East Asian Languages and Literatures

*Todd Ashida*, Academic Support. Mr. Todd Ashida is the Undergraduate Program Coordinator and Academic Advisor in EALL. Previously, he served as a Registrar/Financial Aid Coordinator, Student Services Specialist and Financial Aid Specialist at various UH departments including the William S. Richardson School of Law, Kapi‘olani Community College’s KISC and Financial Aid Departments. When not tending to his responsibilities as the department’s Undergraduate Advisor, Todd can be found at home with his one-year-old son who is of Japanese, Chinese and Korean descent. He is an avid free diver, fisherman and youth basketball coach. He also enjoys working on cars, motorcycles and teaching his son MMA moves.

*Lydia Chung*, Program Officer. Lydia Chung, originally from Florida, first came to Hawai‘i as an MA student in 2009, where she majored in Korean. She received her BA degree in International Studies from University of West Florida. In 2013, she was hired as an administrative coordinator for the Korean Language Flagship Center, and her major duties include fiscal management, recruitment and program coordination. Prior to coming to the university, she worked for Korea University in Seoul, Korea, where she was a researcher and English editor at the International Center for Korean Studies.

*Shoichi Iwasaki*, Professor. He received his PhD from the Linguistics Department, UCLA in 1988. He has published reference grammars of Japanese and Thai and numerous articles of functional linguistics. His most recent area of investigation is Ryukyuan linguistics, especially an
endangered language spoken on Miyako Island of southern Okinawa. He received his MA from EALL, UH Mānoa, so this is his homecoming after so many years.

Li Julie Jiang, Assistant Professor. Dr. Jiang joined the Chinese Language and Linguistics section of EALL on August 1, 2013. She received her BA and MA in Chinese Linguistics from the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Peking University, and her Ph.D. in 2012 from the Department of Linguistics, Harvard University. Before joining UHM, Julie was a College Fellow in the Department of Linguistics at Harvard University where, in addition to conducting her own research, she taught introductory linguistics and seminar on structure of Chinese. Her research interests lie in formal syntax and semantics, language universals, variation, and typology. She is particularly interested in theoretical approaches to the study of Chinese language, including Chinese dialects, minority languages, and sign languages.

Dong-Kwan Kong, Assistant Professor. Dr. Dong-Kwan Kong, originally from Busan, South Korea, received his PhD from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. His dissertation examined the effects of elaborative text modification on Korean as Second Language reading comprehension. He is currently the MA Program coordinator at the Korean Language Flagship Center, where he has served for the last 11 years.

Naemi Tanaka McPherson, Instructor. She received her MA in Japanese Pedagogy from Columbia University in 2011. She has taught Japanese at all levels for the past seven years at institutions in Massachusetts, including Wheaton College, Boston College, and Boston University. She enjoys teaching diverse students, appreciating the opportunity to teach at the University of Hawai‘i where she had been always interested in teaching since she started her
career as a Japanese instructor. She is a native of Tokishi, a small town in Gifu Prefecture that is well known for pottery production.

**Emi Murayama**, Instructor. Dr. Emi Murayama received her PhD in 2012 from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. For her dissertation, she adopted conversation analysis to examine turn-allocation in Japanese business meetings. In addition to obtaining her doctorate she has taught a variety of Japanese courses as a lecturer at EALL. She is excited about using her expertise to develop new courses for the College of Business’ new program track “Global MBA in Asia” that focus on professional communication in Japanese.

**Audris Wataoka**, Office Assistant. Audris is a local girl, born and raised here on Oahu. She has worked in various private sectors but began her employment with the State here at UH Mānoa for the Colleges of Arts and Sciences (CASSAS) where she worked for six years. As an Office Assistant with CASSAS, her main focus was to work and manage student records. She did this by processing paperwork such as grade changes, major declaration forms, degree applications for graduation and petition. She was also given an opportunity to expand her knowledge in a different sector of the office when she was temporarily assigned as Secretary for a little while. She recently transferred over to EALL and her first day of work began on Wednesday, September 11, 2013. She has expressed her appreciation for all the many warm gestures of welcome that she has received from the EALL faculty and staff. She is looking forward to learning new things and facing new challenges.

**Jing Wu**, Junior Specialist. Ms. Wu is a Junior Specialist for the College of Business new “Global MBA in Asia” program track. She moved to Hawai‘i upon the completion of her MA, in TESOL and Teaching Chinese as a Heritage
Language Program, from California State University, East Bay. She earned her BA in Business English from Shanghai Jiaotong University. From 2011 to 2013, she worked as a Chinese lecturer for the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, teaching CIMBA courses in EALL and elementary to intermediate CHN courses at the Leeward campus. Her experience as an independent Chinese language consultant for local Hawaiian business groups and the travel management industry enables her to improve the future multilingual workforce in Hawai‘i.

