

[Overview]

1. The Museum as an Inter-university Research Institute -- Strengthening a Unique Research System

The National Museum of Japanese History (NMJH) has functioned as an inter-university research institute in the National Institute for the Humanities (NIHU). In fiscal year 2006, NMJH maximized its qualities by firstly adopting a new style of research unique to NMJH called "museum-based research integration" that organically links research, materials, and exhibitions, and secondly by improving and strengthening inter-university research, which constitutes the basis of NMJH as an inter-university research institute and a museum, and these two measures were set as a future vision of the NMJH's research support system. In fiscal year 2007, specific measures based on the future vision outlined in the Second Phase Medium Term Plan were proposed and approved. The proposed framework introduced forms of open application collaborative research, grants-in-aid for scientific collaborative research, and exhibition-based collaborative research to the fundamental categories of basic research, scientific research, and specific research to revitalize their essence. The basic course of this framework was also approved by the Collaborative Research Committee including external committee members, and got properly underway in fiscal year 2008. In this fiscal year, the exhibition-based collaborative research that embodies the concept of Museum-based Research Integration and the open application collaborative research requested by the Collaborative Research Committee got underway, representing one of the major achievements in fiscal year 2008.

2. Promotion of Inter-university and Externally Funded Research

In fiscal year 2008, NMJH conducted a total of 24 collaborative research projects; seven of which involved basic research, 15 scientific research, and two specific research. Six of them were new projects. The following research projects conducted during the year exemplify the unique characteristics of collaborative research carried out at the Museum.

In the basic research project "General Study of the 20th Century - Part II," Discipline A research on "Wars of the 20th Century - Part II" focused on memory and representation, regional modernism, and the relationship between Okinawa, the South Seas and war to shed light on specific 20th century characteristics found in the war experiences of the modern Japanese nation. Of particular note were the findings reached by studying the realities of the Sino-Japanese War through the digitization of four photo albums received by the Museum containing new materials of soldiers in the Kofu Regiment.

In addition, a feature of Discipline B research on "Japan's Period of Rapid Economic Development and the Transformation of Lifestyles" was the adoption of an interdisciplinary perspective that encompassed various aspects, including economic history, folklore, medical history, and the history of natural landscapes on which

researchers and members of the public worked together on issues and methods. This basic research project implemented Museum-based Research Integration geared toward the new construction of the permanent exhibition Gallery 6 (Contemporary History).

In the basic research project "General Study of Lifestyle Magazines in the Japanese Archipelago," Discipline B research on "Ethnography on Nature and Techniques" was newly started. This basic research also implemented Museum-based Research Integration geared toward the construction of the permanent exhibition Gallery 4 (Folklore).

The scientific research projects "A Study on Development and Application of Scientific Methods Specialized for Historical Materials" and "A Research on Estimating Region of Origin Using Lead Isotope Ratios in Bronze Ware Made in Japan and Korea" aimed to multilaterally apply dating and origin estimating methods used in natural science for the purpose of historical research.

This is a prime example of a project that illustrates NMJH's success in collaboration between natural science and historical research by further developing a research framework of inter-disciplinary collaboration between the fields of history, archaeology, folk studies and related scientific fields promoted by NMJH since its establishment. The scientific research projects elicited results as a form of collaborative research with other research teams such as the National Museum of Korea and also as a practical example of an international exchange agreement that focused on a specific time and subject.

Twenty-one externally funded research projects were conducted in fiscal year 2008, mainly with funding from contested grants-in-aid for scientific research. In particular, the Grant-in-Aid for the Creative Scientific Research-funded project "The Origin of Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis" carried out up to fiscal year 2008 was a significant achievement. This research used high-precision carbon 14 dating to establish the actual period when wet rice cultivation began in Japan and has had a significant impact on related fields as a project that explores the origin of agriculture in East Asia.

3. Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History, International Exchanges, and Others

The Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History was issued from Nos. 145 to 152. The Rekihaku Forums "What is the Edo Period? Achievements and Challenges of Renovated Gallery 3" (April), "Seeking for New Image of Early Modern Period" (June), "Travel -- From Edo period pilgrimages to modern railway travel" (July), "Cow and Ox -- History and Folklore" (January 2009), and the Rekihaku Forum on Visual Materials "Rituals and Representations" (November)" were held at NMJH and in Tokyo. International exchanges were developed actively with the international symposium "Creating the Framework for a Comparative History of the Asian Architecture" (December) and the international research meeting "Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies V" (November) held at NMJH.

YASUDA Tsuneo, Director, Research Support Center

[Overview of Collaborative Research]

“Collaborative research” refers to the collaborative research projects undertaken in cooperation with researchers from around Japan and overseas by NMJH in its capacity as an inter-university research institute. The research themes are based on contemporary research trends in history in the broader meaning of historical studies.

One characteristic feature of this research is the fact that it is firmly rooted in empirical academic research that has linked history, archaeology, folklore, and related fields, including natural science, since NMJH was established in 1981.

Collaborative research is based upon the three pillars of basic research, scientific research, and specific research. Basic research consists of topics seeking interdisciplinary research based on major research themes focusing on human agency and history. Scientific research creates a methodological basis for new historical research and for making materials in the Museum collection available through advanced computer systems.

While these two form the core of collaborative research, specific research mainly involves topics related to each of the disciplines of history, archaeology, folklore studies, and related science fields, as well as emerging topics with potential for further exploration. Specific research is responsible for ensuring that collaborative research as a whole produces results.

During fiscal year 2008, collaborative research was carried out on 24 topics, comprising seven basic research topics, 15 scientific research topics, and two specific research topics. One basic research and three scientific research were initiated during the year. The following discussion of collaborative research topics centers on these new topics.

[Basic Research]

One of the basic research projects “General Study of Lifestyle Magazines in the Japanese Archipelago” has been proceeding with the study of popular spiritual culture associated with “omens”, “knowledge”, “taboos”, and “magic” to contribute to the renovations of exhibitions in fiscal year 2012 (March 2013). New research on “Ethnography on Nature and Techniques” that examines technologies and livelihoods in the modern period will start in this fiscal year, and that on “Conservation and Use of Culture in Regional Development” the next fiscal year. Both are examples of Museum-based Research Integration targeted by NMJH, in which collaborative research boosts the academic foundation for the opening and renovation of new permanent exhibitions.

[Scientific Research]

The previous fiscal year, "A Research on Estimating Region of Origin Using Lead Isotope Ratios in Bronze Ware Made in Japan and Korea" was started as a scientific research project based on the exchange with Korean

researchers of analytical science, etc.; especially from the National Museum of Korea that had been conducted preliminarily with the leadership expense. "A Research on Materials of Samurai and Samurai Family in Medieval and Modern Period" was also started as an exhibition-based collaborative research project. The results of this research will be shown in a special exhibition in autumn in fiscal year 2010. Furthermore, with an application received for an open application collaborative research project on classical books and documents formerly in the Tanaka Yutaka Collection, a "Comprehensive Study of Mediaeval Ritual Texts -- Focusing on 'Tenporinsho,' an old document in the classical books and documents formerly in the Tanaka Yutaka Collection at the National Museum of Japanese History" was started with Yasuro Abe, Nagoya University professor, as a representative.

It is important for NMJH to invite public applications for collaborative research proposals and collaborative researchers in accordance with the "Core Policies for Collaborative Research" formulated during fiscal year 2006 so as to serve as an inter-university research institute in future years.

For the specific research, the aim was changed to a developmental research project with a fixed-term assistant professor as a representative in line with the report by the Meetings to Discuss Future Planning. This fiscal year, there was no invitation to apply because no appropriate assistant professor was recruited.

