

(PDF version of what was emailed to IUJ Alumni and those currently on campus)

IUJ Alumni News

August 2016 The 43rd Edition

A Newsletter for the 3,972 IUJ Graduates from 118 countries, and counting

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This edition of the IUJ Alumni Newsletter features

stories from IUJ Alumni directly.* It includes IUJ memories, personal career development, new business partner searches, stories from their professional positions (thought pieces), and more. Please enjoy!

Also, please mark your calendar for **May 13-14, 2017**: IUJ will celebrate its 35th Anniversary with an Alumni Homecoming Reunion coinciding with Open Day, and the actual anniversary (3/14). Watch for updates and plan to join us - even if only virtually

***Those who responded to the request from among the "Newsletter Volunteers." Special thanks to them all!**





A view of campus from the small hill at the end of "Cherry Tree Lane." Hiking this hill has become a popular activity recently!

Thinking Back....

Renee Bajor (with camera)
(MBA 2001, USA) Teacher in California

I regularly think back on my days at IUJ and remember them fondly. Mostly, I miss the friendships that were forged with so many people from all over the world. My favorite memories are of our International Days and local festivals that allowed us to become closer to one another. In addition, I cherished the time spent in the local community helping out at the elementary and junior high schools, participating in home-stay programs with local families, and traveling via our bus to the local "mall." All these outings assisted me in learning Japanese and feeling like part of the community of URASA.





My Sake Journey

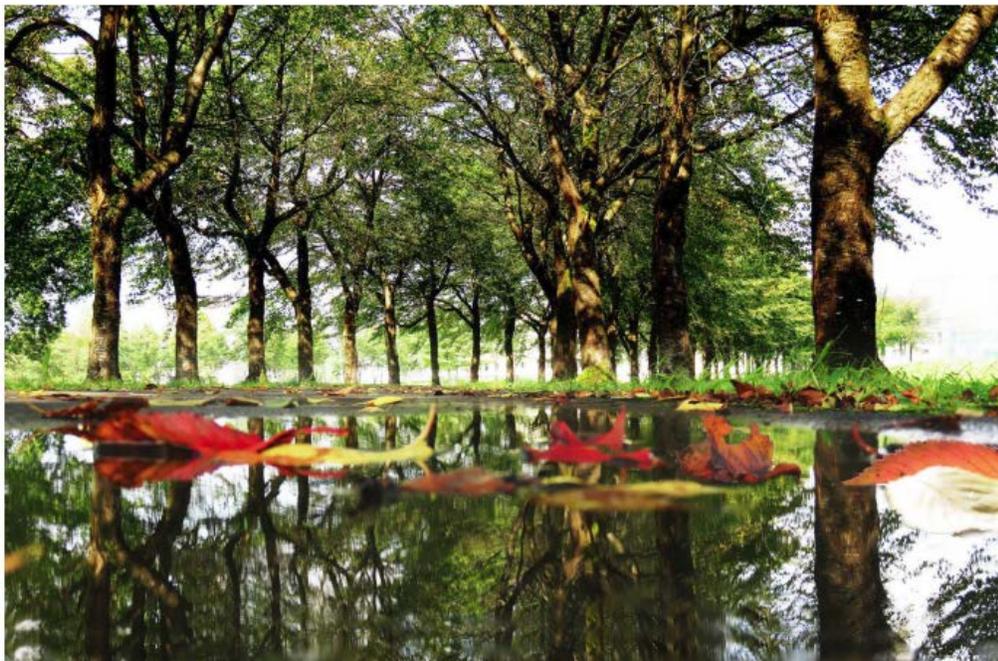
Kenny Yang, (MBA 2008,
Taiwan) Specialist at Wistron
Corporation, Taiwan

As IUJ people know, Niigata is famous with nice rice, water, and the product made from rice and water - sake. Before IUJ, I had tried sake several times. However, I was not a big sake fan. Maybe because the sake I

drank was very cheap so the tastes were similar and I could not tell the difference between them.

