

# IUC Winter 2017 Newsletter

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## IUC Web Links

Stay in touch with your former classmates and keep up with the latest happenings at the Center. Connect with IUC on Facebook and add us to your profile on LinkedIn!

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## Greetings from the Directors

### From the Interim Executive Director

As Indra Levy makes the most of her well-deserved sabbatical leave, I would like to take this opportunity to look back at some of the important developments of the past year. Of course, first and foremost is the generous gift made by Toshizo “Tom” Watanabe. His contribution will play a key role in sustaining the vitality of IUC in the years to come. I would also like to welcome Kevin Singleton, who has taken the new position of Managing Director, and Alice Kada, who will join IUC as the new Program Manager. And last but not least, I would like to thank Program Director Stacey Campbell, who is retiring in January. Over the past twenty-four years, Stacey has been essential to the smooth operation of the program.

Best wishes to all for a healthy and happy 2018.

Sincerely,  
James Reichert

### From the Managing Director

One etymology of *shiwasu*, the traditional Japanese name for the twelfth month, suggests that the word refers to the time when priests (*shi*, 師), bombarded with requests to give readings of sutras, must run about (*hasu*, 馳す) from place to place. The end-of-year bustle in Edo during the rule of the Tokugawa was more mercantile in character, as vendors hurried to settle accounts with their customers. Whether the winter finds you striving for spiritual or commercial success, we hope you also find quiet moments to reflect on the year that has passed. Mr. Watanabe’s amazing generosity marks the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the IUC, and gives us much to look forward to in the years to come!

With best wishes,  
Kevin Singleton

### From the Resident Director

Hello, IUC alumni and other friends of the Center! As you can see from the rest of this newsletter, a lot is going on at the IUC. Here on the ground in Yokohama, perhaps the biggest news concerns our new class of tenth-month students. There are sixty-four of them, the biggest class ever. We had to convert part of the computer room to a

Friendship Commission  
Ito Foundation, USA  
Fred and Ann Notehelfer  
The Sato Foundation  
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University of Illinois at  
Urbana-Champaign  
Washington University in  
St. Louis

new classroom in order to accommodate the larger student body.

The traditional start-of-year group photo (below) was taken at a new location this time; those of you familiar with our facilities will recognize Pukari Sanbashi Pier on the bay behind the Center. If anyone is not familiar with the facilities, please stop by during your next visit; I'd love to show you around.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Batten



IUC Class of 2017-18



This year's Nippon Foundation Fellows, standing outside the Foundation's headquarters just before their conferment ceremony on October 6. The Foundation generously supports twenty IUC students each year.

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## **The Toshizo Watanabe Foundation Endows a**

## New Fellowship Program at the IUC!

For all of us who have worked hard to support IUC and its students this is a memorable time! IUC has just been given a \$10 million gift by The Toshizo Watanabe Foundation to establish a program of “Toshizo Watanabe Fellows.” This is the largest gift IUC has received in its history and will greatly benefit future students at the Center in Yokohama. Toshizo Watanabe has been a strong supporter of the IUC program and has previously given the Center fellowship support. He is a firm believer in the importance of language as a vehicle in international relations. As a young man Toshizo, or “Tom,” studied as an international student at Brandeis. Later he went on to become the CEO of Nikken and pioneered its marketing of products and technology in North America. A few years ago he gave the U.S. Japan Council a similar gift to support Japanese students studying in the US. It is our belief that with time, the Watanabe Endowment will help to annually support a significant number of Toshizo Watanabe Fellows at the Center. Student funding is crucial for the life of the Center, so this is wonderful news for all of us!



Mr. Toshizo “Tom” Watanabe

On my behalf I would like to thank many of you who made this gift possible. Of course my greatest thanks go to Tom Watanabe for his generosity. Then there are so many of you who got involved in the process, including Isao Tsujimoto, formerly of the Japan Foundation and Haruo Shirane, of Columbia. Still none of this would have come about without the stewardship and hard work of Indra Levy who has been the linchpin undergirding the Center’s survival through difficult times. To her I offer a special word of thanks.

To those of you who hold the Center dear, I add a final note. This is a start; not the end! We all need to join in to support the Center. Tom Watanabe has shown us the way. He has restored confidence in our future. Now it is our responsibility to continue the good work by making our own contributions. I know I will!

Sincerely,  
Fred Notehelfer (IUC '65)

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## IUC Lecture Series at the I-House of Japan

Two “IUC Lectures” by distinguished alumni or IUC affiliates are held

each year at the International House of Japan in Roppongi. The Japanese-language lectures, which are open to the public, take place under the umbrella of The Nippon Foundation Fellows program and are co-sponsored by the Center, the I-House, and The Nippon Foundation. The first lecture of 2017-18 took place on December 1. The speaker was **Professor Gerry Yokota** (IUC '79) of Osaka University and her topic was "A Breath of Tradition: From Noh to Anime." The next lecture, scheduled for May 10, will be by **Jason P. Hyland** (also IUC '79), previously Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and currently President and Representative Officer at MGM Resorts Japan LLC.



Professor Gerry Yokota

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## Program Director Stacey Campbell Retiring

Stacey Campbell, IUC Program Director, will retire January 2018 after thirty-five years of service to Stanford University.

"The IUC has provided opportunities and challenges, but most importantly allowed me to work with graduate students. It has been an absolute pleasure to cross paths with, and manage admissions for, more than 1,250 IUC students over the past twenty-four years."

