

IUC Winter 2014 Newsletter

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Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2014 has been a banner year for the IUC! I could not be more thrilled to say that the Center's widely hailed legacy of excellence – freshly marked by our 50th anniversary last year – has spawned a bumper crop of IUC students, supporters, and alumni whose contributions are sure to make an indelible impact on the future.

I write with a report on the most exciting recent developments at the IUC. (And by the way, we regularly post news items on our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) sites, which I heartily encourage you to follow!)

With best wishes and heartfelt thanks for your continued support of the IUC mission,

Indra Levy

Executive Director, IUC (Stanford)



Historically High Student Demand

In September, we welcomed a highly energized and talented class of 56 students, a 47% increase over the previous year.



Enhanced Support

In October, we announced a major expansion of **The Nippon Foundation Fellows Program** at the IUC, which from 2015-16 will provide support to 20 graduate students pursuing Japan-focused careers in academia, business, diplomacy/government policy, journalism, and law.

We are honored to receive **Mitsui & Company** as the latest corporate donor to the IUC 50th Anniversary Campaign, renewal of scholarship support from **SMBC Global Foundation**, and continued support from the **Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission**.

As always, we are also delighted to acknowledge support from all of our longstanding foundation, corporate, and individual donors.

Alumni Distinctions

IUC alumni continued to make headlines in 2014. We are especially proud to note that **Kent Calder** ('75) and **Andrew Gordon** ('74) were awarded the **Order of the Rising Sun** by the Japanese government. The IUC has produced an astonishing **ten** recipients of this prestigious award, more than any other U.S. educational institution! This distinction speaks volumes about the impact of the IUC education, which inculcates a deep understanding of Japan that can only be achieved through an advanced mastery of the Japanese language.



Kent Calder



Andrew Gordon

Transitions and Continuity

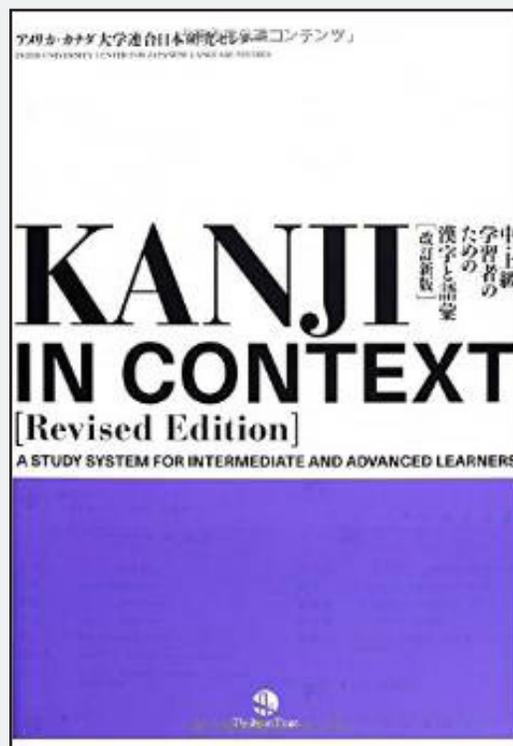
Over the summer, we bid a fond farewell to **Kurt Tong** ('85) as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. Just as we were lamenting the departure from Japan of a leading diplomatic who embodies the value of the IUC education, we were delighted to learn that his successor would be **Jason Hyland** ('79). DCM Hyland honored the Center with a visit in October, and captivated students with an inspiring talk about the personal and professional experiences that grew from his study of Japanese.

Faculty Contributions

As always, IUC faculty have been working tirelessly to meet the ever-changing needs of our students. This year, their work resulted in two major landmarks in Japanese language education:

1. a revised edition of the highly-acclaimed [Kanji in Context](#); and
2. the **digital publication** of new language-teaching materials themed around the Japanese response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of March 11, 2011.

The latter publication – developed with a major grant from the **United States-Japan Foundation** and supplemental support from Stanford University – is available for **free download to all**.



Alumni Community Building

Thanks to a top-flight cadre of alumni volunteers, we now have active alumni groups in Chicago, Hawaii, New York, Northern California, and Southern California. If you would like to coordinate an alumni email list in your neck of the woods, by all means let us know!