However, studying at IUJ totally changed my thoughts. A *sempai* introduced me to the sake shop close to Urasa station, and the owner taught me a lot, such as how to read the label, describe the taste of sake, match sake with food, and so on. It opened my journey on the sake road. I drank sake almost at a pace to finish one bottle per week. Sometime, I also invited friends to drink with me and to enjoy the taste of different sake.

I kept almost all the sake bottle as my collection after I finished it. When graduation came, those bottles with the various sake flavors became my best IUJ memory.



"I am a proud IUJ graduate"

Jesus Felipe (IR91, Spain) Advisor to the Chief Economist, ADB, Manila

I was invited recently (last May) by IUJ to give a talk on "Structural Change in Asia and Africa: Implications and Policies for Development." It was very nice to be back on campus. Last time I visited the University was in the Spring of 2001, 15 years ago, when I taught a course in the School of International Management. Much to my surprise, the University has hardly changed: same buildings, same colors, cafeteria, library, and the same nice environment. It was a very nice experience and I was very happy. I walked for hours back and forth recognizing places. I think that some students who saw me passing by several times thought I was nuts.

For those of you who do not know, I have been with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila since 1996, except between 1999 and 2002, when I taught at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta (USA). During 1995-96, I also taught at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. My job with ADB has given me the chance to travel extensively throughout most of Asia and to do very interesting work. I have published in the areas of productivity, growth, employment, and economic transformation.

While I was in the Shinkansen heading for Urasa, I remembered that I was an IUJ student during 1989-1991, which means that I graduated 25 years ago now. I have done many things during these two and a half decades, and at the same time, time has passed by very quickly. I told the students during my presentation that after IUJ, I attended a PhD at an Ivy League university and that I have taught at very good universities. However, I have no doubt that my best university memories are from my days in IUJ. I also told them that I hope that, once they graduate, they are proud of the education they have received and they keep the IUJ name very high.

I am very proud of having been a student of IUJ.

**IUJ's 35th Anniversary
Special Events**

35 周年特別

Date: May 13-14, 2017

Times and Programming: TBA

Venue: On Campus and in near vicinity

Mark your calendar and plan to come back to campus for Open Day (May 13) and other activities/celebrations (May 14) weekend!

My Journey to Food Sustainability Research

Angel Avadí (Ebiz 2006, Ecuador)

Researcher, French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD)

Web: <http://ur-recyclage-risque.cirad.fr/en>

My personal, educational and professional journey, from corporate IT in Ecuador to food systems sustainability research in France, has been twisted and unpredictable. It undoubtedly started at IUJ in 2005-2006, where the E-Biz master provided me with a great deal of soft and hard skills to start a research career. At that point, I considered economic sustainability only. Soon, I returned to Japan to join a master in sustainability science, which years later had me working in Germany as an international projects manager. At that second point, I was using IT and business management as tools to (very modestly) contribute to the advancement of socio-economic AND environmental sustainability.



After a very international PhD studying the sustainability of fisheries, aquaculture and seafood processing (during which Gretchen could barely find me to send me the Newsletter), I settled in France to research and teach on the sustainability of agriculture. Having realized that my main interest was on food systems, I am able to say —applying today what I learnt so long ago from *Wakayama-sensei*— that the sustainability of food is my vision, and a twisted educational and professional journey has been my emergent

strategy towards it.

May all of our dear *kohai* find their vision and approach their own convoluted journey fearlessly!

„Crisis? What Crisis?“

Dr. Christian Buck (IR97, Germany) Crisis Director at the German Foreign Office in Berlin.

It happens fast. Then silence. Then the phone rings. The red banner on TV screams “breaking news.” An airliner has crashed in France. A bomb has blown up at the Brussels airport. ISIS has kidnapped a journalist in Syria. In short: we have a situation. What do we do next?

