Depiction of Retired Emperor Go-Toba, from a medieval set of illustrations of the thirty-six immortal poets.
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The National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) was founded in 1972 as the nation’s first inter-university research institute for the humanities. Initially situated in Togoshi, Shinagawa Ward (Tokyo), the institute was thereafter transferred to its present location in Tachikawa City, where it is has been achieving success in a number of new and innovative projects and original systems of research for the past eight years. With our ongoing efforts in both the investigation and collection of relevant materials and other resources, along with numerous public exhibitions offered here which take advantage of the institutes superior facilities, we are steadily witnessing the fruits of our labor as we strive to implement our major project, officially entitled the “Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts”. This project is part of a larger project initiated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology known as the “Project for the Promotion of Large-scale Research in New Areas”.

In this modern era, when globalization has become one of our most pressing concerns, many Japanese universities and research institutions are working towards international collaborative research in the field of Japanese literature. Despite diligent work, however, much of these efforts are currently limited to exchanges of information with a select group of skilled foreign researchers who possess an intimacy with the Japanese language. Just as we Japanese, most of whom are not at all familiar with French, German, or Russian, have come to adore such authors as Balzac, Goethe, and Dostoyevsky, so, too, there must be many foreigners who, despite their inability to read Japanese, nevertheless admire works of Japanese literature through translations. Globalization, if it is to be considered truly global, must produce research which reaches a broader audience embracing those who have no prior knowledge of Japanese. In accordance with this vision of more far-reaching type of international collaboration, therefore, above and beyond our usual commitment to international exchange, we have welcomed into our ranks two very promising young researchers, an assistant professor from Canada and an associate professor from France. With their assistance, we intend, among other projects, to publish in two-year’s time an online journal for the promotion of international research in the related fields of Japanese literature, history, and culture.

On another front, the National Institute of Japanese Literature has, since its first inception, managed to collect a total of more than three-hundred thousand items relating to Japanese literature, many of which are now preserved on microfilm, from all corners of the country. We have furthermore established the necessary facilities with which to preserve these items for up to one or even two centuries hence. Throughout this ongoing process of investigation and collection, we have received a very positive reception from those in possession of these rare materials. Having recognize the institute’s commitment to both preserving as well as effectively using these items, these individuals continue to honor us with donations of invaluable documents. Such donations include the private collections of such past distinguished scholars of Japanese linguistics and literature as Shinkichi Hashimoto (1882-1945), Sen’ichi Hisamatsu (1894-1976), Kyūzō Fukui (1867-1951), Kyōichi Nishishita (1898-1964), Akihia Hase (1918-1985), Shigeo Gotō (1921-2006), Isao Kōjō (n.d.), as well as a number of larger collections such as the Denban Collection formerly in possession of the Tayasu Tokugawa family, the Sekitokudō Collection formerly in possession of the Yamaga family, and the Ukai Collection. Our institution, therefore, houses not only microfilm copies of material but also a growing number of original manuscripts. Moreover, we recently received a donation of over one-thousand items, including manuscripts, commentaries, cards, and folding screens, all which pertain to the *Ise monogatari* (Tales of Ise, 9th-10th century), being the largest collection of its kind in the entire world. This collection, known as the Tesshinsai Collection, was donated to us by Misako Ashizawa, head of the Tesshinsai Collection Tales of Ise Cultural Center. We have already set in motion a collaborative project to catalogue this last collection, and we will be offering a public exhibition of its contents sometime next year.

This year marks the beginning of the third stage in the mid-term objectives and planning phase of national university corporations and inter-university research institute corporations. The National Institute of Japanese Literature, by utilizing what achievements we have amassed thus far, and simultaneously concentrating a great deal of its energy on our central project, namely, the Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts, fully intends to fulfill its role as an inter-university research institute.
The Goals of NIJL

This institution strives to serve researchers in the field of Japanese literature as well as those working in various other humanities, by collecting in one location a vast store of material relating to Japanese literature gathered from all corners of the country. NIJL is therefore both a foundational as well as a comprehensive research institution working towards the promotion of advanced collaborative research into Japanese literature. By utilizing the fruits of some four decades of accumulated research into pre-modern Japanese literature, NIJL works in cooperation with other research institutions and researchers, both in Japan and abroad, in order to build upon the wealth inherent in Japanese pre-modern texts, and thereby develop new fields of research which cut across the borders of traditional disciplines.

A Brief Chronology of NIJL

1966 December  The Science Council of Japan advises the Japanese government to establish a Center for Research in Japanese Language and Literature (tentative title)
1970 September  The Council for Science and Technology advises the minister of education to establish the Center for Research in Japanese Literature (tentative title) as a matter of urgent concern
1971 April  Funding is allocated to the Ministry of Science, Education, and Culture for the purpose of investigating the maintenance cost of facilities required for the storage of Japanese literary materials
1972 May  The National Institute of Japanese Literature (official name) is established, consisting of a management division, a documents and materials division, and a research and information division
1977 June  Inaugural opening ceremony is held
1977 July  Library services commence
1979 April  Library services division established
1987 April  On-line search engine for the Index of Microfilm Materials and Pre-modern Japanese Manuscripts Stored in NIJL made available
1992 April  On-line search engine for the Index of Articles on Japanese Literature made available
2002 November  Ceremony held in commemoration of NIJL’s thirtieth anniversary
2003 April  The Department of Japanese Studies, School of Cultural and Social Studies is established at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies as a foundational institution for research
2004 April  Internal organization of NIJL is restructured in consequence of becoming a corporate member of Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, Institutes for the Humanities
2008 March  NIJL is moved to its current location in Midori-cho, Tachikawa City
2013 April  Center for Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database is established
2014 April  The Center for Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database is renamed the Center for Collaborative Research in Pre-modern Japanese Texts

About the Facility

In August 1989 and again June 1993 governmental meetings were held to discuss a proposal to transfer a number of national institutions in order to reduce the increasing congestion of people and overconcentration of national resources in the heart of Tokyo’s metropolitan area. It was in accordance with decisions reached during these meetings that NIJL was moved in March of 2008 from Shinagawa Ward to Tachikawa City, which lies outside of the heart of the metropolitan area.
Organization

Steering Committee

Non-NIJL Members

Jun ADACHI
Kazuki IGUCHI
Kazumi IKEDA
Sanae ITO
Kenji UENO
Masao OTANI
Fusae KAWAZOE
Shigemitsu KIMURA
Akira TAKAGISHI
Kunihiko NAKAJIMA
Hiroaki NAGASHIMA
Michael WATSON

NIJL Members

Kazuo OTOMO
Hiroshi OCHIAI
Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Hisashi MISAKI
Kenji KOBAYASHI
Maori SATÔ
Keiichi TANIKAWA
Tsuneo TERASHIMA
Osamu FURUSE
Noriko YAMASHITA
Keichi WATANABE

Executive Staff

Director-General
Deputy Director-General (in charge of planning and coordination)
Deputy Director-General (in charge of research)

Research Information Center

Director of Research Information Center (dual post)
Director of Survey and Acquisition Division
Director of Digital Information Division
Director of Bibliographic Service Division
Director of Academic Planning Collaboration Division (dual post)

Research Department

Director
Director
Director

Center for Collaborative Research on Pre-modern Books

Center Director (dual post)
Center Deputy Director (dual post)
General Manager (dual post)

Administration Department

Director of Administration Department
Director of General Affairs Division
Director of Financial Affairs Division
Director of Academic Information Division

Survey and Acquisition Division
Digital Information Division
Bibliographic Service Division
Academic Planning Collaboration Division
General Affairs Division
Financial Affairs Division
Academic Information Division

The Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI) School of Cultural and Social Studies

