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2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



UCD
Centre for
Japanese
Studies

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

年次報告書 2023
Annual Report 2023

2022 年 4 月 ~ 2023 年 3 月
April 2022 to March 2023



16 June 2023



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1 - Message from the Director

The UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (JaSt) was established in April 2020, and since then, JaSt, together with the UCD Japan Group (founded in 2016), has been proactively supporting the university to fulfil its multidisciplinary ambitions to increase and diversify its student/staff population through broader and deeper engagement with Japan and other Asian countries in critical areas of innovative research, education innovation, intercultural competence and employment. JaSt connects UCD's students, researchers and professional and academic staff with partners and key stakeholders (universities, research institutes and government bodies) in Japan, and the Japanese communities in Ireland and abroad. This is the third Annual Report. 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.

Important recent development

Ireland-Japan diplomatic links and Signing of Joint Statement August 2022

Ireland's longstanding strong diplomatic links with Japan (dating back to the 1950s) have gained new impetus from the 2018 launch of Global Ireland: Ireland's Global Footprint to 2025. This strategy represents the most ambitious renewal and expansion of Ireland's international presence ever undertaken in terms of diplomacy, culture, business, overseas aid, tourism and trade.

On the 20th July 2022, Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD and Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida issued a Joint Statement, "Taking Forward Partnership with Shared Ambition".

The Joint Statement sets out the vision of both governments on strengthening bilateral relationships in agri-food, financial services, ICT, life sciences and clean technologies, research and all levels of Education. A significant increase in institution partnerships as well as academic and student mobility, is expected. Ireland's commitment to Japan is further evidenced by the decision to construct Ireland House in Tokyo, which is due to open in 2024, and the largest-ever capital investment by the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. Ireland is also preparing its participation in Expo 2025 in Osaka. These flagship developments are also destined to strengthen Ireland's overall presence across the Asia Pacific region.

Current changing geo-political landscape

At European level, Japan's unique and historical strategic position in Asia is assuming increased significance at a time of rapid global geo-political shift. Relations were further strengthened with the signing of the EU/Japan High-Level Dialogue 25th October 2022). The projected growth of Asian economic dominance in the 21st century, despite some current deceleration, is still expected to remain strong. Japan's stable and successful political and economic system has a highly developed and innovative science and technology sector. Its education system includes some of the most elite university institutions in the world. Its ancient and rich cultural heritage is renowned and admired; more recently, innovation in the creative industries sector highlights Japan's status as a global cultural force.

UCD Japan approval to apply for Centre status

Recognising the importance of Japan in 2016, the then UCD President as Chair of ACCAC, supported the establishment of an academic-led, multidisciplinary **UCD Japan Group**. Its achievements (with scant resources) were strong across many areas. In April 2019, the two co-Chairs of the UCD Japan Group (Prof. Emma Sokell (Head of School, Physics) and Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice)) met the then Registrar (subsequently Acting President Prof. Mark Rogers). He approved the proposal for a submission to establish a Centre of Excellence for 'Japanese Studies' on the basis of the Japan Group's track record.

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (JaSt), established in April 2020.

The Academic Centre proposal included core Japanese Studies, covering a wide range of themes, including contemporary society, innovation, STEM, climate, design and technology, history and aesthetics (incl. architecture), food, music and sports, as well as Japanese language and culture (benchmarked to high international standards). The application was approved in April 2020.

Important note: This high-level academic approval does not imply a commitment for funding. Most JaSt activities are organised with generous support from the UCD Japan Group and the voluntary work of the UCD JaSt colleagues. Certain activities can receive targeted funding from Government Bodies, State Agencies, the Corporate Sector and other agencies.

Through establishing the Centre, we prepared ourselves as a National Hub for Education, Research and Innovation while highlighting UCD's commitment to long-lasting impacts/outputs in the area of Japanese studies/ and to Japan. A key priority is to heighten employability by enabling students to develop the intercultural communication, language and transferable skills required in a fast-changing world of business, research, public policy and diplomacy.

These developments are timely as Ireland is witnessing the unprecedented transformation in HE with the recent establishment of 5+ Technological Universities in every part 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.

Using our personal, individual and collective resources and research connections, JaSt has also been proactively supporting the university (including UCD Centre for English and Global Languages (CEGL) as well as UCD Global) to fulfil its ambitions to increase and diversify its student/staff population through broader and deeper engagement with Japan and other Asian countries in critical areas of research, intercultural competence and employment. JaSt offers advice and guidance for prospective UCD students in the world, and UCD students and researchers who are interested in and seeking friends and collaborators in Japan. It therefore provides visible and invisible support networks for UCD's students, researchers and professional and academic staff. JaSt sowed the seed and laid foundations for this university's partnerships with Japanese universities and research institutes during the period when the university had no clear strategy for Asia (apart from student recruitment). JaSt made it happen, because we believe in a vibrant academic-led, multidisciplinary team, respecting personal connections as well as institutional history, and understanding the meaning of partnerships. Students' needs drive us forward. Examples of its achievements are laid out in this Report.

This is the third Annual Report. 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.

2 - JaSt Centre Review

In accordance with UCD's policy on Academic Centres, all centres are subject to review during their third year of operation, and thereafter subject to periodic review based on a schedule determined by the Academic Council Committee on Academic Centres (ACCAC). Accordingly, JaSt underwent the review which took place between December 2022 and February 2023. The purpose of the review was to ensure that the Centre is meeting its objectives. The review outcome was published in March 2023. Below are the key observations, commendations and recommendations made by the Review Panel as conveyed by Prof. Alex Evans, Chair of ACCAC.

Here are the key observations, commendations and recommendations made by the Review Panel.

Observations

- Interesting and dynamic Centre.
- It is truly multidisciplinary.
- Successful two years since inception.
- Has done much to build the profile of Japanese research, language and culture in UCD, the profile of UCD in Japan with partners including universities, Japanese government and Irish embassy.

Commendations

- Excellent interdisciplinarity across the University.
- This Centre has demonstrated how various researchers and academics can come together in the university with a shared interest.

Recommendations

- Plans for coming 5 years are quite vague.
- Need to firm up Centre identity and ensure it becomes well-established.
- At the moment, much of the work is driven by a dedicated Director and it would prove beneficial to draw up a succession plan that includes the various areas across the University.

3 - 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 (Physics) 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.

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)
- 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)
- Assoc. Prof. Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin (Mathematics and Statistics)

Visiting Researchers

- Ms Yurie Maeda (Department of Business Technology, Retail and Supply Chain, Technological University Dublin)
- Mr Yusuke Suzuki (Associate Director General, Senior Chief Engineer, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA))
- Assoc. Prof. Iwao Osaka (Director, Komazawa University Institute for Journalism and Policy Studies)
- Hayanon (Mangaka, Hayanon Science Manga Studio)

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 (Visiting Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi)
- Prof. Toshiko Ellis (Dean, World Liberal Arts, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)

UCD Japan Members (as of April 2023):

- Mr Hugo O'Donnell (UCD)
- Mr Kamrujjaman Azad (Auditor, UCD Japanese Society / Mechanical Engineering)
- Dr John (Sean) Cassidy (UCD Quinn School of Business)
- Assoc. Prof. P.J. Mathews (School of English, Drama and Film)
- Dr Yasuhito Sekimoto (Biomedicine)
- Prof. Ravindranathan Thampi (UCD School of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering)

Former members (with our heartfelt thanks)

- Ms Carole Deering (Smurfit School of Business)
- Mr Fionn Reid Kelly (Former Auditor, UCD Japanese Society)
- Dr Subaru Tsuruoka (Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences)

From the entire UCD community to the family of the late Mr Brian Mullins (UCD Sport), Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam / ご冥福をお祈り申し上げます。

4 - JaSt Events (April 2022 - March 2023)

- February - May 2022: Prof. Toshiaki Miyamoto (Kansai Medical University)'s research stay at the Insight Centre.
- April 2022: Experience Japan - National Festival of Japan in Ireland, Farmleigh House and Grounds.
- June 2022: 5th International Workshop & Symposium 'Future Technologies and Integrated Care', Tokyo (Hybrid).
- July 2022: [1] Presented at the SASE (the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics) 34th Annual Meeting, Amsterdam; [2] Presented at the symposium 'Science and Technology Studies – Europe versus Asia' and participated in the 1st week-long workshops for Eurasian research project 'Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health' at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS, Paris.

