



“This will be a relatively long struggle ... But the government will do its best until everything is over, and I hope all of you will work hard, too.”

-Naoto Kan (Japanese Prime Minister after the Earthquake)

Colorado College's Response to the Earthquake in Japan

By Keita Moore

On March 11th of this year, the world watched in horror as the worst earthquake in Japan's recorded history struck only a few miles off the coast of Sendai, a town towards the north of the main island Honshu. The ensuing tsunami razed the small city, and smashed open the reactor at the Fukushima nuclear power plant. Now, almost two weeks later, the after effects of this disaster continue to reverberate. The death toll has risen from the initial 500 to potentially as many as 20,000, and the radioactive damage caused by the still-uncontrolled reactor continues to threaten the Japanese environment and urban centers. Truly, this will prove one of Japan's greatest trials.

Japan, however, will survive, as it always has. Although as CC professor Paul Maruyama said, “this earthquake cannot be compared to the one in 1995 that destroyed Kobe,” Japan will rebuild. In an email sent to students of Asian Studies, Maruyama said “in general, the Japanese people are...a disciplined, stoic, and uncomplaining people. They tend to suffer misery in silence..., and are reluctant to clamor for help and assistance and make a lot of demands. That doesn't mean they don't need our help and assistance.” And it seems, in the face of irradiated tap water in Tokyo and the continually rising death toll, that Japan can only survive if her friend's will stand with her. (Cont. Page 2).

Upcoming Events

Its Pacific Island Heritage Month!

Stop by and Enjoy the great lineup this Year:

March 30th—The Hapa Project Exhibit Opening
in the Coburn Gallery

April 7th—Saving Face in the EUB Center

April 12th—Career Session with Donald Gregg

at 4:00 PM in Worner 213

April 12th—What Do Ho Chi Minh, Saddam
Hussein, and Kim Jong-il Have in Common?

at 7:00 Gates Common Room in Palmer

April 12th—Ruthie Alcaide from The Real World:
Hawaii

at 6:00 in Armstrong Theater

April 15th—Asian Culture Night

at 5:00 PM in Bemis Great Hall



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CC's Response to the Earthquake, Continued from page 1

The United States, at the time of the earthquake, dispatched some \$100,000 in immediate relief funding, a search-and rescue team, and some military equipment to help. However, as the estimated costs of rebuilding spiral into the hundreds of millions, the warmth and kindness of private citizens towards Japan has been truly amazing. The American Red Cross continues to fundraise after the immediate donation of \$10 million to aid the 430,000 displaced people currently living in high school gyms across the country.

Similarly, at CC the response of the entire campus has been overwhelmingly supportive. On the day of the quake itself, Japanese instructor Masako Ito spearheaded efforts to ascertain if all the Japanese student's families were safe, and has continued to seek ways to help her home country. Paul Maruyama and Yuka Saito, the Japanese Cultural Programs Coordinator, have both worked tirelessly to spread awareness in the community of the disaster, as well as organizing various fundraisers and events to help Japan. Yukiko Iwasaki ('13), has also begun holding meetings to discuss and plan events to continue helping Japan. Sarah Withee has also been instrumental in spreading information about the fundraiser in Denver on May 1st. Indeed, the support, perseverance, and creativity of the Colorado College community has been impressive and inspiring



Japan, however, is still in dire need, and it is only through continued support that we can truly help the nation to rebuild. There is still much to be done, and there are a great many ways you can get involved even right here on campus! So please consider volunteering or donating to any of these following organizations:

To Volunteer:

To Donate:

Japan-America Society of Southern Colorado:
www.japanamerica.org
All money donated goes directly to the Japanese Red Cross society, and subsequently immediately to those who need it the most.

Denver For Japan Fundraiser
www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=209562662402482
On Sunday, May 1- 4:00-7:00
Held at The Other Side Arts gallery in Denver, the event highlights both modern and traditional Japanese culture
Free admission and drinks

Helping Japan from CC
www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=204081259621740
Meetings on campus at unspecified times

Children's Day (Kodomo no Hi)
Saturday, May 7, Palmer Hall
Come do traditional Japanese Crafts and Support Japan!





Salt Hoarding in China

By Shupeng Li

Right after the damage of the nuclear power plant happened in Japan on March 11th, being worried about a leak of radioactive elements because of the melt down of fuel rods, people in countries near Japan became very sensitive and overreacted somewhat.

In China, experts were trying to explain the structure of the Fukushima Daiichi reactors, what might the radioactive elements be, and how to protect the body from light exposure

to radioactive materials. On March 15th, they claimed that iodine pills, to some extent, can keep people away from the danger of exposure to small amount of radioactive matters, but they are only effective by taking the pills half an hour before exposure.

