concern parody in early-modern Japan. This meaningful discussion had a very positive impact on my PhD thesis, for I could share my views on the relation between parody and satire in Tokugawa-period literature, with particular regard to the widespread consensus that both the parodic act and the practice of satire are 'committed' literary form.

During my regular meetings with Prof Sasaki Takahiro I had the opportunity to discuss extensively on various aspects of Japanese bibliography, especially on what concern the relationship between text and images in early-modern printed texts. Moreover, I attended several conferences organised by the participants of the EIRI Project (Keiō University), in which scholars discussed similar topics from a comparative (Europe-Asia)

perspective. Together with Prof Sasaki I also worked on various issues broadly related to my research topic, amongst which the role of illustrations in satirical prose texts produced in early modern Japan.

By the end of my stay I was invited by Prof Tsuda Mayumi (Keiō University) to the monthly *Kusazōshi Kenkyūkai* at Musashino University. In this meeting I had the chance make acquaintance with several scholars and students who all work on various aspects of Tokugawa-period comic literature, both prose and poetry. This meeting was very beneficial to my research, for I was able to broaden my views on early modern Japanese popular literature and culture, while learning about very up-to-date scholarship.

Acknowledgments

I am deeply grateful to the Tōshiba International Foundation for its invaluable contribution and support during my research activities in Tōkyō. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to Ms Ōbayashi Masae, TIFO senior program officer, and Mr Shirai Makoto, TIFO president, who warmly welcomed me at the Tōshiba headquarter upon my arrival. Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the European

Association of Japanese Studies, which backed my candidacy to the TIFO scholarship, and especially to Ms Ronja Meising who provided a thorough guidance and support before and after my arrival in Japan. A special word of thanks goes to Prof Sasaki Takahiro (Shidō bunko, Keiō University), whose genuine interest in my research and continued support have made my fieldwork an even more rewarding experience. Finally, I would like to thank Prof Tsuda Mayumi (Keiō University), Kojima Yasunori (ICU) and Gotō Tomoko (ICU) who kindly shared their knowledge with me and engaged in meaningful discussions as well as in thought-provoking conversations.

**Report by Miriam Grinberg,
University of Warwick**

The US-Japan alliance and the relocation of Futenma: Sites of discursive exchange in the reproduction of security alliances

From my office in the Faculty of Law and Letters at the University of the Ryukyus in Nishihara, an area of southern-central Okinawa prefecture, I can often hear the sound of US military planes taking off from and returning to Futenma Air Base in Ginowan, just a few minutes away by bus from campus. The noise can be incredibly distracting depending on the frequency of the exercises conducted on a day to day basis, but I find that—whenever I look up to observe the planes flying fairly close overhead—I am the only person doing so. Everyone else in the local area has, by contrast, become accustomed to the disruption in the sixty-plus years that have passed since Futenma was originally built.

It is in this manner that I have acquired some first-hand experience of how something as large and abstract-sounding as the ‘US-Japan security alliance’ has an impact on everyday life here in Okinawa, and specifically on the

people who live close to Futenma, the base which sits at the centre of my research's case study. Built in the aftermath of the Second World War by the US military, the land Futenma currently takes up was once home to three separate villages—Ginowan, Kamiyama, and Aragusuku—but in the post-war period, as locals returning from Okinawan internment camps have continually constructed their homes and businesses around the base, it now sits precariously close to the densely-populated Ginowan, a city of about 95,000 residents (Augustine 2008; McCormack and Norimatsu 2012). This proximity has led to a notable number of unfortunate incidents and accidents between the US Marines and the local populations, two of which have gained particular notoriety: the 1995 rape of a 12-year-old Okinawan schoolgirl by three Marines, and the 2004 crash of a Marine Corps CH-53D transport helicopter into the side of an administrative building on the campus of Okinawa International University. The first of these incidents spurred the formation of the Special Action Committee on Okinawa in 1996 and its subsequent final report, which recommended the closure of Futenma and the return of its land to the prefecture. Nonetheless, this return was predicated on the relo-

cation of Futenma's capabilities to another site within Okinawa, and within a year of the report's publication, US Marine Corps Camp Schwab, located on Oura Bay in the rural and less populated Henoko, a village in Nago to the north, was chosen.

