琉球大学学術リポジトリ

From the Director

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From the Director

This is the second issue of *OJAS, Okinawan Journal of American Studies*. The first issue was printed in March 2004, and we are pleased to say that we have received favorable comments on the first issue in terms of its content and its aspiration to create a forum in English in which scholars and critics from diverse disciplines can present various perspectives on the natural environment, culture, and society of the United States.

The word "Okinawan" in the title of the journal indicates our desire to establish Okinawan perspectives on the United States of America, since Okinawa has had unique experiences in its relationship with the U.S. culture and society since 1945, or 1853 if we take into consideration Commodore Matthew Perry's arrival in Naha before his visit to Edo.

Since its establishment in 2002, the American Studies Center of the University of the Ryukyus (ASCUR) has received generous support from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission. With grants from JUSFC, we have been able to sponsor two series of lectures by scholars from the United States and Japan. These scholars and critics, all leaders in their respective fields, have given lectures and led workshops on America's culture, society, and natural environment. We are fortunate to be able to print in this issue some of the lectures given at ASCUR. We are deeply grateful to those writers who agreed to print their articles in *OJAS*.

Thank you for your continued support. *OJAS,* however, is still in the growing process, and we would very much appreciate it if we could receive ideas for organizing *OJAS* and candid feedback on its content from our contributors and readers.