



In this Newsletter:

1. Notice Regarding 2020 NCSS virtual conference
2. Articles from Past KKC Fellows
3. About the 2021 Japan Study Tour

Contact us at: fellowship@kkc.or.jp

Japan Study Tour:
<http://en.kkc.or.jp/programs/stj/>

Japan Lesson Plans can be downloaded from here:



Second KKC Fellowship Online Program 2020

November 23, 2020

The Second KKC Fellowship Online Program for KKC Alumni was held on November 23, to exchange views on "Feedback to local communities" and "Cooperation of alumni to NCSS Virtual Conference."

Ms. Linda Lindsey, based in St. Louis, presented her experience related to Asia, her KKC reflection, volunteering and activities related to Japan. She participated in the KKC fellowship program in 1990 and has been contributing to the mutual understanding between the U.S. and Japan for three decades (See the next page for more details on her story). The attendees are also shared their impressions on visiting Japan.

2020 NCSS Virtual Conference

December 5 and 6, 2020

Keizai Koho Center will be hosting a virtual booth at the 2020 NCSS virtual conference on December 5th and 6th.

KKC Japan Information Online Mini Sessions will be held on Dec. 5th and 6th. Please join and hear from past fellows about how the KKC fellowship has affected their teaching and learn about what kind of Japan related activities fellows have continued after the tour, at their schools and in their communities.

Alumni are also welcome to join and share your experiences with us!

The Agenda (Tentative)

- 1) Introduction (live)
- 2) KKC introduction
- 3) Application process summary (live)
- 4) Alumni comment (Ms. Michal Jensby, 2019 Fellow, Best Lesson Plan Award of 2019)
- 5) Q&A

The ZOOM Meeting ID and Passcode of each sessions are below, we look forward to your participation! [*Please note that you can join our zoom session without registering to attend the NCSS virtual conference](#)

Saturday, December 5 9:20-9:40 AM (Eastern Time)	<u>Meeting ID: 815 4792 6217 Passcode: 633920</u>
Saturday, December 5 12:20-12:40 PM (Eastern Time)	<u>Meeting ID: 833 2489 3150 Passcode: 279511</u>
Saturday, December 5 3:20-3:40 PM (Eastern Time)	<u>Meeting ID: 860 0924 8833 Passcode: 375851</u>
Sunday, December 6 9:20-9:40 AM (Eastern Time)	<u>Meeting ID: 874 4976 6647 Passcode: 158189</u>
Sunday, December 6 12:20-12:40 PM (Eastern Time)	<u>Meeting ID: 837 4103 9459 Passcode: 386923</u>

A KKC Legacy

Linda Lindsey, 1990 Fellow



The year 2020 marks the 30 year anniversary of my extraordinary KKC program to Japan. In 1990 KKC hosted the tenth year of fellowships for social science educators from the U.S. and Canada, with my program including Australian educators. KKC was a springboard for the academic, professional, and volunteer activities to follow throughout my career. My fellowship project was the development of curriculum guides with modules on Japanese, history, culture, and social institutions, focusing on the family, economy, and education. Faculty of Maryville University's School of Education, student teachers, and educators in surrounding school districts accessed material that could be tailored to students at various levels. Called on frequently to present Japan material to classes in education, sociology, history, and global studies, content and slides were updated and moved to digital format which could be easily shared to a wider audience. It was clear that interest in Japan was strong, and remains so today.

In 1995, an NEH institute on Japanese Culture and Civilization sponsored by the Asian Studies Development Program (ASDP) – with a mission to infuse Asian studies into the undergraduate curriculum – convened at the East-West Center (EWC) in Hawaii. The institute allowed for my next intense foray into Japan through five weeks of interdisciplinary readings and activities capitalizing on Japan scholars from the University of Hawaii and Honolulu's vibrant Japanese community. KKC primed me for this highly competitive program that delved into foundational historical and contemporary sources on Japan. Readings on Kyoto, World War II, and family life in Japan, for example, were situated through a KKC lens from visits to the Golden Pavilion, Hiroshima Peace Park, and my homestay with an entrepreneurial couple who owned a small sushi restaurant.

Professional work on Japan continued with presentations to the Japan Studies Association, ASDP and EWC venues, and social science conferences in the U.S. and abroad. I am active with the energetic volunteers of the Japanese and Japanese-American community in St. Louis, including the Japan America Society, Japan America Society Women's Association, and St. Louis-Suwa Sister City program. Working together, these groups also bring middle and high school students from Japan to St. Louis, with Japan hosting our students in alternating years.

Another key activity of these organizations and our cadre of volunteers is fielding the annual Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden (MOBOT), home to *Seiwa-en*, the "garden of pure, clear, harmony, and peace," one of largest Japanese gardens in North America. The Festival draws thousands to experience authentic music, art, food, dance, and culture of Japan. Alas, for the first time in 44 years the iconic event was cancelled due to the pandemic. Media referred to it as "cancelling summer in St. Louis." Volunteers are galvanized, however, as they are already planning for the 2021 Japanese Festival.

Built on the KKC foundation, early retirement from Maryville University transitioned me to Washington University (WU) to pursue my passion for specialized work on Asia and Asian American studies. Through WU and ASDP field seminars I have taken high school teachers, undergraduate and graduate students, and America based college faculty to important Asian cultural locations in the US, and to Japan and East Asia, with an eye to understanding the historical and cultural connections in the regions.

Teaching and other scholarship are, of course, never separated. Japan figures prominently in my co-edited anthology, *Women of Asia* (2019), and the seventh edition of my book, *Gender* (2021), both published by Routledge. Material includes the partnership approach in Japanese Style management, cultural continuity in the wake of massive social change, and glimpses of Japanese families navigating the demographic pitfalls of contemporary society. During the KKC program, I vividly recall a conversation with my homestay family on how our parents and grandparents maneuvered their lives during World War II. It struck me how women in both cultures recount similar experiences and emotions on keeping their families safe in these perilous times. Japanese families faced the destruction of their homes. Japanese Americans faced internment. My ongoing work and volunteer life focus on internment narratives, exploring new data and presentations in high schools, college classes and to community audiences. A field seminar in the U.S. took my students to Japanese cultural sites in San Francisco and Hawaii, and to the internment camp at the Manzanar National Historic Site in Owens Valley, California. Every presentation prompts further conversations from those who share family stories. I expect this work to continue as I move into retirement.

As an educator, scholar, and volunteer, KKC opened the path for exploring Japan that I certainly did not envision in 1990. I expect that my chronicle parallels the KKC legacy for a generation of alums and speaks to their own career opportunities and enduring friendships that resulted from their programs. Given that my writing, teaching, travel to Japan, and community work will continue for the foreseeable future, I will never be "retired." There is too much yet to learn and share about Japan.

Congratulations to Ms. Michal Jensby Winner of the Best Lesson Plan of the 2019 Fellows

The KKC fellowship is one of the highlights of my teaching career thus far. Each day brought new experiences, interesting meetings, and wondrous cultural sites. The amount of care and consideration that went into the trip planning was evident in each meeting we attended, and I am privileged to call myself a KKC Fellow Alumni. **Not only were we able to take part in discussions on education in Japan and visit Japanese High Schools, we were also exposed to the nuances and complexities of every facet of Japanese life. I truly felt like I came away from the fellowship with a better holistic view of Japan and experiences that have made me a better teacher and global citizen.**

Going to Japan has brought an expanded world view to my classroom. In my AP Macroeconomics class, we consistently compare the macroeconomic policies of Japan to that of the United States. I frequently share stories of our visits to the Bank of Japan, Japanese corporations, and government offices, and how each is operating and working towards strengthening Japan's economy. We have even looked at Japan's economic story since the 1980s and discussed solutions to Japan's deflation issues. My "Current Issues" class has been enhanced with stories of my visits to different high schools in Japan, as well as the lectures we received concerning the education system of Japan. We have spent time discussing the differences I saw in Japanese High Schools versus American schools, and what we can learn from other countries' education systems. In addition, they have spent time debating standardized testing in education after stories and readings on the effect of high stakes testing in Japan. More than just anecdotal examples, my travels have encouraged my students to broaden their own horizons, pursue study abroad opportunities in college, and prepare them for an increasing globalized and multicultural world.

Being able to share personal stories about my KKC Fellowship trip has not only given me global examples in the classroom, it has also piqued my student's interest in travel. Later this spring, my "Current Issues" class will be planning a mock trip to Japan to learn about Japanese culture, food, and transportation systems, as well



as practicing exchange rates, budgeting, and organizing a trip. Many of my students when asked if they are interested in travel, respond with timid questions about safety of traveling beyond the borders of the United States. Because they don't know anything about the world outside their community, they are fearful of new experiences. This exposure and practice will give my students the confidence to travel that they lack. As the sponsor of the International Club, I am excited to partner with the Japan-America society of Georgia to bring a Japanese culture caravan to our high school. This will take place at the end of February during our International Week and give our students the opportunity to interact with Japanese culture. I have also been asked to share my lessons and experiences with KKC at the Japanese Consul General's office with the Georgia Council on Economic Education. This is an exciting opportunity to share what I have learned in Japan and give teachers the resources and opportunities to bring Japan to their classrooms as well!

