

Memories of the Pop Culture Workshop, 2004-2022

One my most rewarding experiences as a teacher in the British and American Studies program at Chukyo was holding the annual "Pop Culture Workshop." The conference started in 2004 as a small presentation event involving third-year students. In the following year, the event was called Popular Cross-Cultures with the theme "Pop and Click: Culture and Technology in the Classroom," and was a workshop for teachers. Iain Cook, a lecturer in the Department of Communication Studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, presented "TV or Not TV: Personal Video Publishing on the Internet." In 2006, we ex-

expanded the event, sending out a bilingual call for papers to all students in the Department of British and American Studies. Professor Armstrong and I conceived the idea to showcase the academic research of our third-year seminar students

BACS English Society Presents:
Popular Cross Cultures 2



POP!

and

Click.



1:30 'Conrad's Cultural' Multiculturalism and Beyond!
Prof. Catherine Nakano, School of Liberal Arts, Chukyo University

1:45 'History on the Go: History on the Road' Panel
Prof. Christopher J. Armstrong, Dept. British & American Cultural Studies, Chukyo University

2:30 'TV or Not TV? Personal Video Publishing on the Internet'
Prof. Iain Cook, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

Roundtable discussion (time permitting)

culture and technology in the classroom

Iain Cook is a lecturer in the Dept. of Communication Studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, where he was formerly an associate professor (1992-1997). He is a media consultant and acts just with McGill University's campus radio station CISM. He has worked for the Centre School Board in Quebec and also in the far north of Canada for Special Access Productions.

Saturday, June 18th, 1:45 PM
Chukyo University, Yagoto Campus
Center Building, Room 06A

(Take Exit 5 from Yagoto Station on the Tozai Line.)

The first Pop Culture event was a workshop for teaching staff.

in Northern American history and culture, to give students the experience of a real academic event and to build confidence, not only in their English ability but also in their research and presentation skills. We also saw it as a chance to expose students to interesting work from academics in Japan and abroad.

Supported by funds from the English Society, the Pop Culture Workshops featured a number of presentations by invited guests, academics and creative people. At our first event in 2006, Professor Noriko Onohara from the University of Hyogo presented "Japanese Fashion Today: Gothic and/or Lolita?"

In 2007, Brian Cullen of Nagoya Institute of Technology talked about Irish music and performed some traditional songs. Beverly Curran of Aichi Shukutoku University presented "Dry Lips Move to Tokyo: Theatre Translation and Translation Theatre in Contemporary Japan" in 2008. In 2009, Naoko Yamaguchi (Ochanomizu Women's University) gave the lecture "Thinking Popular Culture: Critical Imagination." In 2015, Prof. Junko Nishimura offered "From Anne Green Gables to the Story Girl: Looking into L.M. Montgomery's Depiction of Girls." In 2016, Professor Miki Watanabe of Nagoya University presented "Cherry Blossoms in

Department of British & American Cultural Studies

POP CULTURE WORKSHOP 3

Saturday, July 8th, 2006
1:00pm - 5:00pm
Center Building Rooms 06A, 06B & 064
Chukyo University

Keynote Lecture (Room 0604, 3:45pm - 5:00pm)
Professor Noriko Onohara (University of Hyogo)
Japanese Fashion Today: Gothic and/or Lolita?

<p>1:00pm - 2:00pm Room 06A Session 1: "Squidoo: Meetings and Meetings" 1. A. Wright & K. M. "Canada Day on (De)Stabilization Day?" 2. E. Oka & S. Inoue, "The Booktalk" 3. H. Kishino & K. Goto, "Sister Cityships" 4. M. Tami & M. Imai, "The Elements" Room 06B Session 2: British & North American Media Studies 1. Y. Yamaguchi, Y. Shimoyama & K. Kitamura, "The Image of Canada" 2. M. Montgomery & A. Kubo, "American Comic Books & the Age of the Superhero, 1939-1960" 3. Y. Watanabe & Y. Kozumi, "The Golden Age of Television" 4. M. Yamamoto, "Karakin Shōshi Iro Color"</p>	<p>2:00pm - 3:30pm Room 06A Session 3: Authors & Readers: Culture in North America 1. M. Hagihara, A. Yoshizaki, A. Yamamoto & S. Nishino, "Yakuzō P. E. I." 2. M. Nishida, Y. Watanabe, M. Ueno & E. Futaba, "Under the Big Top" Room 06B Session 4: Music, SubCulture & Politics in the United States 1. K. Yamano, M. Higashi & Y. Imai, "The Disfranchisement of Delta Blues, 1920s-1940s" 2. M. Okada & M. Goto, "The City of San Diego & the American Protest Movement in the 1960s" 3. A. Okabe, R. Iida, Y. Iwanaga & E. Yashida, "Makoto no Koto"</p>
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PCW 3, the first department-wide event

Tegu Kaze." In 2017, Professor Sumiko Shirai of Shirauri University (Tokyo) gave a lecture on Canadian author Lucy Maud Montgomery's Anne of Greene Gables. In 2018, Professor Todayama of Hachinohe College of Technology presented "What is this Thing Called Communication?"

