

Japan Studies Association of Canada (JSAC)

カナダ日本研究学会



Fall 2014

Table of Contents

Our Inaugural Newsletter	1
Where in Japan?	2
2014 JSAC Conference	2
JSAC Annual General Meeting	3
2015 JSAC Conference in Japan	4
Members News	4
Recent Books	6
Interview with Dr. Jackie Steele	7
Welcome from the Japan Association of Canadian Studies (JACS)	10
JSAC Executive 2014-2015	11

Our Inaugural Newsletter

Dear JSAC Members and Friends.

Greetings from Vancouver, British Columbia, where autumn has started and the leaves are turning! If you are now back at work teaching then I hope you are all enjoying the fall term with your students.

Summer seems far away. I spent several weeks in Japan during June and July. In Tokyo, Norio Ota and I met with Professor Nobu Sato, Vice-President of the Japan Association of Canadian Studies (JACS). Nobu-san is a Law Professor at Chuo University, where he conducts research on aspects of Canada and North American Law. Together with Jackie Steel, Convener of the Japan-Canada Interdisciplinary Research Network on Gender, Diversity and Tohoku Reconstruction

(JCIRN) we discussed and planned the joint conference that will take place next May (20th -23rd) in Tokyo. This will be the 2015 Annual Meeting of JSAC and the first time that JSAC will convene in Japan. Nobu and Jackie introduce themselves and greet JSAC members later on in this Newsletter.

As a geographer I always try to make part of my research in locations away from Japan's largest cities, and in July I had the good fortune to take the highway bus north from Sapporo to Wakkanai, the most northern fishing port in Hokkaido. From there, together with my wife Barbara we travelled across by ferry to Rebun-to, a magnificent island with hiking trails and colorful alpine wildflowers. This is remote Japan at its best, and highly recommended!

In September, JSAC co-hosted with the Japan Foundation Toronto and others a special visit by Professor Masako Iino, Past-President of Tsuda College, Tokyo, and a specialist in the history of the Canadian Nikkei. Professor Iino made three talks while she was in Canada - at UBC, the Prince Takamado Japan Centre University of Alberta, and the Japan Foundation Toronto office. Her talks focused on the history of the LARA

organization (Licensed Agencies for Relief in Asia) and the Nikkei involvement, a fascinating part of post-war history that bridges Canada and Japan. Through the magic of the webinar, Professor Iino's talk from the University of Alberta was broadcast to three other campuses. If you missed it you can listen to it by going to the JSAC web site, <http://www.jsac.ca/>, or clicking this [video link](#).

I look forward to meeting you at the JSAC 2014 Annual Meeting at Rye-dai, Toronto, which at the time of writing is just a few days away (October 17-19, 2014). Local organizer Dr. Jim Tiessen has put together a terrific program.

David W. Edgington, President JSAC

Where in Japan?

The answer will be in our Spring 2015 Newsletter



2014 JSAC Conference

The 2014 JSAC Conference will be held on October 17-19, 2014, at the Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University, in downtown Toronto, Canada. Our host Professor James Tiessen has organized an impressive line up of presentations on Japan. Scholars from Canada and abroad will gather at Ryerson to talk about their research, which spans disciplines and eras. The Conference's core theme is "Designing Japan: Innovation in a post-growth society", though of course other topics will be addressed. The Keynote speaker is Dr. Anne Allison (Duke University) "*Greeting the dead: Managing solitary existence in Japan*".

The Conference will be of special interest to researchers, students and the broader community of people interested in Japan. The implications of Japan's experience over the past two plus decades are important for Canada, which will soon be facing similar demographic and economic challenges.

[Program Link](#)

[Registration Link](#)

Full Conference registration, including the Friday evening reception and Saturday evening dinner, costs \$150, and \$50 for students. Please visit <http://www.eply.com/jsac2014> to register with a credit card. Make sure you check JSAC's web site for updates. For more information please contact James (Jim) Tiessen, JSAC 2014 Organizer, at jsac2014@ryerson.ca.

