

San Diego State University

2022 AASCU Japan Studies Institute

Project Summary; June 18, 2022.

Fellow: Abdul Knowles, Director of Global Studies and Programmes, University of The Bahamas

Topic: Japan Cultural Engagement at University of The Bahamas.

In 2018, the University of The Bahamas (UB) started to expose faculty, staff, and students to Japanese studies by hosting lectures and talks about Japan. To further incorporate Japan Studies into a university-wide global program, my goal beginning in Fall 2022 and Spring 2023, will expand on a series of Japanese culture and society lectures that bridge both Japanese and Bahamian studies with our Japanese partners, send students to study abroad in Japan, work with local Japanese businesses to host cultural workshops and activities and continue academic exchanges with Japanese partners by hosting mutually beneficial virtual lectures. In addition, I will offer talks and lectures about Japan that include academic lectures as a guest speaker in classes or campus-wide. Topics include my area of specialties, such as refugees, migrants, and human rights issues. In 2019, the Chair of the law department invited me to lecture on China's legal system. I will offer something similar. The above engagements align with UB's long-term goal to establish an Asian Studies Program that would include Japanese studies.