

# SLAVIC RESEARCH CENTER NEWS

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## THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON MAJOR REGIONAL POWERS IN EURASIA “ALLIANCES AND BORDERS IN THE MAKING AND UNMAKING OF REGIONAL POWERS”

On July 7–8, 2011, the Slavic Research Center hosted a Summer Symposium on “Alliances and Borders in the Making and Unmaking of Regional Powers.” With support from the New Academic Knowledge Project on “Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia” (TABATA Shinichiro, Head), the Global Center of Excellence on “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” (IWASHITA Akihiro, Head) and A-level JSPS Research Project on “The Cold War in Northeast Asia” (David Wolff, Head), the Symposium brought together an international group of experts to commemorate both the 60th anniversary of the US-Japan Treaty and Alliance and the 20th anniversary of the end of the Soviet Union. One event was the most significant step in defining Cold War alliances and borders in Asia. The other was the defining event in reshaping contemporary Europe.

The vision of two empires battling over Europe and Asia has been enshrined in the canon of the Cold War, but reality was often more complex than this simple geometry. The very process



Lively discussions among the participants

of concluding an agreement could contain within it the seeds of future disagreements. The secret clauses of the Sino-Soviet agreement of 1950 made Mao bitter forever against Stalin and other “new Tsars.” The US-Japan alliance bargain of the following year with its implicit trade of bases for security umbrella, together with the relevant clauses of the “MacArthur Constitution,” made it possible for the Japanese to avoid the costs of rearmament, although the US later complained. In the Sino-Soviet and US-Japan cases, the economic promises that accompanied security treaties also led to long-term recriminations. In hindsight, it seems apparent that intended asymmetries, the heart of the deal, could over time lead to perceived inequalities and alliance demise.

Just as important, alliances were almost always against an enemy, creating a hidden triangle, also at the heart of the deal. Thus, any change by either ally, even the most desirable lessening of tension with the enemy, could lead to fears of betrayal, the risk of a “separate peace.” It is in these terms that American reaction to Japanese parliamentary visits to China in the 1950s and the American opening to China in the 1970s must be analyzed.

Borders are often just as baffling. With Cold War putting the brakes on all out war, border clashes, along with partisan warfare, clandestine operations, “public diplomacy” and various other forms of “lesser war,” truly politics by other means in Clausewitz’s classic formulation, took the field. The Sino-Soviet border, the world’s longest, served briefly for friendship, but more enduringly as a great divide. Border conflicts, relatively minor bloodlettings, often reveal the hidden triangles underlying fragile alliances. Thus, the 1959 and 1962 Sino-Indian clashes soon became a factor in the death of the Sino-Soviet alliance and the weakening of Nehru’s cherished vision of non-alignment, the “anti-alliance” path. The 1969 Sino-Soviet border clashes along the Ussuri and in Xinjiang were China’s clear signal to the US that one alliance was over and another could begin.

From Stalin to Deng, from Nixon to Nakasone, the conundrums of border and alliance were leveraged by the statesmen of our age in attempts to build or thwart regional hegemony. As often as not, strategies and plans backfired, but the basic configurations still hold, glued together by communal interests from the past and shared fears of the future. It is the very stuff of which regional powers are made. All this, and more, was presented and discussed during two exciting days in Sapporo. A forthcoming issue of the GCOE’s Eurasian Border Review will feature these papers.

*David Wolff*

### **Speakers at the Symposium (July 7–8, 2011)**

- INOUE Masaya** (Kagawa University, Japan) “Japan’s Pursuit of a Modus Vivendi: Normalization of Sino-Japanese Relations and the Taiwan Issue, 1971–1972”
- YOSHIDA Shingo** (JSPS Research Fellow, Japan) “Credibility Imperatives vs. Domestic Antimilitarism: Japan’s Alliance Policies during the 1970s”
- KUSUNOKI Ayako** (Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan) “Evolution of the US-Japan Alliance”
- IZUMIKAWA Yasuhiro** (Chuo University, Japan) “The Emergence and Evolution of the Hub-and-Spokes Alliance System in East Asia”
- MATSUMOTO Haruka** (Institute of Developing Economies, JETRO, Japan) “Taiwan Strait Crises and Chiang Kai-shek’s Strategic Thinking: A Perspective from Taiwan’s Archive”
- Vojtech Mastny** (Parallel History Project, Switzerland) “The ANZUS Experience and Security in Asia Pacific: A Cold War Legacy”
- Sergey Radchenko** (Nottingham University, UK) “Carving up the Steppes: Borders, Territory and Nationalism in Mongolia, 1943–1949”
- Sören Urbansky** (Freiburg University, Germany) “A Very Orderly Friendship: The Sino-Soviet Border under the Alliance Regime, 1950–1960”
- Pierre Grossier** (Institut des Etudes Politiques, France) “Chinese Borders and Indigenous Parallels: France, Vietnam, and the Korean Model”
- David Wolff** (SRC) “Stalin and Pan-Asianism: ‘The Peoples of Asia Are Looking to You with Hope’”

**Lorenz Lüthi** (McGill University, Canada) “Sino-Indian Relations, 1954–1960”

**James Hershberg** (George Washington University, US) “Quietly Encouraging Quasi-Alignment: US-Indian Relations, the Sino-Indian Border War of 1962, and the Downfall of Krishna Menon”

**SHEN Zhihua** (East China Normal University) “A Historical Investigation of the Sino-Korean Border Issue, 1950–1964”

Roundtable on Archives and Archival Projects: Japanese POW Project (**TOMITA Takeshi** – Seikei University, Japan); Japan (**GABE Masaaki** – Ryukyu University, Japan); Korea (**KURATA Hideya** – National Defense University, Japan); Russia (**Sergey Radchenko** – Nottingham University)

## GLOBAL COE PROGRAM “RESHAPING JAPAN’S BORDER STUDIES”

The Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies,” a five-year term program approved in July 2009, has passed the halfway point.

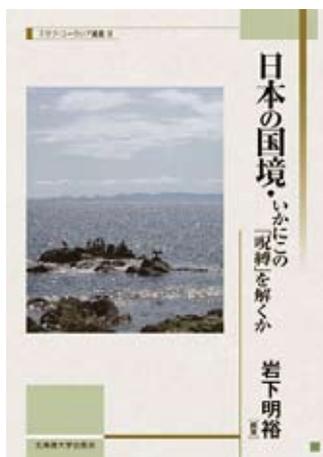
### 1) Organizing a Border Studies Network in Japan

One of our tasks is to create a border studies network in Japan that would unify fragmented individual researchers working on border-related topics in any area to the forum and develop collective works in a conscious theoretical framework of border studies. For this purpose, our GCOE Program organized the Yonaguni and Taiwan Seminars (May 14–15, 2011) supported by the Japan Society of Island Studies, the Northern Regions Center, and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. It is worth mentioning that a chartered plane flew the participants to Taiwan for the Taiwan Seminar. Thanks to similar activities, it



Prof. Iwashita’s calling for hosting the next BRIT Conference (BRIT XI, Grenoble)

seemed to us the ripe time to expand our network horizons. To that end, the Japan International Border Studies Network (JIBSN) was established in November, 2011. Currently, fourteen member organizations such as Tsushima City, Nemuro City, and any other border local governments as well as research institutes are listed.