- August 2022: [1] Contributions to the 1st Japan Strategy Meeting for UCD Smurfit Business School; [2] Presented at the International Conference on the Physics of Highly Charged Ions, Matsue.
- September 2022: [1] Successful bid - Erasmus+ICM with Hokkaido University (Veterinary Science & Social Policy) announced; [2] Mr Naoki Furukawa MP (House of Representatives)'s visit to UCD-JaSt; [3] Presented at the Irish Association for Applied Linguistics (IRAAL) Conference 2022, Cork & Kerry; [4] Meeting with the Head of School, Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice.
- October 2022: [1] Contributions to the 2nd Japan Strategy Meeting for UCD Smurfit Business School; [2] UCD Japan Fair 2022.
- November 2022: [1] Chiba U– UdeM – UCD joint research project's official launch, Montréal; [2] Prof. Ebishima (Seijo University)'s visit to UCD-JaSt; [3] UCD-JaSt Review documents submitted to the UCD Academic Council Committee on Academic Centres (ACCAC).
- December 2022: [1] Hosted the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test on the Belfield campus; [2] 6th International Workshop & Symposium 'Future Technologies and Integrated Care', Tokyo (Hybrid).
- January - May 2023: Discovery Module 'Gateways to Japan'.
- February 2023: [1] ICU-JaSt Summer School Scholarship announced, [2] ACCAC's review outcome received.
- March 2023: [1] Waidaiko Experience Project - The Spirit of Samurai Taiko: a big highlight in Irish Schools and St Patrick's Festival; [2] Special guest lecture 'Japanese animation in the New Normal Era' by Mr Masakazu Kubo (Shogakkan Music and Digital Entertainment Co. Ltd.); [3] Dr Declan Downey's research visit to Japan; [4] VP for Global Engagement, Prof. Dolores O'Riordan's visit to Japan and Showa Women's University; [5] Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs / the Embassy of Japan in Ireland sponsored Experience Japan @ Farmleigh Seminar 'When Manga meets Science' with Hayanon (Manga-ka).

Post-doctoral Researchers & Visiting Researchers

	<p>Prof. Osaka joined us at the UCD Centre for Japanese Studies & the UCD Geary Institute for Public Policy in April 2022 and will stay till March 2024. Prof. Osaka is Associate Professor in Japanese politics at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Law, Komazawa University, Tokyo and the Director of the Komazawa University Institute for Journalism and Policy Studies. Prof. Osaka gave lectures and seminars for UCD Japan Fair 2022 and the Gateways to Japan. He also wrote regularly for the website magazine called RONZA of the Asahi Shimbun newspaper, and one article touched upon the JaSt's activities as well as the EJ Taiko, and Experience Japan.</p>
	<p>Dr Sekimoto, a specialist in Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM), will be conducting research at the UCD Conway Institute. Dr Yasuhito Sekimoto (MD, PhD) joined a research team led by Assoc. Prof. Cormac McCarthy and Prof. Michael Keane at the UCD Conway Institute. Dr Sekimoto successfully applied for the DevelopMed Fellowship Program (Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Action), which is a Precision Oncology Fellowship at UCD, with the aim of continuing basic research in Lymphangiomyomatosis (LAM). Dr Sekimoto contributed to the Gateways to Japan module, and is a member of the UCD Japan Group.</p>
	<p>Dr Hiroaki Imoto, former PhD Student & JSPS funded researcher in Systems Biology at Osaka University, completed his PhD research, and returned to the laboratory of Prof. Boris Kholodenko (SFI Stokes Professor of Systems Biology at Systems Biology Ireland and UCD Conway Institute) in April 2023. The duration of his post-doctoral research is expected to be for 2 years.</p>
	<p>Hayanon, a master of Japanese manga, holds a BA in Physics and Masters in English Education. She writes and illustrates comic strips about science topics such as auroras, global warming, cosmic rays and many more. These comics are mainly aimed towards children and non-scientists, though she has written for many audiences. Over the past twenty years, Hayanon has produced science comics for magazines, newspapers, universities (e.g. Kyoto, Tokyo, Hokkaido), research institutes, JAXA and NASA. Recently, she started working for cross-researchers working in arts, humanities and social sciences. Her works have been translated into more than 25 languages. She joined the UCD-JaSt as a visiting researcher / artist in April 2023.</p>

5 - Japanese Studies: Language, Culture and Area Studies

5.1 - Japanese Language and Culture Modules [2012-2023] - Development and challenges

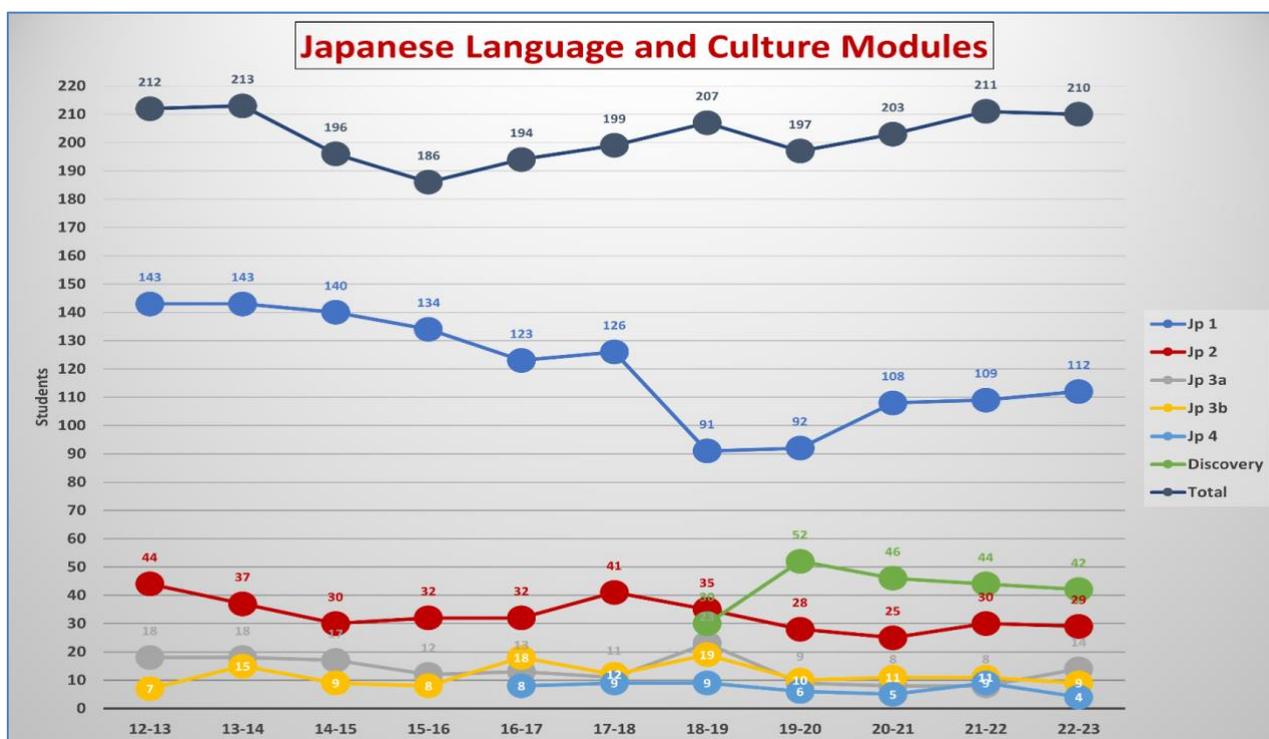
Japanese is a long-established curricular (Leaving Certificate) language in Irish secondary schools (first non-European language) and is taught in UCD for more than 30 years.

As the table below shows, UCD numbers and standards taking Japanese are on a downward trend. Proficiency achieved is entry level (mainly beginners CEFR A.1.1, so well below the Government CEFR B1 'independent user' target). Few students go 'up the levels'. Students with prior knowledge of Japanese, (for example Leaving Certificate) level cannot easily be accommodated,

The 'Free Choice Electives' curricular structure is the dominant teaching model/framework. This supports a generic, common approach to foreign language teaching, as shown on the website. Most modules are taught at beginners/entry-level only. Additional learning time and specific pedagogies are required to support students acquiring specific features of Japanese, for example culture or writing/reading, and these are not available.

Following UCD Curriculum Review and Enhancement (CRE) in 2017, the Free Choice Electives' structure was cut back, so fewer elective slots are available. The capacity to provide 'Japanese learning pathways' to enable students' progress 'up the levels' is proving challenging for many reasons. Yet demand is strong including the need to prepare students for growing mobility opportunities to Japan, including Study Abroad, internships etc.

	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	CEFR Level
Jp Language & Culture 1	143	143	140	134	123	126	91	92	108	109	112	A1.1
Jp Language & Culture 2	44	37	30	32	32	41	35	28	25	30	29	A1.2
Jp Language & Culture 3a	18	18	17	12	13	11	23	9	8	8	14	A2.1
Jp Language & Culture 3b	7	15	9	8	18	12	19	10	11	11	9	A2.2 to B1
Jp Language & Culture 4					8	9	9	6	5	9	4	B1
Gateways to Japan							30	52	46	44	42	
Total	212	213	196	186	194	199	207	197	203	211	210	



The good news is that nationally, Japanese is now a targeted Asian language in the Irish Government's ambitious National 'Languages Connect' Strategy, 2017-26. It is also an increasingly sought-after language by International (EU and non-EU) and home students in UCD. Despite the challenges, JaSt has been proactively seeking to create an ecosystem for UCD students, working closely together with the UCD JSoc, Experience Japan and external bodies.

The university's Global Engagement Strategy, a major strand within the university strategy "Rising to the Future", seeks to open up ambitious opportunities to support all foreign language learning and move beyond current barriers to extend language learning options.

Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

International certification for Japanese language proficiency is widely sought for personal, professional, academic or mobility purposes. The JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) is an internationally recognised qualification for non-native speakers sponsored by the Japan Foundation, a Japanese Government agency. The Japan Foundation requested JaSt to establish a JPLT National Examination Centre in 2017 and the administering of the examination has continued successfully since then. Candidates come from all over Ireland to take the exam but also from elsewhere in the British Isles or further afield.

In Ireland there is a strong candidate demand from secondary schools and HEIs to take the exam. As an interdisciplinary research Centre, this enables the unit to generate income to fund its activities, and the university status is enhanced as a Centre for learning Japanese language, culture, business and society in Irish Higher Education.

Government's 'Languages Connect' National Strategy collaboration with JaSt

At a time when the DES and DFHERIS are strongly supporting the teaching and learning of foreign languages, JaSt is being called upon to advise and support Japanese as part of the National 'Languages Connect' Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017 to 2026. Its staff are invited to provide advice and expertise and to respond to specific demands to run Japanese Language & Culture teaching projects. The teaching of non-European languages and especially Asian is an important and developing field in Ireland, and there is much to be achieved. Part of the mission of the Japan Foundation is to support Japanese language teaching in Ireland, so the partnership between the Foundation and JaSt is a positive development.

5.2 - The Spirit of Samurai Taiko: EU-Japan Fest funded Cultural Project (March 2023)

As part of a highly successful Irish Schools Round Trip, 'Wadaiko Experience', Japanese Taiko drummers visited twelve secondary schools in Cork, Ennis, Wexford, Gorey and Dublin. A total of over 800 students, along with their teachers and school officials, not just experienced the excitement but also joined in and performed. Many of these schools already teach and plan to expand Japanese language and culture.

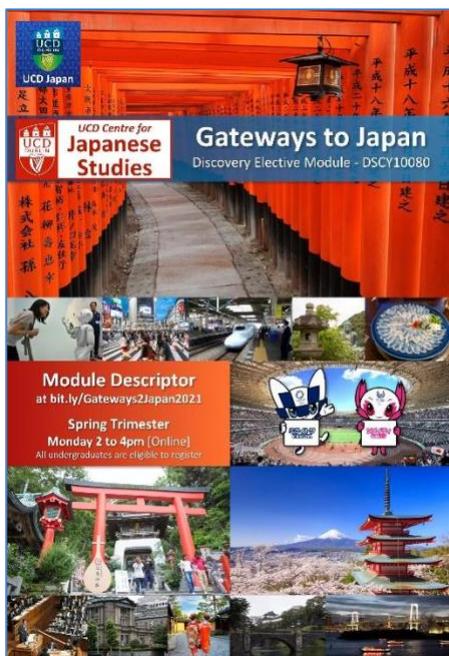
Another great highlight was the performance of Samurai Music Zi-Pang and the Dublin based Experience Japan Taiko team in a large, throbbing taiko ensemble over two days, Friday and Saturday at our national St. Patrick's Festival. The big outdoor stage for a number of performances (over 7,000 attendees) was perfect: a special setting in historic Collins Barracks, once used as a military facility, now a national museum. Once again, the performers and audience worked in a Samurai unison, drawing in the festival workers, food court workers, volunteers and many children.

The overall aim of this Experience Japan 2023 initiative is to foster cultural exchange and deepen relationships between Ireland and Japan through local community engagement, education and language learning, and international mutual exchange. It owes its success this year to many bodies and individuals. In particular, thanks are due to EU-Japan Fest, to Languages Connect Ireland's National Foreign Languages Strategy, to UCD Centre for Japanese Studies and to Nobuko Ijichi, who led on this project for the centre. A special thank you to the newly arrived Japanese Ambassador, H.E. Mr Norio Maruyama who visited schools and spoke in Irish to delighted crowds in Collins Barracks. (Text contributed by Ms Ijichi.)