I-2-2 List of Collaborative Research

Basic Research

1 Historical Research on Livelihoods, Authority, and Systems of Knowledge

A Wars in the 20th Century

YASUDA Tsuneo

B Japan's Period of Rapid Economic Growth and Lifestyle Changes

SHINTANI Takanori

2 General Study of Lifestyle Magazines in the Japanese Archipelago

A Popular Magazines on Omens, Knowledge, Taboos and Magic

TSUNEMITSU Toru

B Lifestyle Magazines on Nature and Technology

YASUMURO Satoru

Basic Research (Inter-Institutional and External Joint Research)

1 Comparative Study of Proselytizing Cultures

HAYASHI Masahiko (Meiji University)

2 Comparative Historical Research on Nation States

CHO Kyeongdal (Chiba University)

3 Comparative Study of History of Emigration

IMAIZUMI Yumiko (Hosei University)

Scientific Research

1 Study of the Analysis of Scientific Materials

A A study on Development and Application of Scientific Methods Specialized for Historical Materials

SAITO Tsutomu

B Research regarding estimations of production centers of Japanese and Korean bronze products using lead isotope ratios

SAITO Tsutomu

2 General Chronological Research

A General Study on the Utilization of Dating Techniques for Research to Historical Materials

SAKAMOTO Minoru

B Comparative History of East Asian Architecture

TAMAI Tetsuo

3 Research on Advanced Digitalization of Historical Materials

A General Study of Takamatsunomiya-ke Denrai Kinribon

YOSHIOKA Masayuki

B Studies on Japanese Musical Instruments in the Collection by Kishu-Tokugawa Family

TAKAKUWA Izumi (National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo)

C Study on the Photo Collection Related to Munro of the National Museum of Japanese History

UCHIDA Junko

D A Study on Utilizing News Films as Historical Resources: Exploiting the Methods for Compiling Database, and Creating a Framework for Analysis

HARAYAMA Kosuke

E Study on Production and Research Materialization of Ethnographic Films

AOKI Takahiro

F Basic Research on the Formation Process of the Literate Culture in the Ancient Period

HIRAKAWA Minami

G Resource Studies on Warriors and the Samurai Class in Medieval and Early Modern Times

TAKAHASHI Kazuki

H General Study of Medieval Ceremonial Texts

ABE Yasuou

4 General Research in Museum Studies

A Study for Communication Design in Museum

SATO Yuuka

B A Research on a Description Method of Digital Material Information

ADACHI Fumio

C [Preparatory Research] General Research on the Establishment of an Imagery Type Exhibition System

NHISHITANI Masaru

Specific Research

1 Statement and Practices Regarding Body and Character

YAMADA Shinya

2 Study on the Formation Process of Prehistoric Residential Settlements at the East Asia

KOBAYASHI Ken'ichi

Inter-Institutional and External Joint Research

1 General Research on Interaction between Japan and Eurasia

1-A Relationship between Eurasia and Japan: Mutual Interaction and Representation

2 Advanced Usage of Cultural Resources

2-A A Study of the Classics and Medieval and Early Modern Period Books from the Imperial Court:
Mainly Books from the Takamatsu House of the Imperial Family

YOSHIOKA Masayuki

2-B The Integration of Materials Related to Warriors: As Materials for Comparative History and
Representations of Different Cultures

KOJIMA Michihiro

2-C A Comparative Study of Visual Representation of Ainu Culture: Digitization of “ Ishuretzuzo-zu ”
and Munro Collection

SASAKI Shiro (National Museum of Ethnology)

2-C1 Study on the Photo Collection Related to Munro's Ainu Research, Focused on the Materials from
the National Museum of Japanese History

UCHIDA Junko

[Overview of Externally Funded Research]

One of the Museum's duties is to stimulate research through the acquisition of external funding.

This has become increasingly necessary year by year in an effort to counter the reduction in operating grants.

During the year under review, we worked hard to increase applications for Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, which are contested research funds, and Mr. Masao Yoshida, Head of the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Section III of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, was dispatched to the Museum for a briefing. We also held sessions to educate researchers on the reasonable use of research grants, which included a seminar on preventing the improper use of such funds.

In fiscal year 2008, six applications for Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research were approved. Including projects receiving ongoing funding, a total of 21 research projects was funded and the total amount of external funding received was JPY 134,975,000 (refer to the List of Projects under Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research). Besides the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research funds, NMJH received one donation from a private scholarship for a privately funded research project.

I-3 Externally Funded Research**I-3-1 Overview of Externally Funded Research**

One of the Museum's duties is to stimulate research through the acquisition of external funding. This has become increasingly necessary year by year in an effort to counter the reduction in operating grants. During the year under review, we worked hard to increase applications for Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, which are contested research funds, Mr. Yasuo Ishii, Head of the Research Aid Division II of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, was dispatched to the Museum for a briefing. We also held sessions for educating researchers on the reasonable use of research grants, which included a seminar on preventing the improper use of such funds.

The Museum, however, applied for 28 Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research. Seven applications were approved, a decrease of seven approvals from the previous fiscal year. Including projects receiving ongoing funding (some of which received reduced funding), the total of 28 research projects was funded and the amount of external funding received was JPY 29,850,000. This was a decrease of four projects from the previous fiscal year. All major Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research and Scientific Research A projects to receive continued external funding were archaeological topics. One of these projects is "The Origin of the Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis" (2004-2008; General Organizer: NISHIMOTO

Toyohiro), which was launched four years ago. The project continues collaborative research by natural scientists and archaeologists that has revised the period when wet rice cultivation first began in Japan, while focusing on the relationship between China, Korea, and Japan. The research has received worldwide acclaim for its findings produced using cutting-edge methods, as illustrated in the article “Turning Japanese” carried in the Archaeological Institute of America’s “Archaeology” magazine. Researchers are continuing to revise dates for the origin of wet rice cultivation in Japan from a broad perspective that takes in East Asia. It is thanks to the acquisition of external funding that this truly worthy scientific research is being undertaken by NMJH, which is charged with conducting integrated empirical research on Japanese history. In accordance with the recommendations of the Meetings to Discuss Future Planning, plans are currently being formulated for collaborative research for the next fiscal year. Measures concerning funding applications, including large grants-in-aid for scientific research, have been approved and three applications have been made. NMJH also strives to acquire funds besides those provided by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research. We have received 1 donation from private scholarships amounting to JPY1,000,000, and private research funds for 1 research project totaling JPY1,400,000. 387

I-3-2 List of Projects under Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research

New Topics

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

The Multiethnic Livelihood Economy and Regular Markets in the Subtropical Regions -Cases in Hainan Island and Yunnan Province, China-

NHISHITANI Masaru

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)

Basic Research of the Integration System of the Imperial Palace and Muromachi Palace in the Muromachi Period

IHARA Kesao

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)

Folkloric Research Surrounding Purpose in Life of Old Age and Succession of Skills in the Aging Society

SEKIZAWA Mayumi

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)

Creation of Historical Image in Information Transmission and its Evaluation in Museum Studies

MIYATA Kimiyoshi

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Research of food Habit in the Pre-Historical Period Using Carbonized Materials Adhering to Pottery and Materials Adsorbing to Soil Used in Pottery

MIYATA Yoshiki

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Formation, Development and Extinction of Sacred Places in the Medieval Early Modern Periods

MURAKI Jirou

Continuing Research

Grant-in-Aid for Creative Scientific Research

The Origin of the Farming in the Yayoi Period and East Asia: Establishment of High-Precision Chronology by Carbon 14 Age Analysis

NISHIMOTO Toyohiro

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)

The Interaction and Transfer of Technology in Medieval East Asia

ONO Masatoshi

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

Internationality of Japanese Craft in the 16th and 17th Centuries: From the Perspective of Inter-port Artistic Exchange between East and West

HIDAKA Kaori

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

A Study on an Advanced Viewing System for Research and Exhibition using Super High Definition Images of Historical Materials

ADACHI Fumio

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

A Comprehensive Study on Tradition and Innovation of Gunnery Technology in the Early and the End of the Edo Period

UDAGAWA Takehisa

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

(Overseas) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)

Study of the Ainu-Images on the Western Ethnographic Materials (2006-2008)

UCHIDA Junko

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)

