

Kazuko Suzuki Carlson

The School of World Languages and Cultures, the University of Vermont
414 Waterman Building, 85 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405 U.S.A.
Kazuko.Suzuki@uvm.edu

NATIONAL TEACHER AWARD

2024 The 2024 American Association of Teachers of Japanese [Outstanding Teacher Awards](#) in Post-secondary Category, the American Association of Teachers of Japanese, Boulder, Colorado.

EDUCATION

April – Sep 2012 Graduate Program in Linguistic Sciences at Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan.
Visiting research student focusing on Japanese language education.

August 2002 Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language, Saint Michael's College, Vermont.

May 1998 Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Sociology, Johnson State College, Vermont.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2008 – Present *Senior Lecturer of Japanese Language*, the University of Vermont. Design and create curricula, syllabi, and course materials. Offer a variety of cultural activities. Teach service-learning courses and lead teaching practicum. Direct Collaborative Online International Learning and language exchange programs by partnering with Japanese universities. Offer a faculty-led travel course to Japan. Recruit and assist tutors and language partners. Promote study-abroad programs by visiting Japanese universities and conducting study-abroad sessions. Advise students. Provide career advising and host career events. Manage the program's social media including UVM Japanese Program website, FB, and Instagram.

Courses Taught: Elementary Japanese I and II (First-year Japanese)
Intermediate Japanese I and II (Second-year Japanese)
Advanced Japanese I and II (Third-year Japanese)
Studies of Japanese Texts I and II (Fourth-year Japanese)
Japanese Conversation I and II (Third-year Conversation)
Japanese Communication I and II (Fourth-year Conversation)
Japanese for Daily Communication
Cultural Exchange Trip to Japan
Japanese House Class
Asian Languages Teaching Practicum
Japanese Language and Culture Teaching Practicum
Readings and Research
Gateway to Japan: Conversation and Culture
A Window into Japanese Culture
Japanese for Traveling: Customs and Manners

Jan 2013 – May 2019 *Co-director of Japanese House Program*, the Living and Learning Center, the University of Vermont.

2003 – 2011 *Co-director of Japanese House Program*, the Living and Learning Center, the University of Vermont.

2002 – 2008 *Lecturer of Japanese Language*, the University of Vermont.

May 2008 *Instructor of Japanese Language & Business Etiquette*, IBM, Essex, VT, through the University of Vermont.

May 2007 *Instructor of Japanese Language & Business Etiquette*, IBM, Boulder, CO, through the University of Vermont.

- May 2006 *Instructor of Japanese Language & Business Etiquette*, IBM, Essex, VT, through the University of Vermont.
- Sep 2005 - Oct 2006 *Instructor of Japanese Lang. for Business Environment*, IBM, Essex, VT, through the University of Vermont.
- June 2005 *Instructor of Japanese Language & Business Etiquette*, IBM, Essex, VT, through the University of Vermont.
- Sep 2001 - May 2002 *Instructor of English as a Second Language*, Johnson State College, Vermont.

PUBLICATION

- September 2019 *Nihon no Okome*. [Japanese Rice.] A short extensive reading book for beginners of Japanese about Japanese rice, published by Taishukan Publishing Co., Ltd., Tokyo. Author and editor: *Tagengotadoku* (Multi-Language Extensive Reading). Contributor: Kazuko Suzuki.
- February 2017 *Watashi wa dare deshou?* [Guess who.] A short extensive reading book for beginners of Japanese about Japanese vending machines and bullet trains, published by Taishukan Publishing Co., Ltd., Tokyo. Author: Kazuko Suzuki. Editor: *Tagengotadoku* (Multi-Language Extensive Reading), Tokyo.

TRANSLATION

- 2005 Translated “*Introduction to Manga: Technique Guidebook*” into English, Holbein Inc., Tokyo.
- 2005 Translated “*Maxon Comic Pattern Big Catalogue*,” into English, Holbein Inc., Tokyo.
- 2004 Translated “*Maxon Comic: Introduction to Manga*,” into English, Holbein Inc., Tokyo.

AUDIOBOOK NARRATION

- June 2026 *Zarusoba*. [Buckwheat Noodle.] Kazuko Suzuki and Kazuya Higuchi-Wujcik. Narration of an extensive-reading, online book for Level 0 Japanese, *Tagengotadoku* (Multi-Language Extensive Reading), Tokyo.
- April 2024 *Boku no Otōsan*. [My Father.] Narration of an extensive-reading, online book for Level 1 Japanese, *Tagengotadoku* (Multi-Language Extensive Reading), Tokyo.
- May 2020 *Namida no Chikara*. [The Power of Tears.] Narration of an extensive-reading, online book for Level 3 Japanese, *Tagengotadoku* (Multi-Language Extensive Reading), Tokyo.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, PROCEEDINGS, AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- December 2025 “Connecting Learning to Action in Collaborative Online International Learning Project between US and Japan Universities.” The 13th National Conference by the Japan Association for Global Competency Education, Toita Women’s College, Tokyo. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Kaburagi, E. (presenter) and Chan, C.J.
- October 2025 “Implementation and Results of Collaborative Online International Learning Programs Using a Second Language as a Medium.” The 9th Annual Regional Conference by the Japan Association for Global Competency Education, Chugoku and Shikoku region. Tottori, Japan. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Kaburagi, E. (presenter) and Chan, C.J.
- September 2023 “Collaborative Online International Learning: Peer Reflection Promotes Classroom Collaboration.” Hue International Seminar 2023, the Association for the Study of Human Resources Mobility in Asia. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Kaburagi, E. (presenter) and Chan, C.J.
- July 2023 “Career Design from The Perspectives of Identity, Second Language Acquisition, and Global Competence.” Tottori University, Tottori, Japan. Invited speaker.

- October 2022 “Fostering Independent Learning through Online Collaborative Learning: A Report from an International Collaborative Learning Site of Japanese and American University Students.” The Japan Association for Global Competency Education, the 10th National Conference, and 3rd International WEB Conference. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Kaburagi, E. (presenter) and Chan, C.J.
- September 2022 “A Joint COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) Project Using Different Target Languages between Universities from Japan and the United States.” Hanoi International Seminar 2022, the Association for the Study of Human Resources Mobility in Asia. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Kaburagi, E. (presenter) and Chan, C.J.
- July 2022 “Development and Possibilities of Online Language Exchange Programs That Go beyond Language and Culture Acquisition.” the 1st Regional Conference by the Society for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language in Kyushuu and Okinawa, Tsukushi Joshi Gakuen University, Fukuoka, Japan.
- June 2019 “Class-to-Class Language and Culture Exchange for Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate Language Learners.” The 28th Annual Conference by Koide Kinen Japanese Language Education Research Association, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan. Co-presenter.
- May 2019 “Group ‘eTandem’ Using Asynchronous Videos for Mixed-Ability Language Classes.” the Third Biennial Asia-Pacific Virtual Exchange Association Conference. Hangzhou Dianzi University, China. Co-researcher/presenter in absentia with Yamauchi, M. (presenter).
- December 2018 “Synchronous or Asynchronous Learning? Comparisons and Results of Two Virtual Language Exchange Projects.” Annual Conference of the Vermont Association of Japanese Teachers, Middlebury College.
- June 2018 “Designing a Virtual Exchange Program Using Video-based Communication on Facebook.” Japan Association for Language Teaching Computer Assisted Language Learning (JALTCALL) 2018 25th Anniversary Conference. Nagoya, Japan. Co-presenter.
- December 2017 “Designing A Tandem-Learning Video Project to Promote Interactions with Japanese College Students.” Annual Conference of the Vermont Association of Japanese Teachers, the University of Vermont.
- December 2016 “Japanese Language Education beyond the Classroom.” Annual Conference of the Vermont Association of Japanese Teachers, Middlebury College, Vermont.
- October 2016 “Creating Global Citizens through Language Learning in an Under-Resourced Setting.” The Global Education Forum, Philadelphia. Co-presenter.
- August 2014 “What Would You Do with Your Japanese Language Study after You Graduate? Learning from the Experiences of Former Students.” Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada.
- February 2014 “Study Abroad to Workplace: Faculty’s Role to Help Students Prepare Work Abroad.” New England Study Abroad Returnee Conference, Babson College, Babson Park, Massachusetts.
- November 2013 “Methods of Teaching Business Japanese Culture and Providing Career Support for Japanese Language Students.” Annual Conference of the VT Association of Japanese Teachers, Middlebury College, Vermont.
- October 2013 “Reflecting on Your Study Abroad Experience: A Look at Various Methods Used by Faculty to Encourage Returned Students to Reflect on Their Experiences Abroad.” National Association of Foreign Student Advisors: Association of International Education, Regional Conference, Stowe, Vermont.
- June 2006 “Effective and Interactive Usage of Blogs in Japanese Language Courses.” The joint conference of the Japanese Language Teachers Association of New England and the Northeast Council of Teachers of Japanese, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. Co-presenter.
- November 2006 “Multimedia Activities in Language Classrooms for the Technologically Challenged Teacher.” American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Convention, Nashville, Tennessee. Co-presenter.

