IAS has continued to grow thanks to the contributions of a number of grants. 2006-2007 marked the final year of the JapaNet program, funded by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. JapaNet was a three-year professional development program designed to foster an awareness in the community about Japan in the global environment. Participants were required to submit sample lesson plans infused with Japanese content. These lesson plans have been compiled and will be distributed by IAS.

Last year, Steven Heine, received the 2006 Kauffman Entrepreneurship Professors Award which was used to sponsor a successful conference, From East to West and West to East, and a course on Asian cultural values in business. IAS also received a two-year grant, the National Endowment for the Humanities for the Miami-China Connection project, which completed its first year and established a full-time position in Chinese Language filled by Prof. Ma Li. Funds were also used for a number of outreach activities in the Miami-Dade area including establishing Chinese classes at Miami-Dade College. Bilingual Education through Mandarin Instruction, which was established in collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, completed the first of three years. With this grant, IAS coordinated and organized a summer camp for K-12 students focusing on Chinese language and cultural studies. Furthermore, Ma Li instructed K-12 language teachers on pedagogical methods and helped develop new curriculum for a dual language program in Mandarin Chinese.

For this year, IAS has received a Staff Expansion in Japanese Studies grant from the Japan Foundation. This grant will create a new position in the Sociology and Anthropology Department which will specialize in the teaching and research of Japanese society. This will help the development of the Japanese Studies Program in IAS and enhance the focus on East Asian Studies in other departments.

On April 29, the Government of Japan conferred the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette to Steven Heine, Director of IAS. This award is in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the advancement of the study of Japan; his accomplishments include over 20 books on Japanese religion and culture and garnering $1.5 million in grants to promote Asian studies. Japan’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taro Aso, expressed his sincere congratulations on the conferment and his best wishes to Dr. Heine.

Consul General Hiroshi Yamaguchi, Consulate General of Japan in Miami, presented the award on behalf of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in a ceremony held in Miami in September. Along with the Medal of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, the award consists of a certificate bearing the stamp of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.
**2006-2007 Lecture Series**

**Events Calendar**

**09/16/06**
White Collar Zen: Using Zen to Overcome Obstacles and Achieve Your Career Goals – Steven Heine, Book signing at the Wolfsonian-FIU.

**09/27/06**
In the Aftermath of the War in Lebanon: Is There a New Middle East? – David Manashri, Head of the Center for Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv University.

**10/03/06**
JET Programme Orientation Meeting – hosted at FIU. Gave advice and information to prospective JET program applicants.

**10/11/06**
History of Japan’s Relation with China – Laura Nenzi, FIU. Lecture on Japan and China’s long relationship of both friendship and conflict.

**11/01/06**
Political Economy of China and Japan – James Kilpatrick, Visiting Professor of International Relations, FIU.

**11/13/06**
Sixth Annual Japan Immersion Day – hosted at FIU for high school students in the Miami-Dade area to learn more about Japan.

**11/18/06**
From East to West, and West to East – panels given on Asian and global business and how to negotiate with the East. [See back page]

**11/27/06**
Iran’s Nuclear Program: Genesis and Possible Futures – Hadi Semati, senior research scholar, The Brookings Institute.

**01/20/07**
Japan Challenge Day – for high school students from Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Featured traditional Japanese games and other cultural events.

**02/19/07-02/23/07**

**03/05/07**
The Role of Pilgrimage in Japan – Ian Reader, Professor of Religious Studies, University of Manchester. Reader is the author of several books on Japan and focused on the methods and routes taken by religious pilgrims in Japan.

**03/10/07**
Music for the Gamelan – guest speaker Evan Ziporyn, composer. Lecture on the Indonesian musical instrumental ensemble, the gamelan.

**04/14/07**

**04/28/07**
Japanese Speech Contest – speech and skit contest with different categories for varying levels of ability.

**06/04/07-06/08/07**

**08/11/07-08/12/07**
Yasumicon – a Japanese animation convention with movie showings, panels on Japan-related topics and guest speakers, hosted by Anything Goes Anime club, FIU.

