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Newsletter No. 28, March 2014

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1. Regional Updates

1.1 Massey University

Dr. Penny Shino (Japanese) submitted a report on the establishment of JSANZ (Japanese Studies Aotearoa New Zealand). The association held its official launch at AUT, Auckland, on March 14. The address was given by Associate Professor Sharon Harvey, Head of the School of Language and Culture at AUT, who was closely involved in the Royal Society's 2013 paper 'Languages in Aotearoa New Zealand'. The JSANZ logo and website (to be active from around mid-April) were launched by Paul Knight, founder of New Zealand's first Japanese programme at Massey University, and the first New Zealander to teach Japanese in New Zealand.

JSANZ works to promote and advocate for Japanese and Japanese studies in New Zealand, especially in the tertiary sector. It comprises an executive committee representing all tertiary programmes in New Zealand teaching Japanese language and studies, as well as stakeholders from other sectors. Its wider membership comprises all those with a passion and a concern for Japanese studies in New Zealand. A commitment to the promotion of all languages in New Zealand also underwrites JSANZ's activities.

For further enquires please contact co-chairs Dallas Nesbitt (School of Language and Culture, AUT) dallas.nesbitt@aut.ac.nz or Penny Shino (School of Humanities, Massey University) p.a.shino@massey.ac.nz

Dr. Rosemary Haddon (Chinese) reported that during the first week of March she canvassed colleagues in the Chinese programmes throughout New Zealand's universities regarding a similar association for Chinese. The response was generally positive.

On 4 March Rosemary published a short piece on the Massey University website entitled A Plea for Mandarin in the Regional Schools. The article discussed the fact that Chinese language learning is not well established in the regional schools, despite the substantial increase in numbers of learners in the Auckland schools. The article was reprinted by the Xinhua News Agency and other news outlets. On 6 March Rosemary was interviewed by Radio New Zealand (Nine-To-Noon) about the issue. A filmed interview followed by TVNZ (Q+A).

Dr. Robyn Andrews (Social Anthropology) reported on the launch of her book *Christmas in Calcutta: Anglo-Indian Stories and Essays* (2014). The book was released in Kolkata on 6 December, 2013, at Oxford Bookstore. Professor Sekhar Bandyopadhyay, Victoria University of Wellington, was one of the book discussants. Robyn presented a paper at the AAA (American Anthropological Association) conference in Chicago (3 - 7 December 2013). She then attended a conference at the University of Hyderabad that followed immediately after. The joint NZIRI and University of Hyderabad conference was called "Society, Religion and Modernity in India." At the conference Robyn presented a paper on her collaborative research with Brent Howitt Otto, a Jesuit and historian from San Francisco. Robyn was in

India 6 January - 8 February conducting fieldwork on the NZIRI funded project entitled Ethnographic Profiling of Anglo-Indians in Small Towns of India - mainly in Goa and Cochin.

Rosemary Haddon

1.2 University of Auckland

Dr. Ellen Nakamura (Asian Studies) submitted the following report about the busy schedule of events at the University of Auckland.

Welcome to Dr Mi Yung Park

Asian Studies at Auckland are delighted to welcome Dr Mi Yung Park as a Post-doctoral Fellow in Korean. Dr Park received her PhD from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Hawaii in 2014 and has considerable teaching experience of all levels of Korean at the same institution. Her major research interests focus on sociolinguistics, narrative inquiry, heritage language education, and Korean language pedagogy, particularly dimensions of teacher talk and classroom interaction. She is currently working on a manuscript which addresses how Korean language teachers create solidarity with their students through the use of linguistic and non-linguistic resources during instruction.

Reorganisation of the Faculty of Arts

The Faculty of Arts at Auckland has been transformed from sixteen departments and schools into four Schools, including Humanities, Social Sciences, and Maori Studies and Pacific Studies. The School of Asian Studies has now become the Asian Studies disciplinary area within the new School of Cultures, Languages and Linguistics (CLL). This includes the disciplinary areas of European Languages and Literatures and of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics. CLL includes about 65 FTE permanent academic staff. Dr Robert Sanders serves as the Head of Disciplinary Area in Asian Studies, with Dr Wayne Lawrence as Co-Director Academic in CLL, Professor Paul Clark as Director Research, Prof Mark Mullins as International Liaison, and Dr Lawrence Marceau as Equity Liaison.

Welcome Increase in Student Numbers

In March Asian Studies welcomed another group of over 200 students into first-year beginners Chinese (an increase of over two per cent on the previous year). In addition, courses for heritage speakers in Chinese and Korean are being offered as usual and are well subscribed. A new Masters programme in teaching Chinese in schools is being developed with the Ministry of Education and the Confucius Institute in Auckland. The latter has seen the number of Kiwi students studying Chinese at primary, intermediate and secondary school in the Auckland region increase by several hundred percent in recent years.

News from the New Zealand Asia Institute, University of Auckland Visitors

The New Zealand Asia Institute is hosting Dr Jinhee Hong, Professor of Japanese at Kyonggi University, Republic of Korea as a Visiting Research Fellow for 2014. A specialist in contemporary Japanese literature, Professor Hong has published extensively on Nobel Literature Prize laureate Ōe Kenzaburō, among other prominent contemporary Japanese authors. She is currently working with Lawrence Marceau (Japanese Literature) preparing a workshop for late 2014 on the subject of historical and contemporary representations of disasters, both natural and human-caused, in Japanese literature and other media. Dr Hong joins post-doctoral fellow, Dr Emily Anderson, who is completing her monograph on *Christianity and Imperialism in Modern Japan: Empire for God*, and contributing to a joint project of the Japan Studies Centre/Korean Studies Centre that will address the issue of Nationalism in Korean and Japanese Religions in Colonial and Post-Colonial Contexts.