*Japan’s Borders: How to Break the “Spell”* (Hokkaido University Publishing, 2010)

As for the contribution to the worldwide border studies network, young researchers of the GCOE are *active* participants in the international network on border studies, including ABS and BRIT XI, for example. This is an important step in raising the appeal to conferences worldwide such as BRIT 2012. We are now preparing for a borderland symposium that will take place in November 2012 under the auspices of the prestigious Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) Conference.

See the following URL for more details: <http://www.border-studies.jp/brit2012/top.html>

## 2) Winning one of the 24th Regional Publishers Cultural Achievement Awards

*Japan's Borders: How to Break the "Spell"* (『日本の国境・いかにこの「呪縛」を解くか』), edited by Prof. Iwashita and published by Hokkaido University Press, received the 24th Regional Publishers Cultural Achievement Awards. This award is sponsored by Tottori Prefecture and was first held in 1987, and is open to regional publishers from throughout Japan. This book was issued in 2010 and is in fact the first academic achievement of our GCOE Program. The prize money was donated fifty-fifty to the Etupirka Libraries on Yonaguni and Tsushima, respectively.

## 3) Museum Exhibition



The sixth exhibition of the GCOE program:  
"China Seen from Across the Border"

This year, we held three exhibitions at Hokkaido University Museum: "The Indigenous People (Yaqi and Ainu) and the Border" (Nov. 2010 – May. 2011), "Languages Go Beyond the Borders: Russian and East European Writers' Work and World" (May. 2011 – Nov. 2011), and "Spillover Images: China in the Media" (Nov. 2011 – May 2012). Serial seminars were also held along with the exhibitions. The exhibitions and seminars were open to the public and attracted many citizens.

*FUJIMORI Shinkichi*

## Speakers at the GCOE Symposium "Weaving the Borders Together: Network between Japan and the World" (November 25–27, 2011)

- KANTO Yoshitada** (Bukkyo University, Japan), "The Relationship between Chronicles about Batara Indra and Climate Change in Indonesia: Consciousness to the Blessing of the Water by Balinese across Time"
- MINETA Shiro** (Waseda University, Japan), "Politics of Scale in the Water Security: Impact from China in Greater Mekong Sub-region"
- DOI Yasuhiro** (Nagoya University, Japan), "Case Study of Cross-Border Labors: A Tri-national Border Region: Oberrhein"
- Jussi Laine** (University of Eastern Finland), "Seeing Like a Border? Conceptualizing a Cross-border Space for Social Contracting through Civil Society Organizations"
- Tony Payan** (University of Texas at El Paso, US), "Theory-Building in Border Studies: What the Borders of North America Have to Teach Us"
- James Scott** (University of Eastern Finland), "Observations on European Border Studies: The Concept of Bordering in Theoretical and Practical Terms"
- ISHIKAWA Noboru** (Kyoto University, Japan), "Between Frontiers: Nation and Identity in a Southeast Asian Borderland"
- Carl Middleton** (Chulalongkorn University, Thailand), "Conflict, Cooperation and the Trans-border Commons: The Controversy of Mainstream Dams on the Mekong River"
- Duncan McDuie-Ra** (University of New South Wales, Australia), "Beyond Greed and Grievance: The Northeast Borderland in Contemporary India"
- Sorin Sok** (Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace), "A History of Cambodia and Engagement from Power Countries"
- Haim Yacobi** (Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel), "The Geopolitics of a City-Borders, Boundaries and Frontiers in Jerusalem"

**Emily Makas** (The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, US), “The Boulevard and the Central Zone: Divided Mostar’s Border Lines and Spaces”

**Stephen Royle** (Queen’s University Belfast, UK), “Divided Islands: The Case of Ireland”

**YARA Tomohiro** (*Okinawa Times*, Japan), “Exploring Solutions to the US Military-Base Issues in Okinawa”

## JOINT INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM “GRAMMATICALIZATION AND LEXICALIZATION IN THE SLAVIC LANGUAGES”

The above-mentioned international symposium was held at the Slavic Research Center (SRC) from November 11 (Fri.) to 13 (Sun.), 2011. Mainly taking advantage of the budget held by the president of Hokkaido University in 2011 (Presidential Budget for Project Promotion “Support for Proposed Research and Other Projects,” whose representative is Motoki Nomachi), through the sponsorship of the Hokkaido University Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Borders Studies,” a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Ideas, Group 6, and others,



A Photo taken from one of the sessions

this symposium was held under the joint auspices of the Commission on the Grammatical Structure of the Slavic Languages of the International Committee of Slavists and the SRC. A total of six sessions, one thematic session, and two keynote lectures were delivered by twenty-six presenters from fifteen countries worldwide. This was the first comprehensive and large-scale symposium on Slavic linguistics ever held in Japan. At the same time, it served as an extremely valuable opportunity for world-renowned specialists in Slavic linguistics and Japanese Slavists to meet and exchange opinions. Future exchanges and development of joint researches are expected.

In the symposium, changing patterns of the grammatical structure of the Slavic languages were presented along with various methods in the framework of synchronic and diachronic linguistics, comparative and contrastive studies, contact linguistics, and linguistic typology, with a focus on the phenomena of “grammaticalization” and “lexicalization,” which are actively discussed in contemporary linguistics.

On November 11, seven non-member scholars from Japan and abroad delivered their presentations. On November 12 and 13, regular sessions were held by the members of the Commission with the participation of five non-members through the recommendation of President Predrag Piper (Serbia) of the Commission.

The proceedings of this symposium are planned to be published as a volume of Verlag Otto Sagner’s *Die Welt der Slaven: Sammelbande-Sborniki*, with Predrag Piper, Andriy Danylenko (US), and Motoki Nomachi comprising the members of the editorial committee.

The contents of the program are as follows.

*Nomachi Motoki*

## Speakers at the Symposium (November 11–13, 2011)

**Eleonora Shii-Iovkova** (Kanda International University of Foreign Studies, Japan) “Grammaticalization and the Bulgarian -I Participle: Semantic-Functional Shift from Tens Aspect to Modality”

**Jan Ivar Bjørnflaten** (University of Oslo, Norway) “Construction-Induced Grammaticalization: Agreement Loss and Decategorialization of Predicative Participles in Old Church Slavic”

**МАРУЯМА ЮКИКО** (Токийский университет иностранных языков, Япония) “Употребление дуальных форм в житийных текстах старорусского периода: грамматические и лексические факторы”

**Судзуки Рина** (Медицинский университет Саппоро, Япония) “Русские предлоги и предложные единицы”

**КАНЭКО ЮРИКО** (Университет Иватэ, Япония) “Функционирование аспектуальных доминант в повествовательных текстах: на материале русского и японского языков”

**Romuald Huszcza** (University of Warsaw / Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland) “Grammaticalization of Honorifics in West Slavic Languages”

**Andriy Danylenko** (Pace University, US) “Ukrainian in the Language Map of Europe”

**МІТАНИ Кеико** (Kyoto University, Japan) “On MIMO: a Consideration on Lexicalization in Slavic”

**Борис Норман** (Белорусский государственный университет, Беларусь) “Развитие притяжательных местоимений 3-го лица в славянских языках в свете процессов грамматикализации”

