



UCD Centre for Japanese Studies

Annual Report 2022

[April 2021 to March 2022]



UCD 日本研究センター
UCD Centre for Japanese Studies

年次報告書 2022
Annual Report 2022

2021 年 4 月 ~ 2022 年 3 月
April 2021 to March 2022



20th July 2022



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1 – Message from the Director

There are a number of uncertainties facing us in the world at the moment. The pandemic, an outbreak of war in Europe, the assassination of former Prime Minister of Japan Mr Shinzo Abe, inflation, growing inequalities, food and energy crisis and climate change. In this context, the Higher Education sector in Ireland, Japan and the world is operating. The Irish one in particular has been undergoing an unprecedented transformation with the establishment of many Technological Universities in every corner of the country. The Minister for Further and Higher Education, Mr Simon Harris TD and his team have been proactively seeking new partnerships in the world.

The UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (JaSt), established two years ago in April 2020, has been at the forefront of innovation in relation to bringing together students, academics, industry and policymakers to ‘Rise to the Future’ (UCD Strategy, 2020-2024). It has also been building up a significant track record of research in the area, and has now been established in the European network of Japanese Studies’ scholars and researchers (as an institutional member of the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS)).

Japan is a strong ‘pivot’ to Asia, a crucial region identified in UCD’s Global Engagement Strategy. Japan is the 3rd largest economy in the world and has a highly developed STEM sector, stable democracy and longstanding links with other large economies (e.g. USA, EU). Research and Education are among the sectors identified for increased cooperation between the two countries in the Joint Statement between Taoiseach Micheál Martin and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida during the Taoiseach’s visit to Japan in July 2022. The new Ireland House in Tokyo (currently under construction) will be a concrete demonstration of Ireland’s determination to develop its relations with Japan.

Just as in many other countries, Ireland’s higher education sector needs a major upgrade to keep up with this changing world. As Ireland’s Global University, it is UCD’s mission to prepare future experts/leaders with advanced knowledge and experience from across Asia to deepen and expand international relations. This is also a response to the Irish Government Strategy, “Global Ireland: Delivering in the Asia Pacific region to 2025” (Jan 2020). In a unique university context where ‘Area Studies’ have not been supported structurally, JaSt has been filling the gap by offering an innovative interdisciplinary research-driven model, supporting research into a unique culture and society. JaSt has been leveraging funding and other forms of support from national/international organisations raising UCD’s profile in this important area.

JaSt, together with the UCD Japan Group, has also been helping UCD to fulfil its ambitions to increase and diversify its student/staff population through broader and deeper engagement with many Asian countries in critical areas of research, intercultural competence and employment. The Centre connects UCD’s students, researchers and professional and academic staff with partners (universities, research institutes and government bodies) in Japan, and the Japanese communities in Ireland and abroad.

This is the second Annual Report, which I very proudly present. Together with the members of the Centre, I am immensely grateful to those who have been supporting our educational and research-led mission. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their dedication and contributions to the Centre.

From the entire UCD community to the family of the late Former Prime Minister Mr Shinzo Abe, Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam / ご冥福をお祈り申し上げます。

2 - Centre members & governance

JaSt is affiliated with the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice (SPWJ) and the College of Social Sciences and Law (CoSSL). The Director will report directly to the Head of School (SPWJ) and the College Principal (CoSSL), working closely with SPWJ’s research and finance managers. The Director and Deputy Director will establish manageable goals that will be consistently reviewed, and together with the members of the Centre, they will oversee academic standards and the coherence of the research and related programmes.

Key research in the broad area of Japanese Studies comes from members in History; Languages, Cultures and Linguistics; Mathematics and Statistics; the Applied Language Centre; Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems; and Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice.

Staff Members of the Centre:

- Director: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice)
- Deputy Director: Assoc. Prof. Emma Sokell (Physics)
- Prof. Brian Caulfield (Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science)

- Assist. Prof. Declan Downey (History)
- Prof. Mary Gallagher (Languages, Cultures and Linguistics)
- Prof. Stephen Gordon (Veterinary Medicine)
- Ms Nobuko Ijichi (Applied Language Centre/UCD Japan)
- Assist. Prof. Pablo Lucas (Sociology)
- Assoc. Prof. Hasheem Mannan (Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems)
- Adjunct Prof. John Neary (Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice)
- Assist. Prof. Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin (Mathematics and Statistics)

Visiting Researcher / Senior Research Fellow / Professor

Ms Yurie Maeda (School of Business, Technological University Dublin)

Mr Yusuke Suzuki (Director of the Chief Engineer Office, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA))

Assoc. Prof. Iwao Osaka (Director, Komazawa University Institute for Journalism and Policy Studies)

Advisory Board Members:

- Prof. Niamh Brennan (Smurfit School of Business)
- Prof. Hugh Campbell (School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy)
- Prof. Joe Carthy (College Principal, College Of Science)
- Prof. Niamh Hardiman (School of Politics and International Relations)
- Prof. Margaret Kelleher (School of English, Drama and Film)
- Prof. Suzie Jarvis (UCD Innovation Academy)
- Prof. Eilish McAuliffe (School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems)
- Prof. Brian O'Connor (School of Philosophy)
- Dr Diarmuid O'Shea (St Vincent's University Hospital)

External Academic Advisors:

- Prof. Christina Davis (Director of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations / Susan S. and Kenneth L. Wallach Professor at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University)
- Prof. Benjamin Ng (Head of Japanese Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Prof. Aaron Moore (Director of Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh)
- Prof. Kiri Paramore (Director, Irish Institute of Japanese Studies, University College Cork)
- Prof. Yoshiro Azuma (Department of Materials and Life Science, Sophia University)
- Prof. Toshiko Ellis (Dean, World Liberal Arts, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)

UCD Japan Members:

- Ms Carole Deering (Smurfit School of Business)
- Mr Hugo O'Donnell (UCD Global Engagement)
- Assoc. Prof. P.J. Mathews (School of English, Drama and Film)
- Mr Brian Mullins (UCD Sport)
- Prof. Ravindranathan Thampi (UCD School of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering)
- Mr Fionn Reid Kelly (Auditor, UCD Japanese Society / Politics & International Relations)
- Dr Subaru Tsuruoka (Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences)

Key Events (April 2021 – March 2022):

- April 2021: 1st UCD-PSU (Portland State University) joint webinar with Prof. Ken Endo (Hokkaido University)
- May 2021: 1st Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies Study Group
- August 2021: Contribution to the MENU (Multicultural Employee Network of UCD)'s Cultural Café Series "Matcha Café e Yōkoso! (Welcome to Japanese Matcha café)"
- August 2021: Participation in the 16th International Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies
- October - December 2020: UCD Japan (virtual) Fair 2021
- November 2021: 2nd UCD-PSU joint webinar with Mr Bill Emmott (Japan Society UK / Tokyo College)
- December 2021: Hosted the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test on the campus
- January - May 2022: Discovery Module 'Gateways to Japan'
- February 2022: UCD-JaSt & SMBC Aviation Capital Seminar Series
- February 2022: Contribution to the UCD Languages for Life video for the International Mother Language Day
- March 2022: Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs / the Embassy of Japan in Ireland sponsored webinar 'European Integration & its Economic Statecraft' with Prof. Kazuto Suzuki (University of Tokyo)

Reappointment of Adjunct Professor John Neary (April 2022 – March 2027)



The Centre is delighted to see the reappointment of Adjunct Prof. John Neary, who is the former Ambassador of Ireland to Japan (2010-14) and the Kingdom of the Netherlands (2014-16). He served as an outstanding diplomat and public servant in Ireland and many other countries.

After his retirement, he joined the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice as Adjunct Professor in 2017. Since then, Prof. Neary has been providing support for the development of interdisciplinary Japanese Studies in UCD. He has also been teaching in the areas of global social policy and Japanese studies in the last five years. The School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, supported by the College of Social Sciences and Law, has been playing the pivotal role in building research and academic partnerships with Japan, while supporting both UCD and Japanese students and researchers in the last ten years.

Visiting Lectureship (February – May 2022)



In February 2022, Prof. Toshiaki Miyamoto (Kansai Medical University) joined Prof. Brian Caulfield's team at the Insight Research Centre, continuing their research collaborations. Prof. Miyamoto provided occasional teaching at the School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, and gave a lecture on 'care systems & rehabilitation services in Japan' to our elective ('Gateways to Japan') students.

Visiting Senior Research Fellow (March 2022 – April 2023)



Director of the Chief Engineer Office, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), Mr Yusuke Suzuki joined the UCD Centre for Japanese Studies as Visiting Senior Research Fellow in March. Mr Suzuki studied Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering at the University of Tokyo. After graduating in 1984, he joined JAXA. For the last 38 years, he has been working in a variety of senior roles as a scientist focused on space transportation systems. He has led many space projects including the H-II/H-IIA rockets and HTV Project which is an un-manned visiting vehicle for the International Space Station (ISS).

Visiting PhD Student (September 2021 – February 2022)





Mr Hiroaki Imoto, PhD Student in Systems Biology at Osaka University, was a JSPS* Scholar at Systems Biology Ireland at UCD from September 2021 to February 2022. Prof. Boris Kholodenko (SFI Stokes Professor of Systems Biology at Systems Biology Ireland and UCD Conway Institute) hosted him.

* JSPS - the Japan Society for the Promotion of Sciences is an Independent Administrative Institution in Japan and deals with research funding covering all fields of the natural and social sciences and the humanities. The JSPS is equivalent of the SFI and the IRC combined.


3 - Summary of activities

Most activities are organised with generous help from the UCD Japan Group and the UCD JaSt colleagues. We would like to thank the Ireland-Japan Association (IJA) and the Embassy of Japan in Ireland for their support.

3.1 – UCD - PSU Joint Webinar Events

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| <p>Japan in the Age of Fraying International Order 8 April 2021</p>  | <p>Prof. Ken Endo (Hokkaido University, now University of Tokyo)</p> <p>Moderators: Prof. Ken Ruoff (Director, PSU Centre for Japanese Studies) / Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |
| <p>Digital disruption, political pressure and new opportunities: future of mass media & its impact on Japan 7 October 2021</p>  | <p>Mr Bill Emmott (Japan Society UK / Tokyo College)</p> <p>Moderators: Prof. Ken Ruoff (Director, PSU Centre for Japanese Studies) / Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |

3.2 – UCD-JaSt & SMBC Aviation Capital Seminar Series

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| <p>What we do in SMBC Aviation Capital – Communications, and its commitment to environment and sustainability 10 February 2022</p>  | <p>Speakers: Ms Orla Benson and Mr Brian Mc Ardle (SMBC Aviation Capital)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |
| <p>Learning from living and working in Japan/Ireland and Intercultural Communications in business 17 February 2022</p>  | <p>Speakers: Mr Niall Barrett, Mr Breifne Ryan & Ms Mina Takeshita (SMBC Aviation Capital)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |

My career – interdisciplinarity & intercultural communications

24 February 2022



Speaker: **Mr Tom Tanaka** (Chairperson, SMBC Aviation Capital)

Moderator: **Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate** (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice)

3.3 – Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs & the Embassy of Japan in Ireland-sponsored Seminar

Economic Statecraft of the EU and Japan The case of sanctions against the Russian invasion of Ukraine

4 March 2022



Speaker: **Prof. Kazuto Suzuki** (University of Tokyo)

Opening address: **H.E. Ambassador Mitsuru Kitano** (Embassy of Japan in Ireland)

Moderator: **Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate** (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice)

3.4 – The Japan-Ireland Association Seminar (Historical Research Division)

Life, Work & Research in Ireland during the Pandemic (*Japanese*)

27 February 2022



Speaker: **Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate** (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice)

Moderator: **Prof. Hiroko Goto** (Hosei University)

3.5 – Participation in Events organized by International Networks of Japanese Studies

The 16th International Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS), 24-28 August 2021.

Workshop ‘Technology & Society in Japan and Beyond’, Deutsches Institut für Japanstudien (German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo) & FU Berlin (online), 20 November 2021.

Webinar Series ‘Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health - An Euroasian project’, Fondation France-Japon de l'EHESS (School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences) (online). 16 November 2021 & 18 January 2022.

3.6 – Awards & Film Screenings in Europe, the UK and Japan

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|  | <h4>■ Circuits of Care: Ageing and Japan's Robot Revolution</h4> <p>Associate Professor Naonori Kodate, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice and Director of UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (UCD-JaSt) teamed up with Professor David Prendergast (Professor of Science, Technology and Society at Maynooth University) to produce a film entitled <i>Circuits of Care: Ageing and Japan's Robot Revolution</i>. The film has been nominated for awards at several film festivals, and won the 2021 Best Documentary Award at Long Story Shorts International Film Festival.</p> | <p>It is estimated that by 2036, one in three people in Japan will be over the age of 65. While the nation wrestles with a shrinking labour force, the Robot Revolution Initiative was launched to expand robotics into every corner of Japanese economy and society. The film <i>Circuits of Care</i>, directed by Professor Prendergast and produced by Associate Professor Kodate, was shot in Tokyo in the autumn of 2019. From cybernetic walking supports to companion robots and automated sensor networks in nursing homes, older adults and care professionals share their experiences of the practical benefits these technologies bring, the problems they create and the unexpected relationships that can blossom. The film also sheds light on how assistive technologies were used during the pandemic to provide care for older people.</p> | <p>Between April and June 2021, Associate Professor Kodate was invited to join film screenings and discussion sessions targeted at a variety of local and international audiences. The organisers include the SFI Centre for Research Training in Advanced Networks for Sustainable Societies (ADVANCE CRT), the Service Design Network (SDN), the Response-Ability Summit 2021, and the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), France.</p> <p>The film was part of an interdisciplinary and international project, 'Harmonisation towards the establishment of Person-centred, Robotics-aided Care System (HARP: RoCS)', funded by the Toyota Foundation.</p> |
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[UCD Today, Autumn 2021, p.14]

Film Screenings

20 May 2021, 13:00 – 14:00

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies, la Fondation France-Japon, EHESS & Visual Ethnography Lab, Maynooth University

21 May 2021, 14:05 – 15:15

Response-ability Summit 2021

28 May 2021, 9:00 – 10:00

Toyota Foundation Online Café Meeting

1 June 2021, 18:00-19:30

Service Design Network Ireland 2021

22 June 2021, 10:00 – 11:00

AdvanceCRT - Advance Summer School 2021

24 September 2021, 14:00 – 15:00 (CET)

The University of Bonn International Workshop

"East Asia in the Digital Age - Digital Transformation in Technological, Economic, and Social Perspective"

22 October 2021, 14:00 – 16:00 (IST) (face-to-face seminar) NK

University College Cork - The Irish Institute of Japanese Studies

18 December 2021, 13:15-14:15 (EST)

Washington DC, Workshop AIOT4DH, IEEE ACE CHASE 20218

January 2022, 18:00-19:00 (JST) Honjo International Scholarship Foundation – Online Seminar for high school students

12 January 2022, 17:00-18:00 (GMT)

SOAS, University of London - Japan Research Centre

3.7 – Japanese Language and Culture Modules [2009/10 to 2021/22]

Japanese is a long-established curricular language in Irish secondary schools (it was the first non-European language to be taught) and a 'targeted' language in the Irish Government's ambitious 'Languages Connect Strategy, 2017-26'. It is also a highly sought-after language by increasing numbers of International (EU and non-EU) students in UCD. It has been offered in UCD for more than 30 years.

However, as figures show, from a high point in 2010/11, student numbers are in decline (248 down to 167 this year). These are small numbers for a university of UCD's size. Proficiency targets are also low (beginners A.1.1 competence and not the Government B1 'independent user' target); few students continue 'up the levels'. Yet pent-up student demand is high. When in 2018/19, more than 60 registered Japanese students, had their class places suddenly cancelled, the UCD Japanese Students' Society (506 members), stepped up to offer free Japanese classes to disappointed students.

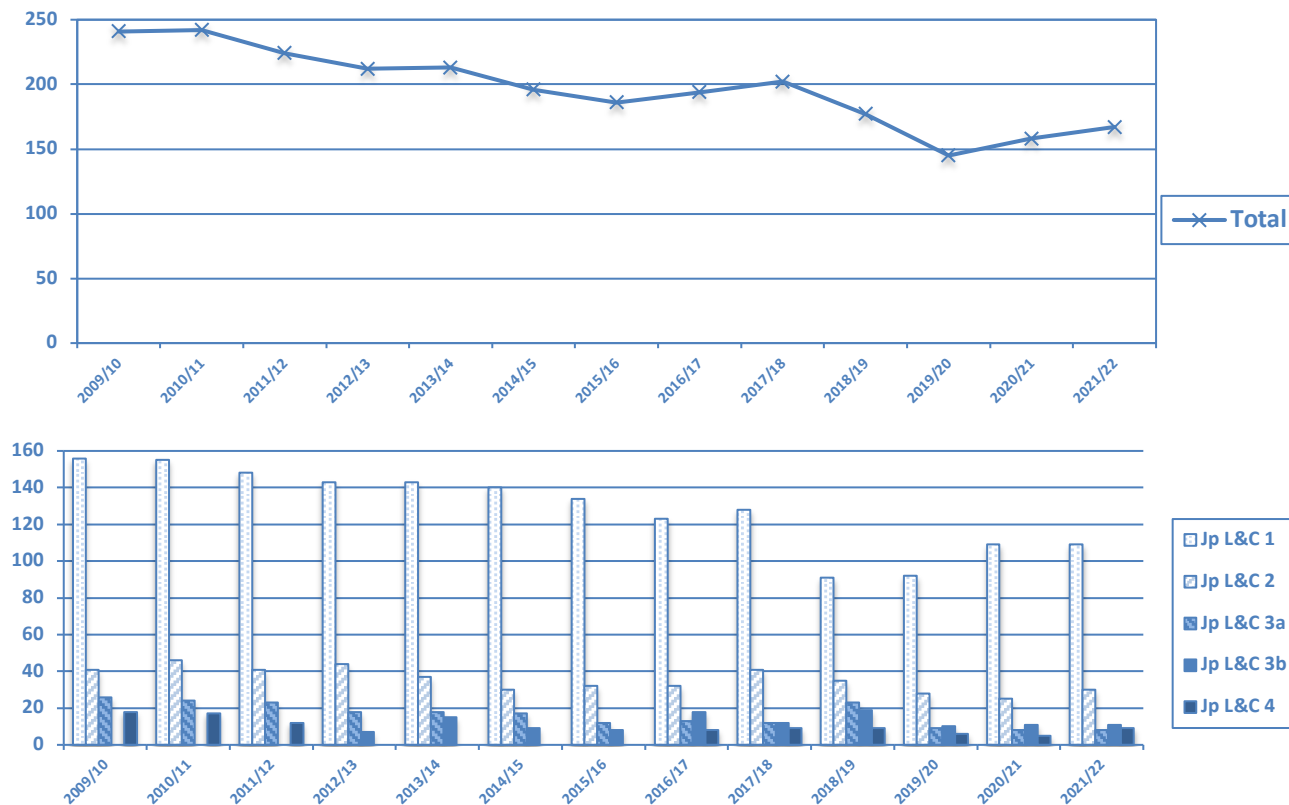
Research shows that Japanese (like other non-European languages) poses particular learning challenges for students. Additional learning time and specific pedagogies are required, the complex writing system is challenging, and cultural-specific awareness is essential to progression.