Since then, however, little progress has been made on the relocation and return of Futenma—this largely as a result of the widespread and sustained opposition to the condition that it be relocated *within* Okinawa to Henoko, whose Oura Bay is home to endangered species like the dugong (a relative of the manatee) which might be threatened by the earth and sediment landfill needed to construct the planned Futenma Replacement Facility (FRF) (Spencer 2003; Hook 2010). The closest the US and Japanese governments have come to moving the relocation forward was the recent deal struck between the Shinzo Abe administration and Okinawa Governor Hirokazu Nakaima in December 2013, which stipulates that the central government will provide the Okinawan economy with about ¥300 billion yen per year until 2021, move some training operations of the controversial MV-22 Osprey helicopters outside of the prefecture, and renegotiate some aspects of

the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) between Japan and the US pertaining to environmental issues in return for an approval permit issued by the Governor to begin the offshore land fill work for the FRF (Yoshida 2013).

The deal has caused a further rift to blow up between supporters of the Governor's decision—namely, the central government in Tokyo, the US government, and local contractors and other businesses in Okinawa with an interest in the base construction proceeding—and opponents, which, according to a poll taken by the *Asahi Shimbun* before the decision was made, number up to 64 per cent of Okinawa voters who wanted Nakaima to reject the central government's application (*Asahi Shimbun* 2013). The decision also attracted international attention in the form of a letter of protest signed by many prominent activists and intellectuals, including Noam Chomsky, Oliver Stone, Mairead Maguire, and John W. Dower (*Ryukyū Shimpō* 2014).

Although Futenma may seem, at first, like little more than a local battle between pro-and anti-base forces with the occasional intervention of the central governments in Tokyo and Washington, the complex and fascinating background of this issue allows us to

see that symbolically—as well as *actually*—it has become more than just a 'thorn' in the US-Japan alliance's side in the nearly twenty years since the original SACO report was published. The struggle to resolve the problem is indicative of the fact that, although security alliances are often taken for granted by government officials and ordinary citizens alike as unequivocally strong and bound to continue for the foreseeable future, there is always an underlying potential for something as seemingly insignificant as a conflict over a basing site to cause a tangible impact on the tenor and health of interstate relations.

It is for this reason that Futenma became the focal point of my dissertation research on how security alliances persist after the original threat against which they were formed has diminished or disappeared altogether—and how they continue to *reproduce* themselves in the face of sometimes intense opposition, as in the cases of Ginowan and Henoko. The prevailing arguments in the literature on persistence, however, tend to have a top-down focus, privileging the discourses of elite 'insider' actors with direct access to the inner-workings of an alliance's management over the contributions of lived experience

to the policymaking process from 'outsiders' like local government officials and civil society. Furthermore, these arguments tend to ignore the possibility of internal divisions *amongst* these 'insiders', representing the debates within an alliance as taking place between the central governments of the member states rather than exploring the many divergences of opinion that exist within their governments, on the local level, in their militaries, and even within civil society itself.

My research is thus seeking to understand the variables behind persistence by examining how alliances are publicly framed and deliberated—not only by 'insiders' who would seek to maintain the US-Japan alliance in its current form, but also by those 'outsiders' who contest the prevailing 'common sense' about the necessity of the alliance and, by extension, the necessity of the US military presence, specifically in Okinawa. In order to accomplish this, I have therefore been conducting fieldwork in Japan since mid-January with the generous funds granted to me by the Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO), the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS), and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS):

first, in Tokyo at Waseda University's Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies from January to mid-March under the supervision of Prof. Chikako Ueki, and then in Okinawa at Ryukyus from March until the end of April under the supervision of Prof. Eiichi Hoshino. The funding allotted by these three organisations has enabled me to travel easily between Tokyo and Okinawa to carry out the primary original contribution of my research to the existing studies in this field: namely, a collection of nearly thirty interviews (and counting) with current and former US and Japanese government officials, military officials, academics, and activists to gain their insights not only into the current nature of the US-Japan alliance and how its purpose and functions have evolved since its origin in the post-war era, but also into the issue of US military bases in Japan and, specifically, the ongoing conflict over the relocation of Futenma. These interviews have illuminated the deeper context behind the sometimes opaque language found in political speeches, statements, and policy documents, and has given me a better understanding of the motivations behind the particular discourses promoted by the parties both 'inside' and 'outside' the alliance and how these discourses have changed

over the years (for example, the evolution of the central government in Tokyo's language with regards to acknowledging the 'burden' of the bases in Okinawa and making a conscious effort to be more conciliatory in its dialogue with the prefectural government, arguably evidenced by the December 2013 deal).