JSAC Annual General Meeting

The JSAC AGM has been scheduled for 12:00noon-2:00 PM, Saturday October 18, 2014. Located in Room TRS-1-003, Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University, Toronto.

The agenda is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Minutes from the 2013 AGM at U. of Saskatoon, October 2013
3. President's Address - events of the last 12 months:
 - (a) JSAC/JFT lecture program in 2013/2014
 - (b) JSAC Newsletter
 - (c) JSAC publications and publication strategy:
 - i. -from 2011 Conference ('Resilient Japan')
 - ii. -from 2012 Conference
4. 2013 JSAC Conference Report (and publications)
5. 2014 JSAC Conference
6. 2015 JSAC in Japan Conference Arrangements
7. 2016 JSAC Conference invitation from Dr. Alwyn Spies, UBC Okanagan
8. JSAC Social Media Presence
9. Financial Report
10. JSAC Account and Membership Affairs transferred from St. Mary's University to York U.
11. Number of JSAC members
12. Any other business, announcements etc.
13. Adjournment.

2015 JSAC Conference in Japan

“Culture, Identity and Citizenship in Japan and Canada”

The 2015 JSAC conference will take place in conjunction with the Japan Association of Canadian Studies (JACS) and the Japan-Canada Interdisciplinary Research Network on Gender, Diversity and Tohoku Reconstruction (JCIRN).

When: May 20th (Wed) to May 23rd (Sat), 2015

Where: Embassy of Canada in Tokyo, Japan (20-22 May)

Chuo University, Ichigaya campus Tokyo, Japan (23 May).

For details on the Call for Papers visit <http://www.jsac.ca>, or view this [submission guideline document](#). Deadline for submissions: January 20th, 2015.

Members News

Jeffrey Alexander (Associate Professor, History, University of Wisconsin, Parkside) was invited in April 2014 to be the 2014 Mitsui Distinguished Lecturer at John Carroll University, in University Heights, Ohio, where he discussed his latest book *'Brewed in Japan'*. He also gave a paper at the 18th Asian Studies Conference Japan, at Sophia University, Tokyo in June 2014, *'Brewed in Japan: Innovation and Galapagos Syndrome in the Japanese Beer Industry'*. In the summer he held a short-term fellowship from The Japan Foundation, which enabled him to work at the National Diet Library on his latest project: *'Working for Johnnie Walker: Prestige, Masculinity, and Whiskey Advertising in Postwar Japan'*.

David W. Edgington (Professor, Geography, UBC) was awarded a 4-year SSHRC Insight Grant to conduct a study of recovery from the 2011 Japanese Great Eastern earthquake. He completed the first round of field-work in the summer in Fukushima and Miyagi prefectures. A recently published article from another research project is: *'Patterns and organization of Japanese tourism in Canada: 1960–2010'*, *The Canadian Geographer*, 58, 355–376. 2014.

Kimie Hara (Renison Research Professor in East Asian Studies, University of Waterloo) together with Ken Coates (Professor and Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan) have co-edited a publication, *East Asia-Arctic Relations: Boundary, Security and International Politics*, Waterloo, Centre for International Governance Innovation, 2014.

Scott Harrison (Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada) successfully defended his PhD thesis 'The Cold War and Indigenous People' at the University of Waterloo, and prepared a chapter 'The Cold War, the San Francisco System and Indigenous Peoples' forthcoming in Kimie Hara, ed. *The San Francisco System and Its Legacies*, London, Routledge, December 2014. He was an invited participant at the workshop 'Japan's Next Economy', University of Saskatchewan, March 2014. He was also involved in conference planning and as a participant in 'The Rise of the Fourth World: Internationalization and Indigenous Rights', Balsilie School of International Affairs, Waterloo.

Fumiko Ikawa-Smith (Professor Emerita, Anthropology, McGill University) in June 2014 co-organized a session entitled 'Starting Over Again: The Early Palaeolithic Research in Japan Today' at the 6th Worldwide Conference of the Society for East Asia Archaeology, held at the National University of Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar.

