

REPORT TO THE ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL CENTERS FOR ASIAN STUDIES (ARCAS)

Fall 2014 through Summer 2015

Submitted October 10, 2015 by Fay Beauchamp, Director,
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Introduction: The last year was a tumultuous one.

- **South Asia:** In July Professors David Prejsnar, Religious Studies, and Lakshmi Gudipati, English Dept., past ASDP participants, secured an NEH Bridging Cultures two-year grant for Community College of Philadelphia. CCP was one of three recipients in the country. The grant focuses on how South Asia has confronted and negotiated cultural divides and diversity from ancient times to the partition of British India into Pakistan and India in 1947. Each year, eight faculty who teach world history, philosophy, architecture, English, and interdisciplinary courses will participate.
- **Cambodia:** The year also started with a report from students and two faculty leaders who had returned from a Student-Faculty International Fellowship Program that awarded significant travel support to six students. Counselor Daravann Yi organized a session that drew 200 students, faculty and administrators to the students' enthusiastic accounts of visits to orphanages, a brick factory, and Angkor Wat.
- **China:** In Fall 2014, we inaugurated our first "World Cultures and Languages Days", and worked with Xu Lan whom I first met in 2002 through an ASDP program that brought Chinese faculty to the East West Center. Xu Lan is completing her Ph.D. at Penn and is teaching Chinese At CCP. She and her students gave a presentation on using Hip Hop Rhythms to teach Chinese—a truly cross-cultural practice that is highly effective.
- **Japan:** On October 2014, the College had won a two-year U.S. Dept. of Education Title VI UISFL grant with a focus on Japan for year one, and on Tanzania for year two. Round-table Discussions led to a capstone study abroad that brought ten faculty and eight students to Hiroshima in the Summer of 2015. A summer seminar described below included modern Japan's fraught relationships with Taiwan, mainland China, and Korea.
- **East Africa - Middle East – South Asia Connections.** The Middle East and South Asia National Resource Centers of University of Pennsylvania are supporting an inter-regional approach that supports more faculty to take part in both the NEH and Title VI activities and funds speakers with a cross-regional approach across the Indian Ocean.

This report is also a time to commemorate my colleague Lynne Shivers, who died February 3, 2015. Lynne participated in an ASDP Infusing Seminar but she also had a life-time commitment to peace activism that had brought her to India, Iran, Northern Ireland and, primarily, Japan. Her work with Hiroshima and Nagasaki hibakusha was a life-long passion since the 1960s, and her introduction to the World Friendship Center in Hiroshima was of life-time significance to me. It led to a JSA Conference supported by ASDP and ARCAS in 2003, and a second JSA Conference in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 2015 – attended by quite a few ASDP members. Last July, along with colleagues, members of my family, and a representative of the World Friendship Center, I was able to return Lynne's garlands of cranes to the Sadako memorial.

Below I have described activities of the Title VI UISFL grant project Year One: Changing Environments in East Asia--Focus on Japan

Round-table Workshop Topic: “Intercultural Communication: How translation interprets ideas, values and history.” Dates: October 6, 2015; repeated October 9, 2015. By comparing multiple translations of a famous Japanese historical narrative, *The Tale of the Heike*, participants analyzed how translators interpret texts through word choice, rhythms and genre.

Workshop Topic: Examining how cultural values can shift from peace to war. Dates: October 20 and repeated October 21, 2014; Discussion analyzed how early chapters in *The Tale of the Heike* explained and justified the start of a devastating civil war in 1185.

Lecture and Performance: November 21, Linda Chance, Associate Professor, Japanese Literature, University of Pennsylvania, spoke on “Japan’s Storied Hero: From a Warrior Tale to a Kurosawa Film” and played the biwa in a tradition dating to the 13th Century. Using Many artistic representations, she traced evolving attitudes to Yoshitsune and Benkei.



Utagawa Yoshitaki (1841 - 1899) *Benkei and Yoshitsune at Gojo Bridge, 1867*. Chuban diptych. [toshidama-japanese...](http://toshidama-japanese.com)

Which one is the famous general and which one is the loyal fighting monk?

Lecture and Workshop: Topic: Religion and War: Buddhism in medieval Japan. Date: December 17, 2014. Dr. Hank Glassman, Professor, East Asian Studies, Haverford College, spoke on Buddhism in the *The Tale of Heike*. Dr. Glassman brought interdisciplinary perspectives to the world of medieval Japan. 20 faculty participated including ASDP Bridging Cultures Participant, Christopher Gennari, Camden County Community College.

Workshop Topic: “Japanese aesthetics, cultural identity, and nationalism.” Date: January 6, 2015 during Professional Development Week. Paula Behrens, Professor, Architecture, Construction and Design Dept., introduced Tanazaki’s iconic essay *In Praise of Shadows*. Fay Beauchamp presented how many of the traditions Tanazaki evokes date from the 15th Century Shogun’s Yoshimasa and have been considered “invented traditions.” 35 faculty attended.