Some specific interviewees for this project have included (or will include in the near future):

- Yoichi Iha, former Mayor of Ginowan (2003-10)
- Masahide Ota, former Governor of Okinawa prefecture (1990-98)
- Takashi Inoguchi, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tokyo
- Tomonori Yoshizaki, Director of the Security Studies Department at the National Institute for Defense Studies
- Noboru Yamaguchi, former Commanding General of the Japan Ground Self Defense Forces (JGSDF) Ground Research and Development Command
- Satoko Norimatsu, Director of the Peace Philosophy Centre
- Gavan McCormack, Professor Emeritus at Australian National University
- Alfred Magleby, US Consul General in Naha, Okinawa
- Michael Penn, Editor and Founder of Shingetsu News Agency

In addition, I have conducted numerous interviews with officials and experts from the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Canon Institute for Global Studies, the Japan Institute of International Affairs, the Tokyo Foundation, the *Ryukyu Shimpō*, the Okinawa Peace Assistance Centre, and the US Marines Pacific Command. The interviews have likewise enabled me to visit several locations of interest to my study, including (so far):

- Futenma Air Base, where I observed the proceedings of a Fence Clean event during which local residents in Ginowan removed protest paraphernalia from Gate 3 of the base in conjunction with US service members, as well as talked with several members of the local Okinawa Osprey Fan Club;
- Yokosuka Naval Base, where I was given a tour of the US Navy's facilities and was able to ask questions in order to compare and contrast the situation in Yokosuka to the one in Okinawa and get a feel for

the relationship between locals and the US military;

- US Marines Camp Foster, also located in Ginowan;
- Okinawa International University, where I was shown the 2004 crash site by Prof. Peter Simpson;
- And several other historical sites of critical importance in understanding the situation in Okinawa, including the Okinawa Peace Museum, Himeyuri Monument, and Iejima.

The interviews I have arranged and held so far—along with the materials I have been able to access at such locations as the National Diet Library in Tokyo, the university libraries of Waseda and Ryukyus, and the Okinawa Prefectural Archives in Arakawa—represent the first part of my fieldwork to be completed in 2014 for my overall PhD project. The second part, which will be carried out in Washington, DC from the end of June until the end of September, will likewise involve archival work at such locations as the Library of Congress and the National Archives as well as interviews with government officials, researchers, military officials, academics, and organisations involved in outreach on the US side with the base issue. Persons of interest for my

study include such individuals as former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt M. Campbell, Professor Joseph Nye, former Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, and Professors Peter J. Katzenstein and Andrew Yeo, among others. I have already been accepted as a Visiting PhD Student to American University's School of International Studies under Prof. Amitav Acharya for the duration of my work there, but depending on where some of the relevant interviewees or archives are located, I will likely be travelling outside of the East Coast as well.

Thanks again to all of my interviewees and other contacts made during this trip who so generously offered their time and energy to speak with me, and special thanks to TIFO, EAJS, JSPS, Waseda, and Ryudai for making this research not only possible, but also exceptionally productive and fun.

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Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships

Reports by the 2014 TIFO Fellows

**Report by Dolf-Alexander Neuhaus,
Freie Universität Berlin**

Entangled Asia: Korean Students and Japanese Protestantism, 1900 – 1920

Research Topic and Methodology

My doctoral thesis “Entangled Asia: Korean Students and Japanese Protestantism, 1900 -1920” analyzes how the interaction between Japanese Protestants and Korean exchange students during the Meiji and Taishō eras contributed to the emergence of an ‘Asian identity’ among Japanese Protestants. In the early 20th century increasing numbers of Korean students flocked to the Japanese metropolis in pursuit of higher education. Among others, the Korean Young Men’s Christian Association served as an important venue for Korean student activists during the years between 1906 and 1919. Drawing on recent scholarship in Global History, my dissertation focuses on the networks of Protestant Korean students and Japanese teachers that emerged within the context of church communities, the YMCA

and the indigenous Japanese Christian non-church movement of Uchimura Kanzō.

So far, historians have widely ignored the complex and conflicting dynamics between Japanese Protestantism and Japan’s imperial project. Moreover, previous research tended to subordinate Korean colonial history to the main narratives of Japanese imperial history, thereby leaving little room for the agency of the colonized. In my research project I aim at overcoming the national history paradigm and the top-down approach to imperial history. Furthermore, I challenge the assumption that the emergence of Protestantism in East Asia was a mere byproduct of Western-style modernization. Instead, my project is centered on Korean and Japanese actors in order to adopt a multi-layered perspective on Japan’s regional entanglements that goes beyond Euro-centric models of modernization.