AWARDS

- 2025 Outstanding Professional Contributions, the College of Arts and Sciences, the University of Vermont.

- 2025 Commendation Award by the Japan-America Society of Vermont in recognition of excellent professional achievement and contribution to the society.
- 2023 Nominated for the 2023 American Association of Teachers of Japanese Outstanding Teacher Awards in Post-secondary Category, the American Association of Teachers of Japanese, Boulder, Colorado.
- 2022-2023 Nominated for the 2023 Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award, the University of Vermont.
- 2019 Commendation Award by the Japan-America Society of Vermont for outstanding contribution to provide Japanese language and cultural education in Vermont.
- 2015-2018 Nominated for the 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Awards, the University of Vermont.
- 2010-2011 "Global Village House of the Year," the Living and Learning Center's Japanese House Program, the University of Vermont. Co-director.
- 2010-2011 "Global Village Event of the Year: Day of 1,000 Cranes," a fundraising event for 3/11 earthquake and tsunami victims through [Students Rebuild](#), the Living and Learning Center, the University of Vermont.
- 2006-2007 "Global Village House of the Year," the Living and Learning Center's Japanese House Program, the University of Vermont. Co-director.
- 2004-2005 Faculty Program Director of the Year Award, the Living and Learning Center's Japanese House Program, the University of Vermont. Co-director.

GRANTS

- 2025 Planetary Health Service-Learning Grant, the Office of Community-Engaged Learning through the Provost Office's [Planetary Health Initiative](#), the University of Vermont.
- 2023-2024 Japanese Language Learners Event Grant, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles. Co-applicant.
- 2022-2023 Japanese Language Learners Event Grant, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles. Co-applicant.
- 2021-2022 Japanese Teaching Material Purchase Grant, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles.
- 2017-2018 Japanese Language Learners Event Grant, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles. Co-applicant.
- 2016-2017 Japanese Teaching Material Purchase Grant, the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles.
- 2016 Service-Learning Planning and Implementation Grant for Asian Languages Teaching Practicum, the Office of Community-University Partnerships and Service Learning, the University of Vermont.
- 2015-2016 Engaged Practices Innovation Grant, the Provost's Office, the University of Vermont. Co-applicant.
- 2006 Faculty Fellowship Professional Development Fund, the Office of Community-University Partnerships and Service Learning, the University of Vermont.
- 2006 Service-Learning Planning and Implementation Grant for Faculty Exchange Trip to Japan, the Office of Community-University Partnerships and Service Learning, the University of Vermont.

SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 2025 – Present *Director*, the Japanese Program Leadership and Advisory Committee, the University of Vermont.
- 2025 – Present *Planetary Health Fellow*, the Office of Community-Engaged Learning, the University of Vermont.
- 2023 – Present *Faculty Advisor*, Japanese Language and Culture Club, the University of Vermont. Led a group of interested students to establish an official Student Government Association club which offers Japan-related events.

2022 – Present	<i>Advocate</i> for the Japanese programs in the region, the University of Vermont, South Burlington School District, and Champlain College, Vermont. Offer series of Japan-related events at and with local schools.
2021 – Present	<i>Supporter</i> of Vermont and Tottori sister-state efforts. Work with Tottori Prefectural Government, the State of Vermont, and Tottori University. Offer Collaborative Online International Learning projects and lang. exchange programs. Visit Tottori and host government officials and partners from Tottori.
2018 – Present	<i>Faculty Advisor</i> , tutoring service in the Japanese Program, the University of Vermont. Recruit, train, advise, and supervise tutors to support Japanese language students.
2017 – Present	<i>Director</i> , developed partnerships and work with several Japanese universities to offer language and cultural exchange programs.
2013 – Present	<i>Associate Board Member</i> , the Japan-America Society of Vermont. Help provide Japan Studies and cultural activities in Vermont including a large-scale, biennial <i>Matsuri</i> festival.
2013 – Present	<i>Blogger for Career Advising</i> , the University of Vermont. Interview alumni who landed on Japan-related careers and archive their stories on a blog. Present the blog at career events and during advising.
2012 – Present	<i>Associate Member</i> , Tagengotadoku (Multi-Language Extensive Reading), Tokyo. Develop Japanese graded reader books and produce audio narrations with other members of the NPO.
2008 – Present	<i>Member</i> , Vermont Association of Japanese Teachers. Applied for grant for a state-wide speech contest. Organize seminar-type conference and judge speech contests with other members.
2006 – Present	<i>Service-Learning Faculty Fellow</i> , the Office of Community-Engaged Learning, the University of Vermont. Incorporate service-learning components in courses for student learning and to teach transferrable skills for career development including teaching English in Japan (testimony can be found in The Class That Changed My Life). Establish partnerships with various schools and arrange community-engaged learning opportunities.
2026	<i>Instructor Trainer</i> , trained a part-time Japanese language instructor using a new teaching method with grammar videos and assisted with her onboarding at the University of Vermont.
2024 – 2025	<i>Instructor Trainer</i> , trained a full-time Japanese language instructor and assisted with her onboarding at the University of Vermont.
Spring 2023	<i>Search Committee Member</i> , the School of World Languages and Cultures, the University of Vermont. Contributed to develop search strategy, recruitment, and selection criteria, resulting in successful hire.
Spring 2022	<i>Instructor Trainer</i> , trained a part-time Japanese language instructor and assisted with her onboarding at the University of Vermont.
Fall 2021	<i>Committee Member</i> , Mission & Insuring Program Autonomy Working Group during the establishment of the School of World Languages and Cultures by merging four separate departments, the University of Vermont.
June 2021	<i>UDL Advisor</i> , was selected as one of the six members of Designing for Learning Faculty Working Group to give advice and infuse Universal Design for Learning further into the College of Arts and Sciences, the University of Vermont.
2013 – 2018	<i>Faculty Advisor</i> , Japanese Club, the University of Vermont. Led a group of student leaders to create a club. I turned this club into a tutoring service in 2018 so that the leaders could get paid for their weekly conversation hour and tutoring.
2007 – 2008	<i>Search Committee Member</i> , the Asian Languages and Literatures, the University of Vermont. Contributed to the recruitment and selection process for a tenure-track position, resulting in a successful hire.