**Розанна Бенаккьо** (Падуанский университет, Италия) “Грамматикализация в ситуациях языкового контакта: развитие артикля в резьянском диалекте”

**Предраг Пипер** (Белградский университет, Сербия) “О грамматикализации сербских фемининативов”

**Jens Nørgård-Sørensen** (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) “Animacy in Russian – a Sub-Gender?”

**Ljubomir Popović** (University of Belgrade, Serbia) “A Case of Interplay of Discourse and Grammar and Discourse and Lexicon: The Use of Onomatopoeic Interjections in Serbo-Croatian and Other Standard Languages of Štokavian Origin”

**Greville Corbett** (University of Surrey, UK) “Lexicalization and Paradigmatic Structure: Key Instances in Slavonic”

**Руселина Ницолова** (Софийский университет им. Св. Климента Охридского, Болгария) “О взаимоотношении между формальными и семантическими изменениями при грамматикализации”

**Виктор Храковский** (Институт лингвистических исследований РАН, Россия) “Статус значений, которые могут выражаться глагольными лексемами и грамматическими морфемами (значения быть и притворяться)”

**Ханну Томмола** (Университет Тампере, Финляндия) “О показателях недостоверного (ирреального) сравнения”

**Ольга Богуславская** (Институт русского языка им. В.В. Виноградова РАН, Россия) “Предельность и неопределенность русских прилагательных”

**НАТТОРИ Fumiaki** (Kyoto University, Japan) “Grammaticalized or Not: Some Examples from the Early Old Russian Past Tenses”

**Елена Падучева** (Всероссийский институт научной и технической информации РАН, Россия) “Моментальные глаголы совершенного вида и их стативные корреляты”

**Elena Petroska** (University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Macedonia) “Evidentiality in Macedonian (Grammaticalization and Lexicalization)”

**Номати Мотоки** (Центр славянских исследований при Хоккайдском университете, Япония) “Языковой контакт и грамматикализация залоговой конструкции (на материале кашубского и других славянских языков)”

**Юрий Апресян** (Институт русского языка им. В.В. Виноградова РАН / Институт проблем передачи информации им. А.А. Харкевича РАН, Россия) “Грамматика в словаре и словарь в грамматике”



Dr. Elena Paducheva

**Адриан Барентсен** (Амстердамский университет, Голландия) “Проблемы описания союза ПОКА”

**Игорь Богуславский** (Институт проблем передачи информации им. А.А. Харкевича РАН, Россия / Мадридский технический университет, Испания) “О грамматикализации способов разрешения синтаксических конфликтов”

**Андрея Желэ** (Институт словенского языка им. Фр. Рамовша САНИ, Словения) “Экспрессивность как словообразовательный элемент (на примере словенских глаголов)”

**Леонид Иомдин** (Институт проблем передачи информации им. А.А. Харкевича РАН, Россия) “Микросинтаксис русского языка”

## SESSION ENTITLED “EURASIANISM PAST AND PRESENT: VIEWS FROM THE EAST” HELD AT THE “THIRD EAST ASIAN CONFERENCE OF SLAVIC-EURASIAN STUDIES” IN BEIJING ON AUGUST 27–28, 2011

Russian exceptionalism as a Eurasian power is rooted in the ideas of *Evraziistvo* or Eurasianism, a body of doctrines formulated in the 1920s and 1930s by anti-Bolshevik Russians. Many of these intellectuals and scholars had fled the Revolution and in West-European emigration formulated what was effectively a new ideology of Russian nationalism. Such was the power and evocative nature of the early Eurasianists’ ideas that they have been subject to consideration in post-Soviet Russia with renewed interest and enthusiasm.

In recent years, there has been a corresponding resurgence in scholarly engagement with Eurasianism; however, this has mainly been from an “Atlantic” perspective, focusing on its political implications as an ideology of continental expansionism. In contrast, this panel, which included Chinese, Japanese, British, and Russian scholars, explored Eurasianism from a broader variety of intellectual, geographical, and chronological positions, particularly from Asian perspectives towards Eurasianism and understandings of Asia in Eurasianist thought.

In this panel, Yuxing Wu (Sun Yat-Sen University) and Shohei Saito (Hokkaido University / Masaryk University) discussed Classical Eurasianism from an Asian viewpoint. Paul Richardson (University of Birmingham / Hokkaido University) discussed a case study of the Southern Kuril Islands / Northern Territories and what it reveals about Eurasianism and contemporary Russian identity. Kenso Yamamoto, who works in Korea, discussed racism and fear of Asia in Russian thought. Andrei Popov (Moscow State University) and Yukiko Kuroiwa (Iwate Prefectural University) provided a discussion of the papers. Popov made comments on Classical Eurasianism and Russian thought. Kuroiwa mainly made comments on Richardson’s paper and pointed out that Aleksandr Dugin’s idea is not “Eurasianism.” These discussions clarified the difference between Classical Eurasianism and Neo Eurasianism and made us realize that there are various ways of researching Eurasianism (see Popov’s review on this session: [http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/rp/group\\_06/achievements/index.html#20111005](http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/rp/group_06/achievements/index.html#20111005)).

We hope that the “Eurasian” background of the participants can help provide diverse and innovative perspectives on this fascinating subject. It is also hoped that this panel will further academic cooperation and collaboration on Eurasianism among various countries.

This session was a really superb opportunity to know recent trends in research on Eurasianism in individual countries, but it made me keenly realize that I have to develop my practical Russian skills, especially speaking, to communicate effectively with Chinese researchers. If I have a chance to attend a conference in China in the future, I will present my

paper in Russian. However, I have also to mention that the English Camp, which was held by the International Training Program, was useful for learning how to give a presentation to an audience in English and I was able to make the acquaintance of Yujun Feng (China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations) who participated in this Camp as a guest. He kindly introduced me to Wu (see <http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/itp-hp/itp-index.html>).

Finally, I attended this conference subsidized by the GCOE Border Studies Education Program. I would not have succeeded in attending and organizing this panel without many people's kindness. I would like to express my gratitude to the professors, staff, and colleagues who cooperated with me and gave comments and advice on my research paper. Thank you very much again.

SAITO Shohei

## Obituary: Prof. Anatoly Viktorovich Remnev



Prof. Remnev at the 2007 Summer Symposium

Prof. Anatoly Viktorovich Remnev at Omsk State University, who worked as a SRC foreign fellow in 2007–2008, passed away on January 24, 2012, at the age of fifty-six.

Prof. Remnev was a prominent specialist in the history of the Russian Empire, especially Siberia and the Russian Far East. He wrote a number of books in Russian, including *Samoderzhavie i Sibir* (1995, 1997), *Rossia Dal'nego Vostoka* (2004), and *Samoderzhavnoe pravitel'stvo* (2010). He is also known as a co-editor of *Russian Empire: Space, People, Power, 1700–1930* (2007), a fundamental volume that gathered works of American, British, and Russian scholars who represent recent trends in the study of the Russian Empire. In 2005, his friends and

disciples published a volume of 600 pages, *Aziatskaia Rossiia: liudi i struktury imperii*, commemorating his fiftieth birthday.

