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<tr>
<th>Organizer</th>
<th>Waseda University Doctoral Student Network</th>
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<td>Supported by</td>
<td>Global Institute for Asian Regional Integration (GIARI), GSAPS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Migration in East Asia: Case Studies from Japan, China and Taiwan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presenters and Discussants</td>
<td>Dr. David Blake Willis, Soai University</td>
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<td>Dr. Soo im Lee, Ryukoku University</td>
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<td>Dr. David Chapman, University of South Australia</td>
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<td>Stephen Robert Nagy, Research Associate, Waseda University</td>
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<td>Professor Glenda S. Roberts, Waseda University</td>
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<td>Dr. Gracia Liu Farrer, University of Chicago</td>
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<td>Pei Chun Han, Phd Candidate, Waseda University</td>
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<td>Professor Shigeto Sonoda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>June 20th, 2008, 15:00 to 16:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, 7F, Rm710</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>60 participants from universities in Tokyo and Abroad, see</td>
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<td>attendance list for full list of participants</td>
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**Symposium Schedule:**

**Welcome Address: Prof. Hatsue Shinohara**

Session 1 : 15:00 to 17:00

“Dejima: Legacies of Exclusion and Control”

- **Dr. David Blake Willis (Soai University)**
  “Sealing Japanese Identity”

- **Dr. David Chapman (University of South Australia)**
  “The Underlying Myths, Beliefs and Calculations Reflected In the Naturalization Policy in Japan”

- **Dr. Soo Im Lee (Ryukoku University)**
  “Examining the Role of Local Governments in Social Integration: A Comparative Examination of Social Integration Practices at the Local Government Level in Japan”

- **Stephen R. Nagy Research Associate (Waseda University)**

Discussant for speakers: **Prof. Glenda S. Roberts**

Session 2 : 17:15 to 18:30
“Creating a Transnational Community: Chinese Newcomers in Japan”
- **Dr. Gracia Liu-Farrer (Sophia University)**

“Hidden “In between-ness”: an Exploration of Taiwanese Transnational Identity in Contemporary Japan”
- **Peichun Han PhD Candidate (Waseda University)**

Discussant for speakers: **Prof. Shigeto Sonoda**

**Closing Remarks: Stephen R. Nagy**

**Symposium Details:**
**June 20th, 2008**

**Opening Remarks:**
Professor Hatsue Shinohara, Professor at the Graduate School of Asia of Asia-Pacific Studies and team member of the Global Institute for Asian Regional Integration GIARI at Waseda University welcomes the participants.

Welcome address: Stephen Robert Nagy, Research Associate and PhD Candidate, GSAPS gives welcome address focusing on the importance of looking at East Asian integration through the lens of migration

**Panel 1:** Chaired by Professor Glenda S. Roberts

**Transnational Japan: Artifacts of Identity and Contested Spaces of Inclusion/Exclusion**

The existence of the foreign Other in Japan has always tested the essentialised boundaries of Japanese identity and destabilized established cultural and national power. This destabilization and disruption has taken place along many borders and in many spaces, constantly struggling against the mechanisms and forces of inclusion and exclusion that typify the binary of Self and Other. The papers in this panel discuss both contemporary and historical contexts in new ways, dealing with the role of policy, legislation, community and location in maintaining notions of what it is to be Japanese. Migrants have always been a part of the Japanese social landscape and the recent influxes, as have others before, highlight and contest the ambiguities and contradictions of essentialism and express hope of coexistence and a new way forward where new identities in Japan are realised and accepted in place of the artifacts of homogeneity. The existence of the foreign Other in Japan has always tested the essentialised boundaries of Japanese identity and destabilized established cultural and national power. This destabilization and disruption has taken place along many borders and in
many spaces, constantly struggling against the mechanisms and forces of inclusion and exclusion that typify the binary of Self and Other. The papers in this panel discuss both contemporary and historical contexts in new ways, dealing with the role of policy, legislation, community and location in maintaining notions of what it is to be Japanese. Migrants have always been a part of the Japanese social landscape and the recent influxes, as have others before, highlight and contest the ambiguities and contradictions of essentialism and express hope of coexistence and a new way forward where new identities in Japan are realised and accepted in place of the artifacts of homogeneity.

1) David Blake Willis, Soai University

*Dejima: Legacies of Exclusion and Control*

Many of the policies with regard to outsiders in Japan are related directly to attempted legal remedies for difference in the expanding and then contracting realm of historical Japan. Artifacts of previous eras hang on and trip up current relations in unexpected and difficult ways. For larger images of difference in the society, few symbols can rival Dejima, the tiny island in Nagasaki harbor where the Dutch, the only Europeans allowed contact with Japan, were historically isolated (1639-1853). Dejima is an especially powerful symbol of the treatment of Others in the Japanese context. While recent research has revealed a far more complex reality on the ground in historical Japan, the grip which Dejima has on the Japanese consciousness with regard to the Other remains potent. Dejima continues to be a special symbol for the Japanese with its images and imaginings, shaping attitudes and policies far out of proportion to the actual numbers of people who actually lived on this small island in Nagasaki Bay.

2) Soo Im Lee, Ryukoku University

*Underlying Myths, Beliefs, and Calculations reflected in Japanese Naturalization Policy*

Despite the persistence of Japan’s image as a closed, ethnically homogeneous nation-state, over the past few decades there has been a sharp increase in the number of foreign nationals applying for Japanese citizenship. Given demographic trends in Japan, these numbers are likely to increase. Over 60 percent of all applicants for naturalization in Japan are Korean nationals. Therefore, Japanese naturalization policies are likely to have major implications for both the future of Japanese society and the Korean community in Japan. Yet, despite its importance, relatively little is known about how the Japanese naturalization policy actually functions. The final decision of whether to accept a naturalization application is left largely to the Ministry of Justice, and the procedures and criteria for making a decision remain ambiguous and shrouded in a veil of bureaucratic secrecy. The aim of this paper is to explore the ways in which Japanese naturalization policy is carried out, to trace the ways...
in which it has evolved, and to shed light on the underlying myths, beliefs and calculations of economic and political interest on which those policies are based.

3) David Chapman, University of South Australia/Waseda University

Sealing Japanese Identity

On 22 February 2003 a group of foreign residents of Japan gathered in Yokohama’s Nishi Ward next to the Katabira River to protest the awarding of a residency certificate (juminhyo) to a seal called Tama-chan. Tama-chan had frequented the river and as such was awarded the certificate because he was “more or less like a fellow resident” (Brophy 2003). The group of foreign residents criticized what they believed to be discrimination by the Japanese state because, whilst a seal is able to gain a residency certificate, foreign residents are legislatively excluded from obtaining one. The Tama-chan protest provides an opportunity for investigating not only the residency registration system but also other population registries such as the Japanese family registration system and alien registration system. In this paper, I argue that a deeper and more informed understanding of the processes of marginalization of migrants in Japan can be achieved through a comprehensive investigation of Japan’s population registries and their respective histories. I also discuss how these population registries are sites of tension in which contained notions of Japanese citizenship and national identity are being contested by migrant populations with vested interests in Japan as home thus revealing the inadequacies, inconsistencies and ambiguities of these registration systems.

