

## EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the sixteenth volume of the *Japan Studies Review* (JSR), an annual peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the joint efforts of the Institute for Asian Studies at Florida International University and the Southern Japan Seminar. JSR continues to be both an outlet for publications related to Southern Japan Seminar events and a journal that encourages submissions from a wide range of scholars in the field. This issue includes a special topics section showcasing a variety of articles on Japanese language and linguistics, as well as additional articles, essays, and book reviews covering a variety of topics in Japanese studies.

This year's journal features a special section titled "Language and Linguistics," which includes three articles. "Strengthening Academic Curricula and Students' Future Careers by Enhancing Japanese Language and Cultural Understanding in International Cooperative Education" by Noriko Fujioka-Ito and Gayle C. Elliot discusses the importance of simultaneously strengthening Japanese language study and students' academic field. "Lexical Borrowing: A Case Study of the Language Contact Phenomenon in Japan and China" by Xuexin Liu describes and explains lexical borrowing in terms of linguistic transformation as an outcome of language contact based on selected representative data of the Japanese and Chinese languages. "Minority Language Education in Japan" by Rong Zhang and Xue Cao discusses the drawbacks of current language policies for minority groups in Japan and explores the possibility of developing a more efficient multilingual language curriculum.

Three other articles are included in this issue. "Japanese Professors Resist University Reforms During the U.S. Occupation" by Ruriko Kumano discusses Dr. Walter C. Eell's (an American educator who served as advisor on higher education during the Occupation) proposal for university governance and the reason for its rejection by Japanese academics. "From Samurai to *Manga*: The Function of *Manga* to Shape and Reflect Japanese Identity" by Maria Rankin-Brown explains *manga* (Japanese comics) and its role as a representation of the identity struggle faced by the Japanese as they negotiate an ultramodern world influenced by old world traditions. "School Rules and National Development in Postwar Japan" by Yuichi Tamura explores the changes in economy, popular culture, community, and family during Japan's postwar development that contributed to the responsibilities of schools in the socialization and social control of Japanese teenagers.

There is one featured essay, “Tsugaru Gaku: The Contributions of *Chihōgaku* to Japanese Studies” by Anthony S. Rausch. This essay discusses *chihōgaku* (regional studies) and its importance, given current economic instability that characterizes central government functions and the accordant decentralization that is influencing Japanese rural society.

Four book reviews are included in this issue. Susan Lee reviews *Kingdom of Beauty: Mingei and the Politics of Folk Art in Imperial Japan* by Kim Brandt. There are two reviews by Daniel A. Métraux on *Making Waves: Politics, Propaganda, and the Emergence of the Japanese Navy 1868–1922* by J. Charles Schnecking and *Japan’s Holy War: The Ideology of Radical Shinto Ultrnationalism* by Walter A. Skya. Yuki Watanabe reviews *Otaku: Japan’s Database Animals* by Hiroki Azuma.

**Steven Heine**

**Re: Submissions, Subscriptions, and Comments**

Submissions for publication, whether articles, essays, or book reviews, should be made in both hard copy and electronic formats, preferably Word for Windows via email attachment (please inquire about other formats). The editor and members of the editorial board will referee all submissions.

Annual subscriptions are \$35.00 (U.S.). Please send a check or money order payable to *Florida International University* to:

c/o Steven Heine, Professor of Religious Studies and History  
Director of the Institute for Asian Studies  
Florida International University  
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, SIPA 505  
Miami, FL 33199

Professor Heine's office number is (305) 348-1914. Faxes should be sent to (305) 348-6586 and emails sent to [asian@fiu.edu](mailto:asian@fiu.edu).

Visit our website at <http://www.asian.fiu.edu/jsr>. PDF versions of past volumes are available online.

All comments and feedback on the publications appearing in *Japan Studies Review* are welcome.

ISSN: 1550-0713