To this end, I draw on a wide array of sources which have been produced within the context of Japanese Protestantism and its encounter with Korea. Among others

these include the Protestant journals Shinjin, Jōmō Kyōkai Geppō, Kaitakusha and Kirisutokyo Sekai as well as Korean student magazines Hakjikkwang and Ajia Kōron. I strive to analyze these sources with regard to the discursive creation of an East Asian brand of Protestantism. The core issue in this respect is the question as to how the actors conceived of the role of Protestantism in the emerging East Asian regional order. Further materials comprises newspapers and educational magazines that ran a whole slew of articles and editorials on the education (and assimilation) of Korea. While these sources are rarely available in Germany, most are easily accessible in Japanese archives such as Meiji Shinbun Zasshi Bunko of the University of Tōkyō or the National Diet Library. Authors like Yoshino Sakuzō, Kashiwagi Gien and Uchimura Kanzō used a wide array of magazines and articles to express criticism of Japanese colonialism in Korea and other parts of the Japanese empire, while others like Ebina Danjō were less critical. Korean students, too, created their own media to express their political views toward the Japanese colonial policy and authorities in Japan as well as Korea. I am very grateful to the Tōshiba International Foundation for endowing me with an extraordinarily generous scholarship which enabled me to conduct

highly necessary archival research for my dissertation project.

Archival Research

This research stay offered the second opportunity for me to conduct archival research in Japan since I started the Ph.D. project on the interaction between Korean Students and Japanese Protestants during the Meiji- and Taisho-eras at Free University Berlin in August 2011. I had already established connections with the University of Tōkyō from previous stays as a visiting researcher at the university's Institute of Social Science in 2010, when I collected materials for my master's thesis funded through a grant by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and in 2012, when funds from the German Research Foundation (DFG) enabled me to stay at the ISS for three months in order to do initial research for my Ph.D. thesis. Under the guidance of Professor Iokibe Kaoru, I was able to get a preliminary overview over the existing Japanese (and as far as available Korean) literature and source material.

Through generous funding by the Toshiba International Foundation, I gained the unique opportunity to conduct further research in Japan from mid-September to mid-December 2014. As my Ph.D. thesis

mainly examines Japanese Protestant magazines and journals that were published by Korean exchange students, the main goal of my fieldwork was to collect most of the crucial materials in the archives of the University of Tōkyō (esp. Meiji Shinbun Zasshi Bunko and others) and the National Diet Library. Furthermore, I was able to gather secondary sources that have recently been published in Japan, but are not yet available in Europe. Despite significant progress in the creation of digital archives and online repositories the accessibility of primary sources and materials – especially when compared to the situation in countries such as South Korea – remains difficult for scholars based outside Japan. In many cases archives must be accessed in person in order to obtain certain resources. This even applies to recently digitalized material which is retrievable exclusively from inside the particular libraries ostensibly due to strict or unresolved copyright. The National Diet Library for instance thankfully digitalized and put online the larger part of its materials from the Meiji and Taishō era. However, these files are for the most part not accessible from outside the National Diet Library – including the campus of the University of Tōkyō – making archival research in Japan difficult and exceptionally time consuming.

This is further complicated by the plethora of diverse materials that are usually distributed across various archives.

Since my dissertation focuses on Korean students at Christian institutions in Japan during the Meiji and Taishō eras, a second major goal was to gain access to the private archives of the YMCAs. However, this again proved to be more difficult than expected for various reasons: due to the pluralistic and decentralized nature of the YMCA movement, archival research necessitates attending a number of archives in Tōkyō alone. Furthermore, in the cases of university YMCAs it often is only possible to access their private archive rooms through the mediation of members or former members. In this regard, I am deeply indebted to Professor Iokibe Kaoru of the University of Tōkyō who presented me with the opportunity to gain an insight into unedited, hand written and completely unexplored material available at the archive of the University of Tōkyō YMCA that partly dates back to the 1910s. Further research will be necessary to explore these materials and those of other university YMCA and dormitories in depth.

Despite the difficulties one regularly encounters doing archival research

in Japan, in the end I was able to collect a vast quantity of source material and literature. Once more, the well-assorted libraries and archives of the University of Tōkyō proved to be a veritable gold mine of early twentieth-century Christian journals, magazines and letters. Moreover, I was able to glean some additional material that will hopefully shed light onto yet unexplored aspects of my Ph.D. thesis and probe the archive in order to facilitate future research on Protestantism in Japan and Korea.