He first visited the SRC in 2003 to participate in a symposium, and stayed here for nine months in 2007–2008. He was a distinguished scholar, and at the same time, a friendly and kind person. He generously shared his knowledge with colleagues and students, having productive discussions and dialogues with them. The SRC Winter Symposium in 2007, “Asiatic Russia: Imperial Power in Regional and International Contexts,” owed much to his ideas and suggestions.

Having earned his degrees under the guidance of Prof. Boris Anan'ich in Leningrad, Anatoly Viktorovich spent his entire professional career at Omsk State University. In Russia, where academic resources are largely concentrated in Moscow and St. Petersburg, he was one of the few historians based in Siberia who played a prominent role in nationwide and worldwide scholarly networks. He used the approaches of both empirical research and discourse analysis, based on rich primary sources, and contributed tremendously to the study of Russia's imperial geography of power. In recent years, he also studied the history of Kazakhstan, a significant part of which was formerly administered by the Steppe Governor-Generalship in Omsk.

We deeply mourn the untimely death of this talented scholar and teacher, who greatly helped the SRC's research activities.

*UYAMA Tomohiko*

## FOREIGN VISITORS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### 2012–2013:

Six scholars have been selected as foreign fellows for 2012–13:

Bekus-Gonczarowa, Nelly (assistant professor, East Slavic European Studies Department, University of Warsaw, Poland), Blyumbaum, Arkady (senior researcher, Russian Art History Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia); Pang, Dongmei (associate professor, Russian Research Institute, Heilongjiang University, China); Round, John (senior lecturer, School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham, UK); Ryazantsev, Sergey (professor, Institute of Socio-Political Researches, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia); Weeks, Theodore (professor, History Department, Southern Illinois University, US)

**Nelly Bekus-Gonczarowa** is a Polish specialist in sociology. The title of her research project at the SRC will be “Belarusian Ethno-linguistic Nationalism versus Ideology of Russian Civilization: In the Search of Belarusian Development.” She will stay in Sapporo from November 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013.

**Arkady Blyumbaum** is a Russian specialist in the history of Russian literature. The title of his research project at the SRC will be “Aleksandr Blok: Literature and Politics (1905–1921).” He will stay in Sapporo from November 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013.

**PANG Dongmei** is a Chinese specialist in criminal law and criminology. The title of her research project at the SRC will be “Countering the Crimes Committed by Nationals of the PRC on the Territory of the Russian Far East.” She will stay in Sapporo from November 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013.

**John Round** is a British specialist in human geography and sociology. The title of his research project at the SRC will be “Coping with the Uncertain Everyday: Everyday Life in Contemporary Russia.” He will stay in Sapporo from June 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012.

**Sergey Ryazantsev** is a Russian specialist in demography. The title of his research project at the SRC will be “Ethnic Migrations and Formation of Diasporas in Frontier Regions in a Context of National Security of Russia.” He will stay in Sapporo from June 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012.

**Theodore Weeks** is an American specialist in history. The title of his research project at the SRC will be “Vilna, Wilno, Vilnius: History of a Multicultural City, 1795–2000.” He will stay in Sapporo from June 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012.

*OSUGA Mika*

## TWO PROFESSORS WHO LEFT THE SRC

### **Prof. ARAI Nobuo retired in March 2011.**

Prof. Arai had worked for the SRC since May 2003. During his stay in the SRC, Prof. Arai worked on the changing socio-economic situation of the Russian Far East after perestroika. He also studied the history of Sakhalin post World War II. As a distinguished specialist in Russo-Japanese economic and fishery relations, he has contributed much to the development of scientific exchange between Japan and the Russian Far East.

### **Prof. HAYASHI Tadayuki moved to Kyoto Women's University in April 2011.**

Prof. Hayashi had worked for the SRC since April 1994. He is an unique specialist in comparative politics of East European countries and the political history of Czechoslovakia. He has led the Japanese academic community to the research of European interwar diplomatic history. He was director of the SRC for two years since 1996, and vice-president of Hokkaido University from 2006 to 2011.

*MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo*

## OUR CURRENT STAFF

**Ieda Osamu:** Professor, Economic History of Eastern Europe; Modern Hungarian History; Environment in Slavic Eurasia

**IWASHITA Akihiro:** Professor, Foreign Policy; Sino-Russian Relations

**MATSUZATO Kimitaka:** Professor, Politics in Post-Communist Countries; Imperial History of Russia

**MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo:** Professor, Russian Literature; director of the SRC

**NAGANAWA Norihiro:** Associate professor, Modern History of Central Eurasia; Muslim Policies of the Russian Empire

**NOMACHI Motoki:** Associate professor, Slavic Linguistics; General Linguistics

**TABATA Shinichiro:** Professor, Russian Economics and Statistics

**UYAMA Tomohiko:** Professor, Central Asian History and Politics; Comparative Imperial Studies

**Wolff David:** Professor, Russian, Soviet, and Emigre; Siberia and the Far East; The Cold War; Northeast Asian Region Construction

**YAMAMURA Rihito:** Professor, Comparative Economics; Agrarian Economy in Slavic-Eurasian Countries

### **Assistant Professors:**

**FUJIMORI Shinkichi:** Ukrainian Politics; CIS Relations

**FUKUDA Hiroshi:** Modern and Contemporary History of Central Europe

**GOTO Masanori:** Cultural Anthropology; Religious and Scientific Recognition and Practices

**KOSHINO Go:** Russian and Belarusian Literature

### **Foreign Visitors Fellows 2011 (June) – 2012 (March)**

**Elena Astafieva:** The Russian Presence in Palestine-Syria: Political, Religious and Cultural Aspects (1840–1920)

**Tomasz Kamusella:** The Triple Division of the Slavic Languages: A Linguistic Finding, a Product of Politics, or an Accident

**Taras Kuzio:** Contemporary History of Ukraine

**Georgij Levinton:** Mandelstam and Dostoevsky (Slavophilism, *pochvennichestvo*, anti-Semitism)

**Nona Shakhnazaryan:** Old Habits Die Hard: A Comparative Study of Clientelism, Nepotism and Corruption in Three Post-Socialist Societies

**Vladimir Shishkin:** Russian Statehood in Siberia and the Far East during the Great Wars and Revolutions, 1917–1922

### **Research Fellows:**

**ADACHI Daisuke:** Russian Romantic Literatures

**CHENG Chierh:** Acoustic Phonetics; Prosody; Taiwan Mandarin

**CHIDA Tetsuro:** Soviet History

**HANAMATSU Yasunori:** International Laws

**HIRAYAMA Akihiro:** Modern and Contemporary History of Vietnam

**HOSHINO Masashi:** Chinese Economics; Development Economics

**INOUE Satoko:** German-Polish Trans-border Literatures

**ITANI Hiroshi:** Architectural History of Sakhalin and Karafuto

**KIKUTA Haruka:** Cultural Anthropology; Muslim Society in Central Asia; Saint Worship in Uzbekistan

**KIYAMA Katsuhiko:** Archaeology of Northeast Asia

**KOMATSU Hisae:** Hindi Literatures; Indian Cultural Studies

**MAEDA Shiho:** Russian Literature

**MIYAZAKI Haruka:** Polish Nationalism and the Catholic Church

**MIWA Hiroki:** Indian Politics

**MORISHITA Yoshiyuki:** Central and Eastern European History

**Paul Richardson:** The Northern Territorial Issues

**TAKIGUCHI Junya:** History of the Communist Party of the USSR

### **Library and Information Service Staff:**

**OSUGA Mika:** Research associate, Publications

**TONAI Yuzuru:** Associate professor, SRC head librarian

## **ONGOING COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS**

(GRANTS-IN-AID FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BY THE JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE)