In addition to students, Stacey has worked with eight IUC Executive Directors, four IUC Resident Directors, one Managing Director, numerous board members, five Financial Managers, moved the IUC Stanford office five times, traveled to Japan four times, and collaborated with what she describes as "stellar colleagues at IUC Yokohama!"

*Messages for Stacey can be sent to [staceyc@stanford.edu](mailto:staceyc@stanford.edu).*

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## Alumni Awards

## The Order of the Rising Sun

On November 3, the Japanese government conferred the Order of the Rising Sun on two IUC alumni. **Theodore C. Bestor** (IUC '75), Reischauer Institute Professor of Social Anthropology at Harvard University, was recognized for his extensive contributions to the study of Japan and to the promotion of scholarly exchange between Japan and the United States. **David W. Hughes** (IUC '70), formerly Lecturer in Ethnomusicology in the Department of Music at SOAS University of London for over two decades and currently a Research Associate at the SOAS Japan Research Centre, was awarded for his contributions to promoting cultural exchange and mutual understanding between Japan and the United Kingdom. Congratulations, Dr. Bestor and Dr. Hughes!

**James L. Huffman** (IUC '70), Professor Emeritus at Wittenburg University, was awarded the Association for Asian Studies' Award for Distinguished Contributions to Asian Studies at the AAS's Annual Meeting in March 2017. Dr. Huffman also has a book in press with the University of Hawai'i Press on the daily lives of the poorest of the poor in the late Meiji years; it will be titled *Down and Out in Late Meiji Japan*.

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## Alumni Publications

A number of exciting books by alumni have been published in the last year.

*Soviet Daughter: A Graphic Revolution*, by **Julia Alekseyeva** (IUC '15), is a graphic novel that draws on the memoirs of the author's great-grandmother, who lived through the birth and collapse of the USSR before moving to Chicago in 1992.

*A History of Popular Culture in Japan: From the Seventeenth Century to the Present* by **E. Taylor Atkins** (IUC '94) gives a broad historical analysis of Japanese popular culture and how it interacts with broader themes of conflict, power, identity, and meaning in Japanese history.

**Michael Foster's** (IUC '96) *Pandemonium and Parade: Japanese Monsters and the Culture of Yōkai* has been published in Japanese as *Nihon yōkai kō: Hyakki yakō kara Mizuki Shigeru made*. The book examines Japanese yōkai in a variety of contexts, from the relationship between literature and folklore, to contemporary images of yōkai in manga and other media.

In *Edo bakemono no kenkyū: Kusa zōshi ni egakareta sōsaku no tanjō to tenkai*, **Adam Kabat** ('80), approaches Edo popular fiction through the figures of the numerous monsters that populated its pages.

*The Stakes of Exposure: Anxious Bodies in Postwar Japanese Art*, by **Namiko Kunimoto** (IUC '07), offers an exploration of art, visual culture, and politics in postwar Japan from the 1950s to the 1970s.

*Redefining Japaneseness: Japanese Americans in the Ancestral Homeland*, published in January 2017 by **Jane Yamashiro** (IUC '98), examines the experiences of Japanese-Americans living abroad in Japan.

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## Comments from the Class of 2017-18

I have been very impressed with the energy of the center. Even though the material is challenging, everyone works so hard towards the goal of improving our Japanese. It is really refreshing to be in this kind of atmosphere.

—Andrew Kustodowicz

I knew the program was going to be an “intensive” Japanese program, but I am blown away by how much attention and time the teachers give to each individual student. From the feedback sessions, to picking out our selected homework for our weak points, to even offering to arrange meetings with acquaintances they have if they work in a field related to our research interest, we are so privileged. It is a one of a kind academic experience.

—Isadora Jaffee

The Center is a wonderful resource for someone such as myself who plans on entering academia as a researcher and teacher. The opportunity to focus solely on language acquisition for a year (I also did the summer course) is proving to be invaluable. Certainty, the pace is grueling, but that is as it should be.

—Ian Cipperly

IUC is a place to accomplish great things.

—Nicole Hasbum

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## Alumni Happy Hours

The tradition of Happy Hour gatherings for IUC alums and students continues, as events were held in September and November. A special thanks to **Richard Sleboda** (IUC '03) and the IUC Social Media team for their organizational efforts. Keep your eye on the lookout for the next event!



Attendees of the September Happy Hour



Attendees of the November Happy Hour

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## **Statement of Support from The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan**

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan pays respect to the IUC and appreciates its activities. Here is the list of our Embassies and Consulates-General in the US and Canada. Please feel free to contact the offices convenient to you. MOFA would like to work together with the IUC alumni.”

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb\\_cons/over/north\\_a.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/over/north_a.html)

The IUC thanks MOFA for its moral support and urges IUC alumni planning (or willing to participate in) Japan-related events, academic or otherwise, to get in touch with the nearest Japanese consulate-general

or embassy to explore possible forms of collaboration.

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## From the IUC Leadership Board

Thanks to all for your continuing support of the IUC! The Leadership Board is committed to strengthening the network of IUC alumni and supporters. Please share your news for the next fall newsletter, or ideas for connecting IUC alums, with an e-mail to [alum@iucjapan.org](mailto:alum@iucjapan.org) or to [chubb@iucjapan.org](mailto:chubb@iucjapan.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

Andrew Hazelton (Chair, IUC '05)

Hobart Birmingham (IUC '66)

Oliver Chubb (IUC '89)

Martha Debs (IUC '80)

David A. Evans (IUC '79)

Peter J. Stern (IUC '93)

Glen S. Fukushima

Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies

