



1. Title:

Network Studies 2018

2. Contact Person

Bettina Gramlich-Oka (*4065; gramlich-oka@sophia.ac.jp)

3. Other members:

Faculty members: **Mathew Thompson, Christian Hess, David Slater, David Wank.**

Further members of this research group include scholars from Tokyo and vicinity, such as **Linda Grove, Thomas Harper, Kate Wildman Nakai, Gaye G. Rowley** and **Fumiko Umezawa.**

In addition, our group includes post-docs, PhD students from the Tokyo area, and visiting scholars from foreign universities who join on a regular basis.

4. Goal and Purpose:

The ICC unit, which was initiated in 2010 (please see [Network studies HP](#)), analyzes cross-cultural networks. What began as a small project around the network of an individual living around 1800 has now become a far-flung web of connections amongst contemporaries in Edo Japan.

In 2018, the project made great process in terms of improvement of the database and user-friendliness. Since April 2018 the database is open access that allows to search and visualize the results. As a trial we also had students use and add to the database various sets of data for their own research. In the next

few years, the aim is to make this available to a larger group of researchers and students interested in biographical data of Japan.

5. Activities in Past and Future:

In 2018–2019 the research unit has been and is active in various forms: (Please refer to [our HP](#))

5.1. The unit meets monthly as a reading group, in which primary sources are read.

5.2. International Symposium at Sophia University, [Digital Humanities and Databases \(16 March 2018\)](#)

5.3. Editorial meetings for the edited volume on *Women and Networks in Nineteenth Century Japan* are held periodically throughout and the manuscript is about to be send to the publisher.

5.4. With the help of research assistants, the prosopographical database will be integrating data sets from other research projects.

5.5. The database undergoes constant improvement including the visualization with the help of programmers. New feature will be portraits of historical figures, family trees, GIS maps.

5.5. Moving towards crowd-sourcing for the database.

5.6. Working on text mining software for data purposes.

6. Presentations of the Project in Past and Future:

The project was and will be represented in 2018–2019 at the following venues:

6.1. Meeting by unit leader with US-based Digital Humanities Project leaders in April 2018.

6.2. Leo Born. “[上智大学「日本の人名データベース」の構築について.](#)” In *Proceedings of the 23rd Symposium on Humanities and Databases*, Osaka Prefecture University (Osaka, Japan), March 3, 2018, pp. 51–58.

<http://www.jinbun-db.com/news/23th-symposium-announce>

6.3. Leo Born, Yūsuke Asano: “Japanese Biographical Database: Application in Historical Social Network Visualization,” at [Third International Symposium: Digital Humanities and Databases, Sophia University \(Tokyo, Japan\), March 16, 2018.](#)

6.4. Leo Born: “上智大学「日本の人名データベース」の構築について,” at [23rd Symposium on Humanities and Databases](#), Osaka Prefecture University (Osaka, Japan), March 3, 2018.

6.5. The publication of an edited volume generated from the two International Symposia is in planning. The completed manuscript will be sent to Michigan University Press in September 2018.

Tentative title:

Bettina Gramlich-Oka, Miyazawa Fumiko, Sugano Noriko, Anne Walthall (eds.). *Women and Networks in Nineteenth Century Japan*, Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press.

6.6. Presentation of project at Japanese Association of Digital Humanities (10 Sep 2018) <https://conf2018.jadh.org/>

6.7. Acceptance of paper proposal at DSDAH2018 (London, August 2018), but no time to attend.

6.8. BGO is panelist at DH workshop in Frankfurt, 7–8 December, 2018.

6.9. Plan to have a Workshop at Sophia University in February 2019 Digital Humanities and Databases (hands-on workshop to learn tools)

6.10. AAS 2019, Denver, BGO is panelist at DH roundtable.

7. Plans and goals:

7.1. the research unit leader is part of a JSPS Research Grant:

基盤研究C: 懐徳堂をめぐる学術交流の思想史的研究 (2016–2019) as a participant (分担者).

The available funds are used for the programmer, extra help in feeding the database and purchase of materials.

7.2. Current discussion for another JSPS Research Grant for 2019–.

7.4. Current discussions with Japan-based digital humanities projects to collaborate

7.5. Current discussions with US-based digital database projects to collaborate

7.6. DH in the classroom will be continued. (教育イノベーションプログラム: 2018–2020)

8. Publication Plans and External Funding

8.1. Publications

As shown in 6.5. the edited volume which is the result of two International Symposia funded by the ICC project is planned to be out during the academic year of 2019. Translation fees for six articles from Japanese into English has been provided from outside funding.

8.2. External Funding

As shown in 7.1. and 7.6. external funding has been secured for the next three years which will assist with feeding the database, and for some payments to the programmer. Together with the ICC fund, the current status of the database can be upheld. However, since the database is supposed to become open access with continuous expansion and modification as the Japan Biographical Database, the digital project itself will never be a terminated project and needs further financial support.

For this reason, we have the plan to apply for JSPS Research grant and European Research Council funding, as the springboard to become a university funded continuous project, in which digital humanities and Japanese studies come together.



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