Headed by TABATA Shinichiro: “Comparative Research on Major Regional Powers in Eurasia” (2008-12)

Headed by IWASHITA Akihiro: “Hokkaido University Global COE Program: Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” (2009-13)

Headed by MOCHIZUKI Tetsuo: “A Comprehensive Study of the Volga as a Cultural Area and Her Images” (2009–11)

Headed by WOLFF David: “Northeast Asia in the Cold War: New Materials and Perspectives” (2009–12)

Headed by MATSUZATO Kimitaka: “Resurgence of Religions in Russia: Public Roles, Life Histories, and Spatial Dynamism” (2009–11)

Headed by UYAMA Tomohiko: “Comparative History of Empires in the Contexts of Modernization and Globalization” (2009–12)

Headed by MATSUZATO Kimitaka: “Transnational Politics in the Black Sea Rim: Unknotting Religions, States, and Minorities” (2009–11)

Headed by HARA Teruyuki: “Modern History of the Sakhalin Island (Karafuto), as a Borderland Colony: Wars, States, and Regions” (2010–13)

Headed by KIYAMA Katsuhiko: “Archaeological Research on the Mohe Tribes in the Far East” (2008–12)

Headed by NAGANAWA Norihiro: “Empire and the Hajj: A View from Russia’s Muslim Regions, 1865–1914” (2010–12)

Headed by TONAI Yuzuru: “Development of Theology in the Russian Orthodox Church and Filaret (Metropolitan of Moscow)” (2010–12)

Headed by KOSHINO Go: “Comparative Study on Historical Novels in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus” (2009–2011)

Headed by NOMACHI Motoki: “A Comprehensive Study of the Kashubian Syntax” (2010–12)

Headed by ITANI Hiroshi: “The Historic Transition of Urban Spaces in the Peripheral Areas of the Soviet Union: Russian Far East, Ukraine, and Central Asia” (2010–11)

Headed by KUSANO Kayako: “The Ruling Bureaucracy and Local Self-Government in Imperial Russia: Organization and Activities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs before the 1905 Revolution” (2010–12)

Headed by GOTO Masanori: “Anthropological Study of the History of Divination and of Its Practice in Chuvash, Russia” (2009–11)

Headed by KOMATSU Hisae: “‘Modernity’ in Magazines: The Representations of Modern India in Hindi Women’s Magazines” (2010–13)

Headed by SUMIKA Masayoshi: “Comparative Study of the Influence of Social Darwinism on Nationalism and Religion in Japanese and Chinese Modernity” (2011–13)

Headed by INOUE Satoko: “A Comparative Study of the Polish Literature in the Polish-German Borderlands and the Polish Migrant Literature in Germany” (2011–14)

Headed by TAKIGUCHI Junya: “The Making of Communists: A Global History of Communism and Communist Identities in 1919–1943” (2011–14)

Headed by HIRAYAMA Akihiro: “A Historical Study on the Construction of the General Mobilization System in Northern Vietnam under the Influence of the Cold War Politics during the First Indochina War Period” (2011–13)

Headed by KIKUTA Haruka: “Changes of Islamic Practices among Muslim Women and Their Impacts on Re-Islamization Process in Contemporary Central Asia” (2011–14)

Headed by MIYAZAKI Haruka: “Public Religions in Poland” (2010–12)

Headed by MORISHITA Yoshiyuki: “Nation State and Regional Society in Central-Eastern Europe in the First Half of 20th Century” (2011–14)

Beatrice Penati (Headed by UYAMA Tomohiko): “The Land-and-Water Reform in Uzbekistan: Sovietization of Rural Society before Collectivisation” (2009–11)

## VISITORS FROM ABROAD

**Shamshad Khan** (Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi, India), December 2010 – March 2011: His research project at the SRC is “Indo-Japan Strategic Relations: India’s Search for Reciprocity.”

**El'za-Bair Guchinova** (Japan Foundation fellow from Russia), June 2011 – April 2012: Her research project at the SRC is “Images of Captive Memory: Visual Memories of Japanese POWs of the Gulag.”

**Paul Richardson** (JSPS postdoctoral fellow from UK), July 2011 – July 2012: His research project at the SRC is “Beyond Northern Territories Discourses: Japan’s Center-regional Politics and National Identity.”

**Kuralay Maksut** (graduate student, L. N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan), July-August 2011: Her research project at the SRC is “Relationships between EU Countries and Central European Countries.”

**Jeyhun Mahmudlu** (Qafqaz University, Azerbaijan), September-October 2011: His research project at the SRC is “Relationships between Azerbaijan and Japan: Perspectives of Energy Cooperation.”

**Vesna Požgaj Hadži** (JSPS fellow from Slovenia), October 2011: Her research project at the SRC is “A Contemporary Sociolinguistic Look at Former Yugoslavia.”

**Urazgali Selteyev** (graduate student, L. N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan), November 2011.

**Sardaana Mukhina** (Japan Russia Youth Exchange Center fellow from Russia), November 2011 – October 2012: Her research project at the SRC is “Russia-Japan: Trends in the Field of Economy and Energy.”

**Monika Chansoria** (Center for Land Warfare Studies, India), January-March 2012: Her research project at the SRC is “China’s Rise in Asia: Implications for Regional Stakeholders.”

**Elena Ikonnikova** (Sakhalin State University, Russia), January-March 2012: Her research project at the SRC is “Russo-Japanese comparative literature on Sakhalin.”

**El'mira Nogoibaeva** (Analytical Center “Polis Asia,” Kyrgyzstan), January-March 2012: Her research project at the SRC is “Comparative Analysis of Political Elites of Kyrgyzstan and Japan.”

## GUEST LECTURERS FROM ABROAD (-JAN. 2012)

**Peter Gatrell** (University of Manchester), “World Refugee Year, 1959–1960 and the History of Population Displacement,” January 12, 2011.

**Jiří Nekvapil** (Charles University), “Old Borders in New Contexts: On the Language Situation in Multinational Companies Operating in Central Europe,” March 3, 2011.

**Dieter Stern** (Ghent University, Belgium), “Negotiating Goods and Languages on Cross-border Retail Markets in the Postsocialist Space,” March 10, 2011.

**Arvind Gupta** (IDSA) and **S. S. Parmar** (IDSA), “Indo-Japanese Dialogue on Eurasia,” March 11, 2011.

**Rajaram Panda** (IDSA), “Changing Dynamics of India-Japan Relations: Future Trends,” March 11, 2011.

**Romuald Huszcza** (University of Warsaw, Poland), “Territorial Change and Removal of National Language: The Fate of Poland and Its Language after World War II,” March 30, 2011.

