

Kyoto JALT Chapter
2011-2012 Candidates

Catherine Y. Kinoshita (President 2011-2012)

As Kyoto JALT's president, one of my goals for this term is meet the interests of as many members as possible. Now, with 169 members, this will be a big challenge! I plan to collaborate more with the other Chapter Presidents in the Kansai Area, so that we can pool ideas about topics of interest, coordinate resources and work together to provide a wider variety of quality events for the members of Kyoto JALT.

Another goal is to offer more opportunities for professional development to our members. In the past, Kyoto JALT offered opportunities for personal development through our Scholarship Program and our Un-vetted Presentation slot at the JALT National Conference. These have been very successful and I hope that we can improve these existing programs and offer more exciting and innovative programs in the coming year.

Martin Hawkes (Program 2011-2012) New Candidate

My name is Martin Hawkes and I have been teaching in Japan for just over eight years. In that time I have worked in a variety of contexts including language schools, junior and senior high schools, and university. I am currently a full-time lecturer at in the Science and Engineering Department at Ritsumeikan University. While my first degree was in the completely different field of pharmacology, I now also hold a CELTA and an MSc in TESOL from Aston University. I have been involved with JALT for around five years, but mainly on the publications side. I am part of the proofreading team for The Language Teacher and I have been on the vetting committee for the annual conference for the past two years, as well as the reading committee for the proceedings. As I am looking to get more involved on a local level, this year I am running for the position of Programme Chair for the Kyoto JALT. I hope to help to continue the work of organising quality events for members in the Kyoto area, with a healthy mix of stimulating research-based presentations and those from which we can learn ideas with practical classroom applications.

James Rogers (Treasurer 2011-2012)

As Kyoto JALT's treasurer, I intend to be responsible for the day-to-day money management for our chapter. My duties include having enough cash on hand to handle the inflow and outflow of monies for event membership, annual membership, speaker expenses, and officer expenses during events. In addition, I will be responsible for balancing the books, organizing all receipts, submitting my chapter's monthly account statement once a month, and submitting necessary documents for our yearly audit. Other duties include participating in the discussion of how to manage our finances and best spend our surpluses to make our chapter most beneficial for our members.

Thomas Amundrud (Membership Chair 2011-2012)

In 2011, our chapter has managed to maintain an average of around 180 members, which makes us

one of the largest in JALT. I have continued our program of welcoming all new and renewing members. Moreover, in addition to reminding past due members to renew, I have also made a clearer message reminding those whose dues are due each month to renew as well.

For 2012, I would like to work more closely with the other officers on recruiting new members. With the Publicity Chair, I would also like to encourage current members to help recruit others by promoting Kyoto JALT events.

Rob Higgins (Publicity Chair 2011-2012)

During the past two years I have tried to keep our members up- to- date with the latest local and national JALT news. I have also attempted to disseminate other information regarding events and professional development opportunities throughout Kansai. In the next year I intend to carry on doing what I have been doing and improve access to relevant information for our members.

Ted Bonnah (Facilities 2011-2012) Appointed

I am a Canadian teacher, conversant in English, French and Japanese. I started teaching with the JET Program in 1996, and since then have taught every age, level and situation of ESL here in Japan. I currently am a teacher and co-ordinator of Communication & Writing courses at the Economics dept. of Ritsumeikan. I also teach French, and have taught FSL in Canada and Japan. In Canada I hold a teacher's licence in 1st and 2nd language methodology (English and French, of course), and have taught English, ESL, French and FSL.