

SHOWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY | SHOWA BOSTON INSTITUTE FOR LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
PROGRAM ON U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS, WEATHERHEAD CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF
women
IN A GLOBALIZING JAPAN

A 70-YEAR
RETROSPECTIVE



THURSDAY, MAY 7 1:00-5:00 P.M.

Belfer Case Study Room (S020), Japan Friends of Harvard Concourse
CGIS South Building, 1730 Cambridge Street, Harvard University

The symposium “Advancing the Status of Women in a Globalizing Japan: A 70-Year Retrospective” is sponsored by Showa Women’s University and Showa Boston Institute for Language and Culture with the support of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University and the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University.

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF *women* IN A GLOBALIZING JAPAN

The end of the Pacific War ushered in a period of unprecedented freedom for women in Japan. In 1945, they did not even enjoy the right to vote. Seventy years later, “Womonomics,” or the equalization of gender roles in the work force, is an integral part of Prime Minister Abe’s policies to revitalize the Japanese economy. This symposium will examine how women’s economic, social, and political status has advanced in postwar Japan, and what obstacles remain.

OPENING REMARKS

MARIKO BANDO

Showa Women’s University

KEYNOTE SPEECH

SEIKO NODA

House of Representatives, Japan

MODERATORS:

MARY C. BRINTON

Harvard University

SUSAN J. PHARR

Harvard University

PANELISTS:

MARIKO BANDO

Showa Women’s University

MARGARITA ESTÉVEZ ABE

Syracuse University

GLEN S. FUKUSHIMA

Center for American Progress

TSUTOMU HIMENO

Consul General of Japan in Boston

SUMIKO IWAO

Keio University and Tokyo City University

KATHY M. MATSUI

Goldman Sachs

NAOHIRO YASHIRO

Showa Women’s University

SCHEDULE

1:00 – 1:20 P.M. **OPENING REMARKS**

MARIKO BANDO

Chancellor and President, Showa Women's University, and former Director General, Bureau for Gender Equality

KEYNOTE SPEECH

SEIKO NODA

Member, House of Representatives, and former Minister of Posts and Telecommunications

1:20 – 3:00 P.M. PANEL 1 **70 YEARS OF CHANGE IN WOMEN'S ROLES**

PANELISTS:

MARIKO BANDO

Chancellor and President, Showa Women's University, and former Director General, Bureau for Gender Equality

SUMIKO IWAO

Professor Emeritus, Keio University and Tokyo City University, and author of The Japanese Woman

MARGARITA ESTÉVEZ ABE

Associate Professor of Political Science, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University

MODERATOR:

SUSAN J. PHARR

Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics, Department of Government, and Director, Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Harvard University

3:00 P.M. BREAK

3:15 – 4:45 P.M. PANEL 2
RECENT STRATEGIES TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN
DECISION-MAKING AND MANAGEMENT

PANELISTS:

KATHY M. MATSUI

Chief Japan Equity Strategist, Goldman Sachs, and Originator of “Womenomics”

NAOHIRO YASHIRO

*Professor, Faculty of Global Business, Showa Women’s University, and
President, Japan Center for Economic Research*

GLEN S. FUKUSHIMA

*Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress, and former President, American Chamber
of Commerce in Japan*

MODERATOR:

MARY C. BRINTON

*Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology and Chair, Department of Sociology,
Harvard University*

4:45 – 5:00 P.M.
CLOSING REMARKS

TSUTOMU HIMENO

Consul General of Japan in Boston

5:00 P.M. RECEPTION

BIOGRAPHIES

MARIKO BANDO is a pioneering role-model, a highly sought-after speaker, and a leading advocate for women's rights now serving as president and chancellor of Showa Women's University in Tokyo. She worked in the Japanese government in various capacities for 34 years, winning such positions as the first female career bureaucrat in the Japanese Prime Minister's Office, vice governor of Saitama prefecture, and Japanese consul general in Brisbane, Australia, the first woman to hold such a post. Ms. Bando is a prolific author of more than 40 books, including *Dignity of a Woman*, which has sold more than 3 million copies and was Japan's #1 best seller in 2007.

MARY C. BRINTON is the Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology and chair of her department at Harvard University. She joined the Harvard faculty in 2003, having previously taught at the University of Chicago and Cornell University. Professor Brinton's research and teaching focus on gender inequality, education, labor markets, economic sociology, Japanese society, and comparative sociology, combining qualitative and quantitative methods to study institutional change and its effects on individual action, particularly in labor markets and education. Among other books, she is the author of *Lost in Transition: Youth, Work, and Instability in Postindustrial Japan*.

MARGARITA ESTÉVEZ ABE is a professor of Political Science at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. She is interested in how political and economic institutions are constructed differently across countries and in their varying effects on politics and ordinary people's lives, and her work has dealt with Japanese political economy, the varieties of capitalism, and the comparative political economy of gender. Winner of the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Award in 2009, Professor Estévez Abe's book *Welfare and Capitalism in Postwar Japan* explains how postwar Japan managed to achieve a highly egalitarian form of capitalism despite meager social spending.

BIOGRAPHIES

GLEN S. FUKUSHIMA is a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, where he focuses on U.S.-East Asian relations and international political economy. After working as director for Japanese Affairs and deputy assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Japan and China at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, he served as a senior executive with several major multinational corporations, as president and CEO of NCR Japan and Airbus Japan, for example, and as president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan. His publications include *The Politics of U.S.-Japan Economic Friction*, winner of the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Prize in 1993.

