

I hold a BA and MA from the Department of Asian Studies at the University of British Columbia, where I focused on Japanese Studies, writing my MA thesis on the author, Akutagawa Ryunosuke. My PhD is from the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto, where I wrote my dissertation on the avant-garde novelist, playwright, and theatre director, Abe Kobo. I have taught at the University of Toronto, the University of Iowa, and, since 2002, here at the University of Victoria. My research is primarily in the traditions of the Humanities, focusing on the intersection between works of art and their historical contexts, and the critical comments they make on these. I teach courses on Japanese, and more broadly, Asian, aesthetics, literature, history, cinema, and language. My vision for service is to help ensure that the administration respects, supports, and protects the needs of all members of the university community, from undergraduate to graduate students, from staff to faculty at all stages of their careers, and to members of the larger community whom the university serves in all its capacities. Governance must be fair, open, accessible, and responsible to the constituents for whom it exists, and members of the university's government must always remember that all of us here exist to serve the educational, social, and vital goals of our students, colleagues, and members of the community around us. We exist for these purposes; these purposes do not exist for us. It will be my honour, and my duty, to serve the university community sincerely, respectfully, and humbly, and in this spirit, I put myself forward as a candidate to represent the Faculty of Humanities in the Senate of the University of Victoria.