

Project Summary

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First of all, I would like to thank AASCU and Japan Studies Institute for a wonderful 2-week long fellowship program at San Diego State from June 10 to 21, 2014. Overall, the sessions were very informative and interesting ones. I, as one of 2014 JSI fellows, gained a lot of materials and lessons so that I could be able to incorporate Japanese studies into my undergraduate curriculum. Also, I would like to personally thank Dr. Yoshiko Higurashi, JSI Institute Director at San Diego State for her endless efforts and her guidance to make this program a meaningful learning experience for all of us. In addition, I would like to show my appreciation to all of our session instructors for their insights in each topic area during the program. They were wonderful and went beyond my expectations. Thank you very much! (Domo Arigato Gozaimasu!)

From the sessions I've learned in 2014 Japan Studies Institutes, I plan to upgrade my International Business courses (both undergraduate and graduate level). I would like to further incorporate the Japanese business practices and Japan's unique institutional influences on global business competition. For the long term, I would like to develop a new course in exploring/comparing Japan's global business management practices (cross-cultural management and global strategy focus) with those of other countries. Furthermore, our campus is in the process of changes in the International Programs and Global Engagement (IPGE). A new office, IPGE, will replace the current Office of Global Education starting July, 2014 and this change will strengthen campus-wide services and programs for inbound and outbound international student mobility and create greater opportunities for international learning on our campus according to the CSUS Office of the Provost and VP for Academic Affairs Announcement (June 18th, 2014). One of the sessions at 2014 JSI program was to discuss academic partnership and other exchange opportunities in Japan presented by Dr. Higurashi and Mr. Dave Rudel, Assistant Director, Education Abroad, International Student Center at San Diego State. From the discussion I had in that session, I hope that I would be able to find my role in assisting the new office for strong, new and very productive international education opportunities at Sacramento State.

The main point I've learned from 2014 JSI program that would be incorporated into my curriculum is **cross-cultural literacy**. We spent several sessions (such as Japan's government and business institutions, language, literature, philosophy and economic systems) to discuss an understanding of how cultural differences can affect the way in which business is practiced. I feel that I am much better informed of Japan's culture that is the evolutionary product of a number of factors at work in Japanese society. Cross-Cultural Literacy is one of the key attributes today's international managers should be comfortable with. From the materials I've learned from 2014 JSI program, I would be able to incorporate Japanese business practices into my courses so that my students will take away with the following: international businesses that are ill informed about the practices of another culture are unlikely to succeed in that culture. Various teaching methods will be incorporated into my courses – a portfolio of new business cases, clips, and possibly Japanese anime and manga.