

# IUC Summer 2017 Newsletter

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## IUC Web Links

Stay in touch with your former classmates and keep up with the latest happenings at the Center. Connect with IUC on Facebook and add us to your profile on LinkedIn!

- IUC Website
- IUC on Facebook
- IUC on LinkedIn

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## Greetings from the Directors

### *From the Executive Director*

I write with exciting news for the IUC. In June, the IUC welcomed Dr. Kevin Singleton as Managing Director. This is a new, full-time position geared toward ensuring that the IUC reaches its goal of providing at least 50 students per year with the best possible training in advanced Japanese language, and that it becomes an ever more vibrant and active community for students, alumni, and stakeholders. Kevin received his B.A. in computer science from the University of Colorado, M.A. in regional studies from Harvard, and Ph.D. in Japanese literature from Stanford. With this rare combination of skills and a passion for serving the IUC, he will ensure that the Center stays at the cutting edge of immersive Japanese language training in the digital age. In addition to public outreach, student recruitment, and curricular innovation, Kevin will also actively support the alumni community to ensure that everyone feels connected to the Center. During a visit to the IUC last month, Kevin and I met with many alumni and supporters (see our Facebook feed for pictures), and he looks forward to meeting many more of you in the months to come. Keep an eye out for future e-mail from [ksinglet@stanford.edu](mailto:ksinglet@stanford.edu), and please join me in welcoming Kevin aboard!

With best summer wishes to all,  
Indra Levy

### *From the New Managing Director*

I am both thrilled and honored to join the IUC, especially as we prepare to welcome one of our largest incoming classes to date! The undiminished interest in advanced Japanese language training speaks to how the IUC's mission remains as vital today as it was over half a century ago, and I am humbled to help continue that work. Nowhere are the fruits of that mission and of the unparalleled education offered at the IUC more evident than in the incredible alumni community. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting with many of you in the months to come, whether at the Stanford Administrative Office, at the IUC in Yokohama, or elsewhere!



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Urbana-Champaign  
University of Michigan  
University of Southern  
California  
University of Washington  
Yale University

### **Associate Member**

Washington University in  
St. Louis

Best wishes,  
Kevin Singleton

*From the Resident Director*

I join Dr. Levy in welcoming Kevin Singleton to our staff at Stanford. Kevin comes on at a good time. We have just completed our Summer Course (June 22nd-August 9th), with 39 students, and our Summer Kanbun Course June 23rd-July 13th, with six. Preparations are well underway for the 2017-18 ten-month program, with more than sixty participants expected—a new record for the IUC. Kevin and the rest of us will be busy!



Summer 2017 Students

Next, as many of you may have noticed, the IUC is now putting more effort into outreach via social media (please see our Facebook and LinkedIn pages) and in the form of get-togethers and other events (e.g. the Happy Hours reported elsewhere in this newsletter). Please send us any news you want publicized, and come to see us whenever you are in the Tokyo/Yokohama area.

Speaking of visits, my predecessor Dr. James Baxter dropped by in May on his way to attend the 30th anniversary celebration of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) in Kyoto, where he worked for a number of years.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Batten



IUC Resident Director Dr. Bruce Batten with former Resident Director Dr. James Baxter

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### **Annual Year-End *Happyōkai***

The IUC's annual *happyōkai* presentations conference was held on June 6th and 7th at the Yokohama International Organizations Center. The forty-five graduating members of the class of 2016-17 gave presentations that showcased not only their outstanding Japanese language skills, but also the results of their original research on a wide variety of topics related to contemporary and pre-modern Japan. As usual, the *happyōkai* was well-attended by representatives of funding organizations, the City of Yokohama, and other friends of the IUC.



Ajjana Thairungroj, "Space and 'Otherness' in Tawada Yōko's 'The Bridegroom was a Dog'"



Xavier Sawada, "Early 'Radio Dramas' in Japan"



Xiaohan Du, "Is Calligraphy Art? A Case Study of Japanese Art History Discourse During the Meiji Formation of the Nation-State"



Thomas Gregg, "Global Students and the State of the Education System"

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## Thank You from a Recent Graduate

As someone who attended the IUC's summer program a few years ago, I had an idea coming into the ten-month program how excellent it would be. Nevertheless, it has exceeded my expectations. The *sensei* are everything I hoped for, explaining things clearly, pushing me where

necessary, and bringing to bear the depth of their teaching experience to the classroom. I notice my improvement every day and each time feel a renewed appreciation for those who have made the experience possible.



