



June 2008

# Association News

## Japanese Teachers Association of Texas

### P R E S I D E N T ' S U P D A T E

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Bylaws  
Committee  
Update

Annual Summer Workshop  
June 11, 2008  
Rice University

#### Autonomous Learning

Dr. Noriko Fujioka-Ito  
Cincinnati University

Website:  
[http://www.geocities.com/jtatusa/index\\_jtat2007.htm](http://www.geocities.com/jtatusa/index_jtat2007.htm)

既に夏休みに入っている先生方、これからという先生方、それぞれに夏休みを研究活動に、旅行に、または自由にと計画されていることでしょう。かくいう私は夏休みは日本滞在中で、滞在中 8 月に九州の福岡で開催される World CALL の学会で発表の予定があります。その準備を入れると休みの半分は仕事ですが、先生方におかれましては実りある夏休みであることを心からお祈りいたします。

2007-2008 年度後半の J T A T の主要活動といえば、2 月に開催されたテキサス州日本語弁論大会の各地区大会並びに州大会でしょう。サンアントニオ、ダラス、ヒューストンの各地区大会の成功とその地区大会の代表が一同に集まって挑んだ第 19 回テキサス州日本語弁論大会は名実ともに過去の弁論大会以上の大会となりました。何よりテキサス州の主要な日本の公共事業団体が支援、協力し、過去最高の運営費のもと、賞金、賞与はもとより大会後の在ヒューストン総領事公邸で大会参加者、参加者の家族と教師、大会開催関係者、ボランティア等全員を招待しての弁論大会レセプションが大沢総領事の案内のもと開催されたことは、当教師会への理解と支援の賜ものと、教師の方々の日ごろの努力と日本語教育への貢献に改めて感謝し、成功の喜びを分かち合いたいと思います。

2007-2008 年度後半のもう一つのイベントである夏の定例会とワークショップが来る 6 月 11 日、ライス大学に於いて、シンシナティー大学の藤岡先生を研修会講師にお招きし「自律学習とは何か一学習者を中心としたその学習過程における学習スタイル及び教師の役目とその相互関係」をテーマに約 6 時間の集中講座を開催する運びとなりました。会員、非会員を含め約 20 人が出席する予定です。今年の夏のワークショップはライス大学アジア研究学科と日米協会から支援金が寄せられ、また在ヒューストン日本領事館からは「村瀬首席領事と片山領事を招いての教師会会員との懇談会」の案内に快く応じてくださいました。懇談会では今後の日本語教育のあり方と、来年度第 20 回記念テキサス州日本語弁論大会について教師会との意見交換を予定しています。

夏の定例会とワークショップの参加申し込みがまだの先生は、今月中にお申し込みください。それでは、ワークショップでお会いできるのを楽しみに、また、安全に夏休みを過ごされることをお祈りして、学年末のご挨拶といたします。

佐藤裕子  
ライス大学  
テキサス州日本語教師会会長 2007-2009

What will you be doing this summer?  
Taking a workshop, hosting students here,  
taking students to Japan...? Let us know  
what you did in our next newsletter  
planned for early Fall 2008!

## UPDATE, CONTINUED

For some of you school may have been out for summer, and I trust everyone is hard at work planning for summer in or out of Texas. As for myself, I will be in Japan for summer. During my stay in Japan this summer, I will travel to Hukuoka, Kyushu in August for a conference. While my summer will be spent in preparing for the conference I wish you a productive summer!!

One of the primary JTAT events for the latter part of the year was the 19th Texas State Japanese Language Speech Contest held in February. Both the regional and the state contest were very successful in planning and operating the competition. This year's state speech contest was particularly meaningful since all major Japanese organizations in Texas, including the Consul-General of Japan at Houston contributed and raised funds to give away scholarships to student contestants. For the first time this year the speech contest reception was held at the residence of General Consul of Japan. General Consul, Mr. Tsutomu Osawa agreed to host the reception at his residence after the contest. This was a good reward for our hard work. We are indeed very pleased with our efforts and commitments towards our Japanese community and Japanese education in the state of Texas and JTAT is dedicated to stay behind this effort.

The last event left before end of the academic year 2007-2008 is the annual summer workshop and conference that will be held on June 11, 2008 at Rice University. JTAT has invited our eminent Dr. Noriko Fujioka-Ito of Cincinnati University, who is an expert in the area study of **Autonomous Learning**. She has presented similar talks at many conferences including ACTFL and ATJ. Dr. Fujioka's workshop is generously sponsored by Chao Center for Asian Studies at Rice University and JASH. On behalf of JTAT I would like to express our sincere appreciation to both Chao Center and JASH. Mr. Murase and Mr. Katayama from Consul-General of Japan at Houston will attend the workshop luncheon where a panel discussion is planned. The topic will be "Japanese Education in Texas today and future" & "20<sup>th</sup> Texas State Japanese Speech Contest". Please visit at JTAT website for more details. I invite you all to join this workshop. Please register by the end of May to attend.

As we near the end of our academic year 2007-2008, I wish you all a safe and relaxed summer.

Hiroko Sato  
Rice University  
JTAT President 2007-2009

May 2008



## BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Peggy Hardt, University of North Texas, JTAT Vice President 2 (2007-2009)

As you may recall, a committee was formed earlier this year to examine and revise the JTAT Bylaws. The bylaws that we currently have are from 1996 and are in need of some updating. The committee working on this includes Daniel Watanabe (committee chair), Hiroko Sato, Yuko Prefume, and Peggy Hardt. We have been working on possible amendments this spring over email and will meet in Houston during the Annual Workshop. Some of the proposed changes have to do with the election and terms of officers, classes of membership, formation of committees, and collection of dues. In addition, we hope to make the bylaws clearer overall and more in line with the nature of our organization. Please let us know if you have any suggestions or comments you would like to share with the committee. Thank you!

The current bylaws can be found through the JTAT.org website or at:

<http://lang.rice.edu/hsato/JTAT/JTATBYLAWS.pdf>