**Student News**

Greg Burrow received both the Freeman Asia Award and the Benjamin Gilman Scholarship for Fall 2007. Greg is studying at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka in the Fall semester of 2007.

Omar Carrion, who graduated in the spring with an Asian Studies major, has been accepted as an instructor for AEON English Schools and will be teaching in Kita Kyushu this year.

Luis Fors, an Asian Studies major, has received the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) Japanese Studies Student Scholarship and will spend a year at Osaka University.

The Fu Foundation scholarship program helps fulfill the dream of the late Professor Charles Wei-hsun Fu of giving American students an opportunity to be immersed in Asian thought and culture. IAS is proud to announce the 2007-08 recipients:

Jacob Dobbs traveled to China for studies of language and culture in pursuit of the Chinese Studies Certificate. Jennifer Garcia and Marisely Rojas attended the Ritsumeikan University program in Kyoto in summer 2007. Jan Solomon conducted research in South Asia leading to her doctoral degree in International Relations. Antonio Vega is spending the fall semester abroad at Kansai Gaidai University and also received the Bridging Scholarship from the Association for Teachers of Japan.

This year, IAS nominated three students for Excellence Awards through the College of Arts and Sciences. Audrey Qian received the Graduate Award for Service, Sandra Avila received the Graduate Award for Teaching, and Isidro de Prat received the Best Undergraduate Language Student award. This is the first year IAS has participated in the awards ceremony.
Congratulations to this year’s graduates of Asian Studies academic programs!

Two students, Masako Okada and Ian Cohen, completed the Asian Studies MA program this past year.

Felipe Alexandre, Omar Carrion, Juerguen Castelain, Dianna Chirino, Isidro de Prat, Emily Hutchinson, Barbara Marks, George Mori, Tamara O’Connell, Ansen Steiner, and David Watts finished the Asian Studies major.

Students that received Minor are: Carlos Abuchaibe, Yessica Barreda, Ryan Bedford, Giovanna Brin, Steven Burgos, Cynthia Carrillo, Onica Charles, Sharma Dammar, Rafael Enciso, Francis Escobarí, Aisha Farhoud, Viviana Fernandez, Alexys Garcia, Jarrod Gill, Herman Gomez, Maritsa Gregory, Xavier Hayeck, Lisa Howe, Carlos Huerta, Devin Hunting, Michelle Hurtado, Kristen Johnson, Sheala Khan, Diana Lora, Gilberto Marin Jr., Jennifer Mojena, Armand Murach, Michel Nissim, Osley Sallent, Yacmany Salvatierra, Phillip Santa-Maria, Meredith Sternstein, Christina Torres, Katharyn Vasquez, and Mariela Zapata.

German Silverio and Juan Soto both completed the Asian Studies certificate.

Lucas Katz, Barbara Marks, Tamara O’Connell, and Robert Villanueva received the Chinese Studies certificate.

Felipe Alexandre, Giovanna Brin, Omar Carrion, Juerguen Castelain, Dianna Chirino, Isidro de Prat, Lynn Guery, Ayako Hasegawa, Emily Hutchinson, George Mori, Mario Jose Salazar, and Ansen Steiner obtained the Japanese Studies certificate.

Carlos Abuchaibe, Bryan Carrasco, Juerguen Castelain, Isidro de Prat, Rafael Enciso, Gilberto Marin Jr., Yacmany Salvatierra, and German Silverio, finished the Asian Globalization and Latin America certificate.

IAS welcomes our new faculty for the 2007-2008 school year. Tom Breslin, professor of International Relations, will return to the classroom after years in administration to teach on China.

Naoko Komura will be joining us as a new full time Japanese language instructor. Yuki Nomoto will teach several sections of Japanese I as an intern.

Adjunct Professor Su-Mei Ooi will be teaching courses on southeast Asia in the International Relations Department.

Vrushali Patil, is a new Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies and Sociology/Anthropology. Her focus is on nationalism and gender in Asia and other regions.

Julie Zeng, an Assistant Professor from the International Relations Department, will be teaching courses for the Asian Studies program beginning in fall of 2007.