Stephen Nagy (Associate Professor, Politics and International Relations, International Christian University) has written a number of new publications including: 'Nationalism, Domestic Politics and the Japan Economic Rejuvenation, East Asia, 13(1), 5-21; 'Japanese Business in China – Alive in the Bitter Sea, *China Economic Quarterly* (Dragonomics), March, 31-36. He has also been on the Media, including CNBC Capital Connection, and NBC.

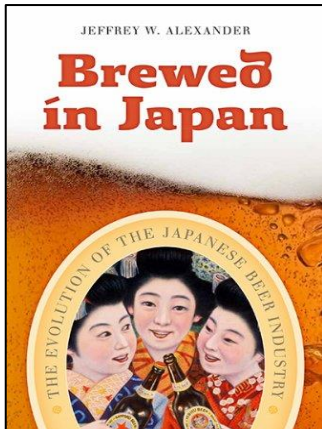
Norio Ota (Professor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, York University) announces that a honours minor degree in Japanese Studies at York University in 2014-2015, and a two-year pilot co-op (internship) project will commence in September 2014, with the support of Mitsui & Co. (Canada) Ltd as part of the honours degree program. Norio presented a paper 'Constitutional identity and power' at the 4th International Conference: Power, Culture and Economy, University of Tampere Finland in August 2014.

Bill Sewell (Associate Professor, History, St. Mary's University) edited the JSAC digital publication '*Resilient Japan: Papers presented at the 24th Annual Conference of the Japan Studies Association of Canada*', available from Amazon.com.

Bernard Saint-Jacques (Professor Emeritus, Communication and Linguistics, UBC) attended the annual meeting of the International Academy for International Research in Bergen. Recent publications include: 'International Communication in a Globalized World' and 'The Multicultural Dilemma'; both are chapters in L. Samovar et al. (eds.) (2014) *Intercultural Communication. A Reader*. 40th Anniversary Edition, Boston, Cengage Learning.

Please send your updates for the Spring 2015 Newsletter to david.edgington@ubc.ca

Recent Books



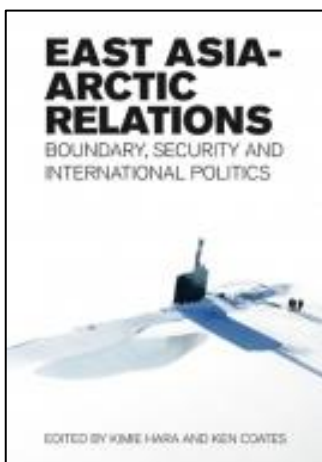
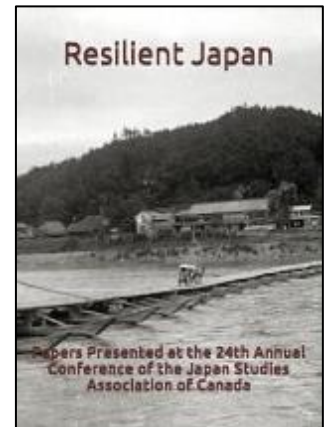
Jeffrey W. Alexander, 2013. *Brewed in Japan: The Evolution of the Japanese Beer Industry*, Vancouver, UBC Press.

Spanning the earliest attempts to brew beer to the recent popularity of local craft brews, *Brewed in Japan* presents the first English-language exploration of the steady rise of beer to become the "beverage of the masses." Alexander underscores the highly receptive nature of Japanese consumers, who adopted and domesticated beer in just a few generations, despite its entirely foreign origins. He also sheds light on the various social, cultural, and financial influences that combined to make beer Japan's leading alcoholic beverage by the 1960s. Japan's beer market is now among the most complex

in the world, and it continues to evolve.

Japan Studies Association of Canada, 2013. *Resilient Japan: Papers presented at the 24th Annual Conference of the Japan Studies Association of Canada* [Kindle Edition]. Edited by Bill Sewell, in conjunction with Shinji Takagaki and Bill Morrison.