Over the past nine months, not only have I had the opportunity to fine-tune my speaking, but my reading and listening abilities have improved dramatically. Just the other day, while I was reading something aloud with one of my *sensei*, I was struck by how I was able to recognize a number of *kanji* that I did not understand when the program began. I still have much work to do, but the Center has provided me with a firm foundation and the confidence to build upon it. Furthermore, as someone who intends to research Edo period texts, the opportunity the Center has given me to learn how to read *kanbun* and *kuzushiji* has been invaluable.

I am very grateful to have received an IUC Alumni Tuition Scholarship, which has helped make my participation in the program possible. If I had the opportunity personally to thank each alumnus for her generosity, I would certainly do so. In lieu of that, please accept this little note as an expression of my gratitude. I myself intend to contribute whatever I can to help future students, so that I might pay your generosity forward.

Sincerely,  
Michael Levine (IUC '17)

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## IUC Lecture Series at the I-House of Japan

Two lectures by distinguished alumni and IUC affiliates are held each year at the International House (I-House) of Japan in Roppongi, Tokyo, as part of the Nippon Foundation Fellows Program at the IUC. The first lecture of 2016-17 featured **Dr. Timothy Vance** (IUC '77) of the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics. Dr. Vance spoke on *rendaku* or sequential voicing in Japanese, in which the first sound of the second part of a two-word compound becomes voiced, e.g., *kaiten* + *sushi* = *kaitenzushi* (with a "z," not an "s"). The second lecture was by Stanford psychologist **Dr. Stephen Murphy-Shigematsu** (IUC '88), who spoke on "mindfulness education." Participants learned about mindfulness as a way of bringing consciousness and attention to the present moment and suspending judgment.



Dr. Timothy Vance



Dr. Stephen Murphy-Shigematsu



IUC students in the audience at Dr. Vance's lecture

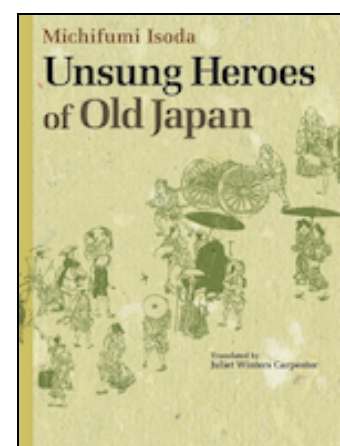
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## Alumni Publications

### Alumni Translations from Japan Library

We are excited to announce that translations by two alumni have been published by Japan Library, a project of the Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture. The aim of Japan Library is to introduce Japanese books to a wider global audience by providing translations of a diverse array of literature in paper and traditional formats.

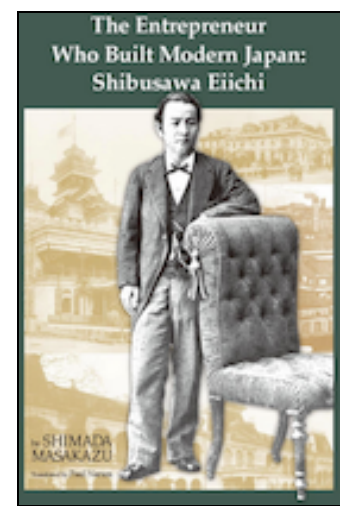
*Unsung Heroes of Old Japan* by Michifumi Isoda, translated by **Juliet Winters Carpenter** (IUC '70), features the true stories of three little-known figures who distinguished themselves through generosity and self-sacrifice.



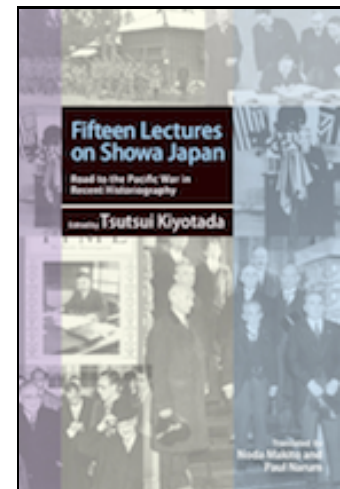
*The Entrepreneur Who Built Modern Japan: Shibusawa Eiichi* by Masakazu Shimada, translated by **Paul Narum** (IUC '81). A biography of one of Japan's foremost entrepreneurs, this book details Shibusawa Eiichi's early life during the late feudal period and follows him into adulthood, when he helped establish the foundation of modern



corporate Japan.