Photos courtesy of Experience Japan Taiko Team

5.3 - 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"
- Profs. Gordon, Caulfield & Sokell - "Research in Japan from a European perspective"
- Assoc. Prof. Ní Shúilleabháin - "Lesson Study and learning from Japanese educators"
- Assoc. Prof. Kodate - "Super-ageing society: community-based approach vs. robotics-aided care approach"
- Guest lecturers include: Prof. Iwao Osaka, Dr Yasuhiro Sekimoto and Mr Masakazu Kubo

5.4 - Special Webinar for Gateways to Japan students (March 2023)

<p>Japanese animation in the new Normal Era 27 March 2023</p> <p>Special Guest Lecture UCD Discovery Module DSCY10080 "Gateways to Japan" [27 Mar. 2023]</p> <p>Mr Masakazu Kubo Shogakukan Music & Digital Entertainment Co. Ltd. ShoPro, Shogakukan Inc. (SHZ)</p> <p>ニューノーマル時代における日本のアニメーション Japanese animation in the New Normal Era</p>	<p>Guest Lecturer: Mr Masakazu Kubo (Shogakkan Music and Digital Entertainment Co. Ltd. / ShoPro, Shogakkan Inc. (Mr Kubo is known as the "Father of Pokémon").</p> <p>Convener and Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p>
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5.5 - UCD Japanese Society 2022-23

The UCD Japanese Society was founded in 2010 by students of UCD arising from volunteer work they did for the Annual Experience Japan Festival. The society is wholly student-run and has a committee that meets regularly which organises all events.

[From the UCD Japanese Society Annual Report] by Mr Turlough Kelly. See Appendix 1 for a list of the Society's activities.

Main Objectives and Aims of JSoc

As the UCD Japanese Society, our main objective is to nurture and promote the keen interest in Japan and the Japanese language, as well as the many different aspects of the culture, all while doing so in a welcoming and safe environment for all our members. We also aim to provide a welcoming space for any and all Japanese students that are joining us all the way from their home, and help them to integrate within Irish society and allow them to enjoy their time to the fullest whilst here in Ireland. In addition, we strive to provide a family-like atmosphere, continuing on the wishes from the previous committees before us, and help with making connections and friendships that will last a lifetime. It's our mission to ensure they feel welcome, heard, and safe at any Japanese Society event, and overcome the obstacles laid before us in working towards that goal, given the challenges that we face in a post-COVID world. With this in mind, the committee strives for the Japanese Society to be a place where everyone, no matter their background, can feel at home, as well as give an opportunity to learn all about Japan.

Current Committee

Kamrujjaman Azad – Auditor
Ryan Mulligan – Treasurer
Turlough Kelly – Secretary
Sky Tsuda Pillsbury – Taiko Officer

Juan Pablo Mendoza – Manga Officer
Joanne Lam – Events Officer
Michal Lanecki – Events Officer
Izzy Byrne – Events Officer

Emilie Ogawa Boostrom – Japanese Student Rep
 Leo Humphreys-Newman – First Year Rep
 Nodoka Masuda – Language Officer
 Ayah Abubakar – Language Officer

Simon Tunney – Events Officer
 (formerly) Seán Liu – Events Officer
 Róisín Sharkey – Ordinary Committee Member
 Preti Nasir – Public Relations Officer

Incoming Committee

Leo Humphreys-Newman - Auditor
 Mehr Walia - Treasurer
 Joanne Lam - Secretary

Marco Perez-McKay - Language Officer
 Ryan Mulligan - Ordinary Committee Member

5.6 - Key activities of the UCD Taiko Team

A list of key activities from the UCD Taiko Team are seen below. Please note that all these activities included at least one member of the EJ Taiko Team. Thank you for their continuous support of the UCD Taiko Team.

Activity	Date
Freshers Week: Beginner’s Taiko Workshop (FitzGerald Chamber).	20/09/22
Mini Practice Performance (FitzGerald Chamber).	26/11/22
Taiko Charity Performance (Astra Hall).	03/02/23
Rallied for the UCD Rugby Team against Trinity College (UCD Rugby Bowl).	31/03/23
Performed at the Experience Japan Festival (Farmleigh House).	30/04/23

Highlights: the Taiko Charity Performance. This performance was supported by House of Japan, Yamamori and Music maker; they provided prizes to us for free to be included in our raffle for ticket holders. The raffle and performance was a success as we had 61 attendees and raised a total of €556. 40% (€222.4) was donated to Jigsaw, a charity dedicated to supporting youth mental health. The other 60% (333.6) went towards partially funding a new nagado in conjunction with the EJ Taiko Team.

5.7 - Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs & the Embassy of Japan in Ireland-sponsored, Experience Japan @ Farmleigh Seminar (March 2023)

When manga meet science
25 March 2022



Speaker: **Hayanon**

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

5.8 - UCD Japan Fair 2022

To mark the 6th year of the Annual UCD Japan Fair, the UCD Japan Group and the JaSt held three webinars. These events were held in collaboration with the UCD Japanese Society, Experience Japan, the Embassy of Japan in Ireland and the Ireland-Japan Association. The in-person lecture by Prof. Iwao Osaka welcomed back Mr Paul Murphy (Raidió Teilifís Éireann) as a special guest discussant on the theme of mediatization of Japanese politics.

Mediatization of Japanese Politics: the changing nature of political communication
13 October 2022



Speaker: **Prof. Iwao Osaka** (UCD-JaSt / Komazawa University, Tokyo)

Discussant: **Mr Paul Murphy** (Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ))

Venue: SCIH 1.37 – Lynch Th F (O’Brien Centre)

Japan Exchange & Teaching Programme

20 October 2022



Speakers: **Mr Seán Gills** (Embassy of Japan in Ireland)

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

Online

Japanese Scrolls and the Art of Storytelling

27 October 2022



Speaker: **Dr Mary Redfern** (Chester Beatty)

Moderator: **Prof. Emma Sokell** (School of Physics)

Online



From left to Right: Prof. Iwao Osaka, Mr Paul Murphy and the JSoc members

6 - Summary of key activities

Most activities are organised with generous help from the UCD Japan Group and voluntary work of the UCD JaSt colleagues.

6.1 – Dr T.P. Hardiman Memorial Book Collection (September 2022)

Dr Tom P. Hardiman (awardee of the Order of the Rising Sun Gold Star, 1986) passed away in 2020, and almost exactly one year later, very sadly, his wife Rosaleen followed Dr Hardiman - Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

Both Tom and Rosaleen loved Japan, Japanese culture and language, which was evidenced by their long-term dedication and contribution to developing Ireland-Japan relations, both formally and informally.

Their daughter, Prof. Niamh Hardiman (School of Politics and International Relations / JaSt Academic Advisor) got in touch with Assoc. Prof. Kodate, offering their collection of books on Japan and Lafcadio Hearn to the UCD Centre for Japanese Studies.

The bookcase is now located in the UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice (Hanna Sheehy Skeffington Building), and was shown to Prof. Hitoshi Ebishima (Seijo University / Japan-Ireland Association) when he visited the Centre in November 2022.



From Left to Right: Dr Sekimoto, Prof. Osaka, Prof. Neary, Prof. Ebishima and Ms Emilie Ogawa Boostrom (undergraduate student, UCD School of Medicine).

6.2 – Welcoming Mr Naoki Furukawa MP (House of Representatives, Japan) (September 2022)

Together with this year's Auditor of the UCD Japanese Society, UCD-JaSt members welcomed Mr Naoki Furukawa MP (House of Representatives) from Japan on Friday 2 September 2022 in the UCD Research (Impact Room).