Chair of Department of Japanese Literature

Center for Collaborative Research on Pre-modern Books

Center Director (dual post)
Center Deputy Director (dual post)
General Manager (dual post)

Administration Department

Director of Administration Department
Director of General Affairs Division
Director of Financial Affairs Division
Director of Academic Information Division

Jun ADACHI
Deputy Director General at the National Institute of Informatics; professor, Digital Content and Media Sciences Research Division

Kazuki IGUCHI
Part-time Advisor- Kyoto Prefectural Library and Archives

Kazumi IKEDA
Professor of Literature at Chuo University

Sanae ITO
Professor- Kyushu University Institute of Applied Mechanics

Kenji UENO
Director- Yokkaichi University Seki-Kowa Institute of Mathematics

Masao OTANI
Professor- Kyoto University Graduate School of Letters

Fusae KAWAZOE
Professor of Education at Tokyo Gakugei University

Shigemitsu KIMURA
Professor- Teikyo University Faculty of Letters, History Department

Akira TAKAGISHI
Associate professor of Literature at the Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, Tokyo University

Kunihiko NAKAJIMA
Professor- Waseda University Faculty of Letters, Arts, and Sciences

Hiroaki NAGASHIMA
Professor- Tokyo University Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology

Michael WATSON
Professor in the Faculty of International Studies at Meiji Gakuin University

Kazuo OTOMO
Professor- Research Department (Director)

Hiroshi OCHIAI
Professor- Research Department

Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Professor in the Research Department (head of research)

Hisashi MISAKI
Honorary Professor- Hokkaido University

Kenji KOBAYASHI
Professor- Research Department (Director)

Maori SATÔ
Professor in the Research Department

Keiichi TANIKAWA
Deputy Director- General (in charge of research)

Tsuneo TERASHIMA
Professor- Research Department (in charge of planning and coordination)

Osamu FURUSE
Professor- Research Department

Noriko YAMASHITA
Professor- Research Department

Keichi WATANABE
Professor- Research Department

Yuichiro IMANISHI
Tsuneyo TERASHIMA
Keiichi TANIKAWA

Hiroshi OCHIAI
Osamu FURUSE
Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Kazuo OTOMO

Tsuneo TERASHIMA
Hiroshi OCHIAI
Osamu FURUSE
Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Kazuo OTOMO

Kazuo OTOMO
Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Kenji KOBAYASHI

Noriko YAMASHITA
Kazuo OTOMO
Ken’ichi KANSAKU
Kenji KOBAYASHI

Yuichiro IMANISHI
Kazuo OTOMO
Junji IBUKA
Junji IBUKA

Kosaku OKADA
Jun TANIGUCHI
Katsutaka OTSUKA
Outline of Current Research Being Conducted at NIJL

NIJL is currently engaged in the following collaborative research projects as a means of promoting original research, both here in Japan and internationally, in the field of Japanese literature. These projects are made possible by the efforts of scholars who collect and analyze relevant materials from all over the country, and who engage in academic conversations with various other institutions inside and outside of Japan.

### Foundational Research

There are currently three foundational research projects in progress, each of which contributes to the overall progress of fundamental research in Japanese literature and other relevant materials.

- **Kenji Kobayashi** (professor at NIJL)
  "Fundamental Research into the Tales of Ise Corpus of the Tesshinsai Collection" 2016-2018

- **Koichi Watanabe** (professor at NIJL)
  "Research into Archives and Regional Sustainability" 2016-2018

- **Tsuneyo Terashima** (professor at NIJL)
  "Comprehensive Research into Search Functions for the Japanese Pre-modern Texts Database" 2015-2017

### Special Research

There are ten special projects geared at promoting broader approaches to our research in Japanese literature. Nine of these projects are designated as public research projects (see below), that is, they were proposed by researchers outside of NIJL.

- **Hiroshi Tanaka** (professor at Japan Women’s University)
  "Comprehensive Research into Transcription Methods of Surviving Manuscripts of the Man’yōshū" 2014-2016

### Public Research (general)

General public research projects, by using the various materials (microfilm documents and original manuscripts) stored at NIJL, aim at offering new perspectives on Japanese literature and related disciplines which are both creative and broad in scope. These projects encourage the involvement of young researchers.

- **Tokuro Yamamoto** (professor at Kansai University)

- **Satoshi Takahashi** (professor at Keiō University)

- **Kentarō Nakamura** (assistant professor at Teikyō University Junior College)
  "Research into the Content and Formation of Slips of Poetry and Calligraphy Primers” 2014-2016

- **Atsuhiko Wada** (professor at Waseda University)
  "Research into Documents Once Stored in the École Française d’Extrême-Orient, Currently Stored in the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences” 2015-2017

- **Kae Ishii** (assistant professor at Waseda University)
  "Research into Wood Engravings Produced by Artists in the Seikō Gallery: A Close Examination of Pieces Stored in NIJL” 2015-2016
Public Research (conducted by young scholars)

Public research projects conducted by young researchers aim at offering innovative perspectives in the field of Japanese literature by means of clearly-defined objectives and appropriate research methods.

- **Yukiko Esaka** (specially appointed lecturer at Kyoto Seika University and visiting researcher at NIJL)  
  “Research into Surviving Manuscripts and the Reception of Poetry in the Wakan rōeishū” 2015-2016
- **Eisuke Nakashima** (foreign instructor at Lanzhou University (China) and visiting researcher at NIJL)  
  “Fundamental Research into Materials Relating to Sokō Yamaga” 2016-2017

Public Research (thematic)

These thematic collaborative research projects seek to unite a number of specially selected individual research topics (proposed by researchers outside of NIJL), each of which show great promise and a high degree of originality, within a single, all-embracing theme.


- **Hironori Sakurai** (part-time lecturer at Seikei University)

  Research topics:
  - Research into early-modern reading practices of Eiga monogatari: commentaries and reader reception
  - Reading private poetry collection compiled in the seventh and twelfth centuries: ways in which poets and poetic language make connections beyond time and space
  - Emperor Reigen’s practices of transcription and reading: a look at manuscripts stored in the imperial palace
  - Research into the practice of inserting marginal notes as an act of reading: the marginalia of Keichū
  - Reader reception of the Nihon shoki through the ages: pre-modern lecture notes, waka poetry at concluding banquets, old manuscripts, and present practices
  - Research into early-modern lecture notes for the Nihon shoki: Tameoki Ōyama’s Misake kōki

**Theme: “Things Fantastic and Supernatural: Literature of the Strange, the Mysterious, and the Chaotic”** 2015-2017

- **Mari Ōta** (part-time lecturer at Ferris University Open College)

  Research topics:
  - The fantastic and the supernatural in the Man’yōshū: a look at the figure of the young maiden in ancient times
  - Visualizations of the abnormal in illustrations accompanying medieval anecdotal tales: practices of narrating marginalized figures
  - Transformation of the Asakura clan into venerated spirits, and the literature of spirit pacification: Asakura culture in tradition and legend
  - Foxes and the supernatural: investigating the strange, mysterious, and chaotic in performative art forms of the early-modern period

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**National Institute of Japanese Literature**

Collaborative research

- **Foundational research**
- **Special research**

Giving back to the public

- Lectures and symposiums
- Seminars
- Exhibitions
- Publication of research results
Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts

This project, headed by NIJL, is aimed at collaborating with universities and other research institutions both inside and outside Japan in order to digitalize our institution’s collection of three-hundred items and, by incorporating this data into our pre-existing bibliographical database, to create a comprehensive database of Japanese pre-modern texts. Ultimately, these digital images will serve as a platform upon which we may construct an international collaborative network. Such a network would promote research that transcends the traditional boundaries between academic disciplines and allow for interdisciplinary work limited not merely to the field of Japanese literature, but embracing all of the humanities as a whole.