The lesson I conducted with my students this year (2019) gave them the chance to learn about the UN Sustainable Development Goals and compare the progress of countries with different economic systems. Students were impressed to discover how other countries like Japan are working towards achieving these Sustainable Development Goals. My students do not spend much time considering communities outside of theirs, and with this lesson they were able to see how Japanese culture and consideration for the natural world achieves reverence and care for the environment in a way that American culture does not. We spent time in class dis-

cussions debating the affects that our cultural values have on our human rights, environmental, social, and economic policies and how we as Americans can learn from the Japanese. This lesson was a great vehicle to expand my students' research skills as well as educate them on how the state of Georgia could be doing better to accomplish the SDG goals. My students also saw that generally other market economies are accomplishing their SDG goals at a higher success rate than the United States, but many developing countries and command economies do not see the level of progress that developed countries are achieving. They were able to highlight goals they felt were most important and also draw interesting conclusions about how some of the SDGs are more difficult to accomplish than others. Can systems grow economically while also improving environmental conditions and promoting social and economic equality? These questions sparked interesting discussions on the trade-offs of economic growth and prosperity in free market economies. Overall, the lesson was successful and a chance for not only my students to learn about Sustainable Development Goals, but also share their findings with the school through our Media Center. Many of their presentations were posted for other students to see which sparked a recycling initiative by the Student Government Association to promote heightened environmental awareness within our school.

The KKC Fellowship was an incredible learning experience that I draw from daily. It is an amazing opportunity for teachers and I'm grateful for not only the memories made, but also the lasting friendships I have formed with teachers from across North America. Thank you for continuing to provide this invaluable fellowship.

Notice about the 2021 Japan Study Tour

Due to COVID-19, the KKC Fellowship Program 2020 has been cancelled and details of the Program 2021 are to be announced. Though we will open the application on December 15, please note the Program 2021 might be different and could be cancelled depending on the COVID-19 situation.

For further information, please visit our website <http://en.kkc.or.jp/programs/stj/> or contact us at fellowship@kkc.or.jp

How to Cope with the Coronavirus in the Educational Field

KKC Fellowship Program Online Meeting, August 21, 2020

The 2020 KKC Study Tour to Japan was cancelled, because of COVID-19. To continue providing content about Japan to North American teachers, the Keizai Koho Center held the first meeting of a series of online programs.

Four teachers from both the U.S.A. and Japan made presentations on their current situations.

Ms. Naomi Oyadomari reported that her district has three options for learning: virtual academy for Grades 2-12, distance learning for Middle and High School, and the operation of a hybrid schedule, consisting of alternating days of in-person learning and distance learning for the Elementary School. As of the day of the event, her district was the only one in her county to get approval to re-open school. Ms. Alyssa McLean

presented how her district plans for school re-entry. Currently, her district is planning that students will return to school two days a week, other three days will be remote. She stated that this pandemic situation has allowed teachers and students to be more creative and connect with people online from all over the world.

Mr. Kenichiro Shinoda presented that his school has already re-opened with shortened periods. He shared his students' reactions during the school closures that they seemed to enjoy themselves and did their best with remote learning independently even though they were anxious about the risk of COVID-19. Ms. Mai Yoshida spoke about how her school dealt with remote learning during the school closure. She also shared that she was relieved to have all of her students in her

class again and was able to teach them in person. She realized that she should be grateful for the things she took as ordinary before now.

After the presentations, the attendees exchanged views on their challenges, such as how to look after their students in the uncertain situation and which platforms they recommend to for distance learning.

The presentations and discussion emphasized the common difficulties teachers are facing in dealing with remote learning the current pandemic, regardless of location. The discussion seemed to give teachers a feeling of solidarity with each other while exchanging practical ideas.

Keizai Koho Center will hold a series of online meetings on various themes of political, economic and social issues.

Our Upcoming Online Meeting Schedule

To continue providing content about Japan to North American teachers, Keizai Koho Center will hold a series of online meetings on various themes of political, economic and social issues in 2021. If you are interested in our upcoming online meeting, please register your e-mail address with us at fellowship@kkc.or.jp

The schedule (Tentative)

- Date & Time: Mid to end of January, Late afternoon and Mid to end of March, Late afternoon
- Themes: TBC ("Japanese economy after COVID-19" would be one of them)