Assoc. Prof. Kodate was contacted by the Embassy of Japan in Ireland, and asked to welcome a Japanese politician (a member of parliament and also a member of the Japan-Ireland Parliamentary Friendship League), who was visiting Ireland. The reason given was that the Centre is the most research active unit in Ireland (in the area of Japanese Studies).

Ireland's longstanding diplomatic links with Japan (dating back to the 1950s) are strong and have recently gained new impetus from the government's Global Footprint 2025 Strategy and of the challenges of Brexit. On the 20th of July 2022, Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD and Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida issued a joint statement "Taking Forward Partnership with Shared Ambition", which outlines a roadmap to strengthening ties between Ireland and Japan over the next number of years.



From Left to Right: Dr Kodate, Ms Ijichi, Prof. Neary, Mr Furukawa MP, Ms Maeda, Prof. Osaka, Mr Kamrujjaman Azad (undergraduate student, UCD School of Mechanical & Materials Engineering).

The JaSt members (including our School's affiliated researchers and PhD student: Adjunct Prof. John Neary, Prof. Iwao Osaka, Nobuko Ijichi) outlined the activities and achievements of the Centre, and its future plans. Mr Furukawa's particular interest is in secondary and tertiary education in Ireland, and he had a meeting with senior officials at the Department of Education, while visiting a few secondary schools in North Dublin and Wexford during his three-day visit.

6.3 – Welcoming Professor Hitoshi Ebishima (Seijo University) (November 2022)

JaSt members welcomed Prof. Ebishima from Seijo University on 7 November 2022. This autumn, Seijo University under his leadership launched a brand new module entitled Introduction to Irish Studies. Prof. Ebishima's research interests include the GAA, and sport policy. His book chapters can be found in the following edited books: *Japan, Sport and Society: Tradition and Change in a Globalizing World* (Routledge, 2006), *The Changing Face of Rugby: The Union Game and Professionalism since 1995* (Cambridge Scholar Publishing, 2008), and *The Routledge Handbook of Sport in Asia* (Routledge International Handbooks, 2020)

Seijo University has been a hub of the Irish Studies in Japan for many years, which Prof. Itaru Ueno (Prof. Emeritus, Seijo University, Economic History) established together with his colleagues. Furthermore, Prof. Bon Koizumi, great-grandson of Patrick Lafcadio Hearn and Director of the Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum (Matsue, Japan), is also a graduate of Seijo University, and he specialised in folklore studies.

Director of the UCD Centre for Japanese Studies, Assoc. Prof. Kodate visited Seijo University in Setagaya, Tokyo on 24 December 2019, just before the pandemic began. He met the then President of the University, Prof. Junichi Tobe, Prof. Kyoji Kawasaki, Prof. Ebishima and Prof. Komiyaji.

Since then, there have been several discussions as to our future collaborations. Our Discovery Module, *Gateways to Japan*, is a mirror image of their new Introduction to Irish Studies module. They have 100 students registered this year.

There is a lot of synergy between Seijo's four Faculties (Economics, Law, Arts & Literature and Social Innovation) and UCD's three Colleges (Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences & Law and Business), and no doubt our collaborations will continue.



From Left to Right: Prof. Neary, Prof. Osaka, Ms Emilie Ogawa Boostrom, Prof. Ebishima, Prof. Gallagher, Ms Ijichi, Dr Sekimoto

6.4 - Visiting Scholar Programme, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dr Declan M. Downey (School of History), was a guest of Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on its Visiting Scholar Programme from 5th to 12th March 2023. During this period, he conducted research for his next book-project concerning post-war Premier Yoshida Shigeru's foreign policy as well as on the embryonic Irish-Japanese diplomatic relationship in the Diplomatic Archives in Tokyo. Also, Dr Downey had high level briefings with senior diplomatic and academic experts in Keio University and in the University of Tokyo on current policy and practice concerning Japan's response to the emerging challenges of global security and stability. In addition, as part of Dr Downey's legal and historical interest in matters of territorial sovereignty, he visited the recently founded National Museum of Territory and Sovereignty in Tokyo where he was informed of issues concerning Japan's territorial integrity.

As part of his programme, Dr Downey was invited to the University of Kyoto to address academic staff and graduate students on 'Ireland's response to current changes in the geo-political situation (with specific reference to Eastern Europe & East Asia) and the challenges that they represent for Ireland and the European Union'.

Arising from Dr Downey's visit, the University of Hiroshima through its involvement with Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, has expressed interest in establishing formal institutional links with UCD, and furthering closer academic

cooperation and exchanges. Also, of noteworthy interest for UCD is the fact that one of Dr Downey's former students, Dr Mahon Murphy, a UCD alumnus, is now an associate professor in History in the Faculty of Law at the University of Kyoto. (Text contributed by Dr Downey.)



Dr Downey at the home and museum of Premier Yoshida Shigeru in Oiso, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan



Left: Dr Downey with Prof. Sochi Naraoka and Dr Mahon Murphy, and their graduate students in legal and political history in the Law Faculty of the University of Kyoto. Right: Dr Downey with Dr Kiyoshi Wada (Director) and Dr Takeshi Sakuma (Deputy Director) at the Diplomatic Archives in Tokyo (Photos courtesy of Dr Downey.)

6.5 - Contributions to Research Events (Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies in the World)

June 2022 - Tokyo, Japan

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate together with his HarP-RoCS team (including Ms Yurie Maeda) organised and hosted the 5th International Workshop & Symposium, in cooperation with the Future Technology for Integrated Care, Japan Group. Nihon Fukushi University, Tokyo, Japan (Hybrid), 18-19 June 2022.

Assoc. Prof. Kodate also gave a guest lecture for undergraduate students at Meiji University (Faculty of Commerce). In the following month (July 2022), Ms Nobuko Ijichi and Mr Hugo O'Donnell gave a talk for the same cohort of students at Meiji University.

July 2022 - Paris, France & Online

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate gave an invited talk at its Workshop "Eurasian research team on Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health" (CTSH), the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS, Paris, France, 7-13 July, 2022. The workshop is held as part of the in the EHESS visiting researcher programme as an invited researcher, and was hosted by Prof. Sébastien Lechevalier. <https://ctsh.hypotheses.org/>

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate gave an invited talk entitled "Person-centred, robotics-aided care system: why a socio-ecological approach matters" (Section: ICT support for Aging well and good Health) for the EU-Japan funded project e-ViTA (EU-Japan Virtual Coach for Smart Ageing), Tohoku University / Universität Siegen, 14-15 July 2022. <https://www.e-vita.coach/>

November 2022 - Montreal, Canada & Online

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate gave a talk "和-style Caring Community in Higashi-Chiba, Japan: In search of a community model which enables 'living the life we/elder people wish to live, together with research collaborators at Chiba University, Japan and a peer mentor for older people based at Higashi-Chiba, Japan at Public Seminar entitled "Community engagement with seniors: a cross-section perspective on Japanese and Canadian models" ("Engagement

communautaire avec les aînés: regard croisé sur les modèles japonais et canadien” in French) at the University of Montreal Hospital Research Centre (CRCHUM), Canada. 2 November 2022.

UCD-JaSt co-organised a symposium (Visions, Needs and Technology Development) for the VSJF (Vereinigung für sozialwissenschaftliche Japanforschung – the German Association for Social Science Research on Japan, est. in 1988) Annual Conference 2022, and Assoc. Prof. Kodate moderated a session. 18 November 2022.

