

# AJS NSW University Awards 2017

The Australia-Japan Society of New South Wales (AJS NSW) University Awards Night was held on 27 April. The Awards are held to recognise students who have performed outstandingly in the field of Japanese studies from the six universities in the greater Sydney area.

Japan Reports asked the recipients how they felt about receiving the award and where they saw Japanese studies in their future.

All the recipients spoke of the great delight and honour they felt when they learnt they were to receive the award. It was a vindication of the time and effort they had put into their study of a subject they enjoyed so much.

Ms Rena Ma said, "It feels like the culmination of all my years studying Japanese."

Ms Jisun Shin migrated to Australia in June 2010 and she describe how it was "such a surprising honour for [her], as an immigrant who used to challenge the language and cultural barrier every day." She also noted that analysing different cultural and social values in Japanese and Australian culture made her understand herself, the community and the social norms of Japan and Australia.

It is little surprise most recipients mentioned that they see themselves working in an international context in the future. Ms Sandra Tran is considering applying for the JET Program or pursuing further studies, noting that she gained more than



AJS NSW President Philip Mitchell (left) and Consul-General Keizo Takewaka (right) with the award recipients [left to right]:

Ms Sandra Tran	Western Sydney University
Ms Rena Run Yuan Ma	University of New South Wales
Ms Anita Jiaqin Gallagher	University of Technology Sydney
Ms Jisun Shin	Macquarie University
Ms Claudia Blanche	University of Wollongong
Ms Yu-Hsin Kao	University of Sydney

just knowledge about the Japanese language and that her awareness of differences in culture and perspective is what she would like to use in the future.

Ms Claudia Blanche would love to use her "combined knowledge of Japanese and marketing to make Japanese popular culture products more accessible in Australia."

Ms Anita Gallagher is interested in interactive and service design, and her dream is to work in a collaborative environment with local

and international clients, applying the research skills she learnt through Japanese studies to inform her design practice.

Ms Yu-Hsin Kao has recently been invited to assist in a research project on health translation, and while the current joint USYD-WSU project focuses on Chinese and Arabic translations in a medical context, she hopes to incorporate her knowledge of Japanese in future research.

## Warming up for Rugby World Cup Japan 日本 2019

*Rugby World Cup 2019 will be held in Japan!*

It is the first time that an Asian nation will host the tournament, one of the world's biggest sporting events.

Since it was announced that Japan would be the 2019 host, excitement in Japan has been growing, particularly after the Japanese national team's performance at the last tournament in RWC England 2014. Japan won all of its pool matches and the team's achievement was highly rated by rugby aficionados.

In May this year, the pools were decided, and awareness of the 2019 tournament is increasing in Australia too.

Japan and Australia share close sporting ties in the world of rugby union. Over the years, many Australians have played Japanese club rugby, and Australian Eddie Jones was the Japanese national team's high profile coach at the time of its great result in England.

It is hoped that RWC 2019 will create a lasting legacy for union in Asia. Also in May this year, the legacy program was

launched, 'Impact Beyond 2019'. Its aim is to attract one million new participants across the Asian continent. Part of the program includes ChildFund Australia's Pass It Back sport-for-development program for children and youth among disadvantaged communities. See [www.rugbyworldcup.com/news/248198](http://www.rugbyworldcup.com/news/248198) for more about the legacy program.

For those considering heading to Japan for RWC 2019, Australia's first match will be played at International Stadium Yokohama. Yokohama is Japan's second largest city and there is much to see and do, so be sure to give yourself some time for sightseeing.

[www.rugbyworldcup.com](http://www.rugbyworldcup.com)



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