In three years of professional crisis management, here is what I have learned:

First, you need to acknowledge the situation, and switch to crisis mode immediately. Cancel everything else and focus on the problem at hand. Second, to run point you need a small team with a broad mandate instead of a large structure. Also, you need direct access to the decision-makers. Third, you need to understand the situation. Get the brightest minds you know together, live or by videoconference. Fourth, you need options, and fast - in a crisis, you have minutes or hours, not days or weeks. Fifth, you need to lead and act decisively. If you fail to defuse the crisis, you will go down anyway – so why not be bold now, and win?



Broadcasting With A Heart, From Africa



**Bouna Ndiaye (IR89, Senegal)
Producer & Host of a Syndicated
show:**

Bonjour Africa

IJJ has given us a platform to be socially conscious, and to be ready and willing to make a positive impact in the environment we will be living.

After writing my thesis with the hope to make West Africa food self sufficient, I rushed home to Senegal, West Africa where I joined Coopers and Lybrand's Management Consulting Services Department (MCS). Six years later I was hired by North Carolina Central University (USA) as Assistant Director for Administration where I ran the finance section of the Residential Life Department.

My love for music that was known by everyone at IUJ (as the bandleader of "Bouna & The Bounettes") has never faded. While at NCCU I decided to produce & host of a radio show called "Bonjour Africa" on WNCU 90.7FM. That show which was just for fun ended up to be my second career. It became syndicated to twenty (20) FM radio stations in the US and distributed by the National Public Radio (NPR) satellite. That got me so busy that I eventually cut that number in half.

Six years later I joined Duke University as Program Coordinator for three years before joining the faculty as Professor of African Film and Music where I served until 2013.

Running a syndicated show that is distributed by the NPR satellite gave me independence and freedom to be anywhere in the World and still do the show. So I began to think about returning to Senegal to retake up various challenges there.

Solving the unemployment problem was what I decided to tackle first. I wrote a very ambitious project and submitted it to a chartered accounting firm for review, and they were so impressed that they urged me to come home to implement it for it requires some very specific Public Relations. Work is still in progress.

At that time I also had the urge to repatriate from Russia a documentary of the First World Negro Arts Festival as we were approaching the 50th Anniversary of that festival which took place in Senegal in 1966. I am happy to say that after a very long struggle, I

have managed to repatriate the documentary and made two screenings of it at the Theatre National Daniel Sorano in Dakar, Senegal, all paid out of pocket.

I am still producing my radio show for the USA and Porto Rico market, while looking for a frequency to build a radio station in my country.

Japan-Pakistan Relations: Life Work with Roots at IUJ

Dr. Ahmad Rashid Malik (IR89 Pakistan) Sr. Research Fellow, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad



Currently, I am working as a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, Pakistan. I have done a large amount of research work after I have graduated from the IUJ besides obtaining a doctorate from La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. As research is my passion, I undertook a Fellowship offered by the Japan Foundation during 2010-11. I conducted a research on Japan's anti-terrorism efforts

under the program but also I conducted research about the historical linkages between Islam and Japan and I plan to publish it soon.

For long, I have kept close contact with Japanese diplomats and ambassadors in Islamabad and often write opinion articles on Japan-Pakistan relations and on other related issues. They acknowledge my intense scholarly work on Japan-Pakistan relations.

As you may know the first book on Japan-Pakistan relations was written by me in 2008, published by a leading publisher, Routledge, in New York and London. Now I am publishing a brochure on Japan-Pakistan by highlighting special ties between the two countries. From my research on Japan-Pakistan relations, I am greatly indebted to IUJ for my initial training in International Politics. I am especially thankful

to late Professor Dr Saburo Okita and Dr John B. Welfield, *inter alia*, for their teaching and encouragements that elevated my research work.



Total Gamification

Kabir Ahmad (Ebiz 2009, Bangladesh)
Mobile Analyst, Mind Commerce

Currently I am developing a new model on Gamification namely Total Gamification Model. Traditionally Gamification is focused on engagement using game elements in a non-game environment. Total Gamification Model will drive productivity and

customer satisfaction instead of mere engagement; it will be a by-product. The model will be a combination between two concepts i.e. total quality management and serious Gamification. I am expecting to release it by January 2017.

