



The Alun Davies English Learner's Award, 2021

The Alun Davies English Learner's Award was established in 2020 to honour the memory of our dear colleague. Alun was an inspiring teacher who was devoted to his students, especially to the students of British and American Cultural Studies. This award recognizes a student who has made outstanding progress in their studies of English. The student is highly motivated, hardworking and shows commitment and enthusiasm in learning English, making outstanding improvement in all four skills over the course of study in BACS.

The class of 2021 is an exceptional group, and many names were put forward for the award. I would like to mention a few of

the nominees along with some words of praise from their teachers. Mana Sato came to the notice of teachers for her consistent excellence in classwork and a fine graduation essay in English. Tsukika Oyabu receives notice for her hard work and dedication while Nanako Doyachi has been recognized for outstanding contributions to her classes. One of Nanako's teachers has written, "I appreciated all the effort she made in her work and her active participation in class was of great help to me (and the rest of the class really)." Natsuki Imai has been praised for her "hard work and dedication." A consistently strong writer, she has received an award for best graduation essay in English. Vitor Hiranoyama Rangel made an impression on many teachers not only for his personality and class contributions but also, in the words of one of his instructors, for his "thorough and persuasive" approach to class assignments. Hiroya Yashima has been praised for his "excellent work" and high level of motivation and picked up a few writing awards. Kananmi Aoyama also came to the notice of teachers for her outstanding classwork. Hikaru Ishikawa has been an all-round excellent student. She gave an impressive performance in the first-year BACS Speech contest. She qualified to study abroad and remained a consistently strong student, submitting an outstanding graduation essay. Ayako Ono, Ryosuke Nakamura Yuna Kasai and Yuki Iwatsuki also produced impressive English research essays in their fourth-year seminars. With so many excellent students in an exceptional graduating class, it has been very difficult to decide on a winner.



The Recipient of the 2021
Alun Davies English Learner's Award

SEISHO TAKAMI

"I am delighted to be chosen for this wonderful award. This would not have been possible if it were not for all the support and advice of professors who taught me academic English, and my precious friends who deserve this award just as much as I do. I used English in various ways for four years. For example, short essays at end of semester exam, small skits, the speech contest, daily conversations with teachers and friends, etc. All experiences led to this award. I am not satisfied with my speaking ability and TOEIC score, so I will keep working hard! Thank

you."

- Seisho Takami

Seisho receives this award for his all-round excellent performance as an English learner and for his great work ethic. As Teobesta recalls, "He's made a lasting impression on me for his diligence and dedication." Seisho's seminar teacher, Professor Boulanger, writes:

"I have had the pleasure of having Seisho in several of my classes. He stood out to me from the beginning. In my first-year writing class, he was an attentive student who asked questions both during and after class. He took time after class, after all others had left, to write down his upcoming assignments in his agenda. He was awarded "Most improved Writer" that year. He continued to improve his language skills in his subsequent years, and his work ethic, and his work was noticed by his teachers. I was very happy to have him join my 4th year seminar, and see that he was still the hard-working student he had always been. While writing his essay, he created a large paper map of his essay which took up the space of four student desks. Seisho truly deserves the Alun Davies Award."

Alun Davies was dedicated to all of the students he taught and a strong supporter of the BACS program. I am sure he would be very proud of Seisho and the entire 2021 BACS graduating class.