Implementation Plan

The scheduled period of this project spans ten years, from the 2014 to the 2023 fiscal year. We are working to promote collaborative research on an international scale, and, in conjunction with this, to create a database of Pre-modern Japanese texts. The contents of this database will be made public in increments by presenting separate databases for each of the relevant disciplines in turn.

1. **The creation of a database of pre-modern Japanese involves:**
   - Scanning the three-hundred thousand documents stored in NIJL
   - Operating a large-scale server
   - Improving the search function of the database, as well as making it accessible in a number of different languages

2. **The promotion of international collaborative research involves:**
   - Facilitating interdisciplinary research
   - Promotion and development of comprehensive bibliographic studies

3. **The creation of a network for international collaborative research involves:**
   - Organizing a system of collaborative research to be adopted by NIJL and its fellow institutions
   - Developing a leading model of collaborative research

Schematic diagram outlining the basic elements of this project

In accordance with our project begun in 2015, we here at NIJL, along with a number of associated base universities and research institutions, continue our efforts to scan materials belonging primarily to the fields of medicine, science, and intellectual history. We are developing special collections of images for each of the more specialized disciplines, such as medicine and the various sciences. Images scanned during the 2015 fiscal year will be made public in increments beginning in April, 2016.
Project Plan

The Center for Collaborative Research in Pre-modern Japanese Texts was established within NIJL in April, 2014, as a means of carrying out this project. To this same end, NIJL works with a number of domestic organizations belonging to the National Institutes for the Humanities, twenty domestic associated base universities and research institutions, along with the National Institute of Informatics, as well as a number of foreign research institutions. Regarding the internal operations of the Center for Collaborative Research in Pre-modern Japanese Texts, it is run by a number of committees: the project implementation committee, the network of pre-modern Japanese texts committee, the international collaborative research network committee, and the associated base universities and institutions communication committee. This project is made possible by continued cooperation with experienced scholars and the community of researchers at large.

Expected Results

Since the contents of these historical Japanese texts, we expect will intensify and develop various academic research activities, and additionally support the fusion of different fields. Furthermore, digitizing these texts can prevent them from damaging cultural heritage – breakage and deterioration of original materials, loss due to natural disaster, etc. As a result, it can contribute to inheritance of these heritage for future generations.
This central objective of this plan is to bring to life the intellectual heritage inherent in the vast collection of materials stored in NIJL. This will be achieved by shedding new light on our material, light generated through the construction of a research network that connects researchers from various disciplines, both here in Japan and abroad. This plan aims at constructing, in cooperation with a number of domestic universities, a database which will include digitalized images of the entirety of NIJL’s collection of three-hundred thousand pre-modern Japanese texts, a collection which includes material from all disciplines. This will in turn serve as a leading platform for collaborative research for scholars from all fields.

### International Collaborative Research

Projects embraced under this category are headed by foreign scholars who, by focusing on a comprehensive theme, promote broader perspectives in the collaborative utilization of pre-modern Japanese texts.

- **“A Comprehensive Study of Publishing and Learning in the Early Edo Period”**
  - **Scheduled Period of Research:** April 2015-March 2018
  - **Representative Researcher:** Peter Kornicki (Emeritus Professor of Japanese, University of Cambridge)

- **“Borders and Japanese Literature: Constructing a Platform of Knowledge”**
  - **Scheduled Period of Research:** April 2015-March 2018
  - **Representative Researcher:** Haruo Shirane (Shinchō Professor of Japanese Literature, Chair of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University)

### Publically Solicited Collaborative Research

The original proposals for these projects were solicited from scholars working outside of NIJL.

- **“Construction of History for Illustrations Based on Kusazoshi”**
  - **Scheduled Period of Research:** October 2014-September 2017
  - **Representative Researcher:** Satoru Satō (Professor, Faculty of Literature, Jissen Women’s Educational Institute)

- **“Basic Research into Pre-modern Japanese Texts in the Kishū area and related Documents and Cultural Resources”**
  - **Scheduled Period of Research:** October 2014-September 2017
  - **Representative Researcher:** Naoyoshi Ōhashi (Associate Professor, Faculty of Education, Wakayama University)

- **“Analysis of the Formation of a Japanese Canon of Sinitic Prose and Poetry and Compilation of a Comprehensive History of Sinitic Literature in Japan for Use in a Global Research Environment”**
  - **Scheduled Period of Research:** October 2014-September 2017
  - **Representative Researcher:** Rintaro Gōyama (Associate Professor, Faculty of Letters, Keio University)
“International Collaborative Research relating to East Asian Writings on Science with a Focus on Japan in Early-Modern Times”

Scheduled Period of Research: October 2014-September 2017
Representative Researcher: Tsukane Ogawa (Professor, Faculty of Environmental and Information Sciences, Yokkaichi University)


Scheduled Period of Research: October 2014-September 2017
Representative Researcher: Ken’ichi Satō (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Informatics and Engineering, the University of Electro-Communications)

Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research

“Comprehensive Research into Pre-modern Texts relating to Sino-Japanese Pharmacology”

Scheduled Period of Research: July 2015-March 2017
Representative Researcher: Hirotoshi Fushimi (Specially appointed associate professor, Institute of Natural Medicine, University of Toyama)

“The Northern Lights and Society: Past, Present, and Future”

Scheduled Period of Research: April 2015-March 2017
Representative Researcher: Ryūhō Kataoka (Associate Professor, Space and Upper Atmosphere Science Group, National Institute of Polar Research)

A number of other collaborative research projects are also being conducted at this time.

Leading Collaborative Research with Associated Domestic Base Institutions

These collaborative projects are headed by researchers from among NIJL’s associated domestic base universities.

International symposium of Japanology, "Reception and Transformation of the Lotus Sutra in Japan," held at Ochanomizu University (July 4-5, 2015)

International symposium, “Reading Pre-modern Japanese Texts: Current State and Future Prospect of the Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database and Education in Cursive Scripts,” held at Osaka University (February 17, 2016)

Leading Collaborative Research with Associated Domestic Base Institutions

These collaborative projects are headed by researchers from among NIJL’s associated domestic base universities.
Leading Collaborative Research among NIJL Members

Six collaborate research projects, each funded by a number of external grants, are currently being conducted in order to develop a field of comprehensive bibliographic studies.

• “Japanese Pre-modern Texts within a Broader Asian Context: A Closer Look at Medical, Scientific, and Agricultural Manuals”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2014-March 2017
  Representative Researcher: Jie Chen (Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

• “Internationalization of Bibliographical Concepts and Terminology relating to Pre-modern Japanese Texts”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2014-March 2017
  Representative Researcher: Hiroshi Ochiai (Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

• “International Standardization of Codes for Pre-modern Japanese Texts”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2014-March 2017
  Representative Researcher: Kazuaki Yamamoto (Specially appointed Professor, Center for Collaborative Research on Pre-modern Books, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

• “Towards a Restructuring of Bibliography and Philology”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2015-March 2018
  Representative Researcher: Keiichi Tanikawa (Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

• “Development of an Interface for Young Students and Pre-modern Japanese Texts”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2015-March 2018
  Representative Researcher: Hiroshi Tanaka (Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

• “A Cultural Study of Writing: Hiragana and Katakana”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2014-March 2017
  Representative Researcher: Atsushi Iriguchi (Associate Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

Interinstitutional Collaborative Research

NIJL is currently heading an interdisciplinary research effort entitled “Wide-range Collaborative Foundational Research Project” which aims at adopting an interdisciplinary perspective to construct a new field of comprehensive bibliographical studies. Three institutions belonging to the National Institutes for the Humanities, namely, the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, and the International Research Center for Japanese Studies, are cooperating with NIJL to accomplish this aim.

• “Development of a Field of Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective”
  Scheduled Period of Research: April 2015-March 2020
  Representative Researcher: Keiichi Tanikawa (Professor, Research Department, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

Individual Research Units

• “Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research into the Engishiki, an Pre-modern Encyclopedia”
  Representative Researcher: Shigeji Ogura (Associate Professor, Research Department, National Museum of Japanese History)

• “Refining the Corpus of Historical Japanese with Information on Notation and Bibliographical Form”
  Representative Researcher: Tomokazu Takada (Associate Professor, Department of Linguistic Theory and Structure, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics)

• “Literary Legacies of Kirishitan Culture: Missionary Writings in the Vernacular”
  Representative Researcher: Nanyan Guo (Associate Professor, Office of International Research Exchange, International Research Center for Japanese Studies)
Collaborative Research for Technical Development

There are currently six collaborative projects aimed at improving the search functions of NIJL’s databases.

- **“Comprehensive Research into Improving Database Search Functions”**
  (In cooperation with the National Institute of Informatics)
  - Fundamental research to improve database search functions (primarily of digitalized images) without the use of tagging
  - Research into the development of advanced systems for improved data distribution
  Keizō Oyama (Professor, National Institute of Informatics)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** December 2015-March 2018

- **“Research into the Conversion of Images into Text and the Detection of Keywords within that Text”**
  (In cooperation with Future University Hakodate)
  Kengo Terasawa (associate professor, Department of Media Architecture, Future University–Hakodate)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** May 2015-March 2018

- **“Research into Recording Metadata/Annotation for Images of Pre-modern Texts”**
  (In cooperation with Hitotsubashi University and Keio University)
  Masaharu Hayashi (Associate professor, Center for Information and Communication Technology, Hitotsubashi University)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** September 2015-March 2017

- **“Fundamental Research towards a Multilingual ‘New Glossary for the Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database’”**
  (In cooperation with Ritsumeikan University)
  Ryō Akama (Professor, College of Letters, Japanese Literature Program, Ritsumeikan University)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** July 2015-March 2018

- **“Collaborative Research to Convert into Text All Images Gathered by the ‘Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-modern Japanese Texts’”**
  (In cooperation with the Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** December 2014-ongoing
  **The results of this research have been made public via the following media:**
  - Nikkei Asian Review (July 3, 2015)
  - ASCII Media Works, INTERNETCOM, INTERNET Watch (July 3, 2015)
  - Current Awareness Portal—National Diet Library (July 3, 2015)
  - Japan Printing News (July 4, 2015)
  - Zaikai News (July 4, 2015)
  - Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun (July 8, 2015)
  - Word Business Satellite, TV Tokyo Corporation (July 17, 2015)
  - NHK News 7 (July 18, 2015)
  - News Every, Nippon TV (August 8, 2015)

- **“Collaborative Research toward the Development of a Book Scanner for Old Documents and Pre-modern Japanese Texts”**
  (In cooperation with PFU Limited)
  **Scheduled Period of Research:** January 2016-December 2018
In order to further facilitate the research and use of pre-modern Japanese texts, NIJL joined hands with the National Institute of Informatics in order to make public a set of three-hundred fifty digitalized documents currently stored at NIJL, amounting to a total of sixty-three thousand images. This set of images, along with their relevant bibliographical information, was first made public on November 10, 2015, under the title “Data Set of Pre-modern Japanese Texts Held at NIJL”.

In 2015, NIJL held a public event, entitled “Open Database Workshop on Pre-modern Japanese Texts,” geared at gathering ideas that might help improve the usefulness of this data set. As a continuation of this, we will be hosting a similar workshop this year in hopes of gathering concrete ideas about some aspects of the programming necessary for this open database.

**[Ideas expressed]**

"Construction of an Mnemosyne Atlas of the Nijl", "Development of an application for the train, etc. Reconstitution of past recipes", "Construction of a databank of images from classical texts", "Supply of a bulletin board on cursive characters", "Construction of an image search engine with links to related images", "Construction of cooking report of Edo period recipes", "Let’s experience the culture described in classical texts", "Transcription in the cloud of Ryōritsu recipes from Edo".

URL: http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cipproject/data_set_list.html
The Science Council of Japan held a public symposium in their lecture hall entitled “The Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database and the Future of Research,” introducing NIJL’s plans to a wider audience (July 25, 2015, sponsored jointly by NIJL).

The first research convention for the Pre-modern Japanese Texts Database, entitled “New Possibilities for Pre-modern Japanese Texts” was held on July 31-August 1, 2015 (sponsored jointly by NIJL). A video file showing a portion of this convention has been made publically available on the Internet.

An international symposium entitled “The Future of HATHTRUST and Digital Archives” was held by the Ito International Research Center (Tokyo University, Hongo Campus), cosponsored by both Tokyo University and NIJL, to introduce our plan to a wider audience.

Yamamoto Kazuaki, Deputy Director of NIJL’s Center for Research on Pre-modern Texts attended the Council on East Asian Libraries 2016 Annual Meeting (Seattle, America), held on March 30, 2016, where he presented our plan to an American audience.

Two issues (nos. 4 and 5) of a newsletter dedicated to introducing this project entitled Fumi (The Written Word). All issues of this newsletter (nos. 1-5) may be downloaded from our homepage in the form of pdf files.

URL : http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/newsletter_fumi_new.html
Activities Overview

The aim of the work undertaken by the NIJL

The institute performs specialized research studies of Japanese literature and related materials that have been collected domestically and overseas. It also creates collections using photographs and originals, organizes and preserves sources and bibliographies that have been obtained, and maintains a base for the study of Japanese literature and related fields.

It also presents these things in various ways to domestic and overseas users, and passes them along to society through means such as exhibits and lecture meetings.

1 Research and Collection

In collaboration with approximately 190 researchers from universities throughout Japan, institute personnel travel to the sites of collections of Japanese literature and related original materials (such as manuscripts and published editions), and engage in research studies that center on bibliographical matters.

Based on such research studies, original materials approved for photographing are collected through full-volume photography as micro negative film or digital images.

In addition, since 2005, collaborative investigations have been er universities and institutions.

| Research and Collection Numbers up to the Present |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Research                       | Japan             | 1,031 locations |
|                                | Overseas          | 67 locations    |
| Collection                     | Japan             | 380 locations   |
|                                | Overseas          | 13 locations    |

It is estimated that about a million items of Japanese literature and related materials are scattered throughout Japan. Currently, more than 20% of those items can be read either on film or in the original at the institute.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Collection Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hokkaido / Tohoku Region</strong></td>
<td>Tottori Prefectural Library, Shogoin Temple, Osaka University Library (Tsuchihashi Bunko Collection)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kanto Region</strong></td>
<td>University of Tsukuba Library, The Imperial Household Agency- Archives and Mausolea Department, Tokyo University of the Arts Library (Wakimoto Bunko)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chubu Region</strong></td>
<td>Kashiwazaki City Library, Ishikawa Prefectural Library (Kawaguchi Bunko Collection), Toyama Prefectural Library (Yamada Yoshio Bunko)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kyushu / Okinawa Region</strong></td>
<td>Nagasaki University Economics Libraries, Nagasaki Prefectural Toshima Museum of History and Folklore (Tsue Bunko)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kinki Region</strong></td>
<td>Tottori Prefectural Library, Shogoin Temple, Osaka University Library (Psychotherapy Library)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chugoku / Shikoku Region</strong></td>
<td>Tottori Prefectural Library, Tottori Prefectural Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Inspection of Documents

Allowing perusal of documents and providing material copies of the same are services offered by the institute’s library. Through the interlibrary access (mutual use) system, it is possible for users even from remote locations to utilize these and other services. Those who are not affiliated with any university can request material copies directly via mail or fax.

In addition, collection related surveys done by telephone and reference questions submitted through writing, fax or e-mail are also accepted.

