

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 8, 2012

**FORMER IUC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND STANFORD PROFESSOR EMERITUS PETER DUUS
TO RECEIVE THE ORDER OF THE RISING SUN FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN**

On Nov. 3, 2012 (Japan Standard Time), Peter Duus (William H. Bonsall Professor of History Emeritus, Stanford University) was named by the government of Japan as a fall 2012 recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. This award recognizes his "contribution to Japan Studies in the United States and the promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the United States."

In addition to a distinguished career in teaching and research, Prof. Duus played a leadership role in the promotion of advanced Japanese language education. From 1974 to 1989 he served as Executive Secretary for the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC), a consortium school in Japan founded by Stanford University to meet the language training needs of future Japan scholars and expert professionals. Under his leadership, the IUC provided advanced Japanese language training to more than 400 students and produced numerous Japan experts in academia and the professions.

In response to news of his award, Prof. Duus commented: "I am particularly delighted that my stint as IUC Executive Secretary was recognized. It is one of the central institutions of Japanese Studies in the United States. When I embarked on a career in the field, Japanese language training was haphazard, to say the least. At the end of four years in graduate school, my recognition vocabulary included 'frankincense, 'bread of life,' and 'aircraft carrier' but I did not know how to order a cup of coffee. Thanks to the IUC, students do not have to suffer that fate today."

IUC Executive Director Indra Levy (Associate Professor of Japanese Literature, Stanford University) remarked, "The IUC is delighted that Professor Duus has received this well-deserved award for his leadership in the field of Japanese Studies. In addition to his lasting contributions as a scholar and teacher of Japanese history, Prof. Duus served the entire field of Japanese Studies – and the U.S.-Japan relationship as a whole – through 15 years of selfless service to the IUC. Eight IUC graduates have received the Order of the Rising Sun – a number that exceeds any other U.S. educational institution. Prof. Duus is the first IUC director to receive this award, and we are especially pleased that his visionary dedication to the cause of advanced Japanese language education has been acknowledged and validated in such a meaningful way."

CONTACT:

Indra Levy, IUC Executive Director
ilevy@stanford.edu
Mobile: (650) 704-7147

Sponsored Jointly By:

Brigham Young University
Columbia University
Harvard University
Indiana University

Ohio State University
Princeton University
Stanford University
University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Hawaii, Manoa
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

University of Michigan
University of Washington
Yale University

About the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies

Founded and administered by Stanford University, the IUC is located in Yokohama, Japan and jointly sponsored by a consortium of U.S. universities including Brigham Young University, Columbia University, Harvard University, Indiana University, Ohio State University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Chicago, University of Hawaii, Manoa, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Michigan, University of Washington, and Yale University. The Center offers an intensive ten-month immersion program in advanced Japanese. The program is designed to bring students to the high level of fluency demanded by Japan-centered careers in academia and the professions.

About the Order of the Rising Sun

Established in 1875 by Emperor Meiji of Japan, the Order of the Rising Sun is a national decoration awarded by the Japanese government to those who have made distinguished achievements in international relations, promotion of Japanese culture, advancements in their field, development in social/occupational welfare or preservation of the environment.

About Peter Duus

Peter Duus is William H. Bonsall Professor of History Emeritus at Stanford University. After completing an A.B. in History at Harvard College and service in the U.S. Army, he did graduate work at the University of Michigan and at Harvard University, where he received his Ph.D. in History in 1965. His specialty is modern Japanese history.

Prof. Duus taught at Washington University, Harvard University, and the Claremont Graduate School before arriving at Stanford in 1973. He was Executive Secretary for the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies from 1974-1989. He served twice as Director of the Center for East Asian Studies at Stanford, and was also Acting Director of the Institute for International Studies. In 1999-2000 he was President of the Association for Asian Studies.

Prof. Duus taught in several overseas undergraduate programs in Japan, including the International Division at Waseda University. In addition to his work for the IUC, he was also active in the establishment of two programs in Kyoto founded by Stanford: the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies (KCJS) and the Stanford Center for Technology and Information (SCTI).

Prof. Duus' published work includes *Party Politics and Political Change in Taishō Japan* (1969), *The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea* (1995), several edited volumes on Japanese colonialism and imperialism, and numerous articles on modern Japan's intellectual, economic, and colonial history. He was the editor of Volume 6 of the *Cambridge History of Japan* (1988), and is the author of two widely used textbooks, *Feudalism in Japan* (1968, 1976, 1993) and *Modern Japan* (1997). The latter work has been translated into Korean. His most recent publication is *Rediscovering America: Japanese Perspectives on the American Century* (2011).