Approaches to Social Participation in Developing Exhibitions for Museum Literacy SATO Yuka

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)

Study of Viewers and Image Formats for the Preservation and Use of High-Definition Museum Materials

SUZUKI Takuzi

Grant-in-Aid for Exploratory Research

A Basic Study to Comprehend the Numerical Condition of Blacksmiths' Traditional Technique

SAITO Tsutomu

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (Start Up)

Research on Dates for the Appearance of Shell Middens in the Pre-Historical Era

ONBE Shin

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Research into Relation between Gagaku (Traditional Court Dance Music) and Ceremony in Ancient Japan,
in Addition, Development of the Relation

HIROSE Ciaki

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Paleodiet as Inferred from the Characteristics of Carbonized Materials Adhering to Pottery

MIYATA Yoshiki

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

The Insufficiency of Migrant Sake Brewers and the Succession of Brewing Techniques

AOKI Takahiro

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Folk Studies on Evolvement of Photographs of the Deceased People and Changes of the Views of Life
and Death during the Modernization Process

YAMADA Shinya

Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B)

Historical Research on the Preventions of Disaster and Maintenance Activities of World Cultural
Heritage: Itsukushima Jinja

YAMADA Takeharu

Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows

The Introduction and Development Process of “Document Priority System” in Ancient Japan

WATANABE Shigeru

Privately Funded Research

Archaeological Research on Teshima Island by AMS Radiation Dating

ONBE Shin

[Overview of Research System]

It is now five years since NMJH became an Inter-University Research Institute Corporation and member of the National Institutes for the Humanities. Since fiscal year 2006, the former Research Committee, the former Research Programming Center and the Meetings to Discuss Future Planning have been investigating methods to improve the Museum's system of research. On the structural side, the abolition of the committee system has seen the integration of the Research Committee with the recently established Research Promotion Center, whose role is to oversee the Museum's research system. Since the previous fiscal year, the research system has operated on the principle of Museum-based Research Integration in order to facilitate the organic linking of research, exhibitions and materials. Consequently, the Center is essentially promoting new categories of collaborative research (grant-in-aid scientific research, open application research, and exhibition-based research) as recommended by the Meetings to Discuss Future Planning (Phase II). The Collaborative Research Committee, which was established in fiscal year 2006 as an advisory committee to the working group on raising the transparency of collaborative research, is responsible for the general functioning of the Museum's research system. At the same time as establishing and implementing a system for screening collaborative research, the Committee has also deliberated on, and approved, matters such as the establishment of new categories for forward-looking collaborative research. During this fiscal year, work has been done on creating an institutional and organizational framework for the research system that takes into account the Medium Term Plan (Phase II), which is based on the new principle of museum-based research integration and scheduled for release in the near future.

The continued promotion of collaborative research will be driven by this research system that also emphasizes individual research by the Museum's research staff, which is one of the most important components when undertaking collaborative research. The question of how to achieve successful collaborative research while maintaining the independence of each of the various different research fields has become important for NMJH as it continues to put in place a research system based on a single research department.

During fiscal year 2008, the Museum continued to aid the smooth implementation of research by appointing visiting scholars to projects as required and by employing adjunct researchers and research assistants, including researchers from other research institutions.

[Research Equipment]

NMJH seeks to develop new historical studies through collaboration across the three disciplines of history, archaeology, and folklore studies, with related sciences, and through the incorporation of new research methods. As an inter-university research institute, NMJH endeavors to introduce new research methods through collaboration with external researchers, and by acquiring the various items of equipment required for conducting

cutting-edge research at the Museum. Such equipment includes instruments used in the scientific analysis of historical materials, information-related equipment used for research purposes, and audio-visual equipment. The following list shows major research equipment installed in the past six years, including fiscal year 2008. Most of this is also made available to inter-university researchers.

[Library Resources]

The selection and acquisition of library resources concerning Japanese history and culture is based on the acquisitions policy determined annually by the Library Resources Subcommittee, a policy actively publicized among Museum research staff by the Subcommittee. The latter provides assistance for basic research that focuses on interdisciplinary studies among the fields of history, archaeology, folklore studies, and related fields, as well as scientific research that builds new methodological foundations for the study of such disciplines through the computerization of resources held in the Museum's collections.

The use of storage space has been made more efficient by setting time limits for magazine storage and removing magazines past their time limits to request their disposal to the Financial Affairs Division. Similarly, a standard for deleting the registration of library sources was set to enhance the library management. Despite such measures to improve storage space efficiency, further measures are required to solve the fundamental problem of limited library space.

Furthermore, a DVD version was purchased for the severely-deteriorated Yomiuri Shimbun to replace its microfilm records for an enhanced research environment, while a five-year restoration plan was determined for deteriorated microfilm lacking a replacement such as DVD or online versions.

In order to improve services to those using the Museum's smaller visitors' library, the library has purchased and put on display 137 recently published books. The number of visitors was equivalent to the previous fiscal year with a total of 16,894 (a daily average of 1,408) while there were 181 reference-related inquiries, which exceeded the figure of the previous fiscal year.

[Overview of International Exchanges]

In fiscal year 2008, NMJH engaged in a series of exchange activities with overseas research institutes with which it has academic exchange agreements. These activities included collaborative research, international symposiums, and international research meetings.

NMJH and the National Museum of Korea analyzed lead isotopes in bronze ware as part of a collaborative research project based on an academic exchange agreement. In February 2009, a collaborative workshop was held at the National Museum of Korea to sum up the past two years of research. In order to pursue the collaborative research project started in fiscal year 2009, Mr. Hirakawa, the Director-General of NMJH and others visited the National Museum of Korea for discussion in December 2008.

In September 2008, an international research meeting entitled “Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies IV-1” was held jointly with the National Museum of Korea at their museum. The five staff from NMJH invited to attend the meeting presented research papers and participated in discussions. In November 2008, an international research meeting entitled “Korean Folk Studies, Japanese Folk Studies IV-2” was held at NMJH. Five members of the National Museum of Korea were invited to attend the meeting to give presentations on their research and to engage in discussions. Reports on the proceedings of “Korean Folk Studies, Japanese Folk Studies IV” held twice the previous fiscal year were published in both Korea and Japan. The joint international research meeting “Korean Folk Studies, Japanese Folk Studies” ended with the fifth such session in fiscal year 2008. In addition, cooperation was obtained from the National Museum of Korea, e.g. for the display of materials in the special exhibition “Portrait of ‘Dyeing’ and ‘Weaving’” in fiscal year 2008.

NMJH was supposed to co-host the international research meeting “Comparison to the Notion about the Era of KOFUN between Japan and Korea” with the Pusan National University Museum following fiscal years 2006 and 2007. However, postponement of the same until fiscal year 2009 was decided upon for reasons of preparation. For fiscal year 2008, researchers of the Pusan National University were invited for the creative scientific research.

NMJH has conducted joint research with the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences mainly in the creative scientific research since fiscal year 2004. In January 2009, researchers of said Institute were invited to the final meeting to report the findings of creative scientific research.

One international symposiums and a further two international research meetings were held. An international seminar and an international symposium were also held for the joint inter-institutional research. Besides research meetings with institutions with which it has academic exchange agreements, NMJH hopes to consider various forms of the exchanges reflecting its role as an inter-university research institute in future. Possibilities include joint research with the National Institutes for the Humanities, for which NMJH is the base institution, and events co-sponsored with other universities and museums, including projects with external funding.

Three foreign researchers were invited to conduct research at NMJH from the National Museum of Korea, the National Research Institute of Cultural Properties in Korea, and Sun Yat-sen University in China. All of the three researchers held seminars at NMJH, in which they presented part of their research.

In addition to the above, researchers from the Society for the Study of Wooden Documents in Korea; the Foundation of East Asia Cultural Properties Institute in Korea; the Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology of Liaoning Province in China; the National Museum of Prehistory in Taiwan; École Pratique des Hautes Études in France; and other institutes have visited NMJH. These visits included courtesy calls, looking at exhibitions and studying materials held in the Museum's collections. The Museum anticipates that an increase in this type of everyday international exchange will continue to support the development of NMJH's various research projects.

II

Materials Collection and Publicizing Research

- Museum Resources Center -

[Overview]

To practice the "museum-based research integration" established in January 2007 as its new perspective, NMJH continued operations related to the museum activities and focusing on the collection and management of materials and the exhibition of research results at the museum resources center in fiscal year 2008. Specifically, based on the discussion among staff in charge of materials, exhibitions, and information held regularly (monthly), it held monthly meetings at the museum resources center and supervised the museum operating division.

1. Practice of museum-based research integration (1) -- Collection, production and preservation of materials held in the Museum's collections as research materials

The main duties of the staff in charge of materials and information include investigation/research on historical materials mainly held in the Museum's collections, the management of the same, and the preparation of exhibitions to make them accessible to the public.

The collection, production, and preservation of materials are mainly under the control of the staff in charge of materials and also striving to increase NMJH's unique materials this fiscal year. The nishiki-e printing blocks of the Utagawa School in particular, which became part of the Museum's collection in a unified manner the previous fiscal year, are a group of materials for which many aspects reflect a research achievement from a fresh perspective by investigating the production technique of nishiki-e, etc. and conducting chemical analysis, etc. of paints using nondestructive analysis equipment. The Museum investigated those materials once acquired, and also launched an exhibition project aiming to publicize the research achievement as early as possible while also managing in integrated fashion from the collection of the materials to their display. Consequently, the Museum was able to establish the exhibition project as one of this fiscal year's special exhibitions.

For the Shosoin Documents, for which replicas have been produced for the long term at the Museum, the future plan of this project has been discussed since the previous fiscal year, and consideration of harsh realities has been necessary, including budget cuts. Consequently, a move to strive for cost reduction as well as improved working efficiency was decided upon, by shifting the conventional analog photography/collotype replicas to digital photography, and making official decisions following discussion with the Imperial Household Agency (Shosoin) that possesses the originals.

Among donated materials, Minoru Ishii Photo Library Related Materials are particularly notable. They are a group of materials mainly comprising around 300,000 geography photos taken in various parts of Japan in the 60 year or so period between the time immediately after World War II and the end of his life. The Museum also launched an exhibition project for this group of materials and started maintenance and research in order to display

them in a special exhibition. At the same time, to enhance the Museum's storage environment, the task of providing an appropriate storage environment that does not cause visual materials such as photos and films, etc. to deteriorate had to be considered and tackled urgently.

Other than the Minoru Ishii Photo Collection, many materials such as American photo magazine "LIFE" (1,866 volumes) were donated, purchased or produced to contribute to Gallery 6 (Contemporary History) to be opened in fiscal year 2009 and Gallery 4 (Folklore) to be renovated in fiscal year 2012.

For the survey of materials, one of the scientific research projects under the control of the staff in charge of information, comprising a total of six projects, was carried out this fiscal year. Based on its successful completion, a catalogue featuring the collection of the Takamatsu House of the Imperial Family and an illustrated catalogue of Yayoi Bronze ware were published in the Museum's Collection.

2. Practice of museum-based research integration (2) -- Renovations of permanent exhibitions as a foundation

The permanent exhibition Gallery 3 (Early Modern Period), opened in the last fiscal year (March 18, 2008), was the NMJH's first attempt to renovate the entire gallery where the latest research achievements developed since the museum opening were incorporated in the permanent exhibition as far as possible and featuring collaboration with researchers inside and outside the Museum. The exhibitions at Gallery 3 were ultimately not temporary in nature. Efforts were made to ensure a "always new exhibition", even for permanent exhibitions, by changing displays based on an annual plan and developing small-scale special exhibitions in nearby rooms.

The small-scale special exhibitions are held in two rooms nearby to Gallery 3: "Early Modern Period in Paintings and Maps" and "Early Modern Period in 'Artifacts'." In "Early Modern Period in 'Artifacts'," a total of five small-scale special exhibitions were held in the year: "Sakura Juntendo -- Birthplace of Modern Medicine," "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories," "Japanese Musical Instruments in the Collection by the Kishu-Tokugawa Family -- Sho," and "Hina Dolls Associated with Kazunomiya," starting with "Japanese Lacquer that Crossed the Seas" held simultaneously with the opening of Gallery 3 in the previous fiscal year. "Sakura Juntendo -- Birthplace of Modern Medicine" was collaboration with Sakura City and the Juntendo University, and "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories" was a project linked to the special exhibition "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories" held at the Museum's Botanical Garden of Everyday Life during the same term, thus integrating the exhibitions at the Museum and the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life.

In Gallery 6 (Contemporary History), a new permanent exhibition to be opened at the end of the next fiscal year (March 2010), the exhibition project linked to the basic research project "General Study of the 20th Century" will deal with the periods of World War II through high economic growth. The exhibition concept was consolidated based on the latest research findings on contemporary history, and the exhibit construction got properly underway this fiscal year. Furthermore, for the renovation of Gallery 4 scheduled for the end of fiscal year 2012, the exhibition core design was implemented while an investigation on materials by the exhibition project was launched to materialize the exhibition concept. To renovate these permanent exhibitions, the results of the discussions concerning specific ideas on this topic at the meeting were deliberated at both the museum resources center and the meeting to discuss permanent exhibitions started as an advisory body of the Director-General, and

the contents further examined after deliberating with external committee members entrusted from various fields and receiving their advice for the realization of better exhibitions.

To use replicas produced in previous special exhibitions, ten replicas of stone steles from the Museum's collection were displayed in the corridor of the Museum's patio for a permanent exhibition as "Paths of Steles" with guidance boards and exhibit captions installed. This allowed visitors a continuous view of principal stone steles with inscriptions gathered from all over Japan.

The Botanical Garden of Everyday Life has been operated to enhance understanding of the relationship between humans and plants that have supported historical living culture. As a special exhibition at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life, "Wood culture - Beech Forests and the World of Kijiyu Woodworkers" was projected in addition to "Traditional Primroses," "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories," "Traditional Antique Chrysanthemum," and "Winter Flowers 'Camellia Sasanqua'." Optimally exploiting the Museum's feature, the exhibition showed how people have used beech trees from logging to processing. "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories" was held as an exhibition linked to the small-scale special exhibition at Gallery 3.

3. Practice of museum-based research integration (3) -- Efforts at special exhibitions

This fiscal year is the inaugural year for new special exhibition Galleries A and B, which opened following the facility change after the opening of Gallery 6, and the special exhibitions "Travel -- From Edo period pilgrimages to modern railway travel" and "Portrait of 'Dyeing' and 'Weaving' -- Dyed Fabrics Protected and Inherited in Japan and South Korea" were held. Furthermore, the special exhibition "The How and Why of Nishiki-e Production" was held based on Nishiki-e Printing Blocks of the Utawaga School that became the Museum's collection and Nishiki-e Collection held in the Museum's collection.

The special exhibition "Travel -- From Edo period pilgrimages to modern railway travel" was a collaboration with Chiba Prefectural Funabashi Senior High School, which also cooperated with the production of the railway model N gauge diorama, the operation of which was demonstrated by its railway club. The special exhibition "The How and Why of Nishiki-e Production" clarified the production technique of nishiki-e based on the newly discovered nishiki-e printing blocks as mentioned 1, introduced new research achievements such as a new perspective on the result of chemical analysis for the paints, restoration using image-based measurement, etc., and was frequently reported in the media.

KURUSHIMA Hiroshi, Director, Museum Resources Center

[Overview of Materials]

The main duties of staff in charge of materials are the collection, production, preservation, and management of objects.

For the collection of materials, Nishiki-e Printing Blocks of the Utagawa School and Shini-e were purchased to further increase the Museum's unique collections. The former was shown in the special exhibition started in February 2008, while for the latter, an illustrated catalogue will be published in fiscal year 2009. In addition, the primary focus was on materials related to Minamata disease and other contemporary history to prepare for the exhibition for contemporary history to be opened in fiscal year 2009.

Among the donated materials, the Minoru Ishii Photo Library Related Materials, consisting mainly of more than 300,000 frames, are particularly notable. The collection of photo materials is one of the characteristics in recent years, and storing these will be our future task.

For the production of materials, a conventional plan involving the continuous production of Shosoin Document replicas was reexamined to enhance efficiency by introducing new methods.

To preserve materials, measures were taken against injurious insects in underground areas such as storage locations and research rooms, while with the need for a space-efficient environment in mind, the system for managing collected materials was improved by integrating procedures for collected materials and introducing insurance for materials, etc. The investigation of the condition of Mizuki Collection, which started in fiscal year 2006, was completed, and the policy of a new investigation of conditions to be started in fiscal year 2009 was formulated.

[Overview of Exhibitions]

The NMJH is an inter-university research institute charged with collecting, arranging, preserving, and investigating historical materials and information and making them accessible. The outcomes of interdisciplinary collaborative studies between NMJH and outside researchers are presented to the public through permanent exhibitions, special exhibitions, special programs, and other exhibitions. The renovated permanent exhibition Gallery 3 was opened on March 18, 2008. As a result of this renovation, small-scale special exhibitions, using the nearby rooms of Gallery 3 and "Rekihaku School," a hands-on area, were developed as fresh areas of the permanent exhibition.

Small-scale special exhibitions were held in two nearby rooms: "Early Modern Period in Paintings and Maps" and "Early Modern Period in 'Artifacts'." The latter hosted a total of five small-scale special exhibitions; setting terms based on the annual plan to practice the concept of "always new exhibition" of the permanent exhibition.

Since the previous fiscal year, exhibition project meetings have been held several times for the opening of Gallery 6 (Contemporary History) while materials have been investigated broadly inside and outside Japan to fix the overall concept and materials for the exhibition. An exhibition project was also organized for Gallery 4 (Folklore) to repeat full-scale examinations about the exhibit concepts, accumulate research achievements, and investigate materials for the exhibition.

Three special exhibitions were held, as well as five special programs at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life. Among them, "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories" was a special program linked to the small-scale special exhibition "Traditional Japanese Morning Glories" held in the above-mentioned nearby room of Gallery 3, thus integrating the exhibitions at the Museum and at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life. Furthermore, Scenes In and Around Kyoto Version A was shown in the permanent exhibition as part of efforts to present the research achievements to the public.

[Renovations of Permanent Exhibitions]**Special Exhibitions**

Travel –From Edo Period pilgrimages to Modern Railway Travel

July 1-August 31, 2008

Fabrics of History –Textiles Handed Down through Japanese and Korean History

October 15-November 30, 2008

The How and Why of Nishikie-Production

February 24-May 6, 2009

Other Exhibitions

Display of "Scenes In and Around Kyoto" (Rekihaku VersionA)

October 28-November 9, 2008

Special Exhibitions at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life

Traditional Primroses

April 15-May 6, 2008

Traditional Japanese Morning Glories

July 29- September 7, 2008

Traditional Antique Chrysanthemums

October 28-November 30, 2008

Winter Flowers: Camellia Sasanqua

December 2, 2008-February 1, 2009

Beech Forests and the World of Kijiya Woodworkers

February 10, 2009-March 29, 2009

<Renovations of Permanent Exhibitions>

- Committee on Renovating Permanent Exhibitions

The committee on Renovating Permanent Exhibitions met on a monthly basis to comprehensively discuss various museum-wide issues related to the renovations of permanent exhibitions. The topics covered included the execution of exhibit construction of Gallery 6, and the development of exhibit concepts for Gallery 4.

- Meeting to Discuss NMJH Permanent Exhibition

The Meeting to Discuss NMJH Permanent Exhibition is established as an advisory entity for the Director-General to examine the general issues concerning the permanent exhibitions of NMJH. It is organized in order to deliberate and give advice on the contents, long-term planning, and other general issues related to the permanent exhibitions. This fiscal year, it was held at NMJH on October 31 with useful deliberations and advice concerning the exhibit concepts for Gallery 6.

- Gallery 6

As a result of the bid, the exhibit construction was contracted by TANSEISHA Co., Ltd. Supervised by SASAKI-KIKAKU Ltd. that delivered exhibit drawings and specifications the previous fiscal year, exhibition materials and visual materials were discussed while detailed working drawings were prepared. To fix the exhibition materials in the blocks of Occupation, High Economic Growth Period, Pop Culture, etc., materials were investigated inside and outside Japan. Furthermore, materials were purchased continuously to further increase the exhibition materials.

- Gallery 4

The previous fiscal year's discussion concerning the exhibit concept was continued while replicas were produced

and materials purchased. Based on the exhibit concept, the exhibit design examination committee was held on December 19, and it was decided to entrust the basic design to NITTEN Co., Ltd., from which an interim delivery was received on March 25.

- Gallery 3

In Gallery 3 newly opened on March 18, 2008, five small-scale special exhibitions were held for "Early Modern Period in 'Artifacts'." The open lecture/symposium "Seeking for New Image of Early Modern Period" hosted by the National Institutes for the Humanities was held at the Tosho Hall on June 8, and the "Process of Making permanent exhibition Gallery 3 (Early Modern Period) of the National Museum of Japanese History" that records the exhibitions held at Gallery 3 was published.

[Overview of Surveys of Materials]

NMJH undertakes surveys to make the materials held in its collections widely available for research use. The purpose of these systematic projects is to survey and classify basic data of objects, such as cataloging information and images, and making such data accessible to the public in a variety of formats, including catalogs of documents and illustrations.

Over the year, NMJH has conducted projects related to a collection of materials on popular entertainment; Shini-e; materials related to the Kido family (Kido Takayoshi, Takamasa and Koichi); Nomura Collection (Dress Furnishing I); prehistoric artifacts related to archaeology; and materials related to the Tobishima-Suzuki family. NMJH also published “Yayoi Bronze Ware in the Museum’s Collection” as a catalogue of illustrations and “Collection of the Takamatsu House of the Imperial Family” as a catalogue of documents.

[Overview]

NMJH has developed three types of databases for the purpose of making information on the materials held in its collections accessible to the public and making a positive contribution to their use for research purposes. These three are: a database of materials in the Museum's collections, a database that bring together the findings of collaborative research and bibliographies of various fields of research, and a full-text database comprising mainly historical records.

This fiscal year, NMJH made databases containing detailed information on the collection of the Takamatsu House of the Imperial Family held in the Museum's collection available to the public.

NMJH also updated its existing databases on the Museum's collections, including those on Nishiki-e; the bibliography of Japanese folklore studies; the bibliography of research on the democratic rights movement; and traditional Japanese folk songs.

These databases are available (in Japanese only) at: <http://www.rekihaku.ac.jp/database/>

[Overview]

The Museum Outreach Center was established in fiscal year 2007 to promote: use of NMJH by other universities and institutions in its capacity as an inter-university research institute and museum, use of the Museum by the wider community, and to actively disseminate research findings. Staff at the Center are responsible for public relations, the NMJH website, education programs, publications, and intellectual property, and are developing activities working together with administrative staff.

1. Publicizing Research Through Lectures and Forums

NMJH held Rekihaku Forums (five forums including one on visual materials) and 12 lectures to make the public aware of the Museum's cutting-edge research on Japan's history and culture.

Forums included independent projects as well as those planned to coincide with special exhibitions and the opening of permanent exhibition Gallery 3, the new permanent exhibition on the Early Modern period, continued from the previous fiscal year. Most Rekihaku Forums are held in Tokyo and have been effective in publicizing NMJH among those who have yet to make a visit to the Museum.

Another recent initiative is the Rekihaku Film Series held in the Museum's auditorium three times. Visual materials produced by Folklore studies staff on their research and folklore cultural property made with the assistance of the Agency for Cultural Affairs are shown in this series.

