



A Walk in the Clouds

Chairman's Message

Yoshiro Sakamoto (2017-2019)



writes, from the beginning of February 2018, I have been staying at Volcano Village on the Big Island of Hawaii in order to deepen my research by interviewing several important people. I am currently writing my dissertation about *MELE*, the admirably unique literary magazine published from



Yoshiro captured this spectacular mystical view with his camera while on Mt. Mauna Kea.

1965 to 1994 in Honolulu by Mr. Stefan Baciu, a prominent poet

from Romania. There are several poets, artists and scholars on the Big Island who collaborated with the poet and contributed to the literary magazine.

Professor John Charlot is one of them. He is an Emeritus Professor of Hawaiian religion, mythology and culture at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He has been able to delve into Hawaiian wisdom which was generated from and is tightly connected to the Hawaiian land. Professor Charlot currently lives on the Big Island and continues to publish very important scholarly works about Hawaiian culture and art. By interviewing him, I aim to understand what he brought to *MELE* and what kind of valuable Hawaiian knowledge resonates in his texts in the magazine.

Being able to work with Professor Charlot is a

very fascinating and valuable experience not only for my research but also for my life. I have visited various forceful topos (literary themes) such as the craters and lava of Mount Kilauea; the volcanic ash field of Kalapana and Kamokuna; and the mythical landscape of the coastline at Laupahoehoe. I have also learned from him how Hawaiian people have respected with awe and carefully treated nature through their communion with wind, waves, plants, birds, and ultimately with all beings in the island's cosmos.

The fact that I could find the significant connection between *MELE* and Hawaiian wisdom through Professor Charlot's engagement in the magazine is a very gratifying achievement of my research here on the Big Island.

Many of you – our current scholars, alumni and fellow board members – have remarked time and again on the impact the CPASF has had on your lives, not only in support of academic pursuit, but also in building person-to-person relationships. It is these meaningful interactions that the CPASF has fostered that have helped solidify what Ambassador Mike Mansfield described as “the most important bi-lateral relationship in the world, bar none.”

In this issue, I would like to share excerpts from a very special letter written almost 25 years ago on September 2, 1993. The impact of the CPASF is captured in the recollections of the late Judge Katsugo Miho, a 442nd veteran, community leader and former CPASF Trustee, who, along with Professor Sharon Minichiello, accompanied the scholars to the 1993 audience with Their Majesties. For me, Judge Miho's words resonate with all that we strive to do at the CPASF: Promoting understanding between people, cultures and nations through education.

Allen B. Uyeda

A Visit With Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko

By Katsugo Miho



The Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship (CPAS) was established by members of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce in 1960 to commemorate and celebrate the wedding of Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko.

Since its modest beginning, the CPAS has become the most prestigious scholarship available to the students of the University of Hawaii together with a most generous annual grant of scholarships to four grantees, two

Kabuki and Noh



New scholar, Jennifer Yoo (2017-2018) writes, I attended lunch at the Keidanren in Tokyo this past Monday, January 29, 2018 and it was very pleasant.



In terms of my research, I have successfully acquired library-card access to Ritsumeikan

University's library and my advisor/academic supervisor has given me the access to information I need to view materials through the Art Research Center's online databases.

I have also already started attending Kabuki and Noh performances as part of my research as of last month, and will continue to do so going forward.

Continued pg. 2—Chair's Message

Chair's Message

Continued from pg. 2

from Hawaii and two from Japan. Annually, at the end of their first year, the grantees have been personally greeted by the then Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko and this pleasurable, memorable and unforgettable once-in-a-lifetime experience has been continued by His Majesty Emperor Akihito upon his ascension to the throne.

