Greetings from the Executive Director

The year 2013 has brought the IUC many causes for celebration. Above all, the golden anniversary has drawn members of our unique and diverse community together in new and exciting ways.

On September 7, the IUC 50th Anniversary Symposium at Stanford University engaged alumni experts and supporters in dialogue on a wide range of Japan-centered issues, reunited old friends, and sparked new connections. The second installment of our series will be held in Yokohama on Saturday, December 7, and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thanks to support from the Freeman Spogli Institute of International Studies at Stanford University, complimentary copies of IUC Gold: Celebrating Fifty Years of Excellence, 1963-2013 are now available to all alumni and supporters. To receive your copy, send an email with your preferred mailing address to timyoung@stanford.edu.

With support from the Japan Foundation of Los Angeles we also completely redesigned our website, and hope you enjoy our new look and enhanced features.

Anniversaries are occasions for renewal: we reflect on an illustrious past in order to pave the way for a bright future. Thank you for joining us in this important effort, and for your continuing support!

Indra Levy
Executive Director (IUC Stanford)
IUC 50th Anniversary Symposium & Reception in Yokohama

“Erabareru Nihongo: ‘Gaikokujin purofesshonaru’ no manazashi”
《選ばれる日本語——「外国人プロフェッショナル」のまなざし》

Date: Saturday, December 7  
Time: 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Venue: Yokohama Port Opening Memorial Hall

Please join us for an illuminating discussion, entirely in Japanese, on how fluency in this extremely challenging language has contributed to the career paths and achievements of IUC alumni working in a wide range of professional endeavors, from diplomacy to business and academia. Featured alumni speakers are Kurt Tong, Robert Campbell, Peter Jaeger, Jennifer Martens, and Michael Foster. Eminent economist Inoki Takenori will offer the keynote speech. See our flyer for complete details. The symposium is free and open to the public.

A private reception for Center alumni, supporters, students, and faculty will follow, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Bay Bridge Cafeteria, on the sixth floor of the Pacifico Yokohama Conference Center. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to iuc@iucjapan.org as soon as possible. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Recap: IUC 50th Anniversary Symposium & Reception at Stanford

On September 7, 2013 more than 200 people gathered for a wide-ranging discussion of Japan led by expert IUC alumni and supporters. The symposium featured five panels about alumni and Center responses to the disasters of March 11, 2011; Japanese culture in a global world; technological innovation; U.S.-Japan commerce; and the political and economic future of Japan. (See the symposium program for speaker profiles.) The high level of the discussions throughout the day produced numerous encomiums from alumni, supporters, and local community members who were new to the IUC.

John Roos, U.S. Ambassador to Japan from 2009-13, capped the symposium with a wonderful statement of support for the IUC. Alumnus Norman Tolman graced the gathering with a special benefit exhibition of lithographs and paintings by the internationally-renowned artist Toko Shinoda, and offered a guided tour of the show. Nobuhiro Watanabe, Acting Consul General of Japan in San Francisco, offered golden anniversary congratulations.
Executive Director Indra Levy presented three Center alumni with the “Above and Beyond Award” for their outstanding contributions to the IUC: Gerald L. Curtis (IUC ‘65) was recognized for his tireless advocacy efforts, which have brought many new corporate supporters to the IUC; Fred Notehelfer (IUC ’65) was honored for the generous scholarship support he and his wife Ann have provided IUC students; and Joan Drucker Weinstein (IUC ’72) was recognized for her leadership role in forging powerful bonds among the IUC alumni community.

See more photos of this wonderful day on our Facebook page!

New! IUC Professional Tutorials

The IUC is pleased to announce a new program of custom-designed tutorials in advanced Japanese for scholars and professionals.

The purpose of this program is to support scholars who seek advanced language training (for specific research purposes or otherwise), and professionals who seek the highest level of Japanese fluency in support of their career goals.

Learn more here!

IUC Alumni Blogs on Japan

Do you write one? Please let us know! We already know of two:

“What Can I Do with a BA in Japanese?” by Paula Curtis (IUC ‘10, who already has over 1,000 followers) and “A Man With Tea” by Travis Seifman (IUC ‘08).

I’ll compile a list of Japan-centric blogs for the next IUC newsletter. You’ll increase your number of followers -- and our alumni will benefit too! Just email me at jwinstein@yahoo.com.

Joan Drucker Weinstein (’72)
In September 2013 the IUC was delighted to welcome 38 new students with a diverse array of academic and professional interests spanning communications, finance, history, international relations, law, library science, linguistics, literature, political economy, religious studies, sociology, theater history, and translation/interpretation. Included in the group are a cohort of ten Nippon Foundation Fellows, who are pursuing doctoral degrees in various Japan-focused disciplines. The colleges and universities represented this year are: Bard, Barnard, British Columbia, Cambridge, Carleton, Chicago, Colorado (Boulder), Columbia, Cornell, DePaul, Duke, Georgetown, Hawai’i, McGill, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Pennsylvania, San Francisco, Southern California, Stanford, Toronto, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, Washington, Wellesley, Yale, and York.

Thanks to all who are supporting the class of 2013-14 with much-needed scholarship funding!

Help the IUC Stay in Touch

The IUC is now in touch with almost 95% of all living alumni, and we want to keep it up. If your contact information changes, kindly send a note to iuc@iucjapan.org. Also, if you can help us to get in touch with any of our missing alums, please send a note to jwinstein@yahoo.com. Thanks!
Greetings from the IUC Alumni Association Executive Board

Alumni were very well represented at the 50th Anniversary Symposium at Stanford this past September 7. Nearly 100 alumni from classes spanning almost all of IUC’s 50 years attended! It was a privilege - and frankly also a lot of fun - to meet so many sempai and kohai during the day.

IUC is the ONLY intensive Japanese school that focuses exclusively on advanced proficiency, and our alumni have contributed significantly to global understanding, stability and prosperity. It was inspiring and moving to witness how IUC has enriched the world.

It was even more heart-warming to hear Advisory Board Chair Professor Jim Ketelaar remark on IUC’s financial health: after all, the impetus for forming an Alumni Association in the first place was to help relieve the financial pressures IUC faced in the past.

So, thanks to the hard work -- and the monetary donations -- of many alumni, IUC has a brighter future than it has had in years.

Obviously, we want to continue this situation, so please consider the role IUC has played in your life and career -- and sustain its future through a financial contribution this year (see here for the IUC Honor Roll).

I encourage our alumni in Japan to attend the 50th anniversary symposium in Yokohama on Dec. 7. I think it will provide attendees with fresh insights and knowledge; a greater appreciation for some new aspects of Japan; new contacts with alumni, IUC friends, and faculty; and a most entertaining day!

Joan Drucker Winstein (‘72)
IUC Alumni Association

Call for Volunteers for the IUC Alumni Bibliography

IUC has compiled a list of books by Center graduates covering a vast array of topics relevant to Japan. This is extremely helpful information as IUC applies for grants and funding.

The compilation is included in IUC Gold, and also available in pdf form here.

However, the list is not complete. Joan Weinstein (IUC ‘72) and Jim Wagner (IUC ‘71) are willing to work towards compiling a more complete list of our alumni publications. But we need some help -- so, if you would like to work on this project also, please email Joan at jwinstein@yahoo.com. We really need a few volunteers so we can do a good job on this!

Finally, if you have published a relevant book or translation that is missing from the current bibliography, let Joan know so she can have it added.