2. Social Cooperation

The compilation and distribution of the "NMJH Guide for Universities" resulted in an increase in the number of universities using the Museum, thus reinforcing its role as an inter-university research institute. A new improved 2007 edition of the guide with additional sections has been distributed as a permanent version to approximately 280 universities and institutions. Furthermore, a DVD version of the guide was made in the Director-General Leadership project to further increase the number of universities using the Museum. NMJH held a five-day training seminar for experts from history museums around Japan. Co-sponsored by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the aim of the seminar was to improve the skills and expertise of the participants.

The continuation of NMJH's program for receiving around 35 trainees each year has built up close links with history museums throughout the country.

The Museum Training Program for curator qualification was carried out for the first time this fiscal year (for 11 days) accepting six trainees. The program is expected to be continued to further enhance the partnerships with universities.

Training for teachers with the goal of encouraging the inclusion of exhibitions in school and community

educational activities is provided through a two-day seminar for teachers. Although fewer than 20 teachers attended the program this seminar is important due to the ability to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Museum as an educational tool.

Events held for elementary and junior high school students during the summer vacation and at other times of the year are vital for fostering an ongoing interest in Japan's history and culture.

On the occasion of the opening of the renovated Gallery 3, "Rekihaku School," a hands-on area, was set while the system of guide and assistance for experience by registered volunteers was introduced. NMJH will continue to hold various training programs to improve volunteers' skills.

3. Publications

The Museum Outreach Center published six issues of the bimonthly history magazine 'Rekihaku,' which publicizes the activities of the Museum. The Center was responsible for producing abstracts distributed to participants of Rekihaku Forums, and for publishing forum proceedings. The Center also published booklets reporting on educational-related activities, as well as the NMJH Annual Report, which provides a full account of research activities and other information on the Museum's operations.

In order to introduce broadly the research and various activities at the Museum, mailing lists for publications such as the "Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History" and the bimonthly magazine "REKIHAKU" were organized for more efficient publicity. They were later revised for increased distribution, especially to overseas research institutions.

4. Public Relations

To encourage use of the Museum by the local community, the Center hosted a meeting for leaders in the public relations field (twice) where discussions ensued on measures to further enhance the effective use of the Museum.

In another move to receive increased coverage of NMJH's activities by the media, press releases featuring an innovative design and containing easy-to-understand content were produced and distributed to media organizations by the Center.

The Center's pursuit of effective public relations included holding six press conferences (four in Tokyo and two at the Museum) for journalists and other interested parties.

Use of posters was expanded to include forums as well as special exhibitions, and these too were produced and sent out by the Center.

The Center updates information on the NMJH website twice a week to ensure that the latest information is available.

The center has also distributed 15 electronic newsletters which provide information on upcoming special exhibitions and symposiums, and other events.

As a result, the number of hits on the NMJH website has increased by about 4 % compared to the previous fiscal year.

5. Intellectual Property

The Museum Outreach Center worked in cooperation with the Intellectual Property Committee on matters related to intellectual property concerning materials held in the Museum's collections. The Committee is responsible for examining specific measures and policy on maintaining the intellectual property rights of NMJH, and the use of rights held by other institutions and organizations.

TSUNEMITSU Toru, Director, Museum Outreach Center

1 Publicizing Research Through Lectures and Forums

[Overview]

NMJH hosts various events to make its practical research activities widely available. These comprise mainly Rekihaku Lectures, Rekihaku Forums, and Rekihaku symposiums. In addition to editing and publishing the bimonthly magazine "REKIHAKU" over the years, the Rekihaku Forum on Visual Materials was inaugurated the previous fiscal year. To encourage public interest in the Museum's activities through such events and publications, NMJH has disseminated its research activities and their results based on the museum-based research integration. This fiscal year, NMJH held 12 Rekihaku Lectures, four Rekihaku Forums, one Rekihaku Forum on Visual Materials, one organization cooperation symposium, and one Rekihaku film series, and also published six issues of the magazine "REKIHAKU." It has held research seminars and presentations reporting on issues related to grant-in-aid for scientific research and creative scientific research when necessary. It is through publicizing research findings and the accompanying debates and responses that NMJH seeks new research challenges.

[Rekihaku Film Series]

No. 3 "Rekihaku Film Series"

Theme: "Waterwheels and People"

"Japanese Waterwheels" (Recorded in 1991, 30 minutes)

"Mechanism of Satsuma's Waterwheels" (Recorded in 2003, 35 minutes)

No. 4 "Rekihaku Film Series"

Theme: "20 years of Kashimasama"

"Village of Kashimasama – Folk culture of Iwasaki, Yuzawa City, Akita Prefecture"

(Produced in 1990, 59 minutes)

No. 5 "Rekihaku Film Series"

Theme: "Japanese Whale Fishing Entering Antarctic Ocean"

"Our Whale Fishing in the Antarctic Ocean" Vol. 5 (Produced in 1936, 13 minutes)

"Record of Whaling Fleet in the Antarctic Ocean" (Produced in 1961, 36 minutes)

[Overview]

Public relations and outreach activities conducted by NMJH are designed to publicize the institution's research activities and those of the Museum based on that research, and enhance visitors' understanding of Japanese culture and history.

Since it first opened, NMJH has conducted various projects to accomplish these goals. Over the past decade or so, NMJH has boosted activities and enhanced its system through numerous trials with the aim of providing more assistance for museum users. In fiscal year 2008, NMJH carried out the new attempt at Gallery 3 (Early Modern Period) renovated at the end of the previous fiscal year in keeping with the reality. Specific examples include the operation of always opened hands-on space by registered volunteers, the introduction of audio guides for the permanent exhibitions (Japanese, Korean, Chinese, and English), and the renovation of programs corresponding to charge-free for elementary and junior high school students. As it proceeds with the opening of Gallery 6 and the renovation of Gallery 4, NMJH will respond with its best efforts while revising its activities and methods.

[Educational Programs]

NMJH offers several educational programs that make use of museum guidebooks for schools, orientation videos, worksheets, monocular, and other aids prepared by NMJH to enable elementary, junior, and senior high school students to enjoy learning about history and folklore. NMJH responds to inquiries and gives teacher previews prior to visits by school groups. NMJH also offers examples of the experiences of schools that have already incorporated a visit to the Museum into their learning. NMJH staff provide orientation and give guided tours of exhibitions upon request. Workplace experience for junior high students and internships for high school students are also accepted.

Furthermore, NMJH enhances cooperation with school teachers by encouraging them to further incorporate the Museum activities into their classes. Specific examples include the setup of the meeting of Museum-school joint researchers and training programs for teachers. NMJH encourages universities to use its facilities, exhibitions, and resource materials for lectures, orientation programs, and training by striving to improve the procedures for such use. The contents were summarized in an NMJH guide specifically for universities and a video guide and have been distributed to university departments and programs. If requested, NMJH research staff provide individual assistance and guided tours of the Museum's exhibition galleries, storage space, and other facilities.

In fiscal year 2008, 294 elementary schools, 40 junior high schools, 30 high schools, and 43 universities visited the Museum and made use of the services mentioned above.

[Explore Rekihaku]

In order to help increase the knowledge of history, NMJH conducts guided tours at the Museum (exhibition galleries) for senior children at elementary schools and junior high students with a Museum staff member (called Captain) giving easy-to-understand explanations. These guided tours are held on the second Saturday every month. In fiscal year 2008, they were held a total of twelve times in the form of a three lecture series each term.