This edited volume is the latest stage in the evolution of the Japan Studies Association of Canada. JSAC is Canada's largest and most active academic association devoted to Japan and Japanese Studies. The papers presented in this volume are drawn largely from the August 2011 JSAC Conference at St. Mary's University.



Kimie Hara and Ken Coates (eds.), 2014. *East Asia-Arctic Relations: Boundary, Security and International Politics*, Waterloo, CIGI

The Arctic's profile as a region for engagement and opportunity is rising among both circumpolar and non-circumpolar states. In addition to countries like Canada, Russia and the United States, which have expressed a renewed interest in the region, East Asian countries, such as Japan, Korea and China, are now increasingly fixated on prospects offered by the Arctic. To the present, Arctic and East Asian nations have not engaged in extensive discussions about competing and complementary Arctic activities and responsibilities. This volume is an outcome of an international

collaborative project, which launched a focused and detailed conversation about the historic, contemporary and future dimensions of East Asian countries' relationships and interests in the Arctic. Bringing together leading experts from Japan, China, South Korea, Russia, the United States and Canada, the volume draws scholarly and policy-making attention to East Asia's growing interests in the Far North and identifies political, economic, legal and security connections between East Asia and the Arctic.

Interview with Dr. Jackie Steele

Over the summer I met with Dr. Jackie Steele, Convenor of the 'Japan-Canada Interdisciplinary Research Network on Gender, Diversity and Tohoku Reconstruction' (JCIRN), which is one of the co-sponsors of next year's 'JSAC in Japan' conference (Culture, Identity and Citizenship in Japan and Canada). Jackie Steele is Associate Professor, Institute of Social Science The University of Tokyo.

Jackie. Please tell me something about yourself as well as your current position and research in Tokyo University.

I am originally from Delta, BC, where I began studying Japanese in Grade 10, which I continued at McGill for a Joint EAS/PolySci degree. After a wonderful experience as a CIR in Nagano (1997-2000), I returned to Canada to pursue Japan-Canada comparative law and politics research at Carleton (MA) and uOttawa (PhD). Comparative Canadian and Japanese law/politics has been my focus for the past fifteen odd years; I am constantly encouraged by the rich synergies of this field. Specifically, I have looked at the representation and integration of gender and diversity into citizenship discourses, politics, parliaments and the laws in both countries.



JSAC members may not have heard about JCIRN. How did this network come about?

Since experiencing the events of the 3.11 disaster in Sendai (with a 7-month old baby) in 2011, I wished to understand how other migrant women/men experienced the disaster, and how these insights can foster resilience by strengthening disaster risk reduction laws from local to national, and multilateral (UNISDR policy) levels. I created JCIRN in May 2012 when I was the Visiting Japan Chair at CAPI, UVIC. We brought together an interdisciplinary cross-section of a) Canada-based Japanologists, b) feminist Canadian political scientists, and c) Japan-based scholars working on gender and public policy.

Our (low-tech) website is at this link: <http://japan-canadaresearchnetwork.jimdo.com>

The fruits of our individual research to date were then compiled into a preliminary report that was presented in Canada in March 2013 in Toronto, Ottawa, and Vancouver. We were fortunate to have funding support from the Japan Foundation (Toronto), and from Professor Mari Osawa, Leader of the University of Tokyo ISS Branch of the Global COE on Gender Equality and Multicultural Conviviality in the Age of Globalization. For JCIRN's Preliminary Report 2013, see this link: http://gcoe.iss.utokyo.ac.jp/gender_diversity_reconstruction.pdf.

What other events have you held so far?

Since our inaugural Workshop in 2012, we have held research meetings for members in Tokyo and Vancouver in 2013 to prepare the groundwork for our first conference - 2014 Feb 5-6 Conference: "Democracy, Diversity,

Disasters: A Japan-Canada Policy Dialogue on Intersectionality and the Challenges of Contemporary Risk Governance.”