The UCD Horizons 'Free Electives' structure was cut back following UCD Curriculum Review and Enhancement (CRE) but is still the dominant ALC teaching model/framework. It supports a generic, common approach to foreign language

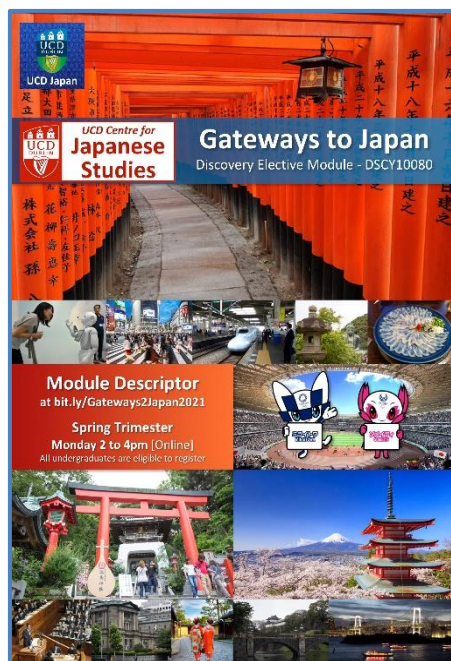
teaching, as shown on their website, and most modules are taught at beginners/entry-level. The decline in numbers presents an opportunity to reimagine Japanese (in particular) language education.

Encouragingly and on a constructive note, the UCD's Global Engagement Strategy, a major strand within "Rising to the Future", is signalling new thinking and a new direction. It seeks to open up ambitious opportunities to support foreign language learning (incl. non-European languages such as Japanese) and move beyond current barriers to extending language learning options.

Total Japanese Language & Culture Registrations



3.8 - University-wide Elective Module [DSCY10080] 'Gateways to Japan' [Spring Trimester]







The Centre members gave the following lectures:

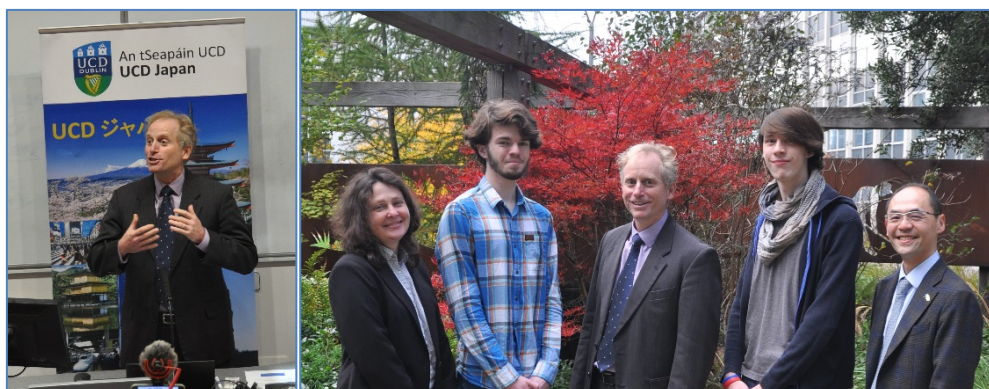
- Prof. Neary - "Impressions of Japan"
- Ms Ijichi - "Introduction to Japanese language and culture (1/2)", "Communication strategy: getting things done in Japan (1/2)"
- Dr Downey - "Japan and the West: a historical overview", "Kyoto & Edo: a tale of two cities & two cultural forms", "Tradition & modernity: the enigma of contemporary Japan"
- Prof. Mary Gallagher - "Patrick Lafcadio Hearn"
- Prof. Gordon, Prof. Caulfield & Assoc. Prof. Sokell - "Research in Japan from a European perspective"
- Assoc. Prof. Ní Shúilleabháin - "Lesson Study and learning from Japanese educators"
- Assoc. Prof. Kodate - "Similarities and differences between Irish and Japanese politics", "Super-ageing society: community-based approach vs. robotics-aided care approach", "Circuits of Care: Ageing and Japan's Robot Revolution"
- Guest lecturers include: Mr Yusuke Suzuki (space science, JAXA), Mr Takanori Miyazai (physics), Prof. Toshiaki Miyamoto (formerly at Hyogo University of Health Sciences, Japan & Insight SFI Research Centre for Data Analytics, UCD)

