



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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**45 SDSU Japanese Language Students Honored  
at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Award Presentation Reception**

SAN DIEGO, April 16, 2008 --- Twenty-nine San Diego State University students received scholarships totaling **\$6,500.00** for outstanding performance in Japanese languages classes from Kyocera International, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Sanyo North American, Union Bank of California and the SDSU Office of International Programs at a ceremony April 16 at SDSU. Sixteen additional students were recognized for their outstanding achievements by the Japanese Language Program.

This year marks the **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the establishment of the **Japanese Language Scholarship Program** and the **Kyocera Japanese Scholarship**. When Professor Yoshiko Higurashi joined the faculty of SDSU as the 14<sup>th</sup> person in charge of the Japanese Language Program's 17 years of history in the fall of 1983, 25 years ago, she reached out to the community, introduced herself, promised that she would *stay* to expand the program and solicited support. Kyocera was the first company to respond with generosity. They sent a check in the amount of \$500. With this generous support, she decided to start a scholarship program for her students.

In order to gratefully recognize Kyocera International for its 25 years of generosity and invaluable support of the Japanese Language Program, **SDSU President Weber** presented a plaque to **Mr. Rodney N. Lanthorne**, the president of Kyocera International.

The winner of the **25<sup>th</sup> Annual Kyocera Japanese Scholarship (\$1,500.00)** was **Paul Tarpey**, Japanese and linguistics major. Tarpey has realized that learning a foreign language means learning his own language. The study of Japanese language and culture has been a tremendous help in analyzing the structure of English and American cultural norms. He has also found that it is fun to write an essay in Japanese. In his opinion, kanji characters are an excellent tool of expression and sophisticated nuances.

There are many Americans who go abroad to teach English. Tarpey believes that it is critically important for them to learn the language and culture of the country in which they teach and to show respect. However, not everyone does that. Of course, his dream is to teach English in Japan. Higurashi is certain that he will make an excellent English instructor.

The winner of the **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Japanese Scholarship for Accounting Majors, Category III**, were **Steven Ginn** and **Yolanda Inchauregui**, both are international business majors.

This scholarship was originally for an accounting major (\$1,000.00). Since there was no accounting major taking Japanese, the opportunity was extended to those students who completed two elementary-level accounting courses. At this level (Category III), the recipients were honored with a **\$250.00** scholarship each.

The representative from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu in Los Angeles was **Mr. Koichi Uchiyama**, Deputy Leader – Americas Cluster, Japanese Services Group.

**Steven** is in a second-year Japanese course. The basic study of accounting has helped him to better understand numbers and money. This is of particular importance to him because he has been working at a Japanese restaurant in Del Mar. He is certain that the knowledge of accounting has provided him with many useful tools that will not only help him in the business world, but also will help him with many of his financial decisions he makes in life. He will be studying at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo next year.

**Yolanda**, currently enrolled in a first-year Japanese course, is interested in learning about Japanese culture. She is the first in her family to go to college, and to expose herself to things outside of her own culture. She learned how crucial accounting is for the success or failure of the business. She believes that accounting can impact a lot of the decisions that she may make as a business professional. She will be spending next year at Seinan Gakuin University in Fukuoka in Japan.

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Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the establishment of the Japanese Language Scholarship Program, two new scholarships were established for Japanese language majors with generous donations from **Sanyo North America** and **Union Bank of California**.

The representatives from **Sanyo North America** were **Mr. Alan Foster**, Vice President, **Mr. Akihiko Oiwa**, Director of Corporate Communications, and **Ms. Megumi Marsh**, Corporate Communications Coordinator.

The recipient of the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sanyo North America Scholarship for a Japanese Language Major's Study in Japan (\$1,000.00)** is **Jennice Lodi**. She

majors in Television, Film, and New Media in addition to Japanese. She will attend Osaka University of the Arts next year. She plans to make a documentary film on Japanese culture at Osaka University of the Arts and hopes to make it available online to those students around the world who are interested in visiting Japan.

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The representative from **Union Bank of California** was **Mr. Mark Woods**, Senior Vice President. The recipient of the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Union Bank of California Scholarship** for a Japanese Language Major's Study in Japan is **Derek Macatantan**.

Derek's life changed completely since he switched his major from Engineering to Japanese. He really enjoys studying Japanese language and culture, which is reflected in his grades. He wanted to improve his conversation skills. So he did a language exchange with several Japanese students from the American Language Institute. Through this, he made lifelong friends who are waiting for him when he goes to Oita University next year.

He began doing an internship at Sanyo Electric Device. So far, he has done things such as researching data from the economic markets and translating technical manuals from Japanese to English. His goal is to have a career where he can integrate his knowledge of the Japanese language culture into the work of the business field.