An advertisement for the website MADE-IN-JAPAN.bz. At the top, there is a navigation bar with flags and language options: English, Chinese, Korean, German, Spanish, and French. Below this is a circular graphic containing a photograph of three business professionals in a meeting. To the left of the circle is vertical Japanese text: "元気な日本に住みたい". Below the circle is a dark blue box with white Japanese text: "日本製品のショールーム". The background of the advertisement shows a bookshelf filled with books.

Seeking Business partner to Promote Japanese products Overseas

Ikechukwu Anyanwu (IR93, Nigeria) Founder, Placade Japan Co., Ltd, based in Niigata

Help promote Made-in-Japan.bz (<http://www.made-in-japan.bz>) to Japanese Companies

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Made-in-Japan.bz is an internet website in English and other languages, aimed at making it easier for foreigners to learn about and access Japanese products and services.

I am looking for a business partner who may be interested in helping market this service to Japanese companies and other organizations interested in expanding their market overseas in a very cost-effective way.

For reasons I don't understand, I have not been able to convince Japanese companies that the way to promote their products and services overseas is through the internet. Some companies prefer to attend exhibitions, some have English websites and think there is no need for other promotions, while some are reluctant due to the language factors.

If anyone would like to join hands with us in marketing the service, please contact me for more information. The role of the partner will be to introduce the site to prospective users and possibly assist them with registration if necessary.

I also would like to use this opportunity to appeal to IUJ Alumni whose companies can benefit from this service to please pass on the information to the relevant sections or individuals in your organizations.

Thank You

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Stepping onto ***Making Tomorrow Better***
through ***Where the World Gathers***

Ar Kar (MBA 2013, Myanmar), Assistant General Manager, Myanmar Port Authority,
PhD Candidate, Curtin University

For the upcoming IUJ Newsletters, I, as an IUJ alumnus, am very pleased to disclose an achievement in receiving a scholarship for further study two years after I graduated from

IUJ. Since the end of June in 2015, I have been in Perth, Western Australia, for the study in PhD (Business & Management) under the Australia Awards Scholarship program. In applying for such a highly competitive scholarship award, the Curtin University willingly accepted my application and admitted me for holding an MBA from IUJ with its excellent image and reputation.

Along with this achievement and applying knowledge and skills gained from the IUJ, **where the world gathers**, I am currently studying and doing research well at the Curtin University, which is **making tomorrow better**, for professional career development and contributing to the development of my country, Myanmar. As such, I can assure that studying in IUJ and holding an IUJ master degree not only fostered my career achievement in my workplace but also encouraged me to move forward onto the next step in doing PhD at the Curtin University.



Mentoring Young Leaders

Ganzorig Vanchig (Ebiz 2010, Mongolia) Senior Vice President, Director of Strategic Planning, Shunkhlai Group, Mongolia

I would like to share some of my current activities and initiative with my fellow IUJers. After returning from IUJ back to Mongolia, I hold positions on Executive Management Team and Board of Directors for about 10 organizations, companies and NGOs.

In December 26, 2015, twelve young Mongolians received an email that invited them into a year-long journey of personal development. They were accepted into the inaugural “Young Professionals’ Group” Mongolia Chapter, a character and potential-based mentorship program. My fellow friends and I initiated this idea in the Mongolian traditional ger (yurt). Young adult professionals face a serious problem throughout their careers due to the lack of mentoring and coaching. And that’s what we are changing with this program.



Today, the YPG has expanded to a total of 6 chapters from India to Mongolia, with a large network of professionals in business, non-profit, medicine, law, education, engineering and government. This project's immediate goal is to show the importance and value of mentoring. In the long term, we are aiming to develop a mentorship culture within Mongolian companies, universities and high schools.

I like the “give and take” principle, where I not only benefit by getting or obtaining things; I also endeavor to offer my contributions.



