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A FREE MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF JAPAN & TEACHERS OF JAPANESE

JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION UPDATE #5: TWO CONFERENCES (CLTA AND AATJ/AAS)

by Amanda Rollins, Japanese Language Program Coordinator

March was busy!! JFLA went to two big conferences to support teachers and Japanese language education.

First, we headed down to San Diego for the [California Language Teachers Association \(CLTA\)](#) Annual Conference, where we set up a Japan Foundation booth and handed out plenty of Nihongo goods and information. At a Saturday morning information session, Program Coordinator Amanda took her first step onto the Japanese language education stage with her presentation on the 2012 Survey results with a special focus on California. Did you know that California has 24% of all learners of the Japanese language in America? And 27% of the teachers!



Just a week later, we flew to Philadelphia for the [American Association of Teachers of Japanese \(AATJ\)](#) Spring Conference, which was held in conjunction with the [Association for Asian Studies \(AAS\)](#) Annual Conference. While meeting with many Japanese language teachers to discuss advocacy, articulation, and the Advanced Placement (AP) exam, we attended interesting sessions on recent research in Japan studies. Our colleagues at the [Japan Foundation, New York](#) arranged a number of events including a roundtable panel on the future of Japan Studies in America, where respected scholars spoke about the need for interdisciplinary collaboration and the shifting focus from area studies to global studies. [The Japan Global Articulation Project \(J-GAP\)](#) also held a meeting to spread awareness of the need to collaborate with teachers of all levels so that students can smoothly advance in their studies. The Japan Foundation Reception was a big success, during which professors, PhD candidates, and scholars networked. JFNJ also held an informational session on their [various grant programs](#), including the substantial Institutional Program Support (IPS) Program which can award more than \$100,000 per year for several years to support a university's Japan Studies program.

All in all, what with the fiscal year ending and the directorial transition, JFLA couldn't catch a break. Bring it on, April!

Breeze #86



Breeze #85



Breeze #84



Breeze #83



Breeze #82



Breeze #81



Breeze #80



Breeze #79



Breeze #78



Japanese Language Education Update 5

2013 JET-MIP Essay: Jina Yee

2013 JET-MIP Essay: Na Xiong

2013 JET-MIP Essay: Tiffany Yuen

2013 JET-MIP Essay: Yunsu Yu

2013 Advanced Teacher Training Program

Breeze #77



Breeze #76



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