4 - Events

4.1 - UCD Japan Fair 2021

To mark the 5th year of the Annual UCD Japan Fair, the UCD Japan Group and the JaSt held five webinars, including ‘Digital disruption, political pressure and new opportunities: future of mass media & its impact on Japan’ (7 October 2021). These events were held in collaboration with the UCD Japanese Society, Experience Japan, the Embassy of Japan in Ireland and the Ireland-Japan Association. Speakers joined us from Germany/France & Ireland. The keynote lecture was given in-person by Prof. Kiri Paramore on the Belfield Campus.

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| <p>Journeys to Japan; from culture to technology 14 October 2021</p>  | <p>Speakers: Dr Denisa Butnaru (Universität Konstanz)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |
| <p>Katori Shintō Ryū: Swordsmanship in an age of battle 21 October 2021</p>  | <p>Speakers: Mr Aidan O'Reilly (Kōryū Budō Seifukai)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |
| <p>Japan Exchange & Teaching Programme 28 October 2021</p>  | <p>Speaker: Mr Gavin Munnely (JET Coordinator / Embassy of Japan)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |
| <p>Imagining Globally: Japan & China's approach to liberal internationalism 11 November 2021</p>  | <p>Speaker: Prof Kiri Paramore (Professor of Asian Studies University College Cork) / Director, Irish Institute of Japanese Studies, UCC)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> |



To watch some of the UCD Japan Fair 2021, see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7n_TFLMcMiY&t=2278s

4.2 - Multicultural Employee Network (MENU) of UCD’s Cultural Café Series “Matcha Café e Yōkoso! (Welcome to Japanese Matcha cafe)” [August 2021]

Ms Nobuko Ijichi (UCD Centre for Japanese Studies) and Dr Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice) gave an online session “Matcha Cafe e Yōkoso! (Welcome to Japanese Matcha Café)” as part of the Multicultural Employee Network of UCD (MENU) Cultural Café Series on Friday 20 August 2021.

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| <p>“Matcha Cafe e Yōkoso! (Welcome to Japanese Matcha Café)” 20 August 2021</p>  | <p>Speakers: Ms Nobuko Ijichi (UCD Centre for Japanese Studies) & Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms Julia Janiszewska (UCD China Joint Colleges Office, on behalf of MENU Committee)</p> |
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The session covered a wide-ranging topics including the history of matcha, Sadō (the way of tea), tea products, and how to enjoy a Matcha Latte and different matcha sweets. The session combined a slide presentation, quizzes and demonstrations, attracting a lot of interesting questions and animated interactions. Special thanks to ITO EN & the Honjo International Scholarship Foundation.

4.3 - Contribution to the UCD Languages for Life video “Happy International Mother Language Day” to mark International Mother Language Day [February 2022]

Dr Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice) contributed to the UCD Languages for Life video to mark the International Mother Language Day. The video is accessible from here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUvivvqDgsE>

5 - Research outputs

Publications

Akapelwa ML, Kapalamula TF, Ouchi-Aizu Y, Hang'ombe BM, Nishiuchi Y, Gordon SV, Solo ES, Tamaru A, Nishimura T, Hasegawa N, Morimoto K, Fukushima Y, Suzuki Y, Nakajima C. Evaluation of IS1245 LAMP in *Mycobacterium avium* and the influence of host-related genetic diversity on its application. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis*. 2021 Dec;101(4):115494. doi: 10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2021.115494. Epub 2021 Jul 21. PMID: 34391980.

Guan Q, Garbati M, Mfarrej S, AlMutairi T, Laval T, Singh A, Fagbo S, Smyth A, Browne JA, Rahman MA, Alruwaili A, Hoosen A, Meehan CJ, Nakajima C, Suzuki Y, Demangel C, Bhatt A, Gordon SV, AlAsmari F, Pain A. Insights into the ancestry evolution of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex from analysis of *Mycobacterium riyadhense*. *NAR Genom Bioinform*. 2021 Aug 11;3(3):lqab070. doi: 10.1093/nargab/lqab070. PMID: 34396095; PMCID: PMC8356964.

Kapalamula TF, Chizimu J, Belotindos L, Akapelwa M, Shrestha D, Nyenje ME, Munyeme M, Hang'ombe BM, Mkakosya RS, Gordon SV, Nakajima C, Suzuki Y. Molecular epidemiology of *Mycobacterium bovis* in central parts of Malawi. *Transbound Emerg Dis*. 2022 May;69(3):1577-1588. doi: 10.1111/tbed.14127. Epub 2021 May 12. PMID: 33900039.