More recently, the invitation has been extended to members of the Trustees of the scholarship foundation to join the grantees in Tokyo during their audience with the Emperor and Empress. In spite of their tremendously busy schedule following the marriage of Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako, His Majesty Emperor Akihito did not wish to deny or delay the current grantees the privilege and opportunity of the Imperial Audience, which was scheduled for Tuesday, June 29, 1993. I got to exchange pleasantries with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko because since 1989, I had succeeded my brother, Katsuro,



Katsugo and Laura Miho greeting Emperor Akihito at the Pre-Reception, 50th Anniversary Celebration, on July 15, 2009.

as a Trustee of the CPAS Foundation.

For 40 years, I had supported and participated in the Japan Hawaii High School Goodwill and Friendship Baseball Series jointly sponsored by the 442nd Veterans Club, All Japan High School Baseball Federation and the Asahi Shinbun of Osaka, Japan and upon Tommy Kiyosaki's passing have been asked to take over the chairmanship of the committee. So, this year, in the second week of June we got to escort the 1993 Hawaii All Stars to tour Kyushu. The tour ended on June

23rd, and I remained in Tokyo for my most memorable experience of my life. An informal and personable visit sitting around a coffee table with only Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the four scholarship grantees, Professor Sharon Minichiello, an early recipient of the scholarship, Mr. Natsuaki Fusano the Senior Managing Director of Keidanren, Head Chamberlain and Lady in Waiting and myself.

The audience was scheduled for 30 minutes but lasted one-hour because both of Their Majesties discussed with each grantee their field of study with pertinent and inquisitive questions. I must confess, I do not remember the details of our conversation and to this day, I can only remember leaving the cozy, friendly and intimate drawing room with a warm glow and a full heart together with an unforgettable image of the truly beautiful, sincere and warm Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

Lynching of Katsu Goto



Dr. Erika (Miyazaki) Hori (2004-2006), visiting researcher/scholar at the University of Texas writes, I have been studying about the history of Japanese-Americans and racial issues in the United

States. I became interested in Katsu Goto when I visited his memorial in Honokaa on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Goto was born in 1861 in Oiso, Japan and emigrated to Hawaii in 1885 with other *kanyaku imin*, or government-contract laborers, hired for the growing sugar industry. Goto opened his own general store in Honokaa. Many Japanese plantation workers sought Goto's advice for changing their working conditions. His guidance enraged a plantation manager who wanted

to maintain the status quo. Subsequently, Goto was found dead, hanging from a telephone pole in Honokaa in 1889.

I conducted research on the historical background and politics of the lynching in Hawaii. Goto's graveyard was "discovered" in Oiso, Kanegawa prefecture in Japan, with the support of residents a few years ago and I did research on Goto's background in Japan.

Dr. Hori is working on her book, *Lynching of Katsu Goto* to be published in 2019. She hopes it could give us an opportunity to reconsider issues on immigrants and races that we face today. She was also a featured speaker presenting her lecture, *Ambitious Spirit: Discovering the Letters of Katsu Goto* at the Honokaa Hongwanji in June 2017 where she spoke about letters that Goto wrote while in Yokohama before coming to Hawaii.

Socially-Engaged Art



Dr. James Jack (2008-2010) is an artist who has developed socially-engaged art projects for the Honolulu Museum of Art, Setouchi International Art Festival, Busan Biennale Sea Art Festival, Art Base Momshima and the Mizunoki Museum.

His works on paper have been featured in exhibitions held at galleries in Tokyo, New York City, Yokohama, Portland, Kyoto and Singapore. His writings have been featured in Art Asia Pacific, The Japan Times, Modern Art Asia, Tokyo Art Beat and art catalogs published by Blum & Poe Gallery, LASALLE College of the Arts, Satoshi Koyama Gallery and The Contemporary Museum of Hawaii. (Source: <http://jamesjack.org/biography/>)

Dr. Jack gave a very interesting and informative talk, *Artistic Engagements with*

Continued pg. 3—Socially-Engaged Art

Publication of CPASF Supported Research



Alexander Krieg (2016-2018) writes, in addition to my article accepted for publication in December 2017, my second article, the first empirical study based on my CPASF-supported dissertation research was just accepted for publication a few days ago. This recently accepted article is "Study 1" of my dissertation research that I completed both in Hawaii and Japan.