This first conference (co-hosted with Professor Caroline Andrew, Director of the Center on Governance, University of Ottawa) brought together Canadian, Japanese and international specialists and opinion-leaders (academics, researchers, civil servants, diplomats, students) working on various facets of integrating women's experiences and gender/diversity concerns into public policy, law, and disaster risk reduction.

We were very fortunate to have former Chiba Governor, Ms. Akiko Domoto (Representative of the Japan Women's Network on Disaster Risk Reduction), as our Keynote Speaker, as well as the contributions of international expert, Dr. Elaine Enarson. Moreover, we concluded the 2-day conference with a High-Level Japan-Canada Policy Dialogue on Risk Governance that was hosted by Japanese Ambassador Okuda, chaired by former Canadian Ambassador to Japan, Len Edwards, and that featured former Canadian Ambassador to Japan, Joseph Caron as the Canadian interlocutor who provided an insightful reply to Domoto-sensei's keynote address. We were pleased to see key Canadian parliamentarians and several deputy-ministers attend this closing event to learn of the intersections of gender/diversity with disaster management, and women's active leadership at all levels can help protect communities, economies and foster national resilience.

The Conference Program and photos are at this link: <http://japan-canadaresearchnetwork.jimdo.com/past-events-過去のイベント情報/> The Website of the Japan Women's Network for DRR is at this link: <http://www.jwndrr.org/english/>

At the Conference, several of us did some behind the scenes work on proposals to the Japanese government for their second UN-CSW Resolution. Domoto-sensei worked hard to bring these ideas back to MOFA to enrich the language of the text. The Japanese Government was successful in having its “March 2014 at the 58th UN-CSW.

Another conference has been – “2014 March 14 Japan-Canada Policy Dialogue on Democracy, Diversity, Disasters” To travel the insights gained at the Ottawa Conference back to Japan, we were fortunate to have the support of the Honorable MacKenzie Clugston, Canadian Ambassador to Japan, to host a follow-up policy dialogue. This featured presentations by the Senior Vice Minister of Reconstruction, Mr. Koichi Tani, by Ms. Tomoko Samura, Director-General, Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, by Ms. Hang Pham, Head, Asia-Pacific Office, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and by Canadian gender and DRR specialist Dr. Marika Morris. The Program and photos are at this link: <http://japan-canadaresearchnetwork.jimdo.com/past-events-過去のイベント情報/>

Yet another conference we organized has been “2014-2017 Working Group on DRR: Towards Sendai 2015 and Beyond”.

Domoto-sensei's Network has convened a coalition of some 40+ experts to work together for 2-3 years to propose concrete policy recommendations to the Japanese government and to UNISDR. As a member of this Working Group, I hope to contribute both my individual research results and the collective insights gained from JCIRN collaborations and events.

Finally, this year there has been the 2014 June 14 JWNDRR Roundtable: "Proposing Policy for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction" -- Roundtable for Considering Policy Integrating Gender Equality and Diversity Perspectives.

Domoto-sensei's Network hosted an important Roundtable in Sendai featuring the contributions of Mayor Okuyama Emiko, Ana Cristina Thorlund the Japan-based UNDISR Representative from Geneva, and Dr. Cheryl Anderson of uHawaii. In addition, as Convener of JCIRN, I was one of five speakers in the Roundtable. I shared lessons from both my own experience of 3.11 and the JCIRN research findings to date. The fruits of this Roundtable were written up into the "Sendai Call to Action", which Domoto-sensei skillfully presented in Bangkok to the UNISDR Asian Ministerial Meetings. UNISDR is currently supporting Ministers (and various stakeholder groups) worldwide to prepare the core multilateral agreement to be adopted by UN member states at the Third World Conference on DRR; this Conference will be hosted by Mayor Okuyama in Sendai in March 2015. Roundtable Programme and details are at this link: <http://www.jwndrr.org/english/>

There has been some very interesting Policy Outcomes: At the UNISDR Asian Ministerial Conference, Domoto-sensei was invited to speak on several occasions, tabling the core insights of the Sendai Call to Action. Several key points were integrated into the Report that emerged from the Asian Ministerial Meeting and can be expected to enrich the final language of the Agreement.