Meetings and Conferences

I also owe a large debt of gratitude to Professor Haneda Masashi of the University of Tōkyō who was kind enough to invite me as a visiting researcher to the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia. This renowned institution houses a very extensive range of literature and sources on Asia in Japanese, Asian languages and English and attracts many scholars in the field. This exceptional international environment provided the perfect opportunity to meet and discuss with experts in the field on many occasions and in various contexts. Weekly seminars on Global History led by Professor Haneda, in which Japanese graduate students participated alongside foreign researchers and visiting professors and discussed recent

publication in the field of Global History, greatly contributed to the international atmosphere and exposed me to a plethora of approaches to Global History. I could benefit greatly from the meaningful discussions and thought-provoking conversations with many of the participants. At times, however, there exist diverging views on what constitutes the writing of a history that transcends borders and/or world regions. In order to write Global Histories that are free from Eurocentrism etc., more exchange like this will be necessary. Besides my archival research, it has been very intriguing and inspiring to share and discuss views and approaches pertaining to Global History within a setting that comprised not only scholars educated within a European and Japanese or Korean context but also from other world regions such as Southeast or Central Asia that are still underrepresented at German institutions at least.

As visiting researcher at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, I was furthermore given the opportunity to present my own findings at a workshop held at the institute in November within the context of the Global History Collaborative between Freie University Berlin, Humboldt University Berlin, Princeton University, the University of Tōkyō and École des hautes études en

sciences sociales (EHESS) in Paris. The invaluable advice of Professors Haneda Masashi, Kuroda Akinobu of the University of Tōkyō and Benjamin Elman from Princeton University and other researchers had a very positive impact on my Ph.D. thesis, for it helped me to better understand how to connect my topic to the diverse approaches on trans-cultural history of East Asia, a difficult field of Global History.

During the period of my fieldwork in Japan, I furthermore arranged meetings with Professor Lee Yeon-suk from Hitotsubashi University and Lee Hyeong-nang from Chūō University whose research interests include the Korean community in Japan, its interaction with Japanese intellectuals and the construction of the Japanese national language that helped to strengthen the nation state and assimilate minorities. Both kindly shared their knowledge with me and thus significantly deepened my knowledge about the history of Koreans in Japan and the most recent research on the topic in Japan and South Korea.

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I would like to thank the Tōshiba International Foundation for its invaluable support during my research activities in Tōkyō. In par-

ticular, I would like to express my gratitude to Ms. Kuwayama Mariko and Mr. Shirai Makoto, President of TIFO, who warmly welcomed me at the Tōshiba headquarters upon my arrival in Japan. Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the Council of the European Association for Japanese Studies which has supported my application to the TIFO scholarship.

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Report by Benedikt Vogel, University of Trier

The Character of Aesthetic Experience and Atmosphere in the Idle Arts (yūgei 遊芸) of the Edo Period

When it comes to the Edo-period (1603-1868) in Japan, one easily remembers its lively city culture with its flourishing craftwork and idle arts (yūgei), which ranged from the tea ceremony to theatre. Its significance for the cultural development made it to a prominent theme in recent research. While various artistic activities recognizable in the Edo-period were treated as sociological, economical, and political factors, there seems to be an implicit consensus about the existence of a sphere of “art”, which in the course of the increasing material production as well the widespread learning and practice of idle arts, evolved in its social function. At that very time these artistic activities did not - despite their expansion - instantly provoke a fundamental change in theoretical discourse, which mainly remained focused on the practice (michi). The question then is, what it actually means to speak of “art” in this period or to what extend it is possible. For a society with omnipresent aesthetic activities a rather dire

question.

Consequently it seems foremost necessary to shed some light on this specific sphere and to track the motions of people and objects, as well as their complex connections in performance and imagination - in other words: to clarify the world of aesthetic experience.

Considering the fact, that not so much the theoretical discourse but the practice, performance and the multi-sensory experience were characteristic for this specific aesthetic environment, it seems promising to take a much closer look at *kôdô*, the incense ceremony. Its complex performative nature as well as the use of all five senses makes *kôdô* especially interesting for this approach. In an endeavor to explore the meaning of aesthetic experiences and to clarify as to what it meant to “appreciate art”, the current research project wants to refocus on the aesthetics of the idle arts, taking *kôdô* as its main example.

While this research project shall add an aesthetic dimension to the aforementioned recent research perspectives, moreover it seeks to contribute to the field of performance studies by working out the link between performance and affective/emotional experience,

which itself shall become a tool for the reevaluation of other social events and rituals.

While these thoughts sum up the initial starting point for my research project, I was more than grateful to receive the gracious grant by the Toshiba International Foundation, which made me able to conduct the essential research in Japan, to get in touch with other scholars and to experience the fascinating world of *kôdô* firsthand.