<https://vsjf.net/die-vsjf/fachgruppen/fachgruppe-technik/fachgruppensitzung-technik-2022/>

December 2022 - Tokyo, Japan

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate co-organised and hosted the 6th International Workshop & Symposium, in cooperation with the Future Technology for Integrated Care, Japan Group. Nihon Fukushi University, Tokyo, Japan (Hybrid), 17 December 2022. <http://www.uaeo.or.jp/ftic/>

Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate was invited as a speaker for the 3rd Seminar of the Cercle de la Fondation France-Japon “Women in (Social) Sciences: Diversity Brings Creativity”, 15 December 2022, held at The Embassy of France in Tokyo.

<http://ffj.ehess.fr/lecercle.html>

6.6 - Invited Talks on Zoonosis

Prof. Stephen Gordon was invited to give a talk.

September 2022 - Paris, France

12-16 September: Plenary at EMBO Tuberculosis Workshop 2022 at the Institute Pasteur, Paris.

14 September: Lecture for the ‘TB MOOC’ (Massive Open Online Course) run by the Institute Pasteur, Paris, focused on Zoonotic TB.

November 2022 - Jena, Germany / Online

22 November: Invited presentation online to the Friedrich Loeffler Institute for Bacterial Infections and Zoonoses (FLI-IBIZ)

February 2023 - Birmingham, UK

26 February: Invited to contribute to the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) 'ERADbTB' Workshop

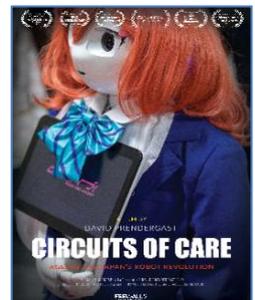
6.7 - Film Screenings in Ireland and the UK

15 June 2022, 14:30 - 15:30

VisuAAAL (Privacy-aware and Acceptable Video-based Technologies and Services for Active and Assisted Living) Workshop, All Institute, Maynooth University

28 November 2022, 15:00 - 17:00

Oxford Digital Ethnography Group (OxDEG) Seminar Series



6.8 - Special Info Session “Kengo Kuma & Higashikawa, Kagu Design Competition” [November 2022]

Mr Takanori Fujii and Ms Maeve Febo (Higashikawa, Hokkaido, Japan) gave an online session to introduce the Kagu Design Competition, chaired by the world famous architect, Mr Kengo Kuma.

<p>Special Info Session “Kengo Kuma & Higashikawa, Kagu Design Competition” 30 November 2022</p> 	<p>Speakers: Mr Takanori Fujii & Ms Maeve Febo (Higashikawa, Hokkaido)</p> <p>Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social justice)</p>
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7 - Partnerships

7.1 - UCD Smurfit School of Business & Showa Women's University signs new MOU (March 2023)

Prof. Dolores O’Riordan (VP for Global Engagement) attended the signing ceremony of the MOU between Showa Women’s University and UCD Smurfit School of Business. The MOU between SWU and UCD Smurfit School of Business was signed on the campus of Showa Women’s University (SWU) in Setagaya, Tokyo on 7 March 2023.

The UCD delegation consisted of Professor Dolores O’Riordan (Vice President for Global Engagement), Prof. Don Breden (UCD Smurfit School of Business) and Ms Carol Deering (UCD Smurfit School of Business / former member of the UCD Japan Group). The MOU between SWU and UCD Smurfit School of Business was prepared over a period of time, and due to the pandemic, the signing ceremony was postponed a few times.

Prof. Mariko Bando (Chancellor) and Prof. Natsuko Kohara (President) welcomed the UCD delegation, together with the director and his team of the Center for International Exchange at SWU. The partnership resulted from JaSt’s Centre Launch event in February 2021 with contributions from Prof. Christina Davis (Harvard University, JaSt Academic Advisor) (<https://www.ucd.ie/newsevents/ucdcentreforjapanesestudieslaunchwebinarseries/>).

In 2021, Prof. Bando gave a special talk entitled “Why Women Leaders?”. Prof. Mariko Bando is a prolific author of more than 40 books, including *Toward a Gender-Equal Society* and *The Dignity of a Woman*, which has sold more than 3 million copies. After graduating from the University of Tokyo in 1969, she embarked on a path-breaking career that began as the first woman to be employed at the Japanese Prime Minister’s Office as a career bureaucrat. In 1998 she became the first woman to serve as Japanese Consul General in Brisbane, Australia. From 2001-03, she was Director-General of the Bureau for Gender Equality under Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi. Prof. Kohara (D.Eng., Tokyo Institute of Technology) has been the President of SWU since 2020, and is a woman pioneer in the area of fiber chemistry.

The history of Showa Women’s University began in September 1920 with five instructors and eight students. SWU has grown into an educational institution with a kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, high school, university, and graduate school, where approximately 9,000 students study. Prof. Kenji Kaneko, the first president of SWU was a student in Lafcadio Hearn's English classes at Tokyo Imperial University, and published a book of his translations, *Koizumi Yakumo zenshu*, vol. 11 (『小泉八雲全集 第11巻 書簡集』 (第一書房、1931年)).

At the signing ceremony, Chancellor Bando generously gave Prof. O’Riordan a traditional Japanese doll as a sign of friendship.



From left to right: President Prof. Kohara, Prof. O’Riordan, Chancellor Prof. Bando / Prof. Kohara, Prof. Breden, Ms Deering, Prof. O’Riordan, Chancellor Bando (Photos courtesy of Showa Women’s University).

7.2 - Existing JaSt Supported Partnerships

- ❖ **Chiba University (CU)** – Several researchers from CU (nursing and engineering) have been working with Dr Kodate since 2016, and the MoU between CU and UCD was signed in 2017. Assoc. Prof. Kodate remains key researcher on several other ongoing projects, which include a tri-country collaborative project ‘Caring Communities’ led by Profs. Mina Ishimaru and Antoine Boivin (Montréal).
- ❖ **Hokkaido University (HU)** - The Erasmus+ ICM 2022 Application was successful, and it is awarded to Assoc. Prof. Kodate (Social/Public Policy) and Prof. Gordon (One Health).
- ❖ **International Christian University (ICU)** - ‘Language Buddies’ Program is continuing. One UCD student was selected as a winner of the JaSt-ICU scholarship competition to join the ICU’s Japanese Language Summer School in July 2023. Smurfit School of Business visited ICU in March 2023 to discuss possible collaborations. This partnership with ICU has been nurtured and maintained by Mr Hugo O’Donnell and others for more than 20 years.

