

IUC Autumn 2015 Newsletter

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Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As the deepening colors of autumn invite us to reflect, I want to extend a special thanks to all of you who cherish the aspirations of our students. With your support, we welcomed a new class of 55 to the IUC this fall. What a privilege to serve a community that treasures these students and their devoted teachers!

Read on for exciting news about the **IUC Leadership Board**, the **special reception hosted by Deputy Chief of Mission Jason Hyland**, **The Nippon Foundation Fellows Program at the IUC**, and more.

Wishing you all health and happiness for Thanksgiving and beyond,

Indra Levy

Executive Director, IUC (Stanford)



Class of 2015-2016

Greetings from the Leadership Board Chair

The IUC has more than 2000 vibrant, accomplished alumni and a roster of committed supporters who all understand the importance of its core mission. To build even stronger relations with us, in the past year Executive Director Indra Levy formed a Leadership Board for which I am honored to serve as chair.

The Leadership Board grew out of the remarkable response to the IUC 50th Anniversary. The celebration of this milestone was a very bright moment that followed on the heels of some sobering lessons. The Lehman Shock in the fall of 2008, the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami on March 11, 2011, and the historic appreciation of the Japanese yen throughout this period combined to create a perfect storm. Although the Center has produced countless scholars of Japan, the last two Deputy Chiefs of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Japan, and ten Order of the Rising Sun recipients, it almost closed its doors in the face of these challenges.

What we learned is that the IUC needs to be stronger, and that its unique community of alumni and supporters constitute its greatest source of strength and resilience. The Leadership Board is committed to working with all of you to protect the Center for the next fifty years.

Deepening ties among alumni and supporters is a central part of our mission. Over the past year the Leadership Board has sponsored a tour of the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco and a sake-tasting party in Menlo Park, and supported get-togethers coordinated by and for alumni in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and Tokyo.

I hope you will contact me with your ideas and suggestions for future IUC gatherings. On behalf of the Leadership Board, I also invite you to join us in making a year-end donation to the IUC before December 31.

Andrew Hazelton (IUC '05)
Chair, IUC Leadership Board

IUC Leadership Board Members:

Andy Hazelton '05, Chair
Hobart Birmingham '66
Oliver Chubb '89
Martha Debs '80
David Evans '79
Glen S. Fukushima
Peter Stern '93



*Leadership Board Chair Andrew Hazelton and
Executive Director Indra Levy*

Thanks to Deputy Chief of Mission Jason Hyland (IUC '79)

Did you know that Jason Hyland is the second consecutive IUC alumnus to serve as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo? His eloquent Japanese is a point of pride for us all. How wonderful, then, to know that DCM Hyland is equally proud of the time he spent at the Center. On October 20, he hosted a special reception to honor the IUC at his residence in Tokyo. It was a thrill to hear DCM Hyland tell a room full of supporters and alumni about how the IUC education impacted him personally and professionally - all in heartfelt, flawless Japanese. Thank you, DCM Hyland, for honoring the IUC in so many ways!



DCM Hyland addressing distinguished guests

New! Introducing Saori Yuki-sensei

IUC faculty were excited when enrollment jumped by an astonishing 50% last year, but they were also under-staffed. We were thus delighted to welcome Dr. Saori Yuki to the full teaching faculty in April 2015. Having taught part-time at the IUC since September 2011, and for five years in China before that, Yuki-sensei brings a wealth of experience to her classes. She received her Ph.D. in Humanities from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and her M.A. and B.A. in Japanese Language from Daito Bunka University. She is also a licensed instructor of tea ceremony in the Urasenke tradition. We are very lucky to have her!



Yuki-sensei

Expanded! The Nippon Foundation Fellows Program at the IUC

We are delighted to announce that The Nippon Foundation Fellows Program at the IUC expanded this year to support 20 graduate students in Japanese studies and the professions who seek IUC training. In this unique program, fellows not only benefit from regular IUC coursework, but also convene monthly study groups, participate in annual symposia, and invite IUC alumni to give semi-annual lectures at International House in Tokyo. **The application deadline for 2016-17 is approaching quickly - December 11.** If you know good candidates, by all means please let them know.



The Nippon Foundation Fellows conferment ceremony at foundation headquarters in Tokyo



The Nippon Foundation Chairman Sasagawa Yohei addressing this year's fellows