This claim was soon spread out on major forums online in China. However, the claim somehow was changed to rumors like iodine can help people stay healthy at any time, sea salt contains iodine and people should eat more, etc. As a result, more and more rumors appeared online and more and more people were “convinced” by these rumors. Thus, a day or two later, many people rushed into supermarkets, department shops, and grocery stores to buy salt. In the northeast part of China, which is closer to Japan, it became very hard to buy a single pack of salt because people were hoarding salt trying to “get rid of danger”. One example is a person from Wuhan, who bought 130,000 jin salt, which is 65,000 kilograms or 6.5 ton of salt within a day!

A few days later on March 18th, the hoarding of salt concerned the Chinese government. Experts started to explain to people again that there was no reason that they should be worried about being exposed to radioactive material, nor buying sea salt could prevent damage from exposure. It took quite a while before the salt market returned to normal. Fortunately the salt storage in China is still quite sufficient and the price of salt is controlled, thus the shortage in the market did not result in significant increases in price and thus did not quite affect the life of ordinary people.

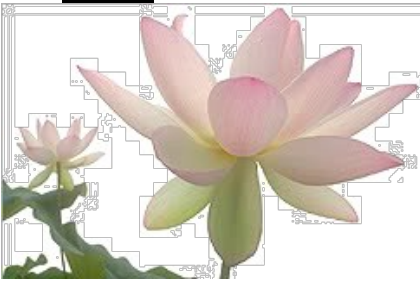
Chinese Skill Competition at CSU by Shupeng Li

On Mar 5th, 2011, a Chinese Skill Competition was held at Colorado State University located in Fort Collins. Three universities, Colorado State University, University of Colorado at Boulder, and Denver University take turns to hold this annual competition in order to make more people aware of Chinese Language and Culture.

The competition consists of three parts. The first part is to make up stories from a set of given Chinese words, participants must form groups of five and all members must be freshmen. Each of the group members can only say few sentences containing only one of the given words. The second part is to perform a short drama using Chinese. The size of the group is not limited yet only sophomores can take part in this section. The third part of the competition is lectures given by juniors only, there is a time restriction and each competitor must prepare a topic that he or she is going to lecture on. Of course, all competitors must speak Chinese.

Our team members included Will Strachan, Michael Frqland, Nicole White, Max Peryman, Logan Dahl, and Tara Mulin. The instructors were Fanny Zhang, Fuyun Wu, and Xueyu He. They all did a wonderful job even though it was their first time competing in Chinese.





CC Club & Events Page

Chinese Calligraphy Show on Campus

By Shupeng Li

On February the 24th, the Chinese Calligraphy Reception was held in Coburn Gallery, Worner Center. Art History Professor Tamara Bentley gave an introduction to calligraphy, an ancient form of art which has been practiced for more than two thousand years since Shang Dynasty in China. The work exhibited in Coburn was mainly created by students from the calligraphy adjunct instructed by Professor Harrison Tu. This course starts every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30 to 5:00pm. Harrison's pieces of works were shown in the exhibition as well.

Also, during the reception, students from calligraphy class showed the visitors how to write Chinese characters as well as paint bamboo and orchid, both of which were highly appraised among well-educated people in old China. The painting skills seem quite easy and a simple piece of work can be finished within no more than two minutes for a person who had a little experience, however it takes quite much practice and effort to become a real master. Some of the visitors tried to create their first piece of Chinese calligraphy or painting ever at the reception as brushes, ink, and practice paper were provided.



South Asian Film Festival

By Katie Senn

I recently had a chance to attend a showing of one of the films in the two-day Travelling Film South Asia series held on February 26-27. The festival was interesting in that it was one of very few opportunities to see these documentaries outside of Asia. I sat in on the film "Mayomi," about a Sri Lankan woman in an extremely difficult situation after losing her house to the 2004 tsunami. This was further complicated by the loss of her mother and her husband to the tsunami and the Tamil Tigers, respectively, but even that did not describe the extent of her problems. She was also responsible for the care of her handicapped father, her brother, and her brother's son when the child's mother abandoned him. Despite these obstacles, Mayomi worked hard in the face of a situation that might not necessarily improve. The value in watching films like this cannot be overstated—living our lives in Colorado Springs for about eight months of every year, the effects of poverty are not as visible as this film showed. Understanding the world in its diversity is an integral part of our education as liberal arts students. An opportunity to develop compassion is a golden one. I am grateful that we were able to host the film series and enrich the lives of all the students who visited.



On Study Abroad

Study Abroad Hopes

By Katie Senn

Next year, I intend to study abroad at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan for an academic year. This will be the first time that I've studied abroad, and also the first time I will be able to go to Japan. Things have been complicated because of the earthquake, but I remain hopeful that I will be able to attend the program despite this. I'm looking forward to the chance to experience life in a different culture. I'm an only child, so I'm hoping that I will have a chance to have siblings through my homestay for the first time in my life. The program that Waseda offers in terms of classes will give me an interesting opportunity to experience life on the semester system, which I'm told is much slower than the Block Plan, at least in terms of school. I look forward to the opportunity to better understand what kind of person I am and develop new skills abroad.