Workshop Topic. “Remembering Hiroshima.” Date: January 15, 2015. After reading excerpts explaining Columbia University Carol Gluck’s concept of ‘Global Memory Culture’, CCP Prof. Carol Stein led a discussion of Ibuse’s novel *Black Rain*, and the group compared the Japanese novelist’s approach with that of journalist John Hersey’s 1946 *Hiroshima*.

Workshop Topic: Interdisciplinary teaching Japanese works of literature in English 108: Learning Across the Curriculum. Date: January 21, repeating January 22, 2015. The Japan Study Group discussed the value of using fiction about controversial issues by analyzing Ishigura’s short story “A Family Supper” and a selection from Murakami’s *Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*. Title VI group member Lauren Genovesi and Carol Stein led the session.

Lecture: January 29, 2015. Remembering and Forgetting World War II in Japan and Asia Dr. Carol Gluck, Professor of History and East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University, gave a public lecture in the morning and in the afternoon led informal discussion on interdisciplinary approaches to history, literature, film and internet resources.. Her talk connected current concerns, for example about tensions among China, Japan, and the Koreans, 150 attended.

Workshop Topic: War Trauma, Guilt and Reconciliation in Early Japan. Date: Feb. 4, 2015; continued Feb. 12. The group discussed student learning goals for global diversity courses, such as that cultures are complex with contradictory values and change over time. Prof. Mary Griffin provided teaching material on the *Heike* historical individuals of the Atsumori incident and on the Noh play *Atsumori* written a few hundred years later.



Topic: Women’s perspectives in religion, history and literature. March 13, 2015. The group ended its discussions on *The Tale of the Heike* by examining of the famous last chapter retelling the story from a woman’s (the historical Kenreimon) point of view. David Prejsnar, Religious Studies, provided materials on the Lotus Sutra’s influence on Heian Japan’s positive attitudes toward women during Heian Japan when writers such as Murasaki Shikibu flourished.

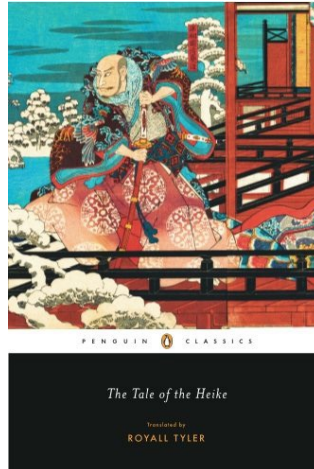
Visit to the exhibit “Ink and Gold: 400 Years of the Kano at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Multiple Dates : Small groups of the 12 Japan Study Group faculty visited the exhibit in March and April. Since the museum is in walking distance of the College campus and free to CCP students, faculty plan to incorporate future trips to the museum into the curriculum.

Workshop Topic: Japanese and Chinese Gardens as Cultural Bridges. Date: March 13, 2015. Michael Stern, Assistant Professor, Architecture, Construction and Design Dept., shared the results of an ongoing research and creative project funded by a NEH Bridging Cultures project that was administered by the Asian Studies Development Program of the East-West Center in Hawaii. He has traveled frequently to Japan’s gardens associated with Buddhist temples, and has also visited comparable gardens in China, India, Italy, and England. His photographs were on display at the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL). He supplemented these photographs with a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the interactions among garden design among sites in South Asia, East Asia and Europe.

Workshop Topic: “Teaching, Creating, Valuing Haiku.” Date: March 16, 2015. Prof. Barry George, Assistant Professor, English Dept., has published his own haiku in more than fifty journals. This workshop provided an overview of traditional Japanese haiku as well as an approach to teaching students how to write haiku in English and Creative Writing classes. Prof. George shared handouts of carefully designed and printed teaching materials that inspire and engage students. 16 participants.

International Festival *Professor Royall Tyler* Royall Tyler is Professor Emeritus, Australia National University. Dr. Tyler is an esteemed translator of Japanese literature and acclaimed for his translations of Noh plays, *The Tale of Genji*, and *The Tale of the Heike*. He is currently a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University.

“RELIGION IN THE WORLD OF *THE TALE OF THE HEIKE*”



Thursday, April 2, 2015 11:20 a.m.-12:50 p.m.

Lecture: April 8, 2015 Title: The Hiroshima and Nagasaki Bombings 1945-2015 / Survivors and Scientists: Hiroshima and Fukushima

Dr. Susan Lindee, Janice and Julian Bers Professor of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, discussed first the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Bombings as they occurred in Japan of August 1945. The second part of her talk focused on the Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) which has supported Japanese and American scientist in a facility outside Hiroshima since the 1940s. Total Audience 70.

