

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

National Faculty Development Institute

“Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum”

(“Japan Studies Institute”)

SDSU Provost Tong’s Opening Ceremony

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

**Park Blvd., Aztec Student Union
San Diego State University**

Program

Opening Remarks: **Dr. Yoshiko Higurashi**, Director, Japan Studies Institute, AASCU/SDSU
Professor Emerita of Japanese and Advisor, Fulbright U.S. Student Program,
SDSU

Welcome Speeches: **Jody Dixon**, Assistant Director, International Education, Academic
Innovation and Transportation, AASCU

Dr. William Tong, Provost and Senior Vice President, SDSU

Mr. Jeff Marston, Past President, Alumni Association, SDSU

Mr. Joel Nakama-Choi, Japanese Student Association, SDSU

Ms. Kate Leonard, Honorary Consul General of Japan in San Diego

Mr. Jay Scovie, Deputy General Manager, Corporate Communications
and Education, Kyocera International, Inc.

Self Introductions: The 2025 AASCU Japan Studies Institute Fellows

Closing Remarks: **Dr. Yoshiko Higurashi**



Invited Guests

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

Ms. Jody Dixon, Assistant Director, International Education, Academic Innovation And Transformation

San Diego State University (SDSU)

Dr. William Tong, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Hala Madanat, Vice President for Research and Innovation

Ms. Jessica Rentto, JD, Senior Associate Vice President, Administration, representing

Ms. Agnes Wong Nickerson, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs and Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Cristina Alfaro, Associate Vice President of International Affairs

Dr. Noah Hansen, Senior Director, International Affairs

Dr. Kirk Campbell, Deputy Chief Information Officer (CIO), representing **Dr. James Frazee**, Vice President for Information Technology and CIO

Representatives from SDSU Colleges:

Dr. Todd Butler, Dean, Arts and Letters

Dr. Michael Borgstrom, Associate Dean, Arts and Letters

Ms. Heidi Knuff, Managing Director, Wendy Gillespie Center for Advancing Global Business and SDSU Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), representing **Dr. Dan Moshavi**, Dean, Fowler College of Business

Dr. Y Barry Chung, Dean, Education

Dr. Eugene A. Olevsky, Dean, Engineering

Dr. Gian Pham, Associate Dean for Research, representing **Dr. Amy Bonomi**, Dean, Health and Human Services

Dr. Kurt Lindemann, Associate Dean, representing **Dr. Janice Mckay**, Dean, Professional Studies and Fine Arts

Dr. Jeffrey T. Roberts, Dean, Sciences

Dr. Tracy Love, Dean, Graduate Studies

Dr. Guillermina Gina Núñez, Dean, Imperial Valley Campus

Dr. Ian Gibson, Dean, SDSU Global Campus

More from SDSU:

Mr. Jeff Marston, Past President, Alumni Association

Dr. Minjeong Kim, Director, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies

Dr. Robert Malouf, Chair, Department of Linguistics and Asian/ Middle Eastern Languages

Mr. Joel Nakama-Choi, Event Coordinator, Japanese Student Association

Japanese Government:

Ms. Kate Leonard, Honorary Consul General of Japan in San Diego

San Diego Community:

Mr. Jay Scovie, Deputy General Manager, Corporate Communications and Education, Kyocera International, Inc.

2025 Japan Studies Institute Fellows

Steve Geinitz

Associate Professor
Department of Computer Science
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Denver, Colorado

Vicki Gruzynski

Teaching and Learning Librarian
Library
Worcester State University
Worcester, Massachusetts

Kishan Munroe

Chair
School of Communication and Creative Arts
University of The Bahamas
Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas

Al Panu

Professor and Chancellor
University of South Carolina Beaufort
Beaufort, South Carolina

Antoinette Pinder-Darling

Associate Professor/Librarian III
School of Communication and Creative Arts
University of The Bahamas
Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas

David Rhea

Founding Dean
Honors College
Governors State University
University Park, Illinois

Teniel Rolle

Programme Coordinator
The Office of Global Studies and Programmes
University of The Bahamas
Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas

Olga Sideleva

Instructor
Department of Marine Science
University of Hawaii at Hilo
Hilo, Hawai'i

Joseph Philip Whatford

Lecturer
Department of English
California State University, San Bernardino
San Bernardino, California

Bess Wong

Instructor
Melville School of Business
Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

Barbara Zuck

Professor of Business
College of Technical Sciences
Montana State University – Northern
Harve, Montana

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Julie Su
Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant, Harbor Island