During my stay in Tokyo and Kyoto and through the reception of a wide range of research materials and primary sources, I was able to specify the theoretical concepts, which will become the underlying framework for the following study. According to the above mentioned thoughts, which led to this study, aesthetic appreciation emerges from multiple elements and therefore seems to be atmospheric, but its exact character still needs to be explained. Therefore the project seeks to uncover the role and function implicitly associated with “art” by looking at the “art-events” itself, their various material and performative constituents and how they were experienced. Firstly, this means that the starting point for such an endeavor has to be the human body itself. Following phenomenological concepts the body has to be recog-

nized as the source of perception and experience.

Another important constituent of the idle arts arises from the various elements of play and ritual. To grasp the glimpses of meaning occurring in the complex gatherings of people, "performance" has to become a key-concept. The body, its movement, and the various sensory perceptions have to be considered. But it is not only the ephemeral appearance of meaning in the performance, but also the transmission of supposedly unchanging ideas and concepts of the specific idle art (e.g. *kôdô*) itself. Important part of the aesthetic experience appears to be the communication through language, poetry and literary images, and the constant reminiscence of history, while defining the action of one's own as a continuation of that very tradition. As such, it has to be scrutinized.

Since performance is always connected to its material context and objects respectively, it is important not only to track the actors but the things as well. This means to consider the arrangement of the room, where the events took place, furthermore the trade, reception and presentation of objects as well as the consideration and organization of the aesthetic practice and schools. The importance of the ma-

teriality of performance is especially true for the world of incense. As part of the chemical senses and the physical realm it becomes a key-factor. The process of odor perception, the description of scents and the complex associative ways of incorporating fragrance in the incense ceremony will be the target of analysis.

In order to analyze those elements and illuminate their diverse connections, appropriate materials and sources are necessary, which show these exact aspects and movements. The main goal of my stay in Japan was to identify such materials.

While *kôdô* continues to be a minor subject of research - in comparison to the tea ceremony or the flower arrangement - even in Japan, there have been a couple of endeavors to make the handwritten scriptures of the Edo-period more accessible. These transcriptions became the starting point for my own project. Since the practice itself has to become the focus of analysis, it was necessary that the sources allow an overall reconstruction of the aesthetic events. Because *hidensho*, (books of secret teachings) describe in detail, how these gatherings were to be held, they were considered as the primary sources. However, it became obvi-

ous, that there is a wide range of what is included in these transmissions and how detailed they are. Therefore it seem not possible to limit the analysis on just a few texts. While a complete translation of one representative hidensho helps to illustrate the overall character of methods and events itself, seems a description of the performative as well as material elements only possible through a consideration of numerous scriptures.

Moreover, during the examination of various sources it became obvious that - even so the project focuses on the Edo-period - the range of materials can not be limited to this time frame. The constant recurrence of texts written in previous periods - especially the mid and late Muromachi- period (1337-1573) - as well as the mentioning of events occurring in former generations made it necessary to look more closely at these exact sources as well. Therefore, in addition to the before mentioned (hi)densho, selected records of incense gatherings of the Muromachi-period were added as primary sources, which also will be analyzed. This extension is expected to be extremely valuable, when it comes to describe for example the decoration and display of rooms and objects, as well as tracing back different ideas and concepts.

As this research project seeks to illustrate the performance and multi-sensory perception in the incense ceremony, it was a wonderful opportunity to participate in an incense gathering of the Shino school of kôdô at the Kôdôkan in Kyoto.

Hachiya Sôhitsu, 21st-Generation Heir Apparent Grand Master of the Shino school of kôdô, prepared a simple game of incense recognition with a literary theme, introduced by poetry and conducted in accordance with the schools traditions. To experience firsthand, how close and at the same time clear-cut play and strict ritual can be intertwined, made a deep and lasting impression.

At this occasion I was also able to meet and discuss various aspects of kôdô with Hachiya Sôhitsu. As the heir apparent of the Shino school - one of the oldest schools of kôdô, with a tradition reaching back to the Muromachi-period - he granted me some invaluable insights in the "school- system", the preparation and handling of incense woods and in the fundamental ideas of the "Way of the incense". These experiences and encounters at the Kôdôkan proved to be important for the progression of my research project. My stay in Japan, which opened up

so many new perspectives, would of course not have been possible without the help of others: teachers, colleagues and friends. For special guidance during this stay I want to express my deepest gratitude particularly towards Professor Kodama Ryūichi (Waseda University), who let me join his study group and helped me clarify many open questions. Furthermore I want to express my heartfelt thanks towards Associate Professor Hama-saki Kanako (Senshū University; Kōdōkan Kyoto), who brought me to a deeper understanding of kōdō - not only through discussions but through the experience of the wide repertoire of the Japanese aesthetics at the Kōdōkan in Kyoto.