Korean Studies Seminars

Taking advantage of the five-year (2013-2017) funding provided to the University of Auckland by the Academy of Korean Studies and its Programme for Overseas Leading Universities in Korean Studies (OLUKS), the Korea Studies Centre of the New Zealand Asia Institute last year inaugurated a series of Korean Studies seminars given by international scholars of Korean Studies. In the first seminar for this year the Centre played host to Professor In-Jin Yoon of Korea University, who is a leading researcher on Korean diaspora and on multiculturalism issues in Korea. On 18 February Professor Yoon gave a seminar at the University on "Multiculturalism Discourse and Policy in South Korea", and in the evening spoke in Korean to the Korean Society on Auckland's North Shore, where he discovered several alumni of Korea University. In addition Professor Yoon was able to meet with University staff involved with Korean Studies and to discuss issues facing the development of Korean Studies. On 19 February, he travelled to NIDEA (National Institute of Demographic and Economic Research) at Waikato University and addressed them on "Brain Circulation of South Korean Students in Japan and China."

The Centre has already booked another seminar giver for 2014, Dr Ruth Barraclough of the ANU, who will be in Auckland on September 15 and 16.

Conference Announcement

Empire of Religions: Exploring Belief and Practice in Imperial Japan and Colonial Korea

Dates: July 26-27, 2014

An international conference co-organized and hosted by the Japan Studies Centre and Korean Studies Centre of the University of Auckland's New Zealand Asia Institute, Auckland

Summary

This two-day conference explores the significant place of "religion" in both Japan and Korea in the early twentieth century. Far from being a marginal aspect of life in the Japanese empire, the category of religion played a

central role in Japan's emergence as a modern empire and in its colonization of Korea. Religion represented a crucial site of negotiation between the state and its representatives on one hand and adherents of a diverse group of religions on the other. In both Japan and Korea religionists grappled with dramatic changes to their worlds, and actively and dynamically engaged with imperial rule, debating the religious implications of the broader political, social, and economic transformations they confronted, and casting alternative visions for themselves, their nations, and their place in the empire. Confirmed conference speakers who will present their work on the intersection between religion and imperialism in Korea and Japan include:

Emily Anderson, NZAI University of Auckland
Greg Evon, University of New South Wales
John Jorgensen, Australia National University
Kawase Takaya, Kyoto Prefectural University
Hwansoo Ilmee Kim, Duke University
Michael Kim, Yonsei University
Orion Klautau, University of Heidelberg
Motokazu Matsutani, Tohoku University
Trent Maxey, Amherst College
Mark Mullins, NZAI University of Auckland
Ken Wells, NZAI University of Auckland
Yamakura Akihiro, Tenri University
Carl Young, University of Western Ontario

For more information, please contact:
Emily Anderson at emily.anderson@auckland.ac.nz
Mark Mullins at m.mullins@auckland.ac.nz

Ellen Nakamura

1.3. University of Otago

Dr. Vanessa Ward (History and Art History) forwarded the CFP for Un-thinking Asian Migration - with revised deadline for submission

CALL FOR PAPERS

Un-thinking Asian Migrations: Spaces of flows and intersections

25-26 August 2014, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

The Asian Migrations Research Theme is a collective of scholars working in Asian Studies at the University of Otago. The Asian Migrations Research Theme focuses on movements of peoples and ideas--past and present--in East, South, and South-East Asia and into the Pacific (encompassing the Pacific Islands, Australia, and New Zealand). It engages with the fields of diaspora, intercultural, global, and transnational studies, which have grown

over the last twenty years to become key frameworks for understanding culture beyond the boundaries of one nation. We see significant shortcomings in the current theories and methodologies of Asian migration and diaspora and especially in their application to the Asia-Pacific region. Our focus on Asian migrations allows us to highlight and address these shortcomings and to develop new approaches. The goal of the Theme is to develop a theoretical and methodological framework for understanding the Asia-Pacific region as comprised by movements of peoples, ideas, and commodities.

This symposium sets out to question and challenge current Asian migration studies. It aims to build upon the interdisciplinary foundations inherent in the field and, as the area begins to reach maturity, suggests that there is now a need to broaden, re-think and more importantly, un-think how Asian migration studies are currently conceived. The conference proposes that a broadening of the concept of migration should encompass the movement of ideas, cultures, and objects (as well as people) to offer new, different and fruitful avenues of research that embrace the diversity of scholarship in this field.

We are delighted to welcome two keynote speakers, Associate Professor Eric C. Thompson (Chair of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore) and Professor D. Parthasarathy (Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay).

The Asian Migrations Research Theme at the University of Otago invites abstracts for individual papers and panels for this symposium. Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words; abstracts for panels should provide the title of the panel, detail the scope of the panel, and identify the convenor.

Abstracts should be submitted to asian.migrations@otago.ac.nz <<mailto:asian.migrations@otago.ac.nz>>, by 30 April 2014.

The early-bird registration rates (closes 13 June) is NZD \$120 (waged) and NZD\$50 (for postgraduate students). After 13 June the registration rates are NZD \$150 (waged) and NZD\$70 (for postgraduate students).

Details of payment methods will be announced in due course.

The symposium will be held on the University of Otago campus. There are many accommodation options in Dunedin close to the University. Please refer to the following website for details:
<http://www.otago.ac.nz/about/accommodation/otago000807.html>.

Vanessa Ward

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New Zealand Asian Studies Society (www.nzasia.org.nz)

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The views expressed in the Newsletter are those of the contributors and not the official position of NZASIA.