Library Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Hours</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
<th>Closed Stack Requests</th>
<th>Copy Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekdays</td>
<td>Weekdays</td>
<td>Weekdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30~18:00</td>
<td>9:30<del>12:00, 13:00</del>17:00</td>
<td>9:30~16:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>Saturdays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30~17:00</td>
<td>9:30<del>12:00, 13:00</del>16:00</td>
<td>9:30~15:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Closed

- Sundays, holidays, substitute holidays
- Last day of each month (or Friday if last day of month is Saturday or Sunday, or preceding Thursday if Friday is holiday)
- Second and fourth Wednesdays (or last Saturday of month instead of fourth Wednesday if last day of month is Saturday or Sunday)
- New Year holidays (December 27 to January 5)
- Collection inspection period (March 25~31)

*Circumstances may require the facility to close or open on other days. Please check the posted information and the institute’s Web page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Reader Service</th>
<th>Photoduplication Services</th>
<th>Photographing</th>
<th>Lending</th>
<th>Lending for Exhibitions</th>
<th>Reference Research</th>
<th>Interlibrary Loan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Microfilms, Japanese rare books (manuscripts, block-print editions), historical resources, printed books, photographic facsimiles, local history books across the country, and serial publications (Prior appointment is needed to view historical resources, rare books, special collections and books on loan to the library.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electronic photocopying (including photocopying using a reader printer), positive films (however, historical resources are not allowed to be copied)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical resources and other materials for which electronic photocopying is not possible</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overnight lending (only partial printouts of books)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lending for exhibitions at libraries, archives, museums, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accepting and responding to questions and requests for document searches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photocopying and lending through the system of mutual cooperation among libraries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inquiries</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>FAX</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Usage: +81-50-5533-2926 First Information Services Section 1</td>
<td>+81-42-526-8607</td>
<td><a href="mailto:etsuran@nijl.ac.jp">etsuran@nijl.ac.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interlibrary Loan (ILL): +81-50-5533-2927 First Information Services Section 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical materials: +81-50-5533-2930 Second Information Services Section 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Material publishing: +81-50-5533-2930 Second Information Services Section 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Collection Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials Type</th>
<th>No. of items, etc.</th>
<th>No. of books, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microfilm materials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Literature</td>
<td>192,096 items</td>
<td>42,254 reels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>202 items</td>
<td>6,308 reels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfiche</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Literature</td>
<td>16,667 items</td>
<td>57,358 sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>75,122 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book printouts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Literature</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>11,196 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serial publications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts and editions</td>
<td>17,538 items</td>
<td>58,709 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printed books, photographic facsimiles, etc.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>183,862 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,909 publications</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Materials in the Collection</td>
<td>487 items</td>
<td>about 520,000 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical, etc., Materials on Loan to the Library</td>
<td>9 items</td>
<td>9,440 volumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Literature</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>18 items</td>
<td>7,230 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Materials Related to Japanese Literature

**Rare Books**

197 items, including *Kasuga Kaishi* (Important Cultural Property), a 1682 Aratoya edition of *Koushoku Ichidai Otoko*, a Kamakura era manuscript of *Shin Kokin Wakashu*, a Kamakura period edition of *The Tale of Genji*, Chapter 16.

**Special Collections**

Twenty-one collections, including Kyoichi Nishishita’s formerly owned “Kokin-Wakashu (Collection of Ancient and Modern Times)” and related works (Hatsukari Collection), author Shinichiro Nakamura’s formerly owned anthology of Chinese poetry from the Edo and Meiji periods (Japan Chinese Poetry Collection), “Essays in Idleness” and other works (Isao Kojo Collection), a collection centering on the “Shin Kokin Wakashu (New Collection of Ancient and Modern Times)” (Kaifurogetsu Collection), diaries, records, cultural research, literature, and other art-related documents from the Tayasu Tokugawa family (Tayasu Tokugawa family materials (Denpan Bunko, etc.)), Meiji era politician Ukai Ikujiro’s collection (Ukai Bunko), and a collection including works by Yamaga Soko (Yamaga Bunko).

**Materials on Loan to the Library**

Eight collections, including six items from the collection of Motoomi Kaneko 104 items from the collection of Yoichi Matsuno, 101 items from the ancient manuscript fragment collection of Yasuyoshi Sakata; 50 boxes containing 6,690 pages from the Masuda collection.

### Materials Related to History

The Historical Materials collection focuses on the early modern and modern periods, and includes over 500,000 items. Nearly every region of Japan is covered.

The early modern archives feature a large number of works dealing with commoners (such as Owari no *Kuni Nagoya Moto Zaimokuwo Inuyamaya Kandake, and Shinano no Kuni Takaigun Higashi Ekmura Yamada Shozomonke*), but they also contain works dealing with military families (such as *Shinano no Kuni Matsushiro Sanadake and Awa no Kuni Tokushima Hachisuka*), noble families (such as *Yamashiro no Kuni Kyoto Sanjo Nishike*) and religion (such as Yamashiro no Kuni Kadonosugun Saga Tenryuyagi Tsuchi Rinsenji). As for the modern archives, they contain documents (such as *Aichi Prefectural Office documents and Okayama, Hiroshima, and Tottori Prefectural and Municipal documents*) dealing with prefectural, municipal and village government-level matters.
Public Presentations

The NIJL contributes to society by widely publicizing the results of its research via exhibitions, lectures, symposiums and seminars.

Exhibitions

The institute hosts exhibitions in its first-floor exhibition room. The exhibitions are based on results achieved through material research studies, joint research, and other studies.

Planned Exhibitions for FY 2016

Regular Exhibition

“Various Japanese Writings”
Planned to run from April to June 4, 2016, and again from mid-January to March, 2016

This exhibition will explain the form and content structure of Japanese books and introduce literary works in manuscript, in print and in books with unique character. This exhibition will also raise issues in determining the nature of Japanese books. As an overall result, basic knowledge about Japanese books will be learned and there is more opportunity to further consider this subject matter.

Regular Exhibition

“Japanese Literary History Based on Documents”
Planned to run from June 20 to mid-December, 2016

This exhibition will introduce Japanese literature dating from ancient times until the early Meiji period through documents. Although recent research trends are taken into consideration, the history of the literature is presented with a focus on works that are often included in school textbooks. Visitors can enjoy various aspects of pre-modern literature through the features of manuscripts and the feelings imparted by printed materials. This exhibition also includes a special section of recent additions to our institute’s collection.

Major exhibitions held up to now

- Special exhibition: “The Life and Times of Kamo no Chomei: An 800 Year Commemoration of Hojoki (“The Ten Foot Square Hut”)”
  May 25 - June 23, 2012

  Since 2012 marks the 800th anniversary since Hojoki was written, a special exhibition with the theme “The Life and Times of Kamo no Chomei” was held. This exhibition was the result of research stemming from the “Philological research on the works of Kamo no Chomei, centering on the Daifukukoji text of Hojoki (The Ten Foot Square Hut),” a designated research topic.

- Permanent Exhibition: “Various Japanese Writings”
  April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014

  This exhibition featured each generation of literary works in manuscript and print, as well as books with a unique character after an introduction of the form and content structure of Japanese books.

  Furthermore, the permanent exhibition features a special area allocated for materials recently acquired by the institute.

- Planned Exhibitions “Message from Keizo Shibusawa,” Restoration of Eiichi Shibusawa’s “Shibusawa Seien Memorial” and “World as Dreamed by Keizo Shibusawa”
  September 13, 2013 - October 14

  Based on the results of the document database creation for “Shibusawa Seien Memorial” in the Museum of Japanese Business History, which was envisioned by Keizo Shibusawa, a comparative study was conducted with the stored archives in Shibusawa Memorial Museum, and an exhibit restoring the “Shibusawa Seien Memorial” was opened.