Finally I want to express once more my deepest gratitude to the Toshiba International Foundation for the research grant, which helped me to conduct this research and made not only possible the unique experiences, but also the encounter with other people, researchers and students. I am thankful for this opportunity and hope that my research can contribute to the study of early modern Japan and to shed some light on the complex and fascinating spheres between the “social” and the “aesthetic”.

Report by Stefan Jeka, Goethe University Frankfurt

To Relieve the People From Hunger and Suffering: A Study On the Compendium of Agriculture's (1697) Impact On Agricultural Guidebooks of Early Modern Japan

In 1697 Japan, the outstanding agricultural guidebook *Nōgyō zensho* 農業全書 (Compendium of agriculture) was published. Its author Miyazaki Yasusada 宮崎安貞 (given name alternatively reading Antei; 1623-1697) was born in Aki province as the second son of a samurai, who served the local lord as a commissioner for forest and mountain affairs 山林奉行 (sanrin bugyō). Already about the age of 25 to 30 he, too, came into employment of the daimyo of Chikuzen province, acting as an advisor for forest and mountain affairs. But Miyazaki very soon left his position, travelled the country and gathered information about how experienced and successful farmers were conducting agriculture. The acquired information he put to a test by doing farming on his own and then compiling the results in his agricultural guidebook 農書 (nōsho), which is said to have been the number one best-seller in Tokugawa Japan. Eventually becoming the standard authority on agricultural writing it had an

enormous influence on following authors dealing with agriculture throughout the whole Tokugawa era and even into modern times.

Writing my MA thesis I focused on the major part of the Compendiums tenth volume “[About] growing medical herbs in the garden” 園に作る薬種 (sono ni tsukuru yakushu) and I felt to merely get a glimpse at the whole genre of Japans early modern agricultural guidebooks. Agriculture and farming activities played a major role in early modern Japanese society and economy, but while I was conducting my research I found western studies about the diverse genre of *nôsho* to be very scarce and even the contents of the canonised Compendium have yet rarely been investigated in the western academia (e.g. in an unpublished Habilitation thesis by Klaus Müller in 1976).

For my PhD project I now want to explore about the actual influence of the Compendium as it marks a methodological turning point in Japanese writing on agriculture towards an empirical approach of obtaining knowledge. Preparing the mindset for the economic growth of Meiji-Japan (1868-1912), it has to be examined why, how, and to what extent the influence of the Compendium stretched out into other *nôsho*. As this project’s topic

is located in the early moderns, it demands a critical historical approach, combining questions of power relations and political economy with the detailed mapping of the historical settings, not to mention careful philological work.

To outline the Compendiums diverse and steady influence three texts have been selected: the *Nôgyô kokoro oboe* 農業心覚/ *Nônin jôhō* 農人定法 (“Agricultural skills one should remember”/ “The peasants’ common methods”; 1703) by Fukamachi Gonroku 深町権六 (?-1725), the *Nôgyô toki no shiori* 農業時の栞 (“Guide of the times of agriculture”; 1785) by Hosoi Yoshimaro 細井宜麻 (?-1788) and the *Toyoaki no waraigusa* 豊秋農笑種 (“The fools bumper harvest”; 1843) by Toya Genpachi 戸谷源八 (1792-1872). Many of the early modern agricultural guidebooks of Japan have been examined once and by Japanese scholars only, as in the case of the *Nôgyô toki no shiori* by Arizono Shôichirô 有菌正一郎 of Aichi University and the *Toyoaki no waraigusa* by Uchida Kazuyoshi 内田和義 of Shimane University and published in the most ample “Collection of agricultural guidebooks of Japan” 日本農書全集 (*Nihon nôsho zenshû*).

Research in Japan

I was glad to have been granted with the research scholarship by the Toshiba International Foundation (TIFO), thus being able to travel to Japan to meet the before mentioned scholars and other researchers in person and to conduct interviews in November and December 2014. Professor Arizono welcomed me in his office in Toyohashi where we discussed difficult passages of the translations and he provided help with the research at the library of Aichi University.

Visiting Professor Uchida in the city of Matsue, he took me on a trip to the nearby village Ôtani, where we met the descendants of Toya Gempachi who still continue to live in the same place. There, the challenges of agricultural enterprises in a narrow mountainous region with a less favourable local climate where explained to me by Mr. Toya and Professor Uchida. In later discussions with Professor Uchida at his office in Shimane University, he helped to shed a light onto some of the passages of the text that were puzzling me, because they refer to specific local conditions, expressions and agricultural techniques. Also, Professor Uchida presented me with copies of new transcriptions he made from another version of the *Toyoaki no waraigusa*, which

are not available in print at all.

