

## Japanese Studies Association of Australia Conference 2015

### Conference Overview<sup>1</sup>



The 19th Biennial Conference of the JSAA was organised at La Trobe University's Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus from 30 June to 3 July 2015, hosted by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences with the support of La Trobe Asia.

The JSAA 2015 Conference venue was the Melbourne campus of La Trobe University, corner of Plenty Road and Kingsbury Drive, Bundoora, 3086.

Keynote speakers include Emeritus Professor Yoshio Sugimoto, Professor Bu Ping, Professor Eiji Oguma, Professor Polly Szatrowski and Professor Thang Leng Leng.

The Organizing Committee of the Conference was Professor Kaori Okano (Convenor), Dr Lidia Tanaka, Dr Elise Foxworth, from Asian Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University. Also, Emeritus Professor Yoshio Sugimoto, School of Social Science and Communications, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University, Dr Emiko Kashima, Associate Professor, School of Psychological Sciences, La Trobe University and Ms Tracy Lee, Conference organizer, Asian Studies, School of Humanities, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University.

The theme of conference was: Japanese Studies and Japan in the Asia-Pacific: Rethinking 'Eurocentrism'?

In this conference explored what extent 'Eurocentrism' (as broadly conceived of in the social sciences and humanities) might exist in the research on, and perception of, Japan in the Asia-Pacific region.

The broad-ranging discussion of these and other issues in a Japanese context reached beyond the academic community and involve government, the corporate sector, NGOs and the wider community.

It is obvious that this conference raised a lot of problems, which found their answer during the presentation, or at least a serious attempt was made to answer them and that was the big success of JSAA Conference.

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<sup>1</sup> Conference overview by Doc. Dr. Antoneta Polo, RSI – Journal Editor