

Contributors

Matthew Absalom is a university teacher and researcher, professional linguist, Italian language coach, translator and author. His current appointment is in the Italian Studies Program at the University of Melbourne. He holds qualifications in music, education, languages and linguistics, and his research interests cover Italian linguistics, computer assisted language learning and languages education. Matthew is President of the AFMLTA.

Kent Anderson is a comparative lawyer specialising in Asia. He joined the University of Adelaide in 2012 as Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) and Professor of Law in the Adelaide Law School. He has an eclectic background, having completed his tertiary studies in Japan, the US and the UK in law, politics, economics and Asian Studies. For the decade before joining the University of Adelaide, Kent was a joint appointment at the Australian National University College of Law and Faculty of Asian Studies, where he was Director from 2007-2011. He was the Foundation Director of the School of Culture, History and Language in the ANU's College of Asia and the Pacific. Kent is a Board Member of the Asia Education Foundation and Vice-President of the Asian Studies Association of Australia. He was President of the Japanese Studies Association of Australia from 2007-2009.

Anne de Krester is the Director of the Melbourne Centre for Japanese Language Education. Her work includes providing professional learning opportunities, resource development, and advice and support to pre-service teachers, teachers, schools and institutions in Australia, mainly in Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. Anne is also co-author of the report, *The current state of Japanese language education in Australian schools*.

Mariel Howard has 15 years of experience teaching languages across all year levels in Australia and in Japan. For the past six years she has taught Japanese at Kalamunda Christian School in Western Australia. She has presented extensively in Perth, as well as at the AFMLTA National Conference 2013. In 2012 she was awarded the JLTAWA Language Teacher Award. In 2013 she started a CLIL support hub in Perth and ran her first CLIL program teaching Art to Year 6 students in Japanese. In January 2014 she became the Languages Consultant across Swan Christian Education Association schools in WA.

Hiroko C. Kataoka is Professor of Japanese at California State University, Long Beach. Her current research and writing focus on heritage speakers of Japanese and Japanese immersion programs. Her most recent book is *Amerika de sodatsu Nihon no kodomo tachi* [アメリカで育つ日本の子供たち], co-edited with Gun'ei Sato. Hiroko has conducted numerous workshops in the US and abroad on pedagogy-related issues. She has also served on many national committees and boards, including the Japanese National Standards Task Force (Chair), AP Japanese Task Force, and the boards of directors for ATJ, NCJLT and Aurora Foundation. In 2007 she received ACTFL's Florence Steiner Award for Leadership.

Hyogyung Kim holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Ochanomizu University. She was Lecturer at the Japanese-Language Institute from 2009 to 2012, and then Senior Language Consultant at The Japan Foundation, Sydney from April 2012 to April 2014. She is currently a Specially Appointed Associate Professor at Osaka University. She has published teaching resources work on classroom research.

Kathe Kirby is the Executive Director of Asialink and the Asia Education Foundation at the University of Melbourne, where her work focuses on equipping young Australians for the Asian Century. Asialink is Australia's largest Asia-Australia centre and works across the education, business, arts and community sectors. Kathe has a background in education as a teacher, university lecturer and policy maker. She is a Board member of the Foundation of Young Australians and the Australia Malaysia Institute. Kathe is a regular contributor to the media on Asia literacy in Australian schools.

Aya Kondoh holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Ochanomizu University, as well as a Graduate Diploma in Education of Language Teaching (Japanese) from the University of Technology, Sydney. She has been Associate Professor of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo, and Director of Japanese Language and Culture Program. Since April 2014 she has been Professor at Reitaku University. Her research interests include business communication and teaching resources.

Paul Moore lectures in applied linguistics at the University of Queensland, School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies.

Mari Morofushi has research interests including curriculum development, intercultural communication and technology in teaching and learning Japanese. She also conducts research evaluating the effectiveness of online lessons for expanding learning opportunities.

Tetsushi Ohara is a PhD candidate in Japanese language pedagogy at the University of New South Wales. His research interests include learner autonomy and learner agency, designs of classroom activities, and application of sociocultural theory to Japanese language education. He also has experience in teaching Japanese language at UNSW and language schools in Sydney.

Yuji Okawa is an MA research candidate at the University of New South Wales. Yuji's research areas include voice in writing, NSW HSC Japanese courses and Japanese language education in secondary schools. Yuji is also teaches Japanese language at a high school in the Sydney region.

Sarah Pasfield-Neofitou is a lecturer in Japanese and the eEducation Coordinator for the Arts Faculty at Monash University. She is the author of "Online Communication in a Second Language: Social Interaction, Language Use, and Learning Japanese" (Multilingual Matters 2012). For more information, see <http://sarahpasfieldneofitou.com>.

Angela Scarino is Associate Professor in Applied Linguistics and Director of the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures at the University of South Australia. Her research and publications are in the areas of language learning, languages and cultures in education, and language assessment. Her experience includes research and development work in Australia, as well as in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and New Zealand. She has led a number of research projects of national significance focused on intercultural language learning and on assessment of student achievements in learning languages. She has served as the President of the Applied Linguistics Association of Australia and President of the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations.

Noriko Shimada is the President of the HSC Japanese Committee, Inc., which is a non-profit organisation working with the Japanese community, academics and relevant government organisations to encourage the study of HSC Japanese and provide support and information to interested parties. For more information, see <http://hscjapanese.web.fc2.com/index.html>.

Kaori Shimasaki is a third-year PhD candidate at the University of New South Wales, majoring in applied linguistics. Kaori's research interests include Japanese language education; in particular how Japanese language learners are learning Japanese in communities outside the classroom. Besides researching, Kaori has taught at a heritage language school and has experience as a tutor at the University of New South Wales.

Robyn Spence-Brown is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Languages, Culture and Linguistics, Monash University. She teaches postgraduate units in applied linguistics and introductory Japanese. Robyn's research interests include language assessment, the impact of ICT on language teaching and learning, and the teaching of Japanese in Australian schools.

Carolyn S. Stevens was appointed Professor of Japanese Studies and Director of the Japanese Studies Centre at Monash University in 2012. Her work spans a range of areas of cultural and social anthropology, including disability and social welfare in Japan, Japanese popular music, consumer culture and fandom in contemporary Japan and sensory anthropology. She was President of the Japanese Studies Association of Australia (2011-2013), and currently edits the Association's journal, *Japanese Studies*.

Chihiro Kinoshita Thomson is Professor of Japanese Studies at the University of New South Wales. She represents the Japanese Studies Association of Australia in the Global Network of Japanese Language Education and is a past President of the association. Her research interests include learner agency and autonomy in Japanese language learning, and Community of Practice of learners and speakers of Japanese.

Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku is a Professor at the University of California, San Diego, where he is Director of the Language Program at the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies and Coordinator of the Undergraduate Japanese Language Program. He received his PhD in Linguistics from the University of California, San Diego. He is former President of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese.

Masae Uekusa holds a Masters in Applied Linguistics for Language Teachers and has four years' experience teaching Japanese in Australia. In addition, she has undertaken tablet training through the eEducation centre in order to prepare for her current project.

Wendy Venning, PhD, has over 25 years of experience in languages education, and has taught every age group from 4 year olds to adults in a variety of settings in Australia and Japan. Her success in language teaching has been recognised in an Outstanding Teacher Award, presented by the Premier of Victoria. Wendy has lectured in Language Teacher Education, and has presented papers at international conferences in Brisbane, Canberra, and Melbourne. Her research has been published in numerous papers, book chapters and newspaper articles. She finds Junior Primary students demanding but delightful.