You Won't Know Until You Go: Some personal thoughts on Study Abroad

By Keita Moore

東京を離れてもうじき一年になり、ますます早稲田大学での留学時代を思い出す。最高に辛かった時もありながらも、三か月後に卒業する僕にとって、留学は大学時代の中での最も貴重で、思い出に残っている経験だったと言っても過言ではない。

何よりも、単に東京に暮らす事が好きだった。近所の飲み屋に通ったり、新宿で友達とぼらぼらしたり、静かなお寺でゆっくり考えたりしていたことがとても懐かしく感じる。毎日、住んでいたアパートを出て、母国語ではなく、また、まだ得意ではなかった言語でコミュニケーションを取ることはとても難しかったが、チャレンジしたからこそ成長できた。このような経験をする事ができて、感謝している。

また、東京の雰囲気は世界の大都市の中で一番自分に合っていると思う。ところが、東京の人が優しく、僕を受け入れてくれた訳ではない。実際、日本で「東京の人」というと、どうしてもセツカチで、少し鼻が高く、冷たいイメージが付いてしまう。一方、僕は割と友好的なので、東京が僕にとってふさわしい街であるはずがないのではないかと。

この疑問への具体的な答えはまだ見つけていない。だが、答えを見つけるため、また東京へ戻ることにした。

このように疑問を抱えている人は、僕だけではなく、他の留学生の友達にも結構いる。留学時代のおかげで、僕の進路は再び東京へ行くことだと分かった。卒業後が不明で心配になりがちな四年生ではあるが、これからどうすればいいのかが分かり、本当によかったと感じている。

来学期二年生となる人、また三年生となる人へ伝えたいことがある。それは、出来る限り、留学をしてほしいということである。海外で過ごす楽しい時間になる可能性もあれば、僕のように、その国が自分が将来暮らしたい国だということに気づく可能性もある。

それは、留学へ行ってみないと分からない。

As I come up on the anniversary of my return from Tokyo, I find myself reflecting my study abroad at Waseda University. Even though there were some extremely difficult times, as a senior graduating in three months, it would not be an understatement to say that my time abroad was extremely precious, and is an experience that remains with me.

Perhaps above all else, I truly enjoyed just living in Tokyo. I have come to miss going out to my neighborhood bars, hanging out with friends in Shinjuku, or just quietly contemplating life at a temple. Everyday, whenever I left my apartment, communicating in a language that is not my own and I am not particularly good at was difficult, because it was a challenge I grew as a person. I remain thankful that I was able to have this experience.

Moreover, I came to feel that Tokyo's atmosphere fits me better than anywhere else. However, this is not to say that the residents of Tokyo are particularly nice, or they really accepted me. In fact, within Japan, saying you are from Tokyo carries an image of undeserved pride, impatience, and just general coldness towards life. So why, then, would a relatively friendly person like myself be so drawn to the city?

This is a question I haven't concretely found the

answer to. But, in order to find the answer, I have decided to go back to Tokyo.

And it is not just me who feels like this. Many of the members of my study abroad program are also thinking about going back. Thanks to my time abroad, I have come to understand that my future, at least presently, lies in Tokyo. For a senior who is unsure of what I will be doing after graduation, even knowing only a little bit of the way forward is really great.

Therefore, I wish to say something to the rising sophomores and juniors. I would like to encourage you to study abroad. It can be a fun experience, and for others, like me, it may also be a life-changing one.

But you can never know until you go.

Colorado College

The Lotus is a publication of the
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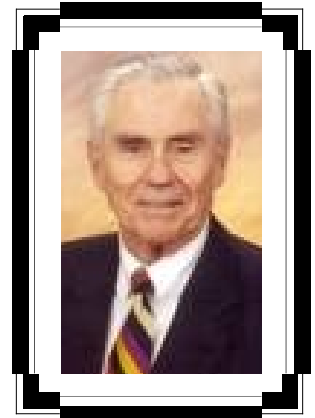
And then 'twas
Spring again!



**Cookies and Coffee with Ambassador Gregg:
Careers in Foreign Service Q&A Session
April 12, Worner 213, 4PM**

Are you considering a career in the foreign service? Then come personally meet former United States Ambassador to South Korea and National Security Advisor Donald Gregg!

Donald Phinney Gregg was seconded to the National Security Council staff in 1979, where he was in charge of intelligence activities and was subsequently given responsibility for Asian policy affairs. In 1982, he was asked by then Vice President George Bush to become his National Security Advisor, supporting the Vice President in the areas of foreign policy, defense and intelligence. Upon retirement with the CIA, Gregg was awarded the Distinguished Intelligence Medal (CIA's highest decoration). Gregg also served as the U.S. Ambassador to Korea with the purpose to help the U.S.-Korea relationship mature from a military alliance into an economic and political partnership. In May 2010, Gregg received an honorary degree from Colorado College.



Good Luck in the rest of Block 7!