TSUTOMU HIMENO is Consul General of Japan in Boston. He has served in the Embassies of Japan in the United Kingdom, United States, and Singapore, and at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva. Immediately prior to his current appointment in Boston, Mr. Himeno was Deputy Permanent Representative and Minister of the Permanent Delegation of Japan to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. He has focused his efforts on making New England better known in Japan and vice versa and promoting U.S.-Japan collaboration.

SUMIKO IWAO is a professor emeritus at Keio University and Tokyo City University. She also taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, was a research associate in Harvard's Laboratory of Human Development, and published *The Japanese Women: Traditional Image and Changing Reality*. Professor Iwao has held numerous advisory positions in the Japanese government, including chair of the Gender Equality Council and member of the National Public Safety Commission. In recent years, she has been working in Tanzania to operate microfinance projects to help poor women and establish a secondary school for girls.

BIOGRAPHIES

KATHY M. MATSUI is co-head of Economics, Commodities and Strategy Research in Asia, chief Japan equity strategist, and co-head of Asia Investment Research at Goldman Sachs. *Institutional Investor* magazine ranked her No. 1 in Japan Equity Strategy in 2000, 2001, and 2006, and in 2007, *The Wall Street Journal* chose her as one of the “10 Women to Watch in Asia” for her work on the theme of “Womenomics.” Ms. Matsui is a board member of the Asian University for Women Support Foundation, a trustee of the American School in Japan, and a member of Keizai Doyukai, a leading Japanese business organization.

SEIKO NODA has served as a member of the House of Representatives from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) since 1993. Before entering the Diet, she was the first female salesperson within the Imperial Hotel’s International Sales Department and was elected to the Gifu Prefectural Assembly. She has served as Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Minister of State for Special Missions, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs and Food Safety, and Minister of State for Space Policy. In 2012, she was appointed chair of the General Council of the LDP. Her publications include *Thank You for the Life that Was Born*.

SUSAN J. PHARR is Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics and director of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations at Harvard University, where she has also served as chair of the Government Department and associate dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Her current research focuses on forces shaping civil societies and the changing nature of relations between citizens and states in Asia. Among Professor Pharr’s publications are *Political Women in Japan* and *Losing Face: Status Politics in Japan*, and the co-edited volumes *Media and Politics in Japan*, *Disaffected Democracies: What’s Troubling the Trilateral Countries?*, and *The State of Civil Society in Japan*.

BIOGRAPHIES

NAOHIRO YASHIRO is a specially appointed professor in the Faculty of Global Business of Showa Women's University and a visiting professor in the College of Liberal Arts at International Christian University in Tokyo. His areas of research include labor economics, social security, and the Japanese economy, and he has published widely in both Japanese and English. In addition to his academic career, Professor Yashiro has held positions in Japan's Economic Planning Agency and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and he served as president of the Japan Center for Economic Research.



*Showa
Women's
University*

SHOWA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY (昭和女子大学) is a private university located in Tokyo that also includes a school with all levels from kindergarten to high school and graduate programs. Since

Showa Women's University was founded in 1920, its motto, "Be a Light to the World," has inspired faculty and staff members to develop unique educational programs that nurture women and enable them to flourish in the 21st century. For its students to succeed, the University's goal is to teach them to: use foreign languages and live globally; make full use of information technology; and identify problems, set targets, and act.

Website: <http://univ.swu.ac.jp/>



SHOWA
BOSTON

SHOWA BOSTON INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE is the American branch campus of Showa Women's University. Established in 1988 as a study-abroad campus for English majors, the campus has grown to include a variety of programs from junior high school to Global Business, Early Education, and Nutrition, to name a few. Over the decades, more than 10,000 Showa Women's University

students have successfully completed programs in Boston. Its mission is to increase students' English proficiency, develop their cross-cultural awareness, and foster personal growth.

Website: <http://www.showaboston.org/en/index.php>



THE PROGRAM ON U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS

is located within the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA) at Harvard University, and promotes social science research on Japan from comparative, global, and interdisciplinary perspectives. Every academic year, the Program enables its postdoctoral fellows, visiting scholars, and practitioners to conduct independent research and collaborate with Harvard faculty and students. The Program sponsors a weekly seminars, the Distinguished Visitor program, study groups, conferences, and other activities.

The Program's intellectual mandate includes a wide range of issues in U.S.-Japan relations; contemporary Japanese culture, economy, politics, and society; common problems of advanced democracies; international relations of East Asia; and global governance of issues such as energy and environment.

Website: <http://programs.wcfia.harvard.edu/us-japan/home>



REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES

The Edwin O. Reischauer institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University is one of the preeminent centers in the world supporting research activities concerning Japan and Japanese studies. Its mission is to promote a wide-ranging exchange of ideas on political, social, economic, cultural, and humanitarian issues, stimulating scholarly and public interest about Japan and U.S.-Japan relations.

First established in 1973 as the Japan Institute, the Reischauer Institute has a university-wide mandate to develop and coordinate activities concerning Japan among Harvard's faculties, departments, and centers. In addition, its support for faculty instruction and research, students, postdoctoral fellowships, collaborative research projects, lectures, films, exhibitions, and workshops draws participation from the surrounding community, the wider U.S., Japan, Europe, and across the globe.

Website: rijs.fas.harvard.edu