**Dongfeng Xu**, Visiting Assistant Professor. Dr. Dongfeng Xu, originally from Beijing, China, earned his PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Chicago in 2011. His dissertation discusses the cross-cultural encounter between China and the West, which began with the arrival of the Jesuit missionaries in the late Ming China in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth century. The dissertation examines the Jesuit work in China such as their introduction of Western science and technology as well as literary.

English

**Katharine Beutner**, Assistant Professor of English. Dr. Beutner earned her PhD in English from the University of Texas at Austin, her dissertation on “Writing for Pleasure or Necessity: Conflict Among Literary Women, 1700-1750.” She has published a novel *Alcestis*, from Soho Press in 2010. While she is joining us primarily as a creative writing professor, she has academic credentials in the Classics and in 18th century British literature. To quote her, “my writing grapples with questions of form and genre as well as with the complexities of love, loss, sexuality, gender relations and public/private boundaries, religion, and intellectual hunger.”

**Esther Figueroa**, our Visiting Distinguished Writer for Fall 2013. Esther Figueroa is a Jamaican independent filmmaker, writer, linguist, and educator. She began her media-making
career in Hawai‘i nearly 30 year ago focusing on perpetuating indigenous knowledge, strengthening Native Hawaiian language, culture and sovereignty struggles, empowering communities, producing local content, and countering the silences of mass media.

Since returning to Jamaica in 2006, Dr. Figueroa has dedicated herself to the natural environment. Her role is as a witness, a documentarian and archivist of places that are under stress, perhaps even annihilation.

**Shawna Ryan**, Assistant Professor of English. Shawna Ryan earned her BA from UC Berkeley, her MA from UC-Davis, and is one of our two new creative writing professors. Her novel *Water Ghosts*, revised from her MA Thesis at Davis, was published in 2009 by the Penguin Press. One impressive feature of the novel is its treatment of early immigration law on Chinese American communities in America. She has published short fiction, reviews, and was a Fulbright scholar in Taiwan in 2002. Her teaching interests include Asian American literature, literature of California, and science fiction.

**Jack Taylor**, Assistant Professor of English. Dr. Taylor earned his PhD in American Studies at Michigan State University, his dissertation on “Death and Blackness: the Aestheticization of Death from Lynch Photography to African American Literature in Memorials.” He has co-edited a book on nuclear criticism in a post-cold war world, and published on Frantz Fanon, Oscar Grant, and the TV show *The Wire*. His teaching interests include 20th century African-American literature, visual culture, literature as philosophy, critical theory, and world literature and film.

Indo-Pacific Languages and Literatures

**Ladan Hamedani**, Instructor. Ladan Hamedani joined the University of Hawai‘i in August 2013 as the coordinator and instructor of the new Persian Language, Linguistics, and
Culture Program, an exciting initiative made possible through a grant from, and in partnership with, Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute. Ladan received her PhD in Linguistics from University of Ottawa, Canada in 2011. Her dissertation was on Persian syntax in particular. She previously taught Persian at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, from 2007 to 2009 and at the Foreign Language Institute of Ottawa (FLIO) to the employees of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT). She has been a certified Persian language tester at the Canadian Foreign Service Institute (CFSI), DFAIT since 2006. She was a member of the faculty at Islamic Azad University, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Tehran, Iran, from 1998 to 2002.

**Jesse R. Knutson**, Assistant Professor. Jesse Knutson grew up in El Cerrito and Fremont in the Bay Area of California, but his mother’s father was born in Hawai‘i and stowed away on a ship to reach the mainland in the years just before Hawai‘i attained its statehood. He is rumored to have some Hawaiian ancestry as well, which he is currently checking into. He did his undergraduate study and MA in the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley; an additional MA and his PhD are from the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago. Before coming to UH, Jesse taught at the University of Wisconsin Madison, the University of Minnesota, UC Berkeley, and Seoul National University. His research concerns the historical role of literary art, especially Sanskrit kāvyā, in ancient and early medieval South Asia, as well as the comparative historical study of pre-modern poetry, poetics, and epigraphy more broadly. Several of his published writings, as well as forthcoming monograph (Into the Twilight of Sanskrit Court Poetry in Bengal, U.C. Press), focus on the Sena court of 12th/13th century Bengal, where a literary salon in what is now Bangladesh seems to have implicitly reformulated its entire literary system in the context of the imminent breakdown of the old courtly world.
Languages and Literatures of Europe and the Americas

**Ludovic Jean Bousquet**, Assistant Professor. Dr. Louis Bousquet, a tenure-track assistant professor of French, studies French literature and also the literature of French Oceania. He comes to us from UC-Santa Barbara where he completed his dissertation: “La Désenchantement ou la Possibilité du Nihil.” During this year Louis already has published an article and a book review. He also led a new study tour to Tahiti in the summer of 2013 and just returned last week from presenting a paper at an international conference in Poland.

**Daniel Harris-McCoy**, Assistant Professor. Dr. Daniel Harris-McCoy, a tenure-track assistant professor of Classics, specializes in Greek and Latin Literature, intellectual history, magic and divination. He completed his doctoral work at Penn State and has taught previously at Wellesley College, Boston College, Holy Cross, and Brown University. Dan has a number of publications already. His first book, Artemidorus’ *Oneirocritica*: Text, Translation and Commentary, was published by Oxford University Press in September 2012. And Dan has been busy updating the curriculum in the Classics program.

