Awards & Honors

Turrell V. Wylie Memorial Scholarship for outstanding students in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature

The Turrell V. Wylie Scholarship was established in 1994 to recognize outstanding students in the Department. Professor Wylie was for many years Professor of Tibetan at the University of Washington and was the first chair of the Department of Asian Languages and Literature.

Wylie Scholarship Recipients

- 2019 Youngjun Kwon (Chinese)
- 2018 Zhinan Chen (Chinese)
- 2018 Christopher Diamond (South Asian Studies, Buddhist Studies)
- 2017 Joseph Marino III (Buddhist Studies)
- 2016 Cindi Textor (Japanese)
- 2015 Sun-Mi Kim (Chinese)
- 2014 Amruta Chandekar
- 2013 Hsiang-Lin Shih
- 2012 Sachi Schmidt-Hori (Japanese)
- 2011 Y Edmund Lien
- 2010 Jon Holt
- 2009 Andy Chin (Chinese); Nicholas William (Chinese)
- 2008 Lin Deng (Chinese)
- 2007 Erin Brightwell (Japanese)
- 2006 Stefan Baums (Sanskrit, Buddhist Studies)
- 2005 Haeree Park (Chinese); Ping Wang (Chinese)
- 2004 Yukiko Shigeto (Japanese)
- 2003 Fusae Ekida (Japanese)
- 2002 Mei-huang Lee (Sanskrit, Buddhist Studies)
- 2001 Andrew Glass (Sanskrit, Buddhist Studies)
- 2000 Valerie Ritter (Hindi)
- 1999 Jason Neelis (Sanskrit)
- 1998 Christine Marran (Japanese)
- 1997 Rachel DiNitto (Japanese)
- 1996 Ramiro Casanas (Chinese Linguistics)
- 1995 Timothy Lenz (Sanskrit, Hindi)
- 1994 Abby Petty (Sanskrit, Buddhist Studies)
Henry Saburō Tatsumi was born in San Francisco in 1896 and received his early education in Japan. During World War I he served in the U.S. Army. In 1932 he received a bachelor's degree in Oriental Studies from the University of Washington and a master's degree in 1935. In the same year he joined the faculty of the University and taught Japanese for more than thirty years until his retirement with the rank of associate professor, emeritus, in 1967. During World War II Professor Tatsumi taught Japanese at the U.S. Navy Language School located at the University of California, Berkeley, and, later, the University of Colorado, Boulder. Many of the founding figures of Japanese studies in the United States, such as Donald Keene, Edward Seidensticker, and William Theodore De Bary, were trained in Japanese by Professor Tatsumi and his colleagues.

The Henry S. Tatsumi Scholarship Fund was established with an initial gift by Professor Nobutaka Ike (1916-2006) and his wife, Tai (1918-2007). Nobutaka Ike, a Seattle native and graduate of the UW class of 1940, and Mrs. Ike were graduate students and UW employees when the U.S. declared war against Japan in 1941. They were dismissed from their positions and first sent to internment camps, then to the Navy Language School in Boulder. After the war Nobutaka Ike embarked on a scholarly career and eventually became a professor of political science at Stanford University.

In 1984 Professor and Mrs. Ike established the Tatsumi Scholarship fund in memory of their mentor, using reparations funds given to them by the state of Washington. Thanks to their generous gift and additional contributions by others who wished to honor Professor Tatsumi's legacy, each year this prize is awarded to one or more students at UW who demonstrate excellence in the study of Japanese and Japanese studies.

In this video, originally produced for the series "California of the Past," Professor Tatsumi's daughter Miyo Tatsumi Harvey tells the story of his life and career.

Tatsumi Scholarship Recipients

- 2019 Rhiannon Bowen, Mitchell Estberg
- 2018 Peiyu Wu, Kaleo Chan, Valerie Owens
- 2017 Zeke Stanislaus Hill, Suyoung Kim, Ching Yi (Hayley) Tung
- 2016 Fairuz Aisyah Binti Ahmed Zamri, Christopher Kessler, Wilhelmina McMichael
- 2015 Michelle Arima, Eunha Chong, Silver Yui
- 2014 Zachary Lim
- 2013 Hana Kim, Jessica Mao
- 2012 Emily Keiko Ikeda, Megan Colette Korling, Abigail Julia Severson
- 2011 Rebecca Dexter; Sarah Mortland
- 2010 Clara Nadja Lawryniuk; Sin Yi (Cindy) Tsang
- 2009 Chan Yang (Glory) Choe; Jessica Louise Leithem
- 2008 Kei Hiyaki; Raeanna Kaylin Pierce Mason
- 2007 Lindsey Dewitt; Brian Garcia
The Scott H. Swaner Memorial Book Award

This award, which recognizes excellent students within the Department, was renamed in 2007 to memorialize Scott Swaner, who taught Korean poetry and aesthetic theory in the Department from 2003 until 2006.