Title VI Summer Seminar

Title VI UISFL Japan Study Group and Early-Registered Additional Faculty

Title VI UISFL Project Director – Fay Beauchamp, Professor of English, and Director, Center for International Understanding.

Faculty Leaders to the 2015 Study Abroad Program to Hiroshima, Kyoto and Mt. Koya—

- David Prejsnar, Assistant Professor in Religious Studies, also teaches Humanities 101, Humanities 102, and a Humanities course on Japan.
- Akiko Mori, Adjunct Instructor in Japanese Language, also teaches Japanese film and culture are other area colleges.

Summer Seminar Participants

- Benjamin Banks, Adjunct Professor, English, and Humanities courses
- Paula Behrens, Professor, Architecture, Construction and Design
- Nancy Carr, Professor, Marketing and Management
- Elizabeth Catanese, Assistant Professor, Inter-Cultural Communications and Creative Writing courses
- Lauren Genovesi, Assistant Professor, English, Variety of Writing and Reading courses
- Barry George, Assistant Professor, English, Writing and Reading courses

- Cynthia Giddle, Associate Professor, English and Humanities
- Mary Griffin, Assistant Professor, English, Humanities 101
- Carol Stein, Assistant Professor, English,
- Michael Stern, Assistant Professor, Architecture, Construction and Design

And with deep appreciation for the support of

- Sharon Thompson, Dean of Liberal Studies and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community College of Philadelphia
- Judith Gay, Academic Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Frank Chance, Associate Director, University of Pennsylvania East Asian National Resource Center

Summer Seminar Day 1, May 18, Topic: OVERVIEW: “The Rise and Fall of the Japanese Empire: 1895-1955. The Summer Seminar included two perspectives: The first part presented Japanese expansion in East Asia including colonial rule and the move to more aggressive war after 1931. The second part focused on American fire bombings of Japan, Japanese war crime trials, and the atomic bombing of Nagasaki. The workshop as a whole prepared 10 of the Japan Study Group to develop teaching materials and to take part in a Japan Studies Association conference in Hiroshima June 28-July 1, 2015. During the Seminar participants varied from the 12 designated Title VI participants to 25 including auditors.

Summer Seminar Day 2, May 19. Topic: “Early Japanese Empire-Building in the Context of the Age of Empires.” Speaker and discussion leader Frederick Dickinson, Professor of Japanese History, University of Pennsylvania. The morning session focused on the establishment of formal control in Japanese imperial territories in the early twentieth century, covering Korea, Taiwan, and S. Manchuria. Readings included Peter Duus on Japanese in Korea 1895-1910; Robert Eskildsen on Japanese imperialism and Taiwan; Brett Walker on Japanese in Hokaido. Readings included Mark Peattie’s *Japanese Colonial Empire, 1895-1945*.

Summer Seminar Day 3, May 20, Speaker Frederick Dickinson. Topic: The Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.” This session focused on Japanese empire-building AFTER the important benchmark of the First World War, discussing both the lead-up to the Manchurian Incident (1931) and the evolution of Japanese imperial aims to 1945. The afternoon lecture, “Atrocities in Asia in the Context of Total War,” addressed the establishment of formal control in Japanese imperial territories over Korea, Taiwan, and South Manchuria.

Summer Seminar Day 4, May 26. Topic: Issues in the War-Crime Trials held in Japan during the American Occupation. The group first discussed the American Fire-bombings; anime “Grave of the Fireflies”; John Dower’s concept of “Victor’s Justice” in *Embracing Defeat*; and *One Man’s Justice* a novel about a war crimes trial by Akira Yoshimura. In the

afternoon, with John Dower's aid, we secured the journalist and educator **Jay Featherstone**, who described his experience during the American Occupation as the son of an American lawyer hired by the Occupation (SCAP) to defend a Japanese war crimes defendant.

Summer Seminar Day 5, May 27, 2015. Topic: A Case Study of a War Crimes Trial held during the American Occupation. In the morning session Jay Featherstone gave a formal lecture on "In Search of General Okada: Reflections on one War Crimes Trial and Its Aftermath." This public lecture grew out of research Jay Featherstone had collected about his father's defense of General Okada based on an argument that the American fire-bombings of cities were themselves war crimes. General Okada was convicted, however, and executed. The audience was 30 during the day.

Summer Seminar Day 6, May 28, 2015. Topic: Nagasaki's history as gateway to the world and the atomic bombing. Sessions featured Chad Diehl, Assistant Professor in History, Loyola University Maryland. His first topic was "Envisioning Nagasaki: from 'atomic wasteland' to 'international cultural city', 1945-1950." Faculty read Dr. Nagai's *Bells of Nagasaki* in advance. The afternoon session focused on the experiences of Tsutomu Yamaguchi, a survivor of both the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs. Professor Diehl had translated the book, "*And the River Flowed as a Raft of Corpses*"

May 28: Excursion to the Shofuso House in Fairmont Park:

Dr. Frank Chance, a former Director of the Shofuso House has agreed to be our guide of the House itself, and THIRTY faculty and students can be accommodated.