4) Stephen Robert Nagy, Waseda University

Examining the Role of Local Governments in Social Integration: A Comparative Examination of Social Integration Practices at the Local Government Level in Japan

Japan has seen the population of foreign residents increase 50% since the 1990s. In large urban areas such as the Tokyo Metropolitan Area (TMA) this increase has occurred in concert with a distinct settlement pattern in which various ethnic groups conglomerate in specific municipalities with previously established ethnic communities. This settlement pattern has prompted local governments to develop social integration policies under the rubric of multicultural coexistence which represents their particular ethnic concentration. These policies revolve around fomenting inclusionism and pluralism in these municipalities; however this stops short of full political suffrage for eligible foreign residents. This paper will compare the social integration practices of two municipalities, one in the TMA and the other in Kanagawa Prefecture in order to explain how ethnic communities contribute to the formation of local government led social integration practices. Through
understanding how ethnic communities influence and attenuate social integration practices, local
governments will be better able to mitigate the challenges of the ethnicisation of Japanese
municipalities, furthering the social integration of various ethnic groups while diminishing the
inevitable friction that is precipitated when new ethnic groups settle in urban settings.

Discussant: Professor Glenda S. Roberts

Panel 2: Migration in East Asia: Perspectives from China and Taiwan
Chair by: Professor Shigeto Sonoda

1) Gracia Liu-Farrer, University of Chicago
Creating a Transnational Community: Chinese Newcomers in Japan

In 2006, over seven hundred thousand Chinese-born people resided in Japan. The majority of them,
called “newcomers,” arrived after mid-1980s. Despite the economic downturns in Japan and the
booms in China, the eventful diplomatic relationship between two countries and changing
immigration control policies in Japan, the Chinese population has been rapidly growing since
mid-1980s, showing no sign of slowing down. Transnational practices and outlooks characterize the
Chinese newcomer community in Japan. In a country reluctant to become an immigrant country
despite surging immigration and a society widely (even if falsely) perceived as racially
homogeneous, maintaining economic and social ties with the home country and making
transnational living arrangements have become strategies Chinese immigrants have adopted both to
circumvent their marginal social positions and to gain socioeconomic mobility in Japan. Beginning
with a brief history of the Chinese in Japan, this chapter introduces the patterns of contemporary
migration and the characteristics of the Chinese newcomers in this country. It categorizes their
transnational modes of social and economic adaption as well as their living arrangements, and
describes the construction of the identity of “new Overseas Chinese (shin hua qiao)”.

2) Peichun Han, PhD candidate, Waseda University.
Hidden “Inbetween-ness”: an Exploration of Taiwanese Transnational Identity in Contemporary
Japan

This article offers an analysis of the dynamic interplay of endogenous and exogenous forces that
create the complexity of immigrant identity. It examines cultural identity and the related discourse of
one particular immigrant group, the “post-war comer” Taiwanese, in contemporary Japan. This
group came to Japan after the end of WWII. They have experienced complex transitions in both legal
statuses and self-identifications. Constituted from the legacies of Japanese colonialism and Chinese nationalism, the post-war comer Taiwanese constantly negotiate and redefine their “neither here, nor there” identities and thus constitute a distinct case within the population of overseas ethnic Chinese.

Japan, widely considered to be a society of racial and cultural homogeneity, faces an increasing influx of migrants, in particular those from East Asia in recent years. Immigration thus leads to a broad range of concerns in the contemporary Japanese society. While previous literatures of the Chinese and Korean Diaspora are widely researched, there is a vacuum on Taiwanese Diaspora in the associated scholarship. This study investigates the Taiwanese migrants’ cultural adaptation and socialization under the Japanese discourse through literature reviews and field study. This paper argues that the post-war comer Taiwanese have constructed a transnational identity hidden in-between two cultures of Japanese and Chinese. In other words, this paper attempts to offer a perspective on Taiwanese under Japanese colonialism and Chinese nationalism that transcends the “identity struggle” commonly experienced by immigrants around the world. This group of Taiwanese migrants in postwar Japan struggle with surveillance, assimilation, resistance, and identity confusions. To balance between a survival strategy overseas and a primordial attachment to the motherland, their identification with group boundaries may shift in accordance with a variety of situations.

Discussant: Professor Shigeto Sonoda

Closing Remarks: Stephen R. Nagy

Summary by Stephen Robert Nagy

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