Scott H. Swaner was born in California in 1968 and studied at Cornell University before taking his Ph.D. from Harvard in 2003. He came to the University of Washington as a postdoctorate fellow later that year, and joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 2004.

Book Award Recipients

- 2019 Sophie Elizabeth Baker
- 2018 Hung Huu Bao Nguyen
- 2017 Natasha Humayun, Isa Thompson
- 2016 Hannah Hertzog, Vincent Lawson, Ashley Phillips
- 2015 Christopher Diamond, Megan Johnson, Zachary Lim
- 2014 Catherine Emily Shea
- 2013 Yin Yin Tan
- 2012 Farah Hushin, Lu Gan, Genoveva Castro
- 2011 Catherine Bridges-Lyman
- 2010 Maisha Mariko Kuniyuki
- 2008 Kendra Nichole Buchanan
Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award
The Asian L&L Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award was established in 2003 to recognize the vital role and important contributions of student teaching assistants. The award is open to any TA teaching in the department regardless of home department. Awards are given for excellence in teaching and are based on nominations by students and supervisors.

Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award Recipients
- 2019 Ying-Hsiu Chou (Chinese), Rie Tsujihara (Japanese)
- 2018 Siyuan Fu (Chinese), Ross Henderson (Japanese), Youngjun Kwon (Korean)
- 2017 Nathaniel Bond (Japanese), Zhinan Chen (Chinese)
- 2016 Christopher Lowy (Japanese)
- 2015 Zhihua Li (Chinese), Meguim Ochi (Japanese), Jiyoung Kim (Korean)
- 2014 Sunao Fukunaga (Japanese), Man Zhang (Chinese)
- 2013 Heewon Chae (Korean), Kai Xie (Japanese)
- 2012 Amruta Chandekar (Hindi), Yingying Sun (Chinese)
- 2011 Hsiang-Lin Shih (Chinese), Michiko Urita (Japanese), and Woojoo Kim (Korean)
- 2010 Hyunjung Ahn (Korean)
- 2009 Takanori Koyama (Japanese); Sun-Mi Kim (Korean); Ying Tang (Chinese)
- 2008 Jon Patrick Holt (Japanese); Jessica Ann Likens (Korean); Chia-ying Shih (Chinese)
- 2007 Tae-Youn Ahn (Korean); Koji Tanno (Japanese); Jie Wu (Chinese)
- 2006 Hee-Seung Kang (Korean); Yukiko Shigeto (Japanese); Li Yang (Chinese)
- 2005 Chi-fa (Suyong) Pak (Japanese); Ying Ren (Chinese); Sun-hee Yoon (Korean)
- 2004 Christopher John Dakin (Chinese); Fusae Ekida (Japanese); Prem Pahlajrai (Hindi)
- 2003 Sachi Schmidt-Hori (Japanese); Moon-jin Choi (Korean); Jung-im Chang (Chinese)

Yen Fu Translation Prize
This annual prize established in 2006 is named in honor of Yen Fu (1853–1921), one of China’s greatest translators and modern thinkers. He was the grandfather of Professor Isabella Yen (1912–1991), who taught Chinese in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature from 1960 to 1980. Professor Yen and her husband Dr. Shu-Koo Kao established this endowment in 1991.

Yen Fu Translation Prize Recipients
Li Fang-Kuei & Hsu Ying Graduate Fellowship Award

In honor of the distinguished linguist Professor Li Fang-Kuei, who taught in the Department of Asian Languages & Literature from 1949 to 1969, and his wife Hsu Ying, this fellowship was awarded annually from 2007-2015 to an outstanding graduate student studying Chinese linguistics at the University of Washington.

Li Fang-Kuei & Hsu Ying Graduate Fellowship Award Recipients

- 2015 Sarala Puthuval, Linguistics
- 2012-13 Hongzhi Wang, Asian Languages & Literature
- 2011-12 Yin Li, Linguistics
- 2010-11 Amy McNamara, Linguistics
- 2009-10 Chak-Lam Yip, Linguistics
- 2008-09 Marco Caboara, Asian Languages and Literature
- 2007-08 Haeree Park, Asian Languages and Literature
- 2006-07 Lin Deng, Asian Languages and Literature

Maurice D. and Lois B. Schwartz Dissertation Writing Fellowship

- 2019 Chris Diamond (South Asian), Zhinan Chen (Chinese)

Washin Kai and Japan Foundation Graduate Fellowship

- 2019 Ross Henderson

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