



SOPHIA SYMPOSIUM

DATE: **July 4th, 2016**

TIME: **10am-5pm**

LOCATION: Sophia University, Yotsuya Campus

Library Building; Room 911

Critical Japanese Studies in Asia Network

Political Cultures and the Politics of "Japanese Studies" in Japan and the Asia Pacific

"Japanese Studies" is different things in different places and different times. What constitutes it as an academic pursuit, a coherent field of inquiry, a productive site of relevant knowledge about and for Japan shifts accordingly. With each shift we see a different mobilization of scholarly and economic resources; with each new initiative, a new politics is developing. This conference is devoted to identifying some of these emerging politics in the study of Japan within Asia.

By inviting innovative scholars from 8 top Japanese Studies universities across Asia and the Pacific to address these issues with our Sophia faculty, we are hoping to widen the scope of inquiry.

Morning Session

10:00am: Welcome

Sugimura Miki, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Sophia University

David H. Slater, Director of the Institute of Comparative Culture, Sophia University

Why Japan? Why Asia? And the Importance of Developing a Critical Japanese Studies

10:30am:

The Politics of the Popular Culture

Afternoon Sessions

1:30pm: Greetings:

Hayashita Takashi, University President

1:40pm: Civil Society and Engagement

3:30pm: Japanese Politics in and across Asia

The "Critical Japanese Studies in Asia Network" is designed to bring together scholars working on the study of Japan in the global context of the Asia Pacific. Japan's connection to the rest of Asia is often overlooked by Japanese Studies scholars, and yet these connections are necessary for any full understanding of Japan in today's globalized world. As such, our effort is to enhance and enlarge Japan scholarship beyond national boundaries, and to better understand the multiple perspectives and dynamic sets of regional and indeed global connections within Asia.





Critical Japanese Studies in Asia Network

Panels



10:30 The Politics of Popular Culture



Kono Shion

Sophia U, Area Studies
as a Mode of Reading Literature



Jinghui Tsau

National Taiwan University,
Current status and future perspectives
of Japanese Studies in Taiwan



Jin Ying

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences,
Another Japan: The Influence of Japanese
Pop Culture on Chinese Citizens



Karl Ian Cheng Chua

Ateneo de Manila University, The Use of
Popular Culture for Historical Research:
Japanese Manga and history memory



Kukhee Choo

Sophia U, The Politics of Cool Japan in
Asia and Beyond



1:40 Civil Society and Engagement



Thang Leng Leng

NUS, Studying Japan in Southeast Asia:
“Asia as method” and Japan + model in
Japanese Studies



Lynne Nakano

CUHK, Parallel Life Course Developments
in Asia, with Reference to Single Women
in Tokyo, Hong Kong, and Shanghai



Hyojin Kim

Seoul National University, Crisis of
Japanese Studies? Japanese Studies in
Korea after 3.11



David H. Slater

Sophia U, Japanese Youth Activism and
the Rise of Protest Cultures Across Asia



3:30 Japanese Politics in and across Asia



Sven Saaler

Sophia U, Studies on Transnationalism
in Asia



Simon Avenell

ANU, Rethinking Civil society in Postwar
Japan through the Lens of “Asia”



Mark Mullins

U of Auckland, Contemporary Japanese
Nationalisms: Unraveling the Cultural,
Political, and Religious Dimensions



Koichi Nakano

Sophia U, Challenges of Neoliberalism
and Democracy in Post-Cold War Asia