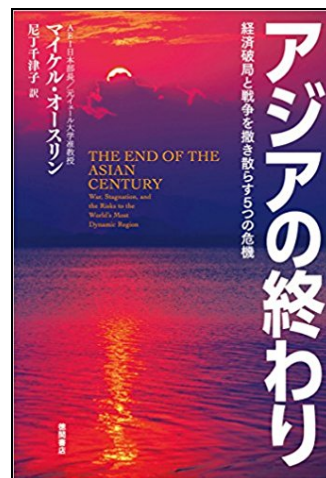


*Fifteen Lectures on Showa Japan: Road to the Pacific War in Recent Historiography* by Kiyotada Tsutsui, also translated by Paul Narum with Makito Noda. This collection of 15 essays by Japanese historians attempts to address such complicated questions as, "Why did Showa Japan rush to war?" and "Where did Japan fail in its war effort?" The fifteen chapters offer nuanced understanding of prewar Showa history that challenges stylized discourse about Showa Japan prevalent in recent historiography.



### Alumni-authored Books

Two books by alumni have also recently become available in Japanese.



Originally published in January of this year, **Michael Auslin's** (IUC '96) book *The End of the Asian Century: War, Stagnation, and the Risks to the World's Most Dynamic Region* has made its debut in Japanese as *Ajia no owari*. In this text, Auslin argues that far from being a cohesive powerhouse, Asia is a fractured region threatened by stagnation and instability, and provides a comprehensive account of the economic, military, political, and demographic risks present in the region.

Likewise, **Christine Yano's** (IUC '92) book *Pink Globalization: Hello Kitty's Trek Across the Pacific*, which was published in English in 2013, has been released in Japanese as *Naze sekaijū ga Harō Kitei o ai suru no ka?* Yano examines the worldwide appeal of the iconic Hello Kitty and argues that her international popularity is one aspect of what she calls pink globalization—the spread of goods and images labeled *kawaii* from Japan to other parts of the industrial world.



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## Other Alumni News

### Just Married

**Hannah Dodd and Robert Sears** (both IUC '15) celebrated their marriage on May 12th of 2017 in historic downtown St. Charles, Missouri, a suburb of Saint Louis. They would like to thank everyone from the class of '15 that wished them well. Congratulations to them both!



Hannah Dodd and Robert Sears, (IUC '15)

### IUC Social Media Management

We are also delighted to recognize **Karin Tompkins** (IUC '17) and **Praditya Hargianto** (IUC '17) as managers for our Facebook and

LinkedIn pages this past year, as well as compilers of this newsletter. They are part of a new initiative, spawned by the IUC Leadership Board, to keep our digital communications fresh and cool. Our heartfelt thanks to Karin, Praditya, and the IUC Leadership Board for your invaluable support!



Praditya Hargianto (left) and Karin Tompkins (right)

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## Alumni Happy Hour

This spring, **Richard Sleboda** (IUC '03) contacted the Center with the idea of beginning a tradition of Happy Hour gatherings in Tokyo. With Richard's help, we organized and put on two Happy Hour events, one in April and the other in June, during which current Center students, alumni, and faculty had the opportunity to chat and network. We plan to make Happy Hour events a regular occurrence, so keep your eye on your e-mail inboxes for invitations from the Center!



Richard Sleboda ('03), in the red shirt, with Happy Hour attendees



Attendees of the first Happy Hour event in April 2017

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## 2016-17 T-Shirt Design Contest

This year's Social Media Managers held a T-shirt design contest in March, giving students and teachers the option to submit their own

designs for a class T-shirt. **Tanya Kostochka's** (IUC '17) winning design features the IUC logo in red on the front. On the back, three iconic structures of Minato Mirai—the Landmark Tower, the Cosmo Clock ferris wheel, and the Pacifico Yokohama/Inter-Continental Hotel Tower—spell out the letters IUC. Those who look closely will see that the time on the Cosmo Clock is 20:17 in commemoration of this class's graduating year. Fantastic job, Tanya! We hope these T-shirts will remind students of their time at the Center for years to come.



Members of the Class of '17 wearing the winning design



Winning designer Tanya Kostochka (left) with this year's Social Media Managers, Praditya Hargianto (center) and Karin Tompkins (right)

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## From the IUC Leadership Board

Thanks to all for your continuing support of the IUC! The Leadership Board is committed to strengthening the network of IUC alumni and supporters. Please share your news for the next fall newsletter, or ideas for connecting IUC alums, with an e-mail to [alum@iucjapan.org](mailto:alum@iucjapan.org) or to [chubb@iucjapan.org](mailto:chubb@iucjapan.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

Andrew Hazelton (Chair, IUC '05)  
Hobart Birmingham (IUC '66)  
Oliver Chubb (IUC '89)  
Martha Debs (IUC '80)  
David A. Evans (IUC '79)  
Peter J. Stern (IUC '93)  
Glen S. Fukushima

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Taken from the top floor of Minato Mirai's Landmark Tower, this photo shows the night view of Pacifico Yokohama, the Cosmo Clock, and surrounding amusement park

Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies  
Stanford University