JCIRN will be co-sponsoring next year's conference on 'Culture, Identity and Citizenship in Japan and Canada' along with JSAC. What do you hope the conference can achieve?

As one of perhaps a handful of political scientists working on both countries' approaches to diverse citizenship and how globalization affects the role of law/policy, I hope that each Association (JACS / JSAC) will seek to flesh out the synergies and lessons that come from comparing and contrasting Japan-Canada realities. As middle countries with core commitments to democracy, the rule of law, multilateral cooperation, and with differing experiences of diversity inherent in our national political histories, particularly in this era of globalization, I believe that both countries have much to learn from the other. JCIRN will be organizing a panel that continues the next phase of this research and policy exchange on diversity and contemporary citizenship.

Do you have a final comment to finish this interview?

I would encourage JSAC members with original research on these issues to feel free to contact me so we can consider future collaborations in Canada or Japan. My e-mail address is: steele@iss.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Welcome from the Japan Association of Canadian Studies (JACS)

It is our great honor to co-host the JSAC's Tokyo conference in May, 2015 on 'Culture, Identity and Citizenship'.

The Japanese Association for Canadian Studies (JACS) is the second biggest academic association of Canadianists in the world and it was established in 1977. Now, with more than 300 members including professors, graduate students and business persons, JACS is offering a hub function of Canadian studies for Canadianists in Japan and the world. JACS's key activities include:

- Our Annual Conference: held once a year in autumn
- Publications: "The Annual Review of Canadian Studies" and "JACS Newsletter"
- Research: Special academic units for multidisciplinary research
- Award: "The JACS Award for a Young Canadianist"
- International cooperation: Member of the International Council for Canadian Studies
- Four local chapters' daily activities: Workshops, symposiums, local chapters' newsletters and others.



(Please visit our website at www.jacs.jp for more details.)

For a long time, JACS and JSAC have been counterparts across the Pacific. Of course, each of us has different target – Japan for JSAC and Canada for JACS. However, in the era of globalization, all regions, countries or jurisdictions are mutually dependent. A comparative viewpoint in scholarship is very important and a cornerstone for understanding the any global region. Fortunately, we, members of JACS / JSAC, can learn alternative views of one another. How do Japanologists think about Japanese politics? Why are Canadianists in Japan studying Canadian law? These questions shall be an important part of "comparative regional studies" or "regional studies in comparison."

In 2015, we shall have a special and great opportunity for this academic purpose. I am looking forward to seeing you in Tokyo. MINASAMA O OMACHI SHITE ORI MASU!

Nobuyuki Sato, Ph.D. in Law, Vice President of JACS, Professor of Law, Chuo Law School

JSAC Executive 2014-2015

President (2013-2016):

Prof. David W. Edgington
Department of Geography
University of British Columbia
1984 West Mall,
Vancouver BC, Canada V6T1Z2
Tel: 1-604-822-5612
Fax: 1-604-822-6150
E-mail: david.edgington@ubc.ca

Secretary-Treasurer (2012-):

Prof. Norio Ota
Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics
York University
4700 Keele Street
Toronto, ON, Canada M3J 1P3
Phone: (416)736-2100 ext. 88750
Fax: (416)736-5483
E-mail: nota@yorku.ca

Regular Executive Members:

Prof. Fumiko Ikawa-Smith (2007-)
Department of Anthropology
McGill University
855 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2T7
E-mail: fumiko.ikawa-smith@mcgill.ca

Prof. Carin Holroyd (2013-)
Department of Political Studies
University of Saskatchewan
E-mail: carin.holroyd@usask.ca

Prof. Bill Sewell (2011-)
Department of History
Saint Mary's University
923 Robie Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3C3
Phone: (902) 420-5755
Fax: (902) 420-5141
E-mail: Bill.Sewell@smu.ca

Prof. Ken Coates (2013-)
Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy
University of Saskatchewan
E-mail: ken.coates@usask.ca