

THE *History* OF *Japan* AT EARLHAM

The personal and institutional ties between Earlham College and the people of Japan date back over a century. These relationships continue to flourish throughout the college today. Japan permeates the Earlham campus — about two dozen Japanese students enroll at Earlham each year, and nearly the same number of Earlham students study in Japan yearly. Many faculty members have lived, worked, and studied in Japan.

“The intricate web of relationships with Japan is woven into the very soul of Earlham College.”

— *Nelson Bingham,*
Professor of Psychology,
Provost



People

1893



Chuzo Kaifu

Chuzo Kaifu became the first Japanese man to earn a bachelor's degree from Earlham. He returned to Japan and became the principal of the Tokyo Friends School, which was founded by Quaker missionary Joseph Cosand and his wife Sarah Ann, who were both Earlham students.



1896

May Morikawa became the first Japanese woman to earn a bachelor's degree from Earlham.

Quaker missionaries Joseph and Sarah Ann Cosand

1911

Yuri Watanabe, a graduate of Tsuda College, enrolled at Earlham at the recommendation of her teacher and mentor, Michi Kawai. Yuri's daughter Yoshiko enrolled at Earlham in 1953.

Yuri served as upperclass mentor to Bonner Fellers, who attended Earlham from 1914 – 1916. Fellers left Earlham to attend West Point, but remained friends with Yuri. During the occupation, as a protégé of General Douglas MacArthur and one of his Japan experts, Fellers landed in Japan with MacArthur and went searching for Yuri at the first opportunity. Fellers is said to have based some of his advice to MacArthur on conversations with Yuri, including that trying Emperor Hirohito for war crimes would be a grave mistake. In 1971, Fellers was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure.



*Yuri
Watanabe*



*Yuri Watanabe and
daughter Yoshiko*



Bonner Fellers

1917

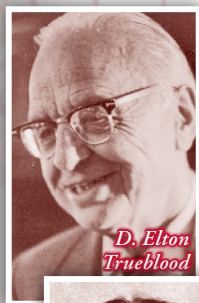
Esther Rhoads, who later became tutor to the Japanese Crown Prince, graduated from Earlham.



*Esther
Rhoads*

1927

Amid an atmosphere of anti-Japanese sentiment in the U.S., Earlham students raised money to send Wilfred V. Jones to study in Japan as a gesture of goodwill. Jones became the first American to study at Tokyo Imperial University (present-day University of Tokyo).



*D. Elton
Trueblood*

1942-45

Through the efforts of Earlham President William Dennis, then-Stanford faculty member D. Elton Trueblood (who joined Earlham in 1946 and helped establish the Earlham School of Religion), and Earlham alumni Homer and Edna Morris (who were coordinating the work of the American Friends Service committee among Japanese-Americans), arrangements were made for Japanese-Americans to attend college at Earlham, sparing them from the internment camps.



William Dennis

1959

Jackson Bailey, Class of 1950, received a Ph.D. from Harvard University under the mentorship of Professor Edwin Reischauer (who later became U.S. Ambassador to Japan) and returned to Earlham as a professor of history. A Quaker, Bailey did his alternative service as a cook in the U.S. Occupation forces in Japan after World War II.



Jackson Bailey

“Deeply impacted by his time in Japan, Bailey dedicated his life to improving relations between Japanese and Americans. In his over thirty years of labor, he did not quite succeed in creating a world where war and its sorrows are impossible, but there are certainly thousands of people on both sides of the Pacific for whom those things are now unthinkable, thanks to Jack’s efforts.”

*— Chuck Yates,
Professor of History,
Director Emeritus of
the Institute for
Education on Japan*



*Landrum Bolling and Kazuya Matsumiya '28,
Yoshida Foundation President*

1972

Landrum Bolling, president of Earlham 1968-1973, received an honorary doctorate from Waseda University. Bolling initiated Earlham's international programming in 1959. The same year, he hired Jackson Bailey and together they began building Earlham's programs with Japan.



1988

Haruo Nishihara, president of Waseda University, received an honorary doctorate from Earlham College.

*Haruo
Nishihara*

Awards

1946

Wendell M. Stanley, Class of 1926, was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, the second most prestigious national decoration given by the Japanese government. Stanley also received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1946.



Wendell M. Stanley



1958

Gordon T. Bowles, Class of 1925 (Harvard Ph.D., anthropology), was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun. As an employee of the State Department, in 1942 Bowles was responsible for writing a paper outlining the administrative structure for the U.S. Occupation in post-war Japan.