Kodate N & Kodate K (2022). Career paths dependent and supported: the role of women's universities in ensuring access to STEM education and research careers in Japan. In C.G. Jones, A.E. Martin, A. Wolf (Eds.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Women and Science since 1660*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kodate N, Taneda K, Yumoto A, Kawakami N. (2022). How do healthcare practitioners use incident data to improve patient safety in Japan? A qualitative study. *BMC Health Services Research*. Online First.

Ni Shuilleabhain, A. (2022) Lesson Study. In Eds: Delahunty, T. & Ni Riordain, M., 'Perspectives in Contemporary STEM Education Research', pp.129-138

Obayashi K, Kodate N & Masuyama S. (2021). Assessing the Impact of an Original Soft Communicative Robot in a Nursing Home in Japan: Will Softness or Conversations Bring more Smiles to Older People?. *Int J of Soc Robotics*. •

Obayashi K, Kodate N, Kondo H, Okamoto Y, Ishii Y, Nonoda T & Masuyama S. (2021) The COVID-19 pandemic and organizational resilience as unanticipated outcome of introducing socially assistive robots in nursing homes. *Geriatrics and Gerontology International*.

Kodate N (2022). United Kingdom: "National" interest polarized by two crises. In M. Okabe (Ed.), *The European Union and its International Relations in the post-Pandemic World (In Japanese)*. Tokyo: Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha Ltd.
小館尚文. 「イギリス: 2つの危機で分極化する「国益」」、岡部みどり編著『世界変動と脱 EU/超 EU: ポスト・コロナ、米中覇権競争下の国際関係』、日本経済評論社.

Keynote

Kodate N (2022). Person-centered, robotics-aided care system - robots in caring communities in the Japanese context, The Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany (BMBF)-sponsored Symposium "BeBeRobot: Evaluation Criteria for the Use of Robotic Systems in Care", 10 February 2022 (online).

Conferences

Delahunty T & Ni Shuilleabhain A (2022). Attitudes to lesson study and the relationship to perceived teaching self-efficacy in mathematics among practicing teachers, Educational Studies Association of Ireland conference (online via Marino Institute of Education), 7-9 April 2021.

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Suwa S, Tsujimura M, Kodate N, Donnelly S, Kitinoja H, Hallila J, Toivonen M, Bergman-Kärpijoki C, Takahashi E, Ide H, Ishimaru M, Shimamura A, Yu W. (2021). Exploring perceptions toward home-care robots for older people in Finland, Ireland, and Japan: A comparative questionnaire study. In *15th International Congress of Asian Society Against Dementia (ASAD2021)*, 9 November 2021, Sendai, Japan.

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Research collaboration

Associate Professor Akihiko Takahashi (De Paul University, Chicago) will act as a member of the Research Advisory Committee of Dr Ni Shuilleabhain's IRC funded project 'Is fearr deis chun cainnte - promoting productive Mathematical practices in underprivileged classrooms', investigating the development of Mathematics teaching practices in socio-economically underprivileged schools in Ireland utilising Lesson Study.

Podcasts / Interviews

Kodate N (2021). Interview. Fondation France-Japon de l’EHESS, August 2021.

http://ffj.ehess.fr/upload/FFJ_InterviewWithNKodate.pdf

Kodate N (2021). The ROSIE project « Robots sociaux et expérimentations en gériatrie » Gérontopôle d’Île-de-France (Géron’d’if), June 2021.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRcP8waFy2o> (timestamps : 2:10:40-2:19:10)

Kodate N (2021). Beyond Japan Ep. #36: Robotics in Elder Care with Dr Naonori Kodate. Centre for Japanese Studies • Sainsbury Institute • University of East Anglia, May 2021.

<https://japaninnorwich.org/2021/05/20/beyond-japan-ep-36-robotics-in-elder-care-with-dr-naonori-kodate/>

Newspaper commentary

O’Donoghue JJ (2022). Interview featured in *Buzz.ie* “The J word: How Japanese people feel about the term 'Japs' and whether it's acceptable” (4 February 2022).