Stage 1: Archaeological Exploration of Rice

(April 12, 2008) Cultivation and Harvest of Rice NISHITANI Masaru (Research Department)

(May 10, 2008) Questions and Study of Rice NISHIMOTO Toyohiro (Research Department)

(June 14, 2008) Rice and Society HIROSE Kazuo (Research Department)

Stage 2: Life from Edo to Meiji Periods

(July 12, 2008) From pilgrimages to travels YAMAMOTO Mitsumasa (Research Department)

(August 9, 2008) Life in Town and Morning Glories IWABUCHI Reiji (Research Department)

(September 13, 2008) Following Tracks of Sakura Regiments HIGUCHI Takehiko (Research Department)

Stage 3: Inheritance of 'Artifacts'

(October 11, 2008) Collection of Musical Instruments HIDAKA Kaori (Research Department)

(November 8, 2008) Dyeing and Weaving SAWADA Kazuto (Research Department)

(December 13, 2008) Inheritance with Photos MIYATA Kimiyoshi (Research Department)

Stage 4: Seasons and Everyday Life

(January 10, 2009) Festivals and Cults MATSUO Koichi (Research Department)

(February 14, 2009) Okinawa's Nature and Songs UCHIDA Junko (Research Department)

(March 14, 2009) Origin of Seasonal Events SHINTANI Takanori (Research Department)

[Programs at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life]

The Botanical Garden of Everyday Life was opened in September 1995 to systematically cultivate plants that have supported our life culture and deepen our understanding of them as materials relative to the Museum's exhibit materials. Programs are held for the general public to observe seasonal plants and deepen their understanding of the relationship between human and plants. They are held at the Botanical Garden of Everyday Life on the fourth Saturday every month in principle. Twelve programs were held in fiscal year 2008.

For the No. 109 program, no admission fee was charged because of the NMJH's Greenery Day.

No. 109 (April 29, 2008) Walking in Castle Park of Fresh Greenery

NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)

No. 110 (May 24, 2008) Familiar Wild Plants

NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)

No. 111 (June 28, 2008) Plants of Rainy Season

NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)

- No. 112 (July 26, 2008) Dyeing with Plants
KATO Kunio (Aichi Sangyo University)
- No. 113 (August 23, 2008) Behind the Exhibition “Traditional Japanese Morning Glories”
TSUJI Keiko (Research supporter)
- No. 114 (September 27, 2008) Walking in Castle Park in Early Autumn
NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)
- No. 115 (October 25, 2008) Clothes and Plants
SAWADA Kazuto (Research Department)
- No. 116 (November 22, 2008) Varieties of Antique Chrysanthemums and Making Chrysanthemums of Daimyo’s
Gardens
OGASAWARA Ryo (Author on Japanese Traditional Horticulture)
- No. 117 (December 6, 2008) Cultural History of Sasanqua
HAKODA Naotoshi (Keisen University)
- No. 118 (January 24, 2009) Conservation of Plain Forest in Musashino
INUI Tadashi (Dokkyo University)
- No. 119 (February 28, 2009) Beech Forests and the World of Kijiya Woodworkers
NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)
- No. 120 (March 28, 2009) Botanical Garden of Everyday Life and Use of Trees
NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi (Guest professor)

[Overview]

NMJH issues several publications as a means of widely publicizing its research activities. These publications fulfill the role of communicating the outcomes of a variety of activities not only to the research community, but also to the general public. These activities include surveys and research conducted jointly with Japanese and foreign researchers in the Museum's capacity as an inter-university research institute and community programs conducted at NMJH.

In fiscal year 2008, NMJH published eight volumes of the "Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History", three exhibition catalogs, two catalog on resource materials, one Illustrated Catalogue, and six issues of the history magazine 'Rekihaku'. NMJH also produced a volume of abstracts for the International Research Meeting "Korean Folk Studies, Japanese Folk Studies IV", and also prepared and distributed reports to participants of Rekihaku Forums and the Rekihaku Forum on Visual Materials. The achievements of a variety of activities providing services to Museum visitors based on the principle of Museum-based Research Integration and undertaken with the cooperation of neighboring school groups and volunteers were included in a booklet on NMJH's educational activities entitled "Rekihaku Education Programs Report."

There were two occasions in fiscal year 2008 when researchers from within and outside NMJH wrote and edited anthologies on the outcomes of Rekihaku Forums which were issued by publishing houses.

-4-2 Bulletin of the National Museum of Japanese History

- No.145 (November 2008)
- No.146 Reexamination of Hirata Kokugaku
- No.147 Personal Experiences of war ;1931-1945:A Survey of Japanese writer and Oral Records
- No.148 Historical Study of Japanese Shrines and Sinto Beliefs
- No.149 The Corpus Research about the Settlement in Jomon and Yayoi Period
- No.150 (March 2009)
- No.151 Ancient East-northern Asia and Shanguo- zhi,wei-shu
- No.152 Production, Authority and Ideology in Ancient Japan

-4-3 Exhibition Catalogues

- Travel –From Edo Period pilgrimages to Modern Railway Travel-July 2008
- Fabrics of History –Textiles Handed Down through Japanese and Korean History-October 2008
- The How and Why of Nishikie-Production-February 2009

-4-4 Catalogues of Resource Materials

The Takamatsunomiya Collection 8-1

The Takamatsunomiya Collection 8-2

-4-5 Illustrated Catalogue

The Collection of Yayoi Period Bronze Objects

-4-6 Bimonthly Magazine "REKIHAKU"

No.148 The Art of the Craftsman

No.149 New Scenes of the Edo Era -- The Renovation of Gallery Three

No.150 Rice

No.151 Men's Space and Women's Space in the Home

No.152 Memories and Museums

No.153 Historic Park – Another Museum

-4-7 Others

International Research Meeting -Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies

Edited and published by NMJH in November 2008

International Research Meeting -Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies

Edited and published by NMJH in November 2008

International Research Meeting -Korean Folklore Studies, Japanese Folklore Studies -2

Edited and published by NMJH in November 2008

"Creating the Framework for a Comparative History of the Asian Architecture – from east Asia to Asia
- "

Edited by TAMAI Tetsuo, published by NMJH, DECEMBER 2008

International Workshops, Coordinated Inter-institutional Research by National Institutes for the
Humanities

(1) Report titled " The International Seminar Some Issues on Nation and Nationalism in Vietnam(19th-20th
Century)"

Performance and Culture: Relationship between Eurasia and Japan

Edited by Project (Comparative Historical Research on Nation States) , published by NMJH, March

2009

(2) Report titled “VT: Study of samurai objects as resources for comparative history and intercultural presentation ”

Edited by KOJIMA Michihiro, published by NMJH, March 2009

(3) “Imperial Court Manuscripts and Printed Books and Study of the Classics”

Edited by YOSHIOKA Masayuki and OGAWA Takeo, published by Hanawa syobou, March 2009

Rekihaku Forums

(1) “Emperor Kanmu and the Turbulent Time of the Nagaoka Capital”

Edited by NMJH, published by Yamakawa Syuppansya January 2009

(2) “Folkloric Imagination”

Edited by KOIKE Jyun-ichi, published by Serika syobou, March 2009

“Let’s Visit Rekihaku! 2007 -- Rekihaku Education Programs Report”

Edited and published by NMJH, March 2009

IV Graduate Education

[Overview of Graduate Education]

NMJH has the Department of Japanese History of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies. The Graduate University for Advanced Studies is a university with graduate school curriculum with nationwide inter-university research institutes as its base institution. The Department of Japanese History is in the School of Cultural and Social Studies. It specializes exclusively in three-year doctoral programs (second stage) limited to three students.

As an educational policy, the Department aims to foster researchers with high-level comprehensive abilities by having a large number of resource materials and excellent facilities as a museum and exploiting the features and assets of the base institutions conducting various cutting-edge collaborative research projects.

Its admission policy is the Development of Human Resource, namely to foster researchers who have wide vision and internationality for Japanese history in a broad sense and capable of conducting advanced research in specialized fields based on resource materials, as well as human resources capable of contributing to society with high-level research capabilities.

Its Image of Desired Students refers to those students with a keen interest in research subjects of Japanese history in a broad sense and its adjacent fields and also willing to become independent researchers through self-motivating and continuous research activities. Adult students are welcomed because their research achievements may contribute to specific places of society.