**Iikka Korhonen** (Bank of Finland), “Forecasting Economic Developments in Major Emerging Markets—Some Preliminary Results,” June 2, 2011.

**Brian Joseph** (Ohio State University, US), “Phonological Borrowing and Language Borders in the Balkans,” June 20, 2011.

**Wayles Browne** (Cornell University, US), “Burgenland Croatian: An Old Language on a Do-It-Yourself Border with a New Name,” June 21, 2011.

**Alfred Majewicz** (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland), “Saving Moribund and Dead Languages: Neglected Issues in Minority Language Research and Policies,” July 28, 2011.

**Vít Dovalil** (Charles University in Prague, Czech Rep.), “On the Status of German in the European Union,” September 29, 2011.

**Marián Sloboda** (Charles University in Prague, Czech Rep.), “How Similar and Mutually Intelligible Are Slavic Languages?” September 29, 2011

**Sufian Zhemukhov** (George Washington University, US), “Islamic Practices and Socio-Political Behavior in the North Caucasus: Effects of the Hajj Pilgrimage,” October 17, 2011.

**Kermen Nadneeva** (Kalmyk State University, Russia), “Buddhism in Kalmykia,” November 7, 2011.

**Predrag Piper** (University of Belgrade, Serbia), “Comparative Studies about Russian and Serbian Languages,” November 10, 2011.

**Greville Corbett** (University of Surrey, UK), “Canonical Typology and Slavonic Lexical Splits,” November 10, 2011.

**Iveta Reinholde** (University of Latvia), “Economic Reform after the Financial Crisis in Latvia,” November 29, 2011.

**Beata Wojna** (Polish Institute of Foreign Affairs (PISM), Poland), “The Eastern Partnership: A Long-term Strategy at Work,” November 30, 2011.

**Katarzyna Pełczyńska-Nałęcz** (Center for Eastern Studies (OSW), Poland), “Turning Partnership into Business: The Eastern Partnership as an economic Project,” November 30, 2011.

**Rafał Sadowski** (Center for Eastern Studies (OSW), Poland), “Developments in the Eastern European Countries: Challenges and Prospects for the EU and the Eastern Partnership,” November 30, 2011.

**Adam Balcer** (Center for European Strategy, Demos Europa, Poland), “A Power Audit: The Third States (Russia, China, the US, Turkey and Others) as Stake Holders in the Eastern Partnership,” November 30, 2011.

**Alla Kassianova** (Independent researcher, US), “Between .ru and .com: Online Self-representation of Russian Defense Companies,” December 16, 2011.

**Timothy Colton** (Harvard University, US), “Are Cracks Appearing in Putin’s Political System?” January 10, 2012.

**KIM Byung-Yeon** (Seoul National University, Korea), “Russia’s Informal Economy and Entrepreneurship,” January 21, 2012.



Prof. Timothy Colton

# *How I Was Interwoven into International Borders: Secret Stories behind the Birth of the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies”*

IWASHITA Akihiro (SRC)

## **I “Vow” in Yonaguni**

One of the goals for the Global Center of Excellence (GCOE) Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” started in October 2009 was to form not an association, but a network engaged in international border studies in Japan. It all started when I was asked to form a “Borderlands Forum” at the Yonaguni Conference of the Japan Society of Island Studies held in September 2007. Along with Yonaguni Mayor Shukichi Hokama, Nemuro Mayor Shunsuke Hasegawa and the then-Tsushima-Mayor Yoshiyuki Matsumura brought up the idea of having a “borderland city summit.” It was good, but almost immediately thereafter I happened to be invited to a think tank in Washington DC, at the Brookings Institution, as a Visiting Fellow.

I work on a first-come, first-served basis to the greatest extent possible – that is my motto. Therefore, at the end of August, I left my accompanied family behind and headed for Yonaguni via Narita within just two weeks after arriving in Washington. It might sound completely effortless, but I got into trouble after arriving in Narita. What was a tropical cyclone when I left Washington had turned into a typhoon when I arrived at Narita Airport, and it had cancelled all flights to Naha. As soon as I reached Yonaguni via Ishigaki a day behind schedule, the forum had kicked off. The Tsushima Mayor gave up coming to Yonaguni. The Nemuro Mayor was able to dodge the typhoon on his outward journey, but was pursued by the next typhoon on his way back and got stuck in Ishigaki for a whole day. “I thought the weather in Nemuro was harsh, but that of isolated islands is much more severe, isn’t it?” That was a very candid statement by the Nemuro Mayor. Later when arriving in Nemuro in winter, the Yonaguni Mayor had his turn, falling three times on a snowy road and speaking of the severity of the weather in Hokkaido.



Yaeyama Islands: Live performance of SHIMANAKA Hisahi Family band in Hokkaido University

On my way home, I was ruminating about the fact that Tsushima Mayor could not make it because of a typhoon. I felt that it must be a voice from heaven that this event should not be ended as a one-time-only show. In October 2008, being lured by the words “the 40th Anniversary of the restoration of the Ogasawara Islands,” I planned to hold a forum in Ogasawara with volunteers from the Japan Society of Island Studies. However, I was newly appointed Director of the Slavic Research Center and had already brought trouble to my colleagues with a 10 month stay in the United States. There was much hesitation about going leaving Sapporo for a week. After all, I gave up my own participation.

In the summer of 2009, when I was beginning to think that the next forum would be hosted in Nemuro, we received wonderful news that “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” was selected as a Global COE Program. This made our planned “Borderland Forum in Nemuro” larger and larger as an event of the Global COE Program. “Let’s link it to the international symposium for the starting up of the Global COE Program in December. Let’s show the Northern Territories to Western researchers.” Furthermore, we wanted to deliver the fruits of the prior two forums, *Japan’s Borders: How to Break the “Spell” (Nihon no Kokkyo: Ikani kono “Jubaku” wo Tokuka)* published by Hokkaido University Press in a Slav and Eurasia series, to local people first and foremost at the “Borderland Forum in Nemuro.” Consequently, a book discussion was organized with all the authors. However, because of the snow, it was immediately before the event was to begin when the books were finally delivered from Hokkaido University Press to the hall via a parcel delivery service. The “Borderland Forum in Nemuro” was very exciting with participation by the Yonaguni Mayor, as well as new Tsushima Mayor Yasunari Takarabe and Masaaki Shibuya, a section chief of Ogasawara village. Nonetheless, only the reflection remained that I had turned my fellows around my little finger in the forum: most members of the staff were new to their posts because the Global COE Program had just started. I myself ran about in utter confusion as an inexperienced Director of the Center, and it was a hastily organized event in Nemuro. All I can do is to apologize sincerely to the people who made every effort at the time.

My reflection continues. “People come to gather here all the long way, so I want you to enrich the content, not just the event itself.” The words from the enthusiastic Tsushima Mayor shot through me. At the same time, he called for the people to have a forum in Tsushima in the autumn of 2010.

