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AASCU JSI Project
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2019 AASCU Japan Studies Institute: Incorporating Japanese Studies in the Undergraduate Curriculum

My goal is to stimulate students' interest in Japanese studies in my Introduction to Language class and Medical Spanish Program at Fort Hays State University. I also plan to collaborate in the internationalization efforts at my institution by serving as a contact person between JSI and Mrs. Cindy Elliot, Assistant Vice-President for Global Partnerships.

1. I will propose a new Honors College course: Introduction to Language. In this class I will discuss grammatical aspects of language in general, issues in the language in society such as social and regional dialects, language planning and policies, language and education, different writing systems around the world, etc. Drawing on the knowledge of Japanese culture, history, and society that I have acquired thanks to the AASCU JSI, I can now draw on examples from life and society from modern Japan.

2. In April 2013, the Office of Minority Health released the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (the National CLAS Standards). The CLAS standards, are intended to advance health equity, improve quality, and help eliminate health disparities among limited-English-proficiency (LEP) patients. The Medical Spanish track, a sequence of three courses, meets the CLAS standards guidelines. In the Medical Spanish Practicum, students participate in a community project at local health centers and hospitals. Projects may include organizing group exercises and meditation sessions, etc. In this context, I plan to incorporate not only the Teachings of Budha in Spanish, but also the appreciation of nature and arts in Japanese culture to the Hispanic and other minorities communities in Hays, KS.

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