Summer Seminar Day 8, June 2, 2015. The last day of the Title VI Summer Seminar brought back Professor Frederick Dickinson, historian from the University of Pennsylvania.

His topic was “Japan's current place in the world and of American visions of Japan and Japanese history in the context of Cold War exigencies and a new post-Cold War world.” The group discussed recent issues of conflict between China and Japan, Prime Minister Abe, and controversy with large demonstrations in Japan in 2015 over Article IX of the Japanese Constitution which allows only “self-defense” Japanese military forces. 27 participants including 7 students.

Community College of Philadelphia faculty and students with the
“Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome” in the background, June 2015.



Japan Studies Association Conference in Hiroshima, Japan, June 29, 2015. 9 CCP Japan Study Group faculty and 8 CCP students supported by Title VI attended two conference days. This conference was primarily organized by Fay Beauchamp, in her role as Vice President for Special Projects, Japan Studies Association in collaboration with five other JSA Board members. The conference included 30 other college faculty from 14 different states, and was also supported by the Japan Foundation’s Center for Global Partnership, the University of Hawaii and the University of Kansas National Resource Centers, and JSA itself. Speakers on June 29 included the Chairman of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, the Director of the Hiroshima Peace Museum, and an organizer of women Hiroshima survivors (hibakusha). In the afternoon volunteers who were Hibakusha led small groups, including CCP faculty and students, to understand the various memorials in the Peace Park. Tours of the Peace Museum followed.



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Conference in Hiroshima, Japan. June 30, 2015. Seventeen Title VI faculty and students also attended the second day of the Hiroshima Conference which featured three speakers from the Hiroshima Peace Institute / Hiroshima City University. Prof. Gen Kikkawa, President of the Hiroshima Peace Institute, gave the Plenary Lecture: "The Security Environment of East Asia today and the Way to Building East Asian Security Community"; Prof. Kazumi Mizumoto, Vice President of the Peace Institute, lectured on "Hiroshima and Peace: The experience of atomic bombing and the danger of nuclear weapons" and Prof. Robert Jacobs, Research Associate Professor, lectured on "Radiation, Families and Communities; Fukushima and Recovery from the March 2011 Disasters."



Spring 2015 Film Series organized by David Prejsnar (Religious Studies) and Akiko Mori (Foreign Languages Dept.)

Date: February 27, 2015 Title: Kurosawa's film *Dreams* (1990).

**Date: March 12, 2015 Title: Film: Kurosawa's *The Men Who Tread on the Tiger's Tail*
Total Audience: 60. This was the film Linda Chance discussed showing Yoshitsune and Benkei as they were depicted in 1945 showing a delicate Yoshitsune, a clever and daring leader of the Minamoto Clan in the medieval *Tale of the Heike* text.**

**Date: March 30, 2015 Part of International Festival
Film and Discussion of the anime *Grave of the Fireflies*. Total Audience: 55 The film was introduced by CCP Professor Akiko Mori**

Date: April 13, 2015 Title: The 1989 Film "Black Rain" : Relations among history, fiction and film. Total Audience: 45

**Date: April 15, 2015 Title: *Letters from Iwo Jima* (Clint Eastwood, Director)
Total Audience: 40**

Study Abroad

Six Community College of Philadelphia faculty members and eight students traveled to Japan between June 26 and July 8, 2015. The itinerary included Hiroshima, Kyoto, Nara, and Mt. Koya. Two faculty leaders and four faculty were part of the College's year-long Japan Study Group funded by Title VI UISFL. During round-table discussions lectures by outside speakers, and a summer seminar, the thematic focus was on issues related to transitions between peace and war. The eight students also attended some of the related outreach lectures and the summer seminar held at the College pre-departure. The itinerary in Japan started with the CCP group participating in a conference in Hiroshima organized by the CCP Project Director Fay Beauchamp through the auspices of the Japan Studies Association. The second part of the study-tour was designed to introduce both faculty and students to earlier periods of Japanese history; this part emphasized Japanese religions and the arts of Kyoto, Nara and a Buddhist mountain temple site.

All participants in the program took a three-credit course, Humanities 130, which introduced both faculty and students them to Japanese culture, history and language preparing the group for specific sites in the second part of the program.

Three Community College of Philadelphia faculty, Fay, Mary Griffin, and Michael Stern continued to Nagasaki with the JSA group that included ASDP regulars Dawn Gale, Joseph Overton, Pamela Stover, Albert Wong, and newcomer Jennifer Welsh.