Creating a practical network to connect border regions – this new assignment was shared with fellow members who had organized forums together and decided to be subsidized by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. I could not be happier about the development of the project, but the expansion of the operating scale was driving me into a corner. In addition, the venue for the next forum was not Nemuro but Tsushima: far away from Hokkaido. Fortunately I am a person from Kyusyu. I contacted my acquaintances one by one and was finally able to find an excellent partner to handle on-site logistics, Mr. Takayoshi Kabu of the Kyushu Economic Research Center. Mr. Kabu is proficient in Korean and travels between Busan and Fukuoka almost every week. He is a human bridge linking the Japan-Korea strait coastal regions. However, even for such a person like Mr. Kabu, organizing the forum in Tsushima seemed difficult to address in the ordinary way. Thanks to strenuous efforts by Associate Prof. Koji Furukawa of Chukyo University and others, we were able to invite practitioners in charge of cross-border cooperation in municipal governments. The forum was expanded in a regional sense by the participation of Wakkanai, Taketomi, Daito-Jima, Sado, and Oki, in addition to four municipalities (Yonaguni, Ogasawara, Nemuro, and Tsushima) where the forums had taken place. After four municipalities made a round of forums, it seemed sufficient to have a “Borderland Forum” with entertainment tastes. There was a growing tendency to form a practice-based network for international border studies.

However, a new challenge was waiting for me. Being in a good mood after getting through the forum in Tsushima, I called to organize a practical meeting in Yonaguni on a small scale for the preparation of the network. Yonaguni Mayor Hokama, who heard the proposal came back with “Why not make good use of the opportunity? Let’s charter a plane and hold another seminar in Taiwan.” I was thwarted in my plan to hold a compact forum this time around. How many sleepless nights did I spend this year because of the “battle” over the charter flight between Yonaguni and Hualian (although I was able to get better sleep than I was in my office as Director of the Center)? I do not want to recall any of those nights actually. The time is not yet ripe to write about things that happened after that.

Frankly speaking, since teaching at the university, I had never imagined that I would have to do things that a manager of a travel agency would do. However, thinking it through, it might be necessary for me to undertake the role if I wanted to take many people to international border regions because travel firms are a pioneering presence in coordinating border crossings. Although the Global COE Program is often regarded as glamorous at first glance, sober negotiations and persistent efforts through experiencing friction in isolated islands and rural areas are hard things to do and are the opposite of a comfortable city life. Border studies cannot produce results unless we patiently continue to do legwork, such as making rounds of visits to the actual sites or doing unsolicited activities. I have to make time to think one way or another: not by sitting at my desk, but by gathering small pieces of time, such as when sitting in the plane, on the train, or in the driver’s seat of a car, but also when jogging, taking a walk, or when waiting in intervals of a reception. Regrettably for those researchers who come to our Global COE Program in search of classical academism, we would be unable to meet their expectations.

In the course of my busy life, I suddenly remembered that an organization named Japan International Border Studies Network (JIBSN) is to be set up on November 27, 2011.<sup>1</sup> Looking at it as if it is other people’s business, the appealing phrase is pretty smart and beautiful. They are going to hold a border-crossing seminar next summer as the first project of the network, traversing by regular ferry from Wakkanai to Sakhalin. Voices from Wakkanai reach my ears, “Let’s charter a plane on the way back home.” Until when will my sleepless nights continue?

## II “Spell” in Washington

Another goal that the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” set up is to bring international border studies in Eurasia and Eastern Asia together and “sell” them to the world. For that purpose, we invite a European-born research network, Border Regions in Transition (BRIT) to Japan. Having trouble with the Northern Territories issue, it is impossible to host an international border symposium with Russia. On that account, we plan to invite BRIT in Fukuoka and Busan crossing the Tsushima offshore, whose borders are the most stable (clearest) in the areas surrounding Japan. It is a



BRIT IX reunion on board to the States from Canada

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.borderstudies.jp/jibsn/> (in Japanese). The English information is available soon.

BRIT practice to implement a conference moving between areas across international borders with two countries. With the Berlin Conference of 1994 as the start, the conferences have been held in countries of Europe in turn, but in recent years, they have also been held in North America and South America.<sup>2</sup>

The plan all started with a request made by a professor of Hokkai-Gakuen University. They were going to hold a symposium on the border with Russia in conjunction with the well-known Karelian Institute, University of Joensuu (presently the University of Eastern Finland) in October 2007 and wanted me to report international border issues in Russia, Central Asia, and China. Shortly after I had accepted the request, an invitation was delivered from Washington DC.

As “I work on a first-come, first-served basis to the greatest extent possible” is my motto, one month after moving to Washington, I left my family behind again, incurring their resentment. The then Director was Prof. Ilkka Liikanen of the Karelian Institute. He was one of the presenters at the First Global COE International Symposium of December 2009, and above all, a founding member of BRIT. As soon as he found out that I was in the United States, he called and suggested to that I participate in the Border Regions in Transition IX Conference (Victoria, Canada – Bellingham, US), which was to take place in the end of January 2008. I am ashamed to say that I did not know about the existence of BRIT at that point. Now I criticize studies of international border issues in Eurasia and East Asia because of its “isolation” from the world and lack of networks with an air of superiority. However, in fact, until a few years ago, I was the very person who should have been the target of my criticism.

For your information, Prof. Liikanen has taken part in all BRIT conferences but one. This surpasses the record of Prof. James Scott, who served as President of ABS (described below) and who was active and based in Berlin as a founding member of BRIT. Probably there is no BRIT medalist who can beat the record of Prof. Liikanen.<sup>3</sup>

The introduction from Prof. Liikanen had an immediate effect. Although the submission of proposals had already been closed long ago, I got myself into the conference as a reporter by force and showed my favorite party piece “Journey through the Eurasian Borders” using slides. It was to introduce the situation in spots through a more than 8000 km field trip crossing the borders from China, Central Asia, and Russia to Japan. I was the only reporter for border issues in the Eurasia region.

In the meantime, as I heard discussions in the BRIT IX conference, I became frustrated. “How peaceful and stable the North American borders are. It is really enviable. Despite that, why do these guys make such a big thing of it saying ‘challenge, challenge’?” Among the discussions, the most controversial one was on the “Smart Border policy” introduced by the United States after September 11. The policy has made it difficult to enter into the United States smoothly from Canada. It was discussed how much economic losses it would cause, and numerous criticisms were raised against the US government. However, I could not find any particular challenge in the custom clearance procedures in Canada and the United States and had no idea what the problem was. While I was confused, a researcher sitting next to me whispered. “It used to take five minutes, but now it takes 30 min. They feel inconvenienced by that.” 30 min! This gave a shock to me, who was reminded of the clearance in the international borders between China and Russia. At this point, I was awakened to the meaning of comparing one border region to another border region. Prof. David Newman of

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2 On the BRIT 2012, see <http://www.borderstudies.jp/brit2012/top.html>

3 For the record of the BRIT, see: [http://www.borderstudies.jp/en/publications/review/data/ebr/2\\_Liikanen6.pdf](http://www.borderstudies.jp/en/publications/review/data/ebr/2_Liikanen6.pdf) On the ABS, see <http://www.absborderlands.org/>

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, who knew well about the harshness of border issues in Israel, said to me. “Take these guys to your research field of Eurasia once.”