NYC Alumni Keeping the Network Strong

Yasutake Kojima (MBA2002, Japan), Director, JR East, New York City

On May 19th, we had a gathering of IM02&03 at an Izakara in New York. Koji Ono (IM02) of UBE America, Satoshi Tashiro (IM02) of Hitachi Capital America, Shinobu Sonoda (IM03) of Mizuho Securities USA, and Yasutake Kojima (IM02) of JR EAST New York. We had fun exchanging views from each expertise, and also sharing nostalgic memories of IUJ. We were expecting Atsushi Tanimura (IM01) of Osaka Gas USA to join; however, he moved to Japan in the end of March. If you are in NY and wish to have fun, please contact me ;)

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Many mini reunions take place around the globe! Please remember to use the Online Alumni Search Engine to find new and old IUJ friends.

IUJ World Wide Friday

coming soon to a city near you . . .

September 9, 2016

Chapter Leaders, please send in your event details by September 1, and invite your local alumni!

Need support? contact Gretchen on campus



Ryan recently became an E-resident of Estonia

A Great Time to be in International Relations

Ryan J. King (IR07, UK) Professor of International Relations, Tecnologico de Monterrey, Fudan University

On 24th June, 2016, the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. It may not be an exaggeration to say that this is the biggest event in geopolitics and international relations since 9/11. While it was easy to see the immediate financial and political effects of the so-called 'Brexit', as markets tumbled, the value of the sterling dropped to an all-time low, and debates in the European Parliament turned into schoolyard-style name-calling, it is the long-term effects that

will be much bigger.

Britain's exit from the EU means the balance of the bloc moves further away from the Anglo-Saxon capitalism that the UK represents, leaving countries like Denmark and Sweden (who share 90% voting records with the UK) more in the minority than ever, and

potentially reviewing their own memberships. The UK's closest neighbor, Ireland, faces a huge crisis as potential trade barriers may have to be erected between it and a nation that consumes 14% of its exports, while another neighbor, the Netherlands, is likely to see an upsurge in support for holding its own in/out referendum on European membership. In Eastern Europe, the UK's exit will mean the loss of a nation that spoke up for the rights of non-eurozone EU members, and Poland faces the potential return of 1 million UK-resident Poles if an immigration policy cannot be agreed. Even further east, Turkey loses the country that supported its accession to the EU the most, and Russia faces the potential of a recession-hit Europe buying less oil and gas than ever before.

Around the world, the story is another mixed bag of consequences. A European recession would hit Chinese exports hard, while India's strong bilateral relationship with the UK could suffer immensely.

With the UK being the strongest proponent of change to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, a set of regulations that effectively keep non-European produce out of the Union, farmers in sub-Saharan Africa will have to face the likely reality that the European market will never open up to them, although they may find themselves able to export greater amounts to the UK itself once it is free of the CAP. South Africa has already seen a brief and short-run boom as gold prices surged following the shock of the Brexit vote, but the South African rand will likely suffer comparatively more in the long-term.

In times like this, the human element can be easy to forget. As investors sought to move their money from risky markets into stable currencies following the Brexit vote, the value of the Mexican peso weakened dramatically in just 24 hours. A Mexican colleague of mine, whose contract in China was up for renewal, is now facing the possibility of having to negotiate a new deal because the agreed-upon salary has suddenly become worth much less than it had been days earlier. Millions of students worldwide who had their hearts set on attending university in the UK must now put their plans on hold while new visa and immigration rules are drawn up.

Almost everyone will be affected by this unexpected vote, some for the better and some for the worse. But as the increasingly nasty debate following the announcement of the result has shown, there is above all a need for calm and measured debate. A great many issues need to be resolved across parliament chambers, boardrooms, and college campuses that will take years to complete.

I am lucky enough to be a graduate of IUJ's School of International Relations, and am lucky enough to be a professor of the subject right now, and it will be up to people like us to remove ourselves from the bitter infighting that is everyday political discussion and commit ourselves to turning this momentous event into an opportunity. It is a truly

remarkable time to be involved in international relations, and my best wishes go out to the current students in GSIR as you spend what will no doubt be many months debating these topics.

Good luck to you all.

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Congratulations to IUJ Alum, Chuanli "Charles" Yin (IR89), who now sits on the IUJ Board of Trustees.

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