The conference evolved through the eighteen years in which it was held. We adhered to the format and style of a real academic conference. Students were organized into themed panels, gave 15-20 minute presentations, and answered questions on their work. The Society also provided the funds for the generous amounts of snacks and drinks, pizza and pastries that were available to students and guests between sessions. The event was open to all third-year students in the BACS program, but fourth-year students and graduate students from Chukyo and from Nagoya University also made appearances at the event. Over the years, a number of BACS professors were regular attendees at the event,

which were usually held on Saturdays, including Alun Davies, Scott Greene, John Lenihan, Terry Walcholtz, Beverly La Faye, and Professors Mori and Iwata. In 2011, when Professor Armstrong and I

POP CULTURE WORKSHOP 12 Saturday, 9 January 2016			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sessions will be held in Building 4 on the Nagoya Campus. Refreshments will be available in Room 42 H. 	
SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY 2016 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE			
17:00 17:30 17:45	Session 1A: Minority Cultures: Struggle, Integration and Maintenance (Room 42 A) Saori Aoyama / Mika Inoue / Yurika Sasaki	Session 1B: Innovation in Mobile Technology (Room 42 B) Shinya Hayashi, Kenji Nagata & Shingo Takahashi	Session 1C: Women and World's Fairs (Room 42 C) Yurika Matsui / Maki Akizono / Atsushi Kobayashi
18:00 18:30 19:00	Session 2A: Education, Social Issues and Activism (Room 42 A) Yuki Onogi / Yurika Aoyama / Maki Eguchi / Akira Takagaki & Yuki Miyachi	Session 2B: Food, Tourism and Technology of the Fair (Room 42 B) Risa Shinoda / Sayoko Norimura / Ayano Shimomura	Session 2C: Themes in Young Adult and Children's Literature (Room 42 C) Miki Watanabe / Yuki Shimomura / Miki Inoue & Minoru Akizono / Kazuo Tanaka / Robert Conway
14:00 14:30 15:00	Session 3A: The Road in American Literature and Culture (Room 42 A) Kazuhiko Nomura / Cheng Qi / Jui-Yuan Kim	Session 3B: Technology at the Fair (Room 42 B) Naohiko Sakakibara / Ayano Takai / Kazuhiko Nakamura / Chika Yoshida	Session 3C: Racism in Canada and the U.S. (Room 42 C) Sayoko Hagi / Teon Young / Ai Yamamoto
15:15 16:15 16:45	Session 4A: Environmental Issues: Government and Corporate Responses in Canada (Room 42 A) Akihiro Shimizu / Noriko Eguchi / Akiko Nomura	Session 4B: UK Culture at Home and Abroad (Room 42 B) Miya Kobayashi & Miya Yamamoto / Aoi Harada / Yoshiko Tanaka & Rie Kato	Session 4C: Art and Design at the World's Fairs (Room 42 C) Kazuo Tanaka / Mayana Inoue
16:15	Keynote Lecture (Room 42 Q) Professor Miki Watanabe (Plymouth University)	Cherry Blossoms in Tengue-Kaze	
17:00	Access Information: Take Exit 5 at Nagoya Station via Tozai or Meijo Lines. Campus Map: http://www.chukyo.ac.jp/information/facility/j1.html Contact: Christopher J. Armstrong cjarmstrong@chukyo.ac.jp / Mureen Boulanger mureenboulanger@gmail.com		
Sponsored by the Dept. of British and American Cultural Studies and the Chukyo University English Society			

PCW 12 featured multiple concurrent sessions and presentations by international students from inside and outside Chukyo.

were on sabbatical, Terry Walcholtz and Teobesta hosted Pop Culture Workshop 8.

In the final few years of the event, students not only presented their work, but also took the roles of host, chairs, and discussants. Students always found the event to be challenging, but year after year, they spoke about how much they enjoyed it and the sense of accomplishment it gave them. Despite the obvious difficulties, we continued holding the Pop Culture Workshop during the first two years of the COVID epidemic using zoom

with the final workshop held in 2022. I am very grateful for the support of the Chukyo University English Society during the 18 years that the Pop Culture Conference was held. The society enabled us to invite a number of interesting guest speakers and create a well organized event that all could enjoy, but also, I believe, enriched the lives of our students.



PCW 17 was held online during the COVID pandemic.

Madeline Maureen Boulanger
Specially Appointed Lecturer
Global Education Center