The classes are classified into Research on Materials and Research on Social History based on the principle of constructing a historical image through resource materials. Each professor, in principle, is assigned to each class. In addition, Methodology of Research on Japanese History is held as an intensive course in summer, which consists of three courses: research on materials (A), field research (B), and Museum research (C). They serve as an educational place open to the whole University and also outside the University as "Sokendai Lectures". Courses A and C are held at the Museum. Course B was held in Izu with the academic exchange with local researchers in fiscal year 2008.

Doctoral theses are prepared under the tuition of a chief professor and a deputy chief professor, and the Basic Practice taken charge by all professors is held three times a year for the progress report by students to improve their presentation skill. Academic training is also provided at the Museum as a venue for research studies on a daily basis.

In addition, a lecture is held by two professors in Tokyo every July, and the orientation for the graduate school is held at the Museum in October to introduce widely the Department's research and education. The contents of the lectures are published as a graduate school booklet "Front Line of Historical Research" with columns by graduate

students added. In fiscal year 2008, Vol. 11 "Reading History in Art Materials -- Lacquer Ware and Scenes In and Around Kyoto" (edited by Kaoru Hidaka and Michihiro Kojima) was published. The summary is posted on the website.

As of April 2009, thirty-one students were registered in the Department, of which two are foreign students (both from South Korea), and eight are adult students. Two students earned doctor's degrees by graduation in fiscal year 2008.

KOJIMA Michihiro, Chair, Department of Japanese History

V Faculty Research Activities

V-1 Director-General

HIRAKAWA Minami

Ancient Local Societies: A Study of Excavated Written Materials

V-2 Faculty Members (The order of the kana syllabary)

AOKI Takahiro

Sake Brewing Industry

Moral Precepts

AOYAMA Hiro'o

Historical Geography of Landscape in Medieval Japan

History of Cartography and Geographical Knowledge

ADACHI Fumio

Information Systems for a Historical Museum

IHARA Kesao

Life History in the Medieval Village

Lending Relationships History

Togoku Manor History

Medieval Noble History

Medieval Temple History

IWABUCHI Reiji

History of Pre Modern City

UENO Kazuo

Family System and Ancestor Worship in Japan

UENO Yoshifumi

Archaeological Study of Ancient East Asia

UCHIDA Junko

Research in the Effects of Sound on Human Behavior

Research on the Multiplicity of Visual Images

OKUBO Jun'ichi

Study of Ukiyo-e

Study of Landscapes in Later Edo Period

ONO Masatoshi

Archaeological Study of Medieval Japan

KURUSHIMA Hiroshi

The Historical Character of Regional Communities in the Late Edo Period

Ceremonies, Observances, and Festivals in Early Modern Japanese Society

Theories of Representation and Exhibition at Museum of History

Museum Educational Programs and their Assessment

KOIKE Jun'ichi

Folk Belief

KOJIMA Michihiro

Towns, Villages, and Castles in Medieval Japan

KOSETO-HORYU Emi

Chemical Analysis of Cultural Properties

Studies in the Relationship between Environments and Deterioration of Cultural Objects

SAITO Tsutomu

Chemical Studies of Materials, Manufacturing-Technique and Provenance on Cultural Properties

SAKAMOTO Minoru

Dating and Provenance Research on Historical and Archaeological Materials by Isotope Study

SATO Yuuka

Research on Designing, Documenting, and Evaluating Learning Environments

Research on Designing, Documenting, and Evaluating Communication in Museum

SAWADA Kazuto

Relationship between Material, Technique and Idea of Clothes

Vestment Buddhist Priest Mainly in the Muromachi Period

SHINTANI Takanori

Comprehensive Studies in Folklore

SUGIYAMA Shinsaku

Kofun Period

Haniwa

Ancient Gilding Techniques

SUZUKI Takuzi

Study of Museum Information Systems to Support Research Activities, Exhibitions, and Public Relations

Information Processing of Color and Image

SEKIZAWA Mayumi

The Research on Social Groups and Rituals, and a Folkloric study of the Old, View of Life and View of Death

TAKAHASHI Kazuki

Studies of the Shoen system

Studies of the Medieval Documents

TAMAI Tetsuo

A Worldwide Historical Comparative Study of Cities and Dwellings Centered upon East Asia

The Transformation Process of Urban space in the Japanese Archipelago from the Mediaeval to the

Early-Modern Period

A Re-Assessment of Japanese Architectural History Based on Archaeological Excavation and Historical Pictorial Material

TSUNEMITSU Toru

A study of Oral Tradition

NAGASHIMA Masaharu

Historical Materials from the Standpoint of Technological History and Cultural History by Nondestructive Research Methods

Materials Involved in Lacquer and Red Pigments in Terms of Technological History and Cultural History

NISHITANI Masaru

History of East Asia

NISHIMOTO Toyohiro

Environmental Archaeology in the Jomon and Yayoi Periods

NITO Atsushi

Establishment Process of Japanese Ancient Capital Cities

Theoretical Study of Ancient Sovereignty

Ancient Local Societies

HARAYAMA Kosuke

Research on Formations and Changes of the Japanese Consumer Society in the Postwar Period

Research on Black Markets in 1940's: Especially Focusing on Conflicts between People's Daily Life and Economical Controls under the Occupation Policy of GHQ/SCAP

Research on Mobilization of People by Health Politics and Movements in Modern and Contemporary Era

HIGUCHI Takehiko

Former Bakufu Retainers

HIDAKA Kaori

History of Japanese Lacquerwork

HIROSE Kazuo

A Study of Political Structure in the Kofun Period

FUJIO Shin'ichiro

Iron Production

The Beginning of Agriculture

MATSUO Koichi

Research on Rituals at Temples and Shrines in NARA and the Magic and Rituals of Craftsmen

MIYATA Kimiyoshi

Research on Developments and Applications of Digital Imaging Systems for Museum Resources

MURAKI Jiro

Archaeological Studies in the Middle Ages

YASUDA Tsuneo

History of Thought and Culture in Post-war Japan

War and Poplar Culture

YASUMURO Satoru

Folklore Research on the Relation between People and Nature

YAMADA Shinya

Funeral Ritual and Cultural Concept of Death

Modern Society and Folk Culture

Death and Life Studies

YAMAMOTO Mitsumasa

Study of Japanese Traffic and Travel in from the 18th to 19th Centuries

The history of Life of a Farmer in the Late Tokugawa-Meiji Periods

YOSHIOKA Masayuki

Ancient Philology

YOSHIMURA Satoko

Anthropological Study on the Socio-Ecological Adaptation

V-3 Visiting Scholars

AZUMA Ushio

Archaeological Study of Koguryo

IMAIZUMI Yumiko

Micronesia-Japan Relations

Japanese Colonial Rule over Micronesia

Immigration for Micronesia

The Theory of International Studies of TADAO YANAIHARA

KUJIRAI Chisato

A Study of Japanese History Based on Folkloristics of the Lower Classes in the Late Premodern Period

TAKAKURA Izumi

Japanese History of Music

CHO Kyeongdal

History of People

History of Thought

TSUMURA Norimichi

Real-Time Appearance Reproduction with the Considering Complex Environment

NAKAGAWA Shigetoshi

Investigation Research on "Environmental History"

HAYASHI Masahiko

Painting Recitation

MATSUDA Masayuki

Study of "Use and Copyrights of Museum Research Resources"

V-4 Adjunct Researchers

ISHIKAWA Takehiko

Archaeological Study of East Asia, from the 1st Millennium B.C. to the 5th Century A.D.

CHUJO (FUJII) Hideki

A study of Horyu Culture in the Kofun Period

NAKAJIMA Takeharu

A Study of Military Integration of the Muromachi Bakufu

A Study of Kokujin-Ikki(Order of Local Barons)

A Basic Examination of the Daigo Temple Territory in the Kanto District in the Middle Ages

BABA Shin'ichiro

Research of Lithics and Articles of stone on Yayoi Age

Circulation Theory Manual Industry Production of Yayoi Age

Regional Society Theory of Age of Yayoi