- ❖ **Japan Rugby Football Union (JRFU)** –Ms Ijichi helped the Smurfit School of Business recruit a student for their MBA programme, and continues to have close contacts with Ms Akane Kagawa and JRFU.
- ❖ **Keio University (Keio)** –Prof. Michito Tsusuka (Associate Professor at Keio, based at the Faculty of Policy Management) visited Dublin and gave a talk entitled “Europe and East Asia in the Wake of the War in Ukraine” at the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA). Prof. Neary chaired and moderated the session (10 February 2023). Dr Downy on his visit to Japan met Prof. Tsuruoka in March 2023.
- ❖ **Kyoto University (Kyoto)** – Dr Downey’s former student, Dr Mahon Murphy, is now an Associate Professor in History in the Faculty of Law at Kyoto. Led by Dr Murphy and Prof. Mulligan (School of History), there was a plan of holding a seminar in UCD, welcoming a group of academics from Kyoto.
- ❖ **Meiji University (MU)** – Discussion is ongoing regarding possible student collaborations between MU’s Faculty of Commerce and UCD-JaSt. The Centre provided help and assistance for the Smurfit School of Business. JaSt members – Ms Ijichi, Mr O’Donnell and Dr Kodate gave lectures for Prof. Yuri Matsubara’s students in the Faculty of Commerce. Prof. Matsubara is a former colleague of Assoc. Prof. Kodate at the University of Tokyo.
- ❖ **Osaka University (OU)** –Dr Hiroaki Imoto returned to UCD to rejoin the Kholodenko Group in UCD’s Systems Biology Ireland as a postdoctoral researcher. The original connections between Dr Imoto and JaSt were made between Prof. Mariko Okada (OU) and Assoc. Prof. Kodate.
- ❖ **Seijo University (SU)** – A new module ‘Irish Studies’ (the initiative taken by Prof. Ebishima, inspired by JaSt’s *Gateways to Japan* module in UCD) was launched at SU in 2022, and Assoc. Prof. Kodate gave a lecture. It was a very successful module (with 100 students registered) and will be run again in 2023 with Ambassador Damien Cole opening the series.
- ❖ **Shiga University of Medical Science (SUMS)** – A new funded research project with the Toyota Central R&D Lab is co-led by Assoc. Prof. Kodate (UCD/EHESS) and Prof. Mayuko Tsujimura, together with Prof. Sébastien Lechevalier (EHESS). Assoc. Prof. Kodate has been giving a one-off guest lecture at SUMS in the last two years.
- ❖ **Showa Women’s University (SWU)** – Through Dr Kodate’s personal contact, Chancellor Bando and Prof. Gerardine Doyle were introduced to each other back in 2020. The UCD delegation (led by Profs. O’Riordan and Bredin) visited the SWU campus for the signing ceremony. JaSt offered a scholarship to one UCD student through a competitive process for her participation in SWU’s online Japanese language summer program.
- ❖ **University of Electro-Communications (UEC)** – Prof. Sokell (School of Physics) has been working with Prof. Nakamura and colleagues at UEC over many years. Prof. Sokell was a member of the International Advisory Board, the 20th International Conference on the Physics of Highly Charged Ions, Matsue Japan (Aug-Sep., 2022).
- ❖ **University of Hiroshima (UH)** – Prof. Hideki Kuwajima (through the introduction of Dr Katherine O’Donnell, School of Philosophy) visited UCD in 2017, and gave a talk on Lafcadio Hearn with Prof. Mary Gallagher. Intersarsity collaborations have been under discussion ever since between Prof. Kuwajima and Assoc. Prof. Kodate. Several online meetings were held to discuss possible projects in 2022. Through the Peace Foundation, Dr Downy is now exploring the possibility of working with them for JaSt and the UCD Centre for War Studies.
- ❖ **Utsunomiya University (UU)** – A long-term partnership began with friendship and collaboration between Emeritus Prof. Gerry O’Sullivan (Physics) and Prof. Takeshi Higashiguchi. Profs. Sokell and Dunne are continuing the collaboration.

7.3 - Japan Rugby Football Union cooperation

Since 2016, the UCD Japan group has supported the Japan Rugby National team. In the academic year 2021-22, Ms Akane Kagawa from Japan Rugby Football Union came to study at the UCD Smurfit Graduate Business School. We want to congratulate Akane on completing her MBA and on her recent promotion to the board of JRFU. She is now leading on the new ‘Women in Rugby’ Strategic Plan 2021-25. With the strong person-to-person connection, the Centre for Japanese Studies continues to maintain good relationships with JRFU and supported the recent Japan National Team Under 19’s visit in March. The historic series against the Irish National Under 19 team, saw Japan and Ireland win one match each in entertaining games at Terenure RFC. The Centre is happy to keep supporting these sporting links.



8 - Research outputs

Funding

- Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility programme to continue developing links under the theme of 'One Health' with Hokkaido University, Japan. Awarded to Prof. Stephen Gordon (UCD Schools of: Veterinary Medicine; Biomolecular and Biomedical Science; and Medicine) & Assoc. Prof. Nao Kodate (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice) funding (€15K).
- Department of Education's Languages Connect (Summer Camps) programme to organise the Japanese Language Summer Camp in Belfield (August 2023). Awarded to Ms Nobuko Ijichi (UCD Centre for Japanese Studies) (€10K).

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- Kodate N, Maeda Y, Hauray B, Tsujimura M, Chan WCH, Mannan H, Dalgarrondo S, Cheung MC, Yumoto A, Suwa S, Yu W, Donnelly S, Sakata N, O'Shea D, Obayashi K, Masuyama S. (2022) Hopes, fear and ethical dilemmas regarding care robots: Content analysis of newspapers in East Asia and Western Europe, 2001-2020, *Front. Rehabil. Sci.* 3:1019089.
- Asaishi Y, Obayashi K, Masuyama S, Kodate N (2023) Examining the Utility of a Floor-cleaning Robot in Welfare Facilities: A Proof-of-Concept Study with Braava Jet m6 at a Geriatric Care Facility (*in Japanese*). *Journal of the Robotics Society of Japan*.
- Kodate N (2022) Perspectives and challenges regarding the use of assistive technology in dementia care: Lessons from Ireland (*in Japanese*). *Journal of the Japanese Society for Dementia Care.* 21, 2, 229-242.
- Lynch M, Kodate N, Hickey C, O'Leary AC. (2022) Bridging the gap between healthcare professions' regulation and practice: the "lived experience" of community pharmacists in Ireland following regulatory change. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice*. DOI: 10.1186/s40545-022-00465-5

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- Larkin F, Vallières F, Mannan H, Kodate N (Eds.) (2022) *Systems Thinking for Global Health*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
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- Ni Shuilleabhain A (2022) "Lesson Study". In Perspectives in Contemporary STEM Education Research: Research Methodology and Design, edited by Ní Ríordáin, M. & Delahunty, T., Chapter 12, Routledge.