- Permanent exhibition: “Various Japanese Writings”
  April 1 - September 22, 2014

  As the continuation of the previous fiscal year, this exhibition explained the form and content structure of Japanese books and introduced literary works in manuscript, print and books with the unique characteristics of each period.
Special Exhibition: “Chuya Nakahara and Japanese Poems” October 9 - November 5, 2014
This exhibition showcased the works of Chuya Nakahara (1907-1937), a successful poet of the early Showa period, how he was influenced by his predecessors, and how he made impact to the succeeding generation of poets. As Japan’s modern erapoetic history was restructured from Chuya Nakahara’s viewpoint, this exhibition revealed the uniqueness of his poetry.

Regular Exhibition: “Japanese Literary History Based on Documents” December 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015
This exhibition introduced Japanese literature dating from ancient times until the early Meiji period through documents. Although recent research trends were taken into consideration, the history of the literature was presented with a focus on works that are often contained in school textbooks.

Special Exhibition: “Masterpieces from the Museum of Ancient Asian Woodblock Prints (Korea)” Duration: October 13-November 22, 2015
Though relatively unknown, even in Korea itself, Korea has a rich tradition of woodblock printing, and it was with great pleasure that NIJL, with the permission of the Museum of Ancient Asian Woodblock Prints, presented a collection of such masterpieces.

This is a continuation of the same exhibition held in 2013-2014

Special Corner Duration: April 1, 2014 - March 31, 2016
The permanent exhibition, special exhibition and regular exhibition included a special section for exhibiting new additions to our institute’s collection.

Lecture Series

(1) Lecture Series
In order to disseminate Japanese literature, Kuzushi-ji lectures are held which are designed for the general public.
In FY 2015, lectures on Hyakunin Isshu poems (poems by 100 poets) will be held monthly from May through February (10 lectures in total).

(2) Archives College
Long-term and short-term courses are offered for the purpose of cultivating staff specialized in such tasks as archival record preservation and providing user services.
In FY 2015, the long-term course is scheduled to be held at the NIJL for six weeks between July 21 (Tue) and September 11 (Fri). The short-term course is scheduled to be held at Mie Prefecture Museum between November 16 (Mon) and 21 (Sat).

(3) “Japanese Classics Day” Lecture
“Japanese Classics Day” was established on November 1, 2008, which was the 1,000th anniversary of The Tale of Genji. The Committee for the Thousandth Anniversary for the Tale of Genji (name changed to “The Committee for Promoting Classics Day) declared to the nation that “November 1st is Japanese Classics Day”. This day was later enshrined into law. At our institute, a memorial lecture is scheduled to be held on November 1 (Sun), 2015.
(4) Lectures on Japanese Classical Writings
This seminar is held jointly with the National Diet Library and seeks to provide librarians in Japan and overseas who handle Japanese classical writings with basic knowledge about Japanese classical writings and how to handle them.

The FY 2015 seminar is scheduled to be held in January 2016.

List of Major Publications

Publications introducing the NIJL, etc.
- Overview of the National Institute of Japanese Literature
- Annual Report of the National Institute of Japanese Literature
- NIJL News (quarterly bulletin)

Research Results
- The Bulletin of the National Institute of Japanese Literature
- Japanese Literature Archival Studies
- Research achievements report
- Symposium report

Related Activities
- Research and study report
- Historical materials catalog
- International Japanese Literary Research Convention minutes
- Exhibition Catalog

Research achievement report Public collaborative research project: “Formation of Modern Manners Culturology”
Japanese literature is studied throughout the world. An important challenge of Japanese literary research is that of analyzing Japanese literature while incorporating a view of world literary research. Based on such an awareness, the institute established an International Relations Exchange section in the Academic Planning Collaboration Division in FY 2008 in order to invigorate international exchange activities. Similarly, positive activities are being implemented, such as the hosting of symposiums and research conventions overseas.

1 Conclusion of Academic Exchange Agreements

As an international center for Japanese literary research, the NIJL actively engages in a variety of academic exchange projects with researchers and research institutions overseas. In particular, it is the conclusion of academic exchange agreements with overseas institutions that allows for stable, ongoing research exchange to take place. Exchange activities center on the invitation and dispatch of researchers and hosting of international research conventions, but also include the implementation of joint surveys and joint research, and hosting of graduate school students for short-term training.

At present, academic exchange agreements have been concluded with the following overseas institutions.

- College de France, Institute des Hartes Etudes Japonaises (France)
- Korea University Center for Japanese Studies (Republic of Korea)
- Department of Asian and Mediterranean African Studies, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice (Italy)
- "Oriente" University of Naples (Università degli Studi di Napoli) (Italy)
- Italian Institute of Oriental Studies, Sapienza University of Rome (Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza”) (Italy)
- Department of Humanities, Sciences of Antiquity, Middle Ages and Renaissance and Linguistics, University of Florence (Università degli Studi di Firenze) (Italy)
- Beijing Foreign Studies University - Beijing Center for Japanese Studies (China)
- Leiden University (Netherlands)
- The University of British Columbia, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian Studies (Canada)
- Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (USA)
- C. V. Starr East Asian Library (Berkeley, California University)

2 International Conference on Japanese Literature

Meetings are held each fall in order to deepen exchanges between Japanese literature researchers from Japan and overseas, and to develop Japanese literary research while striving to nurture young Japanese literature researchers from other countries.

The 40th International Conference on Japanese Literature will be held on November 19 and 20 (Saturday and Sunday), 2016. In the afternoon of the second day, there will be a symposium with the theme “Japanese Literature that Crosses Boundaries (tentative title)”.

Themes will not be set for the three sessions for the research presentation, short session presentation, and poster session presentation so that it will be easier for young and foreign researchers to participate. Presentations for the poster session presentation can be given in English.
International Symposiums

With regard to Japanese literature and other related fields, the NIJL hosts international symposiums and other events in connection with researchers and research institutions overseas.

Main international symposiums recently held

Workshop for Reading Cursive Scripts in Pre-modern Japanese Texts
Date: May 6-8, 2015
Venue: Berkley, California University (America)

Workshop for Pre-modern Japanese Texts
Date: March 11, 2016
Venue: Berkley, California University (America)

International symposium: “Translating Time”
Date: December 12, 2015
Venue: National Institute of Japanese Literature (Japan)

“The Mario Marega Project”: a symposium in the Vatican
“In the Footsteps of Christians: Discovery of the Marega Collection stored in the Vatican Library and questions of international relations”
Date: September 12, 2015
Venue: Hall of St. Pius X (Vatican)

Exchange with Overseas Researchers (Foreign and Outside Researchers)

The NIJL invites researchers at the forefront of Japanese literary research and in peripheral fields from many countries to come to the NIJL as foreign research staff members (guest professors, guest associate professors) to make use of the NIJL’s academic resources and engage in personnel exchange so as to promote the internationalization of Japanese literary research. In addition, the NIJL accepts researchers and others from overseas who are working on academic dissertations or various other kinds of research to come work as outside researchers and use the NIJL as a base for their work.

[Foreign Researchers for FY2016]
Yonsoo Kwon (Professor of Japanese, Semyung University, Korea)
Period of research at NIJL: September 5-December 4, 2016
Area of research: Sociology of writing (collaborate research with NIJL)
Graduate Education

The Department of Japanese Literature in the School of Cultural and Social Studies at SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies)

The NIJL functions as the Department of Japanese Literature in the School of Cultural and Social Studies at SOKENDAI.

This department was established in 2003 and accepts students into the doctoral course. The wealth of original texts and materials kept by the NIJL represent a key cultural information resource for researchers, and the aim is to use this to cultivate specialists in Japanese literature and peripheral areas of study through the comprehensive study of the external and internal characteristics, etc., of the materials in the NIJL collection.

