

Annual JASNC Conference Presenters' Bio

Ms. Hirano Inouye is President of the U.S.-Japan Council. Through her work at the Council, she also administers the TOMODACHI Initiative, a public-private partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo that invests in young Japanese and Americans while supporting the recovery of the Tohoku region. She is the former President and founding CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, a position she held for twenty years. A recipient of bachelor's and master's degrees in Public Administration from the University of Southern California, and an honorary doctorate degree from Southern Methodist University, Ms. Hirano Inouye has extensive experience in non-profit administration, community education and public affairs with culturally diverse communities nationwide. Ms. Hirano Inouye's professional and community activities include serving as Trustee and immediate past Chair, Ford Foundation; Trustee and immediate past Chair, Kresge Foundation; Trustee, Washington Center; and Trustee, Independent Sector. She was married to the late U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii.

Mr. Peter Kelley became the fifth President of the National Association of Japan-America Societies, Inc. (NAJAS) in September, 2009, following the retirement of Sam Shepherd. He comes to NAJAS with long experience with Japan in both the private and nonprofit sectors. From 1985-2003, he worked for Teradyne, Inc., a Boston-based supplier of semiconductor test equipment, spending five years each in Japan and Europe and establishing the company's Connection Systems Division in Japan. From 2004-2009, he was Executive Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute in Cambridge, Mass., an independent foundation dedicated to the promotion of the humanities in higher education in Asia. He is a graduate of Harvard College, with a major in East Asian Studies, and the University of Maine School of Law.

Dr. Morgan Pitelka is the Director of the Carolina Asia Center at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where he teaches Japanese history in the Asian Studies and History departments. He has a Ph.D. from Princeton University and has also studied and researched at Doshisha University and Kyoto University in Japan, as well as the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, England. An expert in premodern Japanese cultural history, his books include: *Japanese Tea Culture: Art, History, and Practice* (2003); *Handmade Culture: Raku Potters, Patrons, and Tea Practitioners* (2005); *Spectacular Accumulation: Material Culture, Tokugawa Ieyasu, and Samurai Sociability* (2016); and *Kyoto Visual Culture in the Early Edo and Meiji Periods: The Arts of Reinvention* (2016). Before becoming the director of the Asia Center, he was the founding director of the Triangle Center for Japanese Studies, a collaboration of Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University that was funded by the Japan Foundation.

Mr. David Robinson is Honorary Consul General of Japan in North Carolina and works as Special Counsel with Nexsen Pruet's International, and Employment and Labor Law Groups. His practice is focused in the areas of international, corporate, employment, immigration, and commercial law. He lived in Tokyo, Japan for 8 years and has traveled to more than 40 countries. He is a lecturer and consultant on business start-up issues, international immigration, trade and finance, and corporate organization. He has served clients globally. He has provided pro bono representation for many religious and charitable nonprofit organizations in the Triangle community, is a fellow of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Healthy Community Institute, and is an active volunteer with the American Red Cross. As a Red Cross volunteer, he has served as a primary responder for the Wake County Disaster Action Team, coordinator for the training of more than 500 volunteers during Katrina relief efforts and was named an "Outstanding Volunteer for 2005." He has also helped form a hospital complex in Uganda, and is working with a hunger relief organization on its international expansion plans.

Mr. Takeshi Shinozuka graduated from the University of Tokyo with a law degree in 1978 and joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA). He was appointed as First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar in 1991. In 1993 he held the post of First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan in France. He was promoted and worked as Councillor until mid-1996. In 1996 he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bureau of Economic Affairs as the Director of the Second International Economic Affairs Division. Two years later he became Director for International Cooperation at the National Institute for Research Advancement (NIRA). He became Director for the Office of Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACW) in the Cabinet Office in 2001. In 2004 he joined the Imperial Household Agency as Master of Ceremonies and was later promoted to Vice Grand Master of Ceremonies. He arrived in Atlanta, Georgia for his first United States Appointment as Consul General for the Consulate of Japan in January 2016.

Mr. Atsushi Yamakoshi is the Executive Director of Keidanren USA. Mr. Yamakoshi has returned to this position as head of Keidanren's Washington DC office, having also served as its Director from 2006 to 2009, and US Representative of Keidanren and Visiting Economist at Japan Economic Institute (JEI) from 1994 to 1997. Immediately prior to his current posting, Mr. Yamakoshi served as Director of the Chairman's Office for three successive Keidanren Chairmen (Chairman Mitarai, Chairman Yonekura and current Chairman Sakakibara). He joined Keidanren in 1981. In the course of his long career there, he has been named to a broad range of prominent positions including: Executive Director of the Council for Better Corporate Citizenship (CBCC), Deputy Director of the International Economic Affairs Bureau and Press Secretary for Chairman Okuda. He is noted for his expertise on such issues as Japan-U.S. relations, Japan-Canada relations, Asian affairs, trade and investment issues, global environmental policies, and media relations. Mr. Yamakoshi earned his B.A. in Economics at Waseda University in Tokyo in 1981; he has an M.A. from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver,

Canada, which he received in 1986; he also has a Master of International Public Policy from Johns Hopkins University's School of International Studies (SAIS), which he received in 1997.

Mr. Toshiyuki Yokota assumed the post of President of JETRO New York, head office in North America of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), in August 2014. Upon graduating from Hitotsubashi University with a degree in economics in 1983, Mr. Yokota entered the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), now known as METI. From 1992 to 1995, he served as a consul at the Consulate-General of Japan in New York; during this time, he earned his M.A. in Economics at New York University. Upon his return to Japan, he served as director for various divisions. As director of Research & Analysis in the International Trade Policy Bureau, he played a main role in publishing White paper on International Trade 2001. He was later Director-General for International Affairs for the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications from 2010-2012, and contributed to promoting Japanese ICT technology globally. He then served as Director-General for the SME Agency before assuming his current position. He has written several articles and books on international trade, intellectual property rights and local economies

Mr. Takeshi Yoshida is the Program Director of the Grassroots Exchange and Education Program, and Director for the Japanese Studies Program at the Japan Foundation New York and Center for Global Partnership. He serves programs that support Japan-America Societies, education-related nonprofit organizations, as well as universities and colleges where he works to help develop Japanese Studies programs. He joined the Japan Foundation, Tokyo in 2012 and was assigned to the New York office in October 2015. He began his career in software consulting sales at IBM before joining the Japan Foundation. He holds an undergraduate degree from Keio University and his final thesis is related to Education. During that period, he traveled to over 85 countries to deepen and broaden his multi-cultural perspective and supported launching a social entrepreneur organization focusing on rural revitalization in Japan.