

Japan Studies Association of Canada

Annual Business Meeting

18 October 2014 1:00-1:50pm

Ryerson University

1. Dick Beason (University of Alberta) moved, Iain Macpherson (MacEwan University) seconded, that the agenda and the minutes of the 2013 Annual Business meeting held at the University of Saskatchewan be approved. Approved unanimously.
2. President's report. David Edgington (University of British Columbia), informed the members of a busy year for JSAC, including holding two inaugural Japan Foundation/JSAC Visiting Scholar talks (Mrs Shinoda and Professor Masako Iino), and preparing the inaugural issue of the JSAC Newsletter (Fall 2014). The talks and Newsletter are available online at JSAC.ca. The President then turned to a discussion concerning the publication of conference proceedings. JSAC's policy will be to solicit papers for publication following each conference. Should there be sufficient materials for a publication the Association will publish them as an e-book as pioneered by the 2011 conference at Saint Mary's University. If materials are insufficient they will be made available as pdfs on the JSAC website until the following year which presumably will provide enough for a joint conference volume, and then removed from the website. The editor of the 2012 proceedings, Jacob Kovalio (Carleton University), has reported that there was an insufficient number of materials to warrant publishing a 2012 volume and so those publications will be included with those emerging from the 2013 conference at the University of Saskatchewan, under the editorship of Ken Coates and Caryn Holroyd, who reported not having a sufficient number on their own. Millie Creighton (University of British Columbia) asked about the Association publishing more thematic works, consolidating works of scholarship on a particular theme from various conferences.
3. 2014 Conference report. James Tiessen (Ryerson University) reported that JSAC 2014 included 54 formal registrants, including 5-10 guests and a few who dropped in. There were 35 regular members and 19 student members, the latter were encouraged to attend by Takashi Fujitani (University of Toronto). The conference organizer then asked participants to submit drafts of their presentations to him within six weeks. The President thanked Dr. Tiessen for all his work in holding the conference.
4. 2015 Conference report. The President reported that an online poll revealed there was overwhelming membership support for holding JSAC 2015 in Tokyo at the Canadian embassy in conjunction with the Japan Association for Canadian Studies (JACS, current president is Sato Nobuyuki) and the Japan-Canada Interdisciplinary Research Network (JCIRN), convened by Jackie Steele (University of Tokyo, Institute of Social Science). One keynote speaker has been already identified: John Heese, a Canadian

of Japanese citizenship who is currently a municipal councilor in Tsukuba. The deadline for applications is 20 January 2015.

5. Future conferences. The President indicated that Alwyn Spies (University of British Columbia, Okanagan) has indicated that she may be available to host the 2016 conference, and that Tom Waldichuk (Thompson Rivers University) may be able to host one thereafter.
6. JSAC social media presence. The President reported that the effort to make a JSAC-administered website a one-stop portal for all things on Japan-Canada linkages is still being prepared. Past President Ken Coates (University of Saskatchewan) has reported that although delayed it is still coming.
7. Financial report. Norio Ota (York University) distributed in paper the annual expenses and incomes. The Association had a balance of \$24,389.81 on June 6 and as of October 17 it was \$22,829.81. He also reported that although there were 132 names on the JSAC e-mail list there are currently only 40 paid members.
8. Invited speaker series. Norio Ota (York University) reported that the Association in cooperation with the Japan Foundation has been able to invite three speakers so far to come to Canada to discuss their research in forums broadcast as webinars across the country. On 15 November 2013, Akiko Shinoda presented “You are only as good as your interpreter, so please...: Dramas and Struggles of a Japanese-English Interpreter” from York University. On 22 September 2014, Masako Iino (Tsuda College, Tokyo) presented “The Nikkei and the LARA Postwar Relief Efforts to Japan” from the University of Alberta. On 12 February 2015, Jeffrey Alexander is scheduled to present a lecture based on his book *Brewed in Japan* at Saint Mary’s University and at the Japan Foundation office in Toronto.
9. Other business.

Caryn Holroyd (University of Saskatchewan) informed the membership that the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science has an international summer program in Japan that previously had been promoted by NSERC for primarily science students. The program, however, is also open to applicants in Arts and Commerce with ten slots to fill with undergraduate and graduate students. The deadline is December 15.

Norio Ota noted improvements to the JSAC website.

10. Adjournment. A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Tiessen (Ryerson University), seconded by Tom Waldichuck (Thompson Rivers University). The meeting adjourned at 1.50pm.

Bill Sewell (Saint Mary’s University), recording.