1988

Jackson Bailey received the Order of the Sacred Treasure. Bailey taught in Earlham's History Department (1959-1993) and was instrumental in developing Earlham's Japanese Studies Program. He received an honorary doctorate from Waseda University in 1990, and the Outstanding Alumni Award from Earlham in 1996.

1999

Barbara Ruch, Class of 1954, was awarded the Order of the Precious Crown with Butterfly Crest. Ruch is Professor Emerita of Japanese Literature and Culture at Columbia University and received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Earlham in 2003.

2004

Earlham's Institute for Education on Japan, under the direction of Professor Chuck Yates, received the Foreign Minister's Commendation from the Government of Japan as part of 150 years of Japanese - U.S. relations. The award was given in recognition of the commitment of the Institute to educational, cultural, and community programs to increase understanding between Japanese and Americans.



Foreign Minister's Commendation and Commemorative Cup



Judy and Richard Wood

2009

Richard Wood, professor emeritus of philosophy (1966-1980) and former Earlham College President (1985-1996) was honored with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, for his outstanding contributions to the promotion of educational and cultural exchange between Japan and the United States.

Programs

1963

With the assistance of U.S. Ambassador to Japan Edwin Reischauer, and under the direction of Jackson Bailey, Earlham began a student and faculty exchange program between Waseda University, one of Japan's premier



universities, and the Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) and Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM). To date, about 1,500 U.S. students have studied at Waseda and 1,000 Waseda students have studied at GLCA/ACM campuses through the Japan Study program. Over 300 faculty members have participated in educational exchanges and professional development opportunities linking these universities.

“There is no telling it all — on this form or on a ream of paper. Japan Study simply changed my life as only a true awakening can. I saw new ways. I felt new longings. I became a person different from the one I had been.”

— alumnus of Japan Study 1963-1964

1964

Japanese language instruction began at Earlham.

1968

Earlham began a program to place recent college graduates in middle and high schools in northern Japan as Assistant Language Teachers. Originally a form of alternative service for conscientious objectors, this program was a precursor to the well-known Japanese government-run JET program.



1973

Earlham signed an exchange agreement with the City of Morioka in northern Japan and in 2003 signed an agreement with Iwate University. Each year, through Earlham's Studies in Cross-cultural Education (SICE) program, a faculty member accompanies Earlham students for the fall semester program in Morioka. Through homestays, teaching English in local schools, and courses at Iwate University, students learn about Japanese and Americans not only from their "mutual joys, but also mutual frustrations," as one former faculty leader observed.



The 1979 SICE group was introduced to the Kurosawas, accomplished koto players living in Morioka. Mrs. Kurosawa's father was then the president of Iwate University. Their daughter Yuki later

studied at Earlham and now serves as the SICE Program Associate in Japan.

Today, ties remain deep with Morioka and it is not unusual for host families to visit Earlham in order to attend the graduation of former host students.

1974

The Japanese Studies Program began conferring the Bachelor of Arts degree, and it continues to be one of Earlham's flagship programs.

1986

Earlham created the Institute for Education on Japan, responsible for all Japan-related outreach activities conducted by the College. Among its most important activities has been K-12 outreach programs for Indiana teachers in cooperation with the Indiana State Department of Education. In large part because of Earlham's efforts, Indiana is known for its exemplary high school education in Japanese language.





1994

Earlham assisted Richmond in signing a sister-city exchange agreement with Daito-cho (now Unnan-shi) in Shimane Prefecture in Southwestern Japan, where Earlham students have been participating in a one-month rural homestay program since 1986. Each August a group of Unnan students and teachers visit Richmond, and business and sister-city delegations from Richmond often visit Unnan.

1999

Hamano Takao, Tokyo Friends School faculty member, began an exchange program with Earlham by spending three weeks on campus. In 2000 Paul and Margie Lacey of Earlham's English Department spent three weeks at Tokyo Friends School. The exchange continues in both directions.





2010

Earlham hosted the Japan-America Student Conference, a one-month program that brings nearly 80 students from universities across Japan and the United States together each year to discuss some of the most important topics facing the two nations and the world. The annual conference began in 1934 with a group of Japanese students who hoped to improve Japan-U.S. relations.

“There is a well-worn path between Earlham and Japan. Study abroad, May Term programs, and summer research trips take students and faculty to Japan. In addition, Earlham draws many Japanese students to campus for their college education. Indeed the next best thing to being in Japan is being at Earlham.”

— Gary DeCoker, Professor, Japanese Studies;
Director, Institute for Education on Japan

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