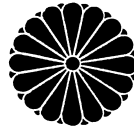


# Scholar Update

Featuring our current and past scholars



## Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation

### Annual Awards Ceremony

June 2017 Edition

On May 19, Consul General Yasushi and Mrs. Misawa graciously hosted the 2017 Awards Ceremony at their residence. **Junichi Yagi** and **Jennifer Yoo** were presented certificates commemorating their selection as CPASF scholars and presented an overview of their respective areas of focus.



Junichi; Jennifer, Consul General and Mrs. Misawa, CPASF Trustees, President Emeriti, and President-Designate Reyna Kaneko; and UH representatives

**Jennifer Yoo (2017-2018)** received a Bachelor of Arts in

East Asian Studies degree from Wellesley College. She is a Ph.D. candidate in University of Hawaii's Asian Theatre program with a focus on Japanese theatre. Her primary academic interest is women's representation in media and culture, which she will explore in her dissertation, "Thy Name is Woman: Performing the Feminine Ghost in Japanese Theatre and Cinema." She will be doing her research in Japan at the Ritsumeikan's Art Research Center in Kyoto.

**Junichi Yagi (2016-2018)** received a Master

of Arts in Language and Culture degree at Osaka University. He is a Ph.D. candidate in Second Language Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. His research interests focus mostly on how people learn language in non-classroom settings, including everyday conversation among ordinary people. Specifically, he is interested in how second-language interactions that involve music (e.g. rehearsals of a jazz band with multicultural members) may provide opportunities for language (and cultural) learning.

### CPASF Travel Award

#### First Recipients Named



In December 2016, Ed Hawkins, President Emeritus, donated a \$1,000 travel award for 10 years for CPASF scholars to attend conferences. Both **Ben Schragger (2015-2017)** and **Junichi Yagi (2016-2018)** each received a \$500 award. Ben is researching how the tension between industrialization/anxiety and tradition/trust



Ben Schragger

is reshaping agro-food networks. He notes, "There are clear distinctions in chicken meat branding that correlate to higher levels of consumer anxiety or trust. Imported chicken is viewed with the highest levels of anxiety which is somewhat lessened for domestic chicken broilers while the domestic jidori-branded chicken inspires the highest levels of trust."



### Pomp and Circumstance

**Takuya Saeki (2015-2017)** graduated last month with a Master's in Second Language Studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He will be teaching at Keio Shoji Senior High School in Saitama prefecture. Takuya writes, "My getting this dream job would not have been possible without the generous support of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship."



Chairman Uyeda & Takuya after the ceremony

Reflecting on his experience in Hawaii, he wrote, "I do not know how I could express my sincere gratitude to all of you...but I believe "okage sama de" captures my feelings."

**Xander Krieg (2016-2018)** wrote in an update: "...since the data has all been collected, the main activities this year will be doing data analysis and writing papers. Over and above that, I will continue to give presentations at conferences and schools, as well as continue volunteer counseling." Xander is working on a paper whose purpose is "to use a machine-learning algorithm to identify and predict social anxiety with elements from a social situation (e.g. interacting with authority, meeting strangers, etc.). Situational features (71.39%) better explained social anxiety as compared to intrapersonal factors (53.8%) and demographic information (48.88%). All of this is well-known in theory, but rarely tested due to methodological limitations."



**Alisa Yoshida (2014-2016)** will be working for Ritz Carlton in Kyoto after having started with Ritz Carlton in Waikiki.



**Sakiko Yasuda (2013-2015, Ph.D Public Health 2016)** is working for UNICEF in the East Asia and Pacific Regional Office in Bangkok as a Junior Professional Officer on



the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Team (WASH) to help identify projects and processes that are successful in creating healthier environments and practices. She writes, "...millions of children neither have access to clean water and/or knowledge of sanitation skills that you and I may take for granted...many sadly pass away due to preventable diseases before they become five years old...the WASH team is trying to improve such situations by collaborating with Nutrition, Gender, Health and Education teams."



**Yukie Lloyd (2011-2013)** continues her malaria research and will return to Cameroon where she was last summer and will also visit Laos for additional research into treatment for malaria.