

FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS



JAPANESE STUDIES – TRADITION AND FUTURE QUESTS

CONFERENCE

In the name of the Organizational Committee, we have the honour of presenting you with this letter of invitation containing information regarding the forthcoming interdisciplinary conference entitled *Japanese Studies – Tradition and Future Quests (JS Quest 2016)*, which will take place on 18 November 2016 in Belgrade, Serbia. The conference is being organized by the Faculty of Philology of the University of Belgrade on the occasion of the celebration of **40 years** since the start of Japanese language tuition in the region.

The first Japanese language lesson at the Faculty of Philology was held on 11 November 1976, as part of a two-year elective course. The Group for Japanese Language and Literature was established in 1985 and was the first of its kind in the western Balkans. In the 40 years since these humble beginnings the Philological Faculty has produced a number of highly qualified graduates in the field of japanology and has nurtured the study of the language, literature and culture of this East Asian country, benefiting in this way both the Faculty itself and the entire region.

Japanese culture is now an integral part of everyday life. The fruits of this civilization can be seen in the way business is conducted and the daily lives of people, their hobbies and lifestyle. The region is now familiar with the *kaizen* system of company management, Japanese literary works are being translated and read and other forms of traditional art, such as *rakugo*, are appreciated. Moreover, various martial arts, *anime*, *manga*, *sushi*, health foods are all now recognizable and valued cultural imports.

The conference *Japanese Studies – Tradition and Future Quests*, as the name suggests, is dedicated to the issues concerning the survival and promotion of Japanese studies, not only in the region but beyond, as well as to reflection on past efforts. As Japan learnt from its tradition, so we wish to remember the difficult years and enrich future projects with the wisdom of the past. Japan is important not only to japanologists; science, technology and culture – all of these fields drank from the Japanese source. Our desire is to provide a platform for researchers in diverse fields to discuss and share their knowledge, experiences and achievements in their respective disciplines, to re-establish old connections and forge new partnerships.

To this end, we propose the following themes for the conference:

1. Japanese Language - general linguistics, language teaching methodology, corpus linguistics, socio-linguistic aspects, etc.
2. Literature of Japan
3. Culture, Economy and History of Japan
4. Science and Technology of Japan

The languages of the conference are Serbian, English and Japanese and the time allotted for presenting papers is 15 minutes, with another 5 minutes for discussion.

If you wish to take part, please fill in the registration form attached to this invitation and send it by 1 September 2016 (early bird registration by 1 August 2016) to the following email address: jsquest2016@gmail.com.

The papers that will be presented on the conference will be selected from the received abstracts, based on their academic value and the originality of their theme, approach and research. A confirmation of acceptance will be sent to the authors by 30 September 2016. On the completion of the conference and the review process, select papers will be published in conference proceedings.

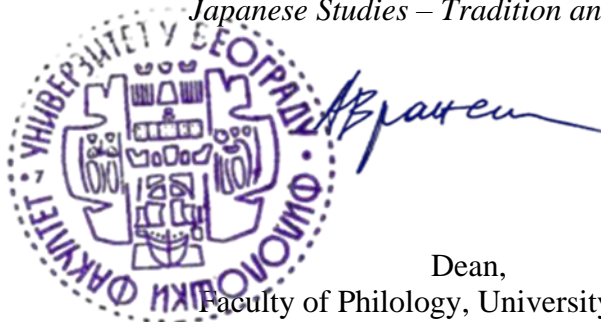
The conference participation fee in the amount of €120 (early bird fee: €80) includes the expenses of organization, conference materials, refreshments during breaks, a buffet lunch, the publication of the conference proceedings as well as a gala dinner to be held on 18 November 2016. A guided tour of the city on 19 November is optional and costs an additional 30 euros.

The list of recommended hotels in the centre of Belgrade as well as instructions on directions to reach the Philological Faculty of the University of Belgrade can be found at the following link: <http://www.fil.bg.ac.rs/fakultet/naucni-skupovi-i-konferencije/>

We are looking forward to seeing you in Belgrade in November!

Best regards,

Organizational committee of the conference
Japanese Studies – Tradition and Future Quests



Dean,
Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade
Professor Aleksandra Vraneš, PhD