**Anastasia Kostetskaya**, Assistant Professor. Dr. Anastasia Kostetskaya, a tenure-track assistant professor of Russian, specializes in Russian fin-de-siècle literature and culture, Conceptual Integration and Blending theories, Russian and German war film. She comes to us from The Ohio State University. She also has a PhD from Volgograd State University and studied Theoretical Linguistics at the University of Colorado. Anastasia has already created a Russian Club including a new Facebook and held their first recruiting meeting. She already has half a dozen publications and two new articles submitted for publication.
**Nathalie Ségeral**, Assistant Professor. Dr. Nathalie Ségeral, a tenure-track assistant professor of French, specializes in French and Francophone literature, 20th- and 21st-century women’s studies, trauma narratives and translation theory. She comes to us from UCLA’s program in French and Francophone Studies where she completed her dissertation: *Reclaimed Experience: Gendering Trauma in Slavery, Holocaust and Madness Narratives.*

Previously Nathalie taught at Virginia Polytech and the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Nathalie already has several publications and has just revamped a graduate course in French to focus on current issues in French/English Translation.

Second Language Studies

**Emily W. Lee**, Junior Specialist. Emily taught at the English Language Institute while studying for her MA in Second Language Studies. Since then, she has worked for Lunalilo Elementary School; PREL; International Programs of UH Outreach College; the K-12 Chinese Flagship Program in Portland, Oregon; and Los Andes University in Bogotá, Colombia. After years of being a professional immigrant, she is happy to have found landing ground in the Department of Second Language Studies.

**Nicole A. Ziegler**, Assistant Professor. Dr. Nicole Ziegler completed her PhD in Linguistics with a concentration in Applied Linguistics at Georgetown University in 2013. Nicole’s research focuses on adult and child instructed second language acquisition, including task-based language teaching and the role of corrective feedback and individual differences on learners’ perceptions, attitudes, and second language development.
Center for Interpretation and Translation Studies

**Lucía Aranda**, Director. Lucía Aranda, Associate Professor of Spanish, has been appointed Director of the Center for Interpretation and Translation Studies. She has served as Chair of the Spanish and Latin American and Iberian Studies programs, undergraduate advisor, and won awards as the advisor to the UHM Sigma Delta Pi branch of the National Spanish Honor Society. Lucía completed her PhD at the famous Complutense University in Madrid, Spain in which she examined Code-switching in Chicana literature. She is working on the Spanish version of her successful book: Handbook of Spanish-English Translation which was published by University Press of America.

Student Academic Services

**Kay Hamada**, Junior Specialist. Kay Hamada has been an academic advisor with CASSAS since 2008. She earned an MA in English from Western Illinois University, where her research focused on multicultural and non-Western literature.

**Susan Ma**, Information Technology Specialist. Susan Ma previously worked at Windward Community College before joining CASSAS in November 2011. Currently an Educational Technology student, she holds a BA in Spanish from UH Mānoa; AS in Information Technology from Kapiʻolani Community College; and an MS in Information Systems from Hawaiʻi Pacific University.

**Lisa A. Wong**, Assistant Specialist. Lisa A. Wong joined CASSAS in January 2012. Prior to this appointment, she served as Graduate Programs Advisor for the Master of Business Administration and Master of Accounting programs at the Shidler College of Business for nearly five years. A proud alumna, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Master of Education in Educational Administration with Higher Education emphasis from the University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa.
LLL Dean’s Office

Shannon Oshiro, Chief Administrative Officer. Shannon Oshiro is a graduate of our College, majoring in Japanese. She is a local girl who grew up in Kaneohe and continues to live there. Although in love with the Japanese language and culture, Shannon chose a different career path. She has worked for the University of Hawai‘i for 20 years as an Administrative Officer at the Bookstore, College of Natural Sciences, and the Shidler College of Business. Shannon has two children and enjoys keeping busy with all of their activities. In her spare time she enjoys watching her children play sports, reading, fishing, watching movies, and just hanging out. Against her husband’s advice, Shannon openly admits to being a huge Harry Potter fan. She is thrilled to be working at the College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature and is looking forward to a long career working together towards the greater good.

Jim Yoshioka, Events Coordinator. Jim Yoshioka is the new Events Coordinator for the College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature. Expanding on his continuing role as Program Coordinator for the National Foreign Language Resource Center, Jim now provides consultation, guidance, and assistance to LLL department and center faculty and students in organizing, publicizing, and running their events, from public lectures to professional development workshops, symposia, and major international conferences. In his 14 years serving the College, Jim has successfully worked on around 35 conferences, 25 summer institutes, a handful of workshop series, and dozens of special events. Jim holds an MA from the UHM Department of Second Language Studies and a BA in English literature from UC Davis.