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Thanks to the generous support of Kyocera International, the very best student of each section of the program will be recognized as the recipient of the **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kyocera Best Student Awards (\$150.00)**.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Major</u>
Japanese 112	William Honaker	History/Spanish/Japanese
	Sec. 1	
	Sec. 2	Japanese
	Sec. 3	Pre-Art
Japanese 212	Vicki Lewis	Japanese
	Sec. 1	
	Sec. 2	Linguistics
Japanese 312	Kevin Llamas	Pre-Business Admin.
Japanese 322	Derek Macatantan	Japanese
Japanese 412	Paul Tarpey	Japanese & Linguistics
Japanese 422	Paul Tarpey	Japanese & Linguistics
Japanese 496	Tyler Young	International Business
Japanese 499	Masao Murakami	Political Science
	Sec. 1	(exchange student from Seinan Gakuin University)
	Sec. 2	Toshiyuki Yamada
		Linguistics

(exchange student from Gunma University)  
 Sec. 3                      Rina Ishii                      Political Science  
 (exchange student from Waseda University)

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Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the establishment of the Japanese Language Scholarship Program, **Dr. Alan R. Sweedler**, Assistant Vice President for International Programs, created the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual SDSU Office of International Programs (OIP) Outstanding Student Awards (\$50.00)** in order to honor the second best student in each section.

<u>Class</u>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Major</u>
Japanese 112	Sec. 1	Karl David Besa	Computer Engineering
	Sec. 2	Rachel Esswein	Pre-Psychology
	Sec. 3	Mightor Lucero	Economics
Japanese 212	Sec. 1	Joshua Carper	Psychology
	Sec. 2	Landon Lunsford	Mechanical Engineering
Japanese 312		Victoria Walker	International Business
Japanese 322		Kevin Llamas	Pre-Business Admin.
Japanese 412		Kimberly Foster	Japanese
Japanese 422		Genevieve Rohe	Japanese & Int'l Business
Japanese 496		Matthew Silva	International Business
Japanese 499	Sec. 3	Khwb Lao	Japanese

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The Japanese Language Program honored excellent students who have demonstrated steady efforts and remarkable achievements in each class with **Certificate of Merit** as the recipients of **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Honorable Mention**.

<u>Class</u>		<u>Name</u>	<u>Major</u>
Japanese 112	Sec. 1	Amanda Pullins	Anthropology
	Sec. 2	Han Hua	Pre-Business Admin.
	Sec. 3	Yolanda Inchauregui	Intl Business
Japanese 212	Sec. 1	Jordan Penrose	Undeclared
	Sec. 2	David Turner	Single Subject: English Teaching
	Sec. 2	Steven Ginn	International Business
Japanese 312		Derek Macatantan	Japanese
Japanese 322		Adrian Cruz	International Business
		Brandon De La Paz	Japanese

Japanese 412	Krytsel Campano Genevieve Rohe	Japanese Japanese/Int'l Business
Japanese 422	Tricia Terao Jyoji Powers Breon Curry	Japanese International Business Japanese
Japanese 496	Breon Curry Jyoji Powers	Japanese International Business

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**Japanese Friendship Garden** (Ms. **Luanne Kanzawa**, Executive Director, and Ms. **Miho Ishida**, Program Coordinator); **Sanyo Electronic Device** (Ms. **Victoria Luna**, Controller & Human Resources Manager); **DC Comics, A Warner Bros. Entertainment Company** (Mr. **Jim Chadwick**, Manga Editor); and **SDSU American Language Institute** (Dr. **Bill Price**, Executive Director) were recognized. They have been supportive of the students of Japanese by providing them with excellent internship opportunities.

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In addition, **Professor Emeritus Dan McLeod** was recognized and thanked for his continuing efforts to support the Japanese Language Program. **Dr. Michael Shigeru Inoue**, Honorary Consul General of Japan in San Diego, was also recognized.

Attendees of the awards ceremony, held at SDSU's Presidential Suite in Aztec Center, included **Dr. Stephen L. Weber**, President; **Dr. Nancy A. Marlin**, Provost; **Dr. Thomas R. Scott**, Vice President for Research; **Dr. Alan R. Sweedler**, Assistant Vice President for International Programs; **Dr. Geoffrey Chase**, Dean, Division of Undergraduate Studies; **Dr. Paul Wong**, Dean, College of Arts and Letters; **Dr. Joe Shapiro**, Dean, College of Extended Studies; **Dr. Bill Price**, Executive Director, American Language Institute; **Dr. Jeffrey P. Kaplan**, Chair, Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages; **Dr. Hiroko Johnson** and **Dr. Kotaro Nakamura**, School of Arts, Design, and Art History; **Dr. Wilburn Hansen**, Department of Religious Studies; **Dr. Kelly Hansen**, Department of Asia Pacific Studies; **Dr. Dean Popp**, Chair, International Business Program; **Ms. Azizi James**, Academic Coordinator, International Business Program, **Ms. Maribel Franco**, Study Abroad Coordinator, International Business Program; **Mr. Jerry S. Anderson**, Assistant Scholarship Director, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships; **Mr. John Gaughen**, Assistant Director, Student Testing, Assessment, and Research, Test Office; **Dr. Yoshiko Higurashi**, Director of the Japanese Language Program; and Japanese Language faculty (**Dr. Ryu Kitajima**, **Ms. Hideko Yamaga**, **Ms. Asuka Kuratani**, **Ms. Erica Hashiba**).