<https://www.buzz.ie/news/irish-news/j-word-japs-japanese-people-26132749>

6 - Partnerships

- ❖ **Hokkaido University (HU)** - Ongoing research collaborations in the area of One Health. The Erasmus+ ICM 2022 Application was submitted by Assoc. Prof. Kodate (Social/Public Policy) and Prof. Gordon (One Health).
- ❖ **International Christian University (ICU)** - 'Language Buddies' Program (Apr 2021 - Mar 2022)
 - UCD - ICU students were actively involved in this exchange program, holding regular English-Japanese online language lessons.
 - Smurfit School of Business has been in contact with ICU, discussing possible collaborations.
- ❖ **Chiba University (CU)** – Toyota Foundation funded research project "Harmonisation towards the establishment of Person-centred, Robotics-aided Care System (HARP: RoCS)". Regular online meetings were held throughout the year.
- ❖ **Osaka University (OU)** – JSPS Scholar (September 2021- February 2022), Mr Hiroaki Imoto came from Prof. Mariko Okada (OU)'s lab to join the Kholodenko Group in UCD's Systems Biology Ireland.
- ❖ **Meiji University (MU)** – Discussion is ongoing regarding possible student collaborations between MU's Faculty of Commerce and UCD-JaSt. The Centre is supporting the initiatives by the Smurfit School of Business.
- ❖ **Showa Women's University (SWU)** – UCD-JaSt and the Smurfit School of Business have worked on the Memorandum of Agreement with SWU.
- ❖ **Japan Rugby Football Union (JRFU)** – UCD-JaSt (led by Ms Ijichi) promoted the scholarship schemes of the Smurfit School of Business, and recruited a student.
- ❖ **Seijo University (SU)** – UCD-JaSt (led by Assoc. Prof. Kodate) and the faculty at SU have discussed and SU will launch its brand new module 'Irish Studies' in the autumn of 2022.

7 - Ongoing work and future directions

7.1 - Japanese Studies - language/culture/society [incl. Business, STEM, Arts & others]

Although this section was included in the first Annual Report, it is worth reiterating it in this year's report, as we are fully committed to this and there is now great momentum. UCD's Global Engagement Strategy, a major strand within 'Rising to the Future', commits to new initiatives and implementation models to strengthen competences in global civilisations, languages and a range of societal challenges. An aim is to develop competence to speak, understand and think in foreign languages thereby providing 'A Global Experience for All'. The approach will draw on UCD's new Strategy and the Government's National Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026, which is proving to be a transformational initiative in Irish HEIs. In UCD, implementation will include embedding the development of foreign language learning in university Programmes and Curricula, supporting Study/Research Abroad opportunities for students and a range of other initiatives. In particular, we aim to provide our students with greater opportunities to be able to conduct research in Japan/Asia and obtain strategic and leadership positions in businesses and diplomacy.

From a Japanese language point of view, this will involve

- exploring models of research-led Japanese T/L for diverse learner categories (incl. STEM, Business, others)
- benchmarking of standards and test outputs to international standards (certification)
- exploring how digitization can overcome barriers to language learning and international exchange
- creating collaborative strategic partnerships, nationally internationally
- developing models of creative, participatory and experiential models of language learning

Already, research has commenced in sourcing models and information and setting up partnerships from other countries' examples - Japanese language/culture teaching (e.g. Aarhus, Barcelona, Cambridge, East Anglia, Leiden, Australian National University, Monash, UC Berkeley, Harvard, Stanford, Portland State, Michigan, University of British Columbia, Ruhr-Bochum, Freie Universität Berlin and National Singapore University).

7.2 - Continuing Professional Development

We will seek to set up a Working Group with academics and practitioners with relevant expertise in this area.

We have been in discussion with various key stakeholders in the domain of Japanese Studies (language/culture/society), and business.

- We will set up a Working Group with academics and practitioners with relevant expertise in this area.
- We will further seek the opportunity to develop a CPD programme.
- We will provide our students with greater opportunities to be able to conduct research in Japan/Asia and obtain jobs in businesses and diplomacy.

8 - Conclusion

Despite many challenges, we have made great progress in the second year. With the publication of the Joint Statement between Ireland and Japan "Taking Forward Partnership with Shared Ambition" agreed between Taoiseach Micheál Martin and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida during the Taoiseach's visit to Japan in July 2022, the coming few years and decade will provide a key opportunity for the School, the College and the University - it might be said 'the one and only moment' - to strike for UCD (the University and the School) to demonstrate and consolidate its long-term relationship with Japan and Japanese universities/research institutes. Leveraging what has been created over the last decade would also significantly contribute to the UCD Strategy for Research, Innovation and Impact, *Shaping the Future*.

Acknowledgements

Just as last year, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all friends of Japan and great supporters in the UCD community and beyond. We are particularly grateful for the support from the Ambassadors, the Embassy of Japan in Ireland, the Embassy of Ireland, Japan, Enterprise Ireland, the Japan Foundation, Experience Japan, the Ireland Japan Association, Japanese Language Teachers of Ireland, the Post-Primary Languages Ireland, UCD Japanese Society and the Japanese Societies in the other Irish HEIs, the European Association of Japanese Studies, the Irish Network Japan, our partner universities, institutions and business societies in Japan, the USA, the UK, Asia and Europe.



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