This study uses complex statistical techniques with self-report survey data is the first to provide evidence that cultural values such as independence and interdependence influence the degree to which participants of east Asian and western heritage detect threat in social situations. All subsequent parts of my dissertation (and research program) depend on this model so it is very important to have it published.

You will be able to find it in the journal "Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology." It is an American Psychological

Association-sponsored journal with an impact factor of 2.040, which is a good score in my field. My advisor was so happy. I am copying the abstract here so you can learn more about the project:

Objectives: Abundant research has shown that Asian Americans tend to score higher on standardized social anxiety measures than do European Americans. The current study explored how this cultural difference in social anxiety may be explained by cultural differences in self-construals and threat appraisal between Asian Americans and European Americans.

Methods: Participants were 310 Asian Americans and 249 European Americans recruited from a large university in Hawaii, and completed questionnaires online in exchange for course credit. Using structural equation modeling, we compared a series of competing models in which cultural differences in social anxiety were specified to be mediated by cultural differences in self-construals and threat appraisal.

Results: Compared to European Americans, Asian Americans scored higher on measures of social anxiety, threat appraisal, and interdependent self-construal and lower on independent self-construal. We found support for the mediating roles of both self-construals and threat appraisal. Specifically, higher interdependent and lower independent self-construal reported by Asian Americans were related to higher threat appraisal which were in turn associated with higher social anxiety. Higher interdependent and lower independent self-construal were also directly related to higher social anxiety over and above the influence of threat appraisal.

Conclusions: These findings provide initial evidence on how cultural group differences in beliefs about the self in relation to others, may shape what is attended to in a social situation and contribute to cultural differences in subsequent affective response between Asian Americans and European Americans.

Japanese Buddhist Monk Kukai



Dr. William Matsuda (2006-2008), writes, after receiving my doctorate in East Asian Languages and Literatures (Classical Japanese Literature)

from UH Manoa in 2014, I was hired for a one-year associate professor position at Kyushu University. There, I taught classical Japanese, kambun (Japanese rendering of classical Chinese), and Japanese literature (classical and modern) as a faculty member in the International Master's Program in Japanese Humanities, a department housed in the Graduate School of Humanities.

Because of my research interests in Japanese-Chinese comparative literature and religion, I accepted an invitation from Sichuan University (Chengdu, People's Republic of China) to join the faculty of the Department of Japanese



Language and Literature as an associate professor in August 2016.

I have two primary research projects here: 1). The reception of Six Dynasties and Tang era Chinese texts in the literary works of the monk Kukai (774-835); and 2). The Chinese view of Kukai as reflected in the temples and monuments dedicated to him in the cities of Xi'an, Fuzhou, and Ningbo.

I have already published some of my research on the first topic in Japanese and English. Additionally, I will be presenting my findings on the second topic at this year's Association for Asian Studies conference in Washington D.C. in March 2018.

Aside from doing research and teaching, I also enjoy studying Chinese which I am happy to report improves by the day and traveling around China.

Socially-Engaged Art

Continued from pg. 3

Maritime Pathways at the Center for Japanese Studies' CPASF Lecture Series on March 2, 2018. Featured were his artworks *Migration of a Cycad*, *Sea Birth Part One* and *Sea Birth Part Two*. Mahalo to the Center for Japanese Studies, Dr. Lonny Carlile, and Dr. Gay Satsuma for their continued support of the CPASF, our scholars and alumni.

Next up for **Dr. Jack** will be an exhibition of *Molokai Window* at the Honolulu Museum of Art from April 27 to September 16, 2018.

The CPASF *Scholar Update* is published on a quarterly basis. Please email updates and photos to myokomichi@jashawaii.org for possible inclusion in a future edition.

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