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- Ijichi N (2022) So, who's in charge of Japanese language teaching and knowledge dissemination in Ireland?
- Ishimaru M, Kodate N, Murai S, Yoshida Y, Iguchi S, Sato T, Iwase Y, Sakai A (2023). Principles and Functions of the Caring Community Approach in Quebec, Canada. The 15th Annual Meeting of the Society of Cultural Nursing Studies – 19 March 2023, Chiba, Japan.
- Kodate N (2022). Cultures, languages and patient safety: Healthcare practitioners' attitudes to incident data in England and Japan. The Irish Association for Applied Linguistics (IRAAL) Conference 2022. 30 September – 1 October 2022, Tralee/Cork, Ireland.
- Kodate N (2022). Can care robots support ageing in place in Ireland? Key stakeholders' perspectives on enabling assistive technology and users' quality of life. In *The SASE (the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics) 34th Annual Meeting*, 9-11 July 2022, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- Kodate K, Kohli P, McGinn C, Scott R, Ross E, Treusch P, Maeda Y, Donnelly S, Leonard C, Cogan L, Mannan H, O'Shea D, Obayashi O, Masuyama M (2022) Exploring staff perceptions and attitudes to care and carebots: A case of an original air-disinfection robot in Ireland. *Irish Gerontological Society Annual and Scientific Meeting 2022*, 3-4 November 2022, Cavan.
- Kodate N, Ross E, Kohli P, McGinn C, Scott R, Maeda Y, Treusch P, Donnelly S, Leonard C, Cogan L, Mannan H, O'Shea D, Obayashi K, Masuyama S (2022) Understanding the use of assistive robots in care settings: A case of an original air disinfection robot in Ireland. *ISCP (Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists) Annual Conference 2022 – 14 October 2022*, online.
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- Obayashi K, Takeuchi A, Kondo H, Okamoto Y, Kurishima S, Ogata T, Ishii Y, Nonoda T, Kodate N, Masuyama S (2022). Regular PCR tests and rapid antigen tests helped suppress the development of COVID-19 clusters: An example of a nursing home. *The 64th Annual Meeting of the Japan Geriatrics Society*, 2-4 June 2022, Osaka, Japan.
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- Obayashi K, Kodate N, Kondo H, Okamoto Y, Kaneko H, Ishii Y, Nonoda T, Masuyama S (2022) Examining the impact of safety monitoring devices on care work and processes in Japanese nursing homes. *Irish Gerontological Society Annual and Scientific Meeting 2022*, 3-4 November 2022, Cavan.
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- Osaka I (2023) 逢坂 巖のダブリン通信～欧州から見る日本政治 (Iwao Osaka's Dublin Correspondence - Japanese politics from a European perspective), *Web Ronza Asahi Shimbun*.
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 - ケルトの「虎」から「フェニックス」へアイルランドという“鏡”に映るニッポン (From Celtic "Tiger" to "Phoenix": Japan reflected in the 'mirror' of Ireland), *Web Ronza Asahi Shimbun*, 21 August 2022. <https://webronza.asahi.com/politics/articles/2022081800006.html>

9 - Acknowledgements

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Appendix

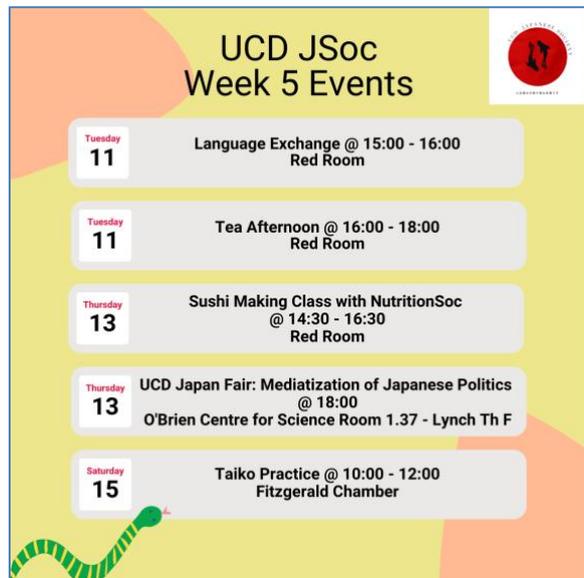
1 - UCD Japanese Society Events 2002-23

Winter Trimester	
Tea Afternoon	13/09/22
Karaoke w/ NetSoc + MusicSoc	15/09/22
Intro to Taiko Workshops	20/09/22
Tea Afternoon	27/09/22
Dublin City Asian Market Crawl	28/09/22
Traditional Japanese Art w/DrawSoc	29/09/22
Dinner Night out to Wagamama's	03/10/22
Language Exchange	04/10/22
Tea Afternoon	04/10/22
Croissant Afternoon w/ FrenchSoc	06/10/22
Language Exchange	11/10/22
Tea Afternoon	11/10/22
Sushi Making Class w/ NutritionSoc	13/10/22
Webinar: Mediaization of Japanese Politics: the changing nature of political communication	13/10/22
Movie Screening: "Audition"	17/10/22
Moving Screening: "Throne of Blood"	18/10/22
Language Exchange	18/10/22
Tea Afternoon	18/10/22
Movie Screening: "Rashomon"	20/10/22
Movie Screening: "Tokyo!"	20/10/22
Webinar: Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program	20/10/22
Art w/ ResLife	21/10/22
Spooky Stories w/ SciFi Soc	21/10/22
Language Exchange	25/10/22
Tea Afternoon	25/10/22
Webinar: Japanese Scrolls and the Art of Storytelling	27/10/22
Language Class	01/11/22
Tea Afternoon	01/11/22
Movie Screening: "Paprika"	02/11/22
Manga Tea Afternoon	03/11/22
Picturama!	03/11/22
Cosplay Workshop w/ Innovation Academy	07/11/22
Language Class	08/11/22
Language Exchange	08/11/22
Movie Screening: "House (1977)"	09/11/22
Tea Afternoon	10/11/22
Series Binge: "Cyberpunk Edgerunners"	10/11/22
Language Class	15/11/22
Language Exchange	15/11/22
Tea & Chats w/ IndSoc	17/11/22
Experience Japan Exhibition	19/11/22
Language Class	22/11/22
Language Exchange	22/11/22
VR Rhythm Games Night w/ NetSoc	23/11/22
Tea Afternoon	24/11/22
Cosplay Workshop w/ Innovation Academy	26/11/22
JSoc Ice Skating & KFC Trip	26/11/22
Language Class	29/11/22
Language Exchange	29/11/22
Webinar: Kengo Kuma & Higashikawa "KAGU" Design Competition	30/11/22
Self Defense & Laughter Yoga w/ UCD Karate	30/11/22
Christmas Karaoke	1/12/22

Spring Trimester	
Tea Afternoon	24/01/23
Language Class	31/01/23
Karaoke w/ NetSoc & MusicSoc	31/01/23
Tea Afternoon	02/02/23
Minigames!	03/02/23
Taiko Team Charity Performance	03/02/23
Language Class	07/02/23
Tea Afternoon w/ DrawSoc	08/02/23
JSoc's Cosplay Café	14/02/23
Language Class	14/02/23
Tea Afternoon	20/02/23
Language Class	27/02/23
Language Exchange	27/02/23
Movie Screening: "Yu-Gi-Oh! The Movie: Darkside of Dimensions"	01/03/23
Tea Afternoon	02/03/23
Multi-Cultural Language Exchange w/ Language Societies	06/03/23
VR Afternoon	08/03/23
Language Class	08/03/23
Tea Afternoon	08/03/23
Tea + Bracelets	09/03/23
Language Class	28/03/23
Tea Afternoon	29/03/23
Self Defence Class w/ UCD Karate	31/03/23
Language Class	04/04/23
Tea Afternoon	05/04/23
Language Class	11/04/23
Tea Afternoon	12/04/23
Roller Rink Night	13/04/23
Japanese Society Annual General Meeting	19/04/23
Language Class	21/04/23
Language Class	25/04/23
Karaoke	25/04/23
Experience Japan 2023	30/04/23



28/09/22 - Group Photo from Week 3's Asian Market Crawl.



10/10/22 - Week 5's Overall Week Events Graphic.



25/11/22 - Graphic for the annual Ice Skating and KFC Outing during Week 11.



30/01/23 - Graphic for the Taiko Charity Performance with a team photo taken from the Mini Practice Performance.



03/02/23 - Group Photo of the UCD and EJ Taiko Teams after the Taiko Charity Performance.



30/04/23 - Group Photo of the UCD Taiko Team at the Experience Japan Festival.

[Text contributed by Ms Sky Tsuda Pillsbury]



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