At this point I would like to thank both Professor Arizono and Professor Uchida, who not only provided me with various copies of their works, working papers and rare materials they collected throughout their years of research, but also gave me substantial help with difficult parts of the translations, explaining in detail the history of the works and lives of the respective authors and who helped me mapping the texts within the greater context of the *nôsho* genre.

Doing research at the library of the Department of Agriculture of Kyoto University, I got access to various documents regarding early modern agronomy, e.g. the publications of Kikuchi Isao 菊池勇夫, who worked on the impact of the major famines of early modern Japan for many years. According to early modern authors the prevention of famine caused by a meagre harvest or even crop failure very often was one of the key motivations for compiling their work, which is why these have to be taken into account to outline the very often intended purpose of *nôsho*: the promotion of advanced techniques to increase agricultural yields.

While staying in Kyoto I was able to meet Professor Tokunaga Mit-

sutoshi 徳永光俊, president of the Osaka University of Economics. For many years Professor Tokunaga was the chief editor of the “Collection of agricultural guidebooks of Japan” where all the primary texts I am investigating have been published. His research projects focused on the emergence of *nôsho* in early modern Japan under the harsh economic and environmental influence in the early modern rural agrarian societies. I am most grateful to have been presented with books and copies of the recent publications by Professor Tokunaga, as well as working papers for the university’s bulletin that are simply not accessible outside of Japan. In several discussions his expertise on early modern agricultural guidebooks, on the history of farming, of rural society and the intertwined relationship of the rural economy and the state (e.g. as government officials) contributed invaluable to my research project. His current research interest – the transmission of farming techniques and knowledge about weather, soil and plant conditions but by the semi- or illiterate farmers themselves – helped me to broaden the perspective of my research regarding the quite ambivalent classification of *nôsho* into *gakusha no nôsho* 学者の農書 (agricultural writings by scholars) and *hyakushô no nôsho* 百姓の農書 (agricultural writings by peas-

ants) as it was outlined by Furushima Toshio 古島敏雄 decades ago. In Tokyo, I used the resources of the National Diet Library to access some of the oldest secondary literature, which is nearly inaccessible outside of Japan, if available at all. This does not only count for pre-war and wartime publications, like *Senkaku Miyazaki Yasusada* 先覚宮崎安貞 (“The pioneer Miyazaki Yasusada”) by Nakamura Kichijirô 中村吉次郎 published 1944, but also for relating articles in post-war periodicals e.g. in *Sanrin keizai* 林業経済 (Forest economy) of 1953 or publications in journals and bulletins of the various study groups.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my utmost gratitude to the Toshiba International Foundation, especially to the president of TIFO Mr. Shirai Makoto and Ms. Kuwayama Mariko, who gave me a warm welcome at the Toshiba main office in Tokyo. On our final meeting Ms. Kuwayama again encouraged me to pursue my project and offered assistance even with further research activities. Last but not least I do thank the EAJS for selecting my research project for the TIFO scholarship, thus making this rewarding journey possible with their very support.

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Toshiba International Foundation Fellowships 2015 TIFO Fellows

Application for the 2015 TIFO Fellowships opened on 30 January 2015 and closed on 31 March 2015. After a careful evaluation of the 25 applications that the EAJS has received this year, the EAJS Council has selected the following three PhD candidates as recipients of the 2015 TIFO Fellowships:

Bernhard Leitner (University of Vienna, Austria)

- Dissertation title: "Laboratory Vienna-Tokyo – On the emergence of a psychiatric thought-style in Austria and Japan circa 1900"

Hai Guo (University of Leeds, UK)

- Dissertation title: "Sorry Seems to be the Hardest Word: A Lacanian Discourse Analysis on Sino-Japanese 'History Problem'"

Anita Németh (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)

- Dissertation title: "Changes In the Image of *Itako* Phenomenon at the Turn of the Millennium"

News from our members

Anderson, Emily (2014): *Christianity and Imperialism in Modern Japan. Empire for God.* (SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan). London, New York: Bloomsbury Academic.

Batten, Bruce L. and Brown, Philip C. (eds.) (2015): *Environment and Society in the Japanese Islands. From Prehistory to the Present.* Paperback. Corvallis: Oregon State University Press.

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Items received

Between March 2014 and September 2015, the EAJS office received the following items. Please contact the EAJS office in Berlin for further information.

Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions, SOAS, University of London: *CSJR Newsletter*, vols. 26 and 27 (2013-2014).

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