Special Collaborative Research Fellows

NIJL accepts graduate students at the request of universities and cooperates in university education. The Graduate School Education Collaborative System was started in 1979 and graduate students began to be accepted at the NIJL. And since 1998, this system has been expanded to accept graduate students as Special collaborative research fellows, and NIJL accepts about 10 students every year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>FY2012</th>
<th>FY2013</th>
<th>FY2014</th>
<th>FY2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accepted Students</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit: persons

Commencement Ceremony in the Spring of 2016
### Databases

The institute creates various databases for research in Japanese literature and related areas. On April 1, 2015, the following database was released to the public from the institute’s website database page (http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/database/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book and Periodical Holding List (OPAC)</td>
<td>A catalog of books and periodicals (serial publications) since the Meiji era held by the NIJL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books</td>
<td>Comprehensive catalog of both bibliography and holdings information about Japanese classics, literary works, and authors (reference information).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catalogue of early Japanese books &amp; Catalogue of early Japanese books in microform or digital at NIJL</td>
<td>Catalog database of microfilm/digital materials (classical Japanese works held by universities, libraries, etc., domestically and overseas which are photographed and collected by the NIJL as microfilm or digital materials) and Japanese books held by the NIJL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classical Books and Materials Database of Japanese</td>
<td>Contains primary bibliographic information from the &quot;literature and materials research cards&quot; of manuscripts, editions, etc., held domestically and overseas which the NIJL has researched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Bibliography and Images</td>
<td>Public release of results of research and collection of literature materials centering on Japanese literature in and since the Meiji period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing and Advertisement Database in Meiji Era</td>
<td>Enables full-text searches and image browsing of the Institute’s collection of the following works: Ni-Jichi-dai Shu (Anthologies of the One and Twenty Reigns), E-Iri Genji Monogatari (The Illustrated Tale of Genji). Azuma Kagami (Mirror of the East), and Rekishi Monogatari (Stories from History).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database of the texts of selected classical works</td>
<td>Database of images of primarily classical characters up to the Meiji period from illustrated biographies contained in classical Japanese works.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Figure Image</td>
<td>Database of images of primarily classical characters up to the Meiji period from illustrated biographies contained in classical Japanese works.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renga-Ennou-Garaku Database</td>
<td>Open database linked with a Renga database and Ennou database which included a newly produced Garaku database.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kornicki Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books in Europe</td>
<td>Database of bibliographic and location information on Japanese books held in libraries, museums, etc., in Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Naraehon Database</td>
<td>Open database of original text images for Naraehon (19 books) held by the NIJL (accompanies republication).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archival Holdings on Japanese History</td>
<td>Database of overview and catalog of the NIJL historical materials (archives), focused on historical materials from the old collections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kojiruinen Database</td>
<td>Database that offers full-text and browsing of the Kojiruinen (Dictionary of Historical Terms) that covers institutions, cultural assets and society in Japan from ancient to early-modern times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biography Bibliography Database</td>
<td>Database of biographical information related to the research of Japanese classics. Currently contains the Nihon Jinmei Jiten and the Jigekaden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forgmentary Manuscripts Database of Japan</td>
<td>Database of printing information for ancient writing fragments since the Kohitsu-gire Teyo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliographical Database of Archival Studies in Japan</td>
<td>Database of research literature in Japan related to archival studies. Individual documents containing chapters are all entered in “Content.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan Museum of Business and Industry Collection Database</td>
<td>Open database of materials information and images pertaining to pictorial art utensils and advertisements from the Establishment Office of the Japan Museum of Business and Industry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIJL Database of Detailed Shrine Records</td>
<td>Database of shrine names, locations and structures prior to WWII taken from detailed shrine records throughout Japan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGAWA family papers database, Nirayama, the Province of Izu</td>
<td>This database is a joint project with the Egawa Foundation for Preservation of Historic Properties and displays bibliographic information for old texts and literature held by the Foundation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Collaboration for Japanese literary Studies</td>
<td>A database of bibliographic information, images, translations, etc., for overseas research papers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archival Location Information and Search System</td>
<td>Database for location and overview of materials originating from different locations throughout Japan (user registration required for detailed version).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collectors’ Seals Database</td>
<td>Database of ownership stamp information derived from original copies with a focus on classic books held by the NIJL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database of the Location of Historical Materials</td>
<td>This database provides essential information about the location and content of various collections of historical materials currently stored throughout Japan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajiro Masuda Advertisement Collection Database</td>
<td>A database of publication information and images of advertisements collected by Tajiro Masuda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directory of Overseas Collection of Old and Rare Japanese Books, Other Print Materials and Manuscripts</td>
<td>An English (with some Japanese) listing of the contact addresses, viewable collections, and so on for institutions outside Japan that hold Japanese Classics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanashibon taikei Database</td>
<td>This database provides a searchable version of the full text of Hanashibon taikei (published by Tokyodo).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Researchers (as of April 1, 2016)

#### Director-General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Research Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yuichiro IMANISHI</td>
<td>Various problems of the Heian period literary history</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Researchers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Research Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tsuneyo TERASHIMA</td>
<td>Deputy Director-General (In charge of Planning and co-ordinating)</td>
<td>Research into waka literature of the middle ages, waka history and terminology, and journal writing of the middle ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keiichi TANIKAWA</td>
<td>Deputy Director-General (In charge of research)</td>
<td>Research into the period during which early-modern literature was developing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazuo OTOMO</td>
<td>Professor (Director)</td>
<td>Research into the social structure of early-modern Japan; research into archival studies in early-modern Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken'ichi KANSAKU</td>
<td>Professor (Director)</td>
<td>Early-modern waka &amp; Japanese classics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenji KOBAYASHI</td>
<td>Professor (Director)</td>
<td>Research into Muromachi era literature (Noh, Kyogen, Kowakamai ten, Otogizoshi, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetsuya ITO</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into Heian era stories, particularly The Tale of Genji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiroshi OCHIAI</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into the literature and performing arts of the middle ages; research into bibliography of Japanese classics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maori SAITO</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into the literature of the middle ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jie CHEN</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into the exchange of books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osamu FURUSE</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into the application of information processing systems to Japanese literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noriko YAMASHITA</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Research into early-modern literature, particularly e-hon (picture books) and ukiyo-e, and research into kabuki works by Yodaime Tsuruya Nanboku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koichi WATANABE</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Archival research focused on the social structure of early-modern cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitsuru AIDA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Japanese literature of the Heian era and middle ages; study of academics and annotations primarily in children's textbooks; narrative literature; cultural information studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutsumi AOKI</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research relating to historical materials preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumi AOTA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research into Japanese early-modern literature, particularly critical essays and novels of the Meiji and Taisho eras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atsushi IRIGUCHI</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research into early-modern literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keisuke UNNO</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research on medieval literature and waka literature, and research relating to the classics, focusing primarily on the Imperial Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naohiro OTA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research on regional government of early-modern Japan; research on archival studies in early-modern Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiyofumi KATO</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research into the relationship between East Asia and Japan since the latemodern era</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junko KOYAMA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research into verse mainly from classical waka literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Research Content</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didlier DAVIN</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Medieval Buddhism and literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shintaro NISHIMURA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research into Japanese emperors, the Imperial court, modern culture, and the caste system; local preservation of historical archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tadashi NOMOTO</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research relating to the sophistication of information usage in Japanese literature research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun'ichi MIYAMA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Formation of the modern state and the history of record keeping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hideo EDO</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Research into Heian era literature, particularly prose stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomoko KOIDA</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Research into literature of the middle ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariko NOAMI</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Study of the Novels of Natsume Soseki, Literary Theory, and the Reception of Classical Japanese Thinking in Modern Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristopher REEVES</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Comparative studies of Sinitic literature in the Heian period; genre studies of Sinitic poetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryo YUGAMI</td>
<td>Specially Appointed Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Structure of society in early-modern and modern Venice; history and governance of archives in Italy and the Vatican</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Guest Researchers, Foreign Researchers (expected for 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Research Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tokurō YAMAMOTO</td>
<td>Guest Professor</td>
<td>Creation of index for and exhibitions related to &quot;Fundamental Research into the Tales of Ise Corpus of the Tesshinsai Collection&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shūji NINOMIYA</td>
<td>Guest Professor</td>
<td>Conservation science of damaged archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yonsoo KWON</td>
<td>Foreign Researcher (Guest Professor)</td>
<td>Sociology of writing (collaborative research at NIJL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Center for Collaborative Research on Pre-modern Texts (as of April 1, 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Research Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yuichiro IMANISHI</td>
<td>Director (dual post)</td>
<td>Issues in Heian period literature studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazuaki YAMAMOTO</td>
<td>Deputy Director Specially Appointed Professor</td>
<td>Research on 19th century literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keiko KITAMURA</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research on information science theory, looking at the humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiyomi IWAHASHI</td>
<td>Specially Appointed Associate Professor</td>
<td>Research on early modern cultural history and historical document management history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahoko IGURO</td>
<td>Specially Appointed Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Research on picture scrolls and picture books from the middle ages to the early modern age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuninori MATSUDA</td>
<td>Specially Appointed Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Utilization of computers in the humanities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The National Institutes for the Humanities (abbreviated hereafter as NIHU), one of four large Inter-University Research Institute Corporations in Japan, embraces within itself six inter-university research institutions. Each of these six institutions seeks to facilitate research in the humanities, both within Japan and abroad, as means of transcending traditional academic boundaries. By bringing together various domestic and overseas research institutions, NIHU strives to provide both clear explanations of and effective solutions to the various social challenges of our day.