Asian studies Teaching Assistants joining us will be: Aziz Kleblyev, Wendy Lo, Elana Pisani, and Jane Marie Russell.

**Spotlight on Professor Seidel**

Andrea Mantell Seidel is the founding director of the Intercultural Dance and Music Institute housed in the Latin American and Caribbean Center at FIU, and a tenured associate professor in the Department of Dance. As an affiliate faculty member of Asian Studies, she teaches two courses with Asian studies content: Global Perspectives in Dance and Culture and The Art of Yoga and Meditation.

Dr. Seidel first became interested in Asian Studies as an undergraduate student enrolled in Asian philosophy courses. Her master’s thesis at McGill University, Montreal focused on Hindu philosophy in the work of D.H. Lawrence. She has pursued independent studies with numerous Hindu and Buddhist scholars, spiritual teachers, and yoga masters, especially focusing on dance, culture, and the practice of yoga and ayurvedic medicine.

Global Perspectives in Dance and Culture is a two-semester core course in FIU’s Dance Department curriculum which incorporates lecture, discussion and some practice. The study of Asian dance and theater constitutes a significant portion of the curriculum including Bugaku, Noh, Butoh, and Kabuki in Japan, Bharata Natyam and Katak dance in India, and periodically, Tibetan chams, Korean shamanism, and Indonesian trance dance.

The Art of Yoga and Meditation: Philosophy and Practicum includes a concentrated study of yoga asanas, mantras, meditation techniques, pranayama and philosophical and religious scriptures, including the eight-fold path as delineated in the Yoga Sutras and introductory principles in the Bhagavad-Gita and the Upanishads. This is a popular course which usually closes out early in the registration period.
The Southern Japan Seminar and IAS are proud to announce the publication of the eleventh edition of Japan Studies Review, an annual peer-reviewed journal that includes a variety of topics such as Commodore Matthew Perry and Christianity in Japan; an analysis of the disaster management of the 1995 Kobe earthquake; the award-winning book, Snow Country; the debate over the Kurile islands between Russia and Japan; and a look at the establishment of modern Japanese language.

Japan Studies Review welcomes submissions for publication (articles, essays, and book reviews). Send submissions to Steven Heine, Institute for Asian Studies, Florida International University DM 300B, Miami, FL 33199; email: asian@fiu.edu; website: asianstudies.fiu.edu/page.php?c=eg_jsr.

Sponsored by IAS, the Southern Japan Seminar held its Spring 2007 meeting at the Blue Moon hotel in Miami Beach on April 14. The seminar brought together scholars from the southeast United States to discuss current trends in Japanese studies.

The first panel had several presentations on the pedagogical concerns involved when teaching business Japanese, for example, determining the definition of “business Japanese” and what should be taught in class.

Japanese business was the focus of the second panel, especially the connections between Japanese business, capitalism, and culture, as well as Japanese business history with a focus on the cotton spinning industry.

On November 17, 2006, IAS hosted the From East to West and from West to East Conference on Asian Cultural Values. There were three main panels centered on the topics: Asian cultural values, business with China, and Asian investment in Latin America.

The first panel of the day-long events focused on Asian investment in Latin America and the business, financial, and cultural connections between Asian countries and Latin America. The panel featured FIU scholars Carl Cira and James A. Kilpatrick.

The second panel explored the nature of doing business with the Chinese from Western perspectives. Panelists Susan Ford Collins, Misha Goussev, and Henryka Manes discussed China’s economic miracle, trade with China, and dealing with cultural differences.

The third panel detailed various Asian religious traditions (Confucianism, Daoism, I-Ching, and Zen) and how they affect modern business relations and negotiations. In addition, martial arts-inspired works such as the Book of Five Rings and the Art of War were discussed. Bill Diffenderfer, Steven Heine, Kaihan Krippendorff, Mark McNeilly, and Michael Zielenziger were the speakers for this panel.

A special feature of this conference was presentations by students in the Asian Values in Business seminar. They made competitive presentations on the entrepreneurial projects they designed, including Chinese language instruction, Asian cuisine, sayings in Asian business, and martial arts. The projects were evaluated by a panel of experts.