Everybody criticizes policy makers. It is a healthy thing to do. However, there was no researcher from the East Coast, to say nothing of Washington DC, other than Washington state government officials. (I was the only participant from the East. Moreover, I was an alien.) In the Brookings Institution I had begun to realize how people around me were indifferent to international border issues, and thus I could not bear raising my hand at a luncheon session where the topic was heated. “I have been engaged in border studies for many years. It is often difficult to be understood, but in this BRIT conference, there is no need to explain what borders are all about to get started. This makes me delighted and I feel that I finally found the place for me. On the other hand, although I understood your pent-up anger against the US government, there is no one here who is involved in policy making. Even if you raised your voices in a place like this, your thoughts would not be conveyed to them. What channel are you going to use to get them to reflect on policies?” A dead silence fell over the conference hall. People working for Washington State responded that our voices would reach the central government, but we were unable to hear the specific content. After the gathering, someone approached to me. “It’s just as you said.” In this instant, I realized that it was also my mission to “sell” the importance of international border issues to Washington DC and capital cities.

As a practice of BRIT, the method of organizing the next conference is discussed on the final day. Because BRIT is a network and next organizers take over all things pertaining to a next conference, they have no permanent office. It is customary that proposals are received at the final plenary meeting, BRIT organizers in charge at the time discuss them, and the baton is handed over to the next organizers. In the conference in Bellingham, Washington, no one raised their hand to be an organizer in charge of the next conference. Prof. Paul Ganster of San Diego State University, the former BRIT organizer, pressured me saying “You should do it in Japan.” But, I am a newcomer. I am not ready mentally, not to mention ready for preparation. All I could respond with was “after the next.”



BRIT IX last day: Greetings from Dr. Emmanuel

The then host of BRIT was Prof. Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly of the University of Victoria. Not only did he strongly support our Global COE Program from the stage of application, but he took part in the First Global COE International Conference and the “Borderlands Forum in Tsushima” of 2010 and offered full support to invite the BRIT XII Conference (Fukuoka-Busan 2012). A chance meeting with him let me know of the existence of Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS) based in North America and rush from Washington DC to the conference in Denver that was set to take place two months later, in April 2008 (The submission of proposals had already been closed, of course.).

Being tossed about by Washington DC and returning to Japan, I received a notice that BRIT X would be held in the international border areas between Chile and Peru of South America in June 2009. I intended to take part in the conference and immediately submitted a report proposal. What was standing in my way was the H1N1 swine flu. At the time,

Hokkaido University required a one-week “work suspension” after returning to Japan from “infected areas.” Although I was rather getting used to the job, I could not afford to leave the office of Director of the Center so often.

In the next month, the news was delivered that our program pledged to invite BRIT to Japan was selected by the Global COE. I recall the promise made with Prof. Ganster. On the day when I received the news, the “vow” turned into a “spell” and it has been ruminated on in my dreams. My sleepless nights seem not to end for some time to come.

\* The Global Center of Excellence Program is a subsidized project by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science launched in 2007. The Program will strengthen and enhance the education and research functions of graduate schools in Japan, to foster highly creative young researchers who will go on to become world leaders in their respective fields through experiencing and practicing research of global excellence.

The Program will provide funding support for establishing education and research centers that perform at the apex of global excellence to elevate the international competitiveness of Japanese universities. The Global COE Program Committee reviews applications and determines grant selection.<sup>4</sup>

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4 See the following homepage of the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies” <http://www.borderstudies.jp/en/>

## PUBLICATIONS (2011)

*Slavic Studies* no. 58, 2011, refereed journal of the SRC (in Japanese with summaries in English or Russian).

*Acta Slavica Iaponica* vols. XXIX and XXX, 2011, refereed journal of the SRC (in English and Russian).

NOMACHI Motoki, ed., “Grammaticalization in Slavic Languages: From Areal and Typological Perspectives (revised and enlarged edition),” *Slavic Eurasian Studies* no. 23 (Sapporo: SRC, 2011) (in English and Serbian).

NOMACHI Motoki, ed., “The Grammar of Possessivity in South Slavic Languages: Synchronic and Diachronic Perspectives,” *Slavic Eurasian Studies* no. 24 (Sapporo: SRC, 2011) (in English and Russian).

HAYASHI Tadayuki and SENGOKU Manabu, eds., “Politics and Economics in the Period of Post-Socialism: Comparing Former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern Europe,” *Slavic Eurasian Library* no. 9 (Sapporo: Hokkaido University Press, 2011) (in Japanese).

HARA Teruyuki, ed., “Russo-Japanese War and Sakhalin Island,” *Slavic Eurasian Library* no. 10 (Sapporo: Hokkaido University Press, 2011) (in Japanese).

UYAMA Tomohiko, ed., *Asiatic Russia: Imperial Power in Regional and International Contexts* (Routledge, 2011) (in English: proceedings of the SRC’s Winter Symposium in 2007).

### **Publications by the project “Comparative Research: Major Regional Powers in Eurasia”**

IWASHITA Akihiro, ed., “India-Japan Dialogue: Challenge and Potential,” *Comparative Studies on Regional Powers* no. 6 (Sapporo: SRC, 2011) (in English).

**Publications by the Global COE Program “Reshaping Japan’s Border Studies”**

*Eurasia Border Review* vol. 2, no. 1, 2011, refereed journal in English.

*Japan Border Review* no. 2, 2011, refereed journal in Japanese with summaries in English.

NAKAMURA Tadashi, ed., Лев Толстой: сквозь рубежи и межи (Sapporo: SRC, 2011) (in Russian and English).

## THE LIBRARY

### **Ongoing Renovation of the University Library Building**

As announced earlier last year that the University Library building has been undergoing renovation (scheduled to finish in fall, 2012). During the meantime, some library services are unavailable to the users. Those services include access to special collections of the Slavic studies such as “Collection of Russian Émigré Literature,” “Library of Prof. James R. Gibson,” “Boris Souvarine Collection” and dissertations from North America and the UK. The periodicals of the Slavic Collection are also temporarily inaccessible because of being relocated to a newly equipped automatic stack system. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have incurred.

The Latin script part of the Slavic Collection will be incorporated into the European language books in the Central Library. It is hoped that our valuable collections will be properly located by the completion of renovation.

### **British Parliamentary Papers and FBIS Database Introduced**

Last year the University Library began the subscription of the online database of the 19th & 20th century Parliamentary Papers (House of Commons), the access to which is now available from all Hokudai campuses.

The Slavic Research Center begins subscribing to some parts of the FBIS database, which consists of English translations of newspaper articles and reports from new agencies (dated from 1940 to 1996). The access to the subscribed FBIS database is only available from the SRC computers. Users can find the relevant entrance on the SRC Library website.

*TONAI Yuzuru*

## *Some scenes* FROM THE YEAR-END PARTY (DECEMBER 22, 2011)



The Center director treating staff to wine



An Armenian researcher dancing in Indian costume



Graduate students also enjoying themselves (forgetting the coming deadline of their master theses for a moment)



Presents being given to children of various ages

### Essay

IWASHITA Akihiro

How I Was Interwoven into International Borders: Secret Stories behind the Birth of the Global COE Program "Reshaping Japan's Border Studies" .....p. 15

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