IASIL JAPAN Newsletter

2013 No.2

International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures, Japan

September 2013

1. IASIL JAPAN 2013 Conference, Kyoto Notre Dame University

As has been announced IASIL Japan 2013 Conference will meet on Oct. 12 (Sat.) & Oct. 13(Sun) at Kyoto Notre Dame University. Please find enclosed the programme, the synopses, as well as the postcard which we ask you to fill in and return to us. A poster of the conference designed by a member is available at the IASIL Japan website. The reply postcard must reach the office no later than 25 September 2013.

2. New IASIL Executive Committee for 2013 to 2016

Rui Carvalho Homem, IASIL Returning Officer, reported in April that the nomination process for the IASIL Executive was complete, and that the list of duly nominated members for the period 2013-16 was as follows:

Margaret Kelleher – Chairperson

Dawn Duncan - Secretary

Tina O'Toole - Treasurer

Rui Carvalho Homem - Returning Officer

Yoko Sato - Vice-Chairperson for Japan Andrew Fitzsimons - Representative for Japan Naoko Toraiwa - Representative for Japan Kumiko Yamada - Representative for Japan

All positions were filled and were uncontested. Under the applicable regulations, an election was not necessary, and the nominations were validated at the AGM in Belfast.

3. Report on the IASIL Conference, Queens University, Belfast

The unusually sunny weather in Dublin was general all over Ireland. After lumbering

my way from the train station to Queen's University, the venue for the 2013 IASIL conference, a friendly intern ushered me into the Great Hall. Soon I spotted the Japanese delegates amid the luncheoning crowd, some slightly haggard from the long flight and jetlag, but no less delighted to meet colleagues from home and abroad.

Running from 22nd to 26th July, the Belfast conference showcased an impressive array of plenary lectures and parallel panels assembled under the general heading, 'Urban Cultures'. This overwhelming diversity was mirrored by papers given by the Japanese delegates. The Japanese Joyceans - Professors Martin Connolly, Eishiro Ito, and Sachiyo Yamada - all read papers that reflected their original views. To this ensemble, Professors Yoko Sato and Kenichi Kihara and Dr. Chiaki Sameshima provided a nice Yeatsian counterbalance. The contemporary / North of Ireland perspective was supplied by Professor Masami Nakao, who read a paper on Seamus Heaney's 'The Tollund Man'. Other papers, which I regret missing due to clash in schedule, included Beckett, Sinéad Morrissey, and 19th century Irish fiction.

The intensity of the academic programme was matched by the excitement of social events, which commenced with a poetry reading that included the Belfast poet Ciarán Carson. This was followed on Wednesday by several bus tours around Belfast and a civic reception at the historic City Hall where mirth and drink was never lacking. Another reading was scheduled for Thursday for those who could not get enough of North of Ireland poets / writers. Friday came the grand finale, the perennially lavish IASIL conference dinner which my travel plans sadly prevented me from attending. Yet this was no real grievance for the week had already given me plenty of food for thought.

Soichiro Onose

Ph.D. Candidate, University College Dublin

4. Payment of IASIL Japan annual membership fees (Reminder)

For the convenience of members who have not yet paid their 2013 membership fees, the following is information on the fees as well as the present IASIL Japan bank accounts. Please disregard this section if you have already paid your 2013 membership fees.

Membership with JIS	¥7,000	Couple membership with JIS				¥10,000		
Membership with JIS & IUR	¥10,000	Couple	membership	with	JIS	&	IUR	
		¥13,000						

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Benneficiary's Account No.: 0248851

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To members outside Japan:

As the membership fee does not include the bank transfer charge, we ask you to make sure that the exact amount will reach us. Please add the overseas postal charge to mail the copies of *Journal of Irish Studies* and *Irish University Review* to your registered mailing address, following the table below.

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