Promoting research and sharing information

In 2016, NIHU established two new centers, namely, the Center for the Promotion of Comprehensive Research in the Humanities and the Center for the Comprehensive Sharing of Information. These centers serve to insure the continuance of our academic community by functioning as research bases for work being done throughout the country by the six aforementioned institutions. Furthermore, these two centers serve to strengthen and promote multifaceted collaborative research, the active sharing of information both in and outside of Japan, as well as the education of the next generation of young scholars.

**Center for the Promotion of Comprehensive Research in the Humanities**

This center promotes cooperation between the six inter-university research institutions within NIHU, on the one hand, and universities along with research institutions both within and outside of Japan, on the other. As a means of developing a new system of values appropriate to the humanities, this center furthermore promotes a number of collaborative core research projects aimed at elucidating various modern issues.

**Research projects currently conducted at the Center for the Promotion of Comprehensive Research in the Humanities**

| NIHU-based projects | Development of a field of comprehensive informatics as well as a platform for the sharing of research-related resources related to Japanese history and culture
| Planning to develop an international collaborative network for research in Japanese pre-modern texts
| Pioneering a field of comprehensive research into the Japanese language which utilizes linguistic resources from other languages
| Creating a new image of Japanese culture by means of diachronic and international research into various mass cultures
| Creating a possible future society based on the amalgamation of abundant natural phenomena and cultures found in various Asian societies
| Establishing a forum-style museum of information relating to the cultural resources of the human race

| Broader cooperative projects | Reconstructing local cultures found throughout Japan in the midst of transformations and natural disasters afflicting those local cultures
| Promote new developments in the field of ecological health within an Asian context

| Network-based project | Promotion of regional studies in Northeast Asia, the modern Middle Eastern world, and modern China
| Investigation, research, and utilization of Japan-related materials currently stored overseas, including the following:
| - Materials stored at the Hague National Archives relating to Hindo Dutch trading post
| - Materials relating to the Japanese presence in nineteenth-century in Europe
| - The Matai Maruya collection stored in the Vatican Library
| - Japan-related documents stored throughout North America

**Center for the Comprehensive Sharing of Information**

This center promotes the work of researches here in Japan and those abroad by digitalizing academic material relating to all aspects of the humanities. Furthermore, by strengthening the mutual exchange of information between research institutions and society at large, this center aims at sharing its research with those not directly involved with the academic community.

**Research projects currently conducted at the Center for the Comprehensive Sharing of Information**

| Projects to promote more efficient sharing of research-related resources:
| - NIHU DNT [http://int.nihu.jp/]

| Availability of information:
| - Repository and database of researchers
- A repository in which research-related materials can be made internationally available has been established at each institution. Furthermore, a database in which the basic information about all researchers in these various institutions may be found has also been made public.
- A list of international links: [http://www.nihi.jp/tougou/kyouyuka/japan-links/]

| Other projects:
| - NIHU web magazine
- This on-line magazine seeks to share NIHU’s recent research findings and academic activities with an international audience

| Projects aimed at sharing information with those outside the institutions:
| - NIHU symposiums
- Make research findings available to a wider audience
- 26th Symposium: “The Anguished Middle East” (held May 2015)
- 27th Symposium: “The 150th Anniversary of Seyboth’s Japan” (held January 2015)
- In June 2016, the institute intends to hold another symposium based on the theme of spectra and goblins, and yet another in October focusing on food-related issues
- Alliance of the industrial and academic spheres
- NIHU is endeavoring to make connections with the tourism industry in order to better advertise the results of our research
Graduate school education

As a means of fostering researchers who possess both specialized knowledge and a broad scope, NIHU offers five academic majors through four institutes at the School of Cultural and Social Studies in the Graduate University for Advanced Studies. Moreover, the six institutions under NIHU accept graduate students from various universities in order to support their studies for the benefit of the next generation.

International cooperation

NIHU fosters relations with various overseas research institutions working in the humanities, inviting foreign researchers to Japan as well as actively dispatching Japanese scholars to foreign nations, where he then hold numerous symposiums. Moreover, in cooperation with the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the United Kingdom, we accept a number of British graduate students and young researchers interested in the field of Japanese culture. In this way, we participate in educating foreign scholars, as well.

Award for excellence in Japan-related research

NIHU has established this award in conjunction with the YKK Corporation to recognize the work of outstanding Japanese researchers studying abroad as a means of increasing awareness and promoting research of Japanese culture overseas. This award is granted to those exceptionally gifted Japanese researchers living abroad who are doing work in Japanese literature, language, history, ethnology, sociology, culture, and environmental issues.

Dr. Alexander Vovin, Professor at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociale, in Paris, France (standing to the left)

Sharing research with a wider audience

NIHU holds regular symposiums and colloquiums, attended by the general public and journalists alike, in order to share our research results with a wider audience. Furthermore, in hopes of contributing to a more abundant lifestyle, NIHU has joined hands with a number of industries who make it possible for us to give back to society in a truly productive manner.
Directions

**By Tama Intercity Monorail:**
Get off at JR Tachikawa Station, make switch to Tama Monorail Tachikawa-Kita Station, get off at Takamatsu Station, and walk 10 minutes.

**By Tachikawa bus:**
From JR Tachikawa Station’s north entrance, board bus at boarding area ①, get off at “Tachikawa Gakujutsu Plaza,” and walk 1 minute.
From JR Tachikawa Station’s north entrance, board bus at boarding area ②, get off at “Tachikawa Shiyakusho,” and walk 3 minutes.
From JR Tachikawa Station’s north entrance, board bus at boarding area ③, get off at “Saibansho-mae,” and walk 5 minutes.

**On foot:**
From JR Tachikawa Station, walk about 25 minutes.

**By car:**
From Chuo Expressway’s “Kunitachi Fuchu IC,” drive about 15 minutes.
*Free parking available