

McGILL UNIVERSITY

Office of the Principal
and Vice Chancellor.

July 27th, 1933.

H. Kawamura, Esq.,
Chargé d'Affaires of Japan,
Japanese Legation,
O t t a w a .

Dear Sir,

Your letter of July 24th, addressed to Professor Ira MacKay, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science of this University, has been handed to me.

In reply to your first question, let me say that no teaching of Japanese language or Japanese literature is at present done in this University, although the matter has at times received consideration. You may know that a few years ago, because of the presence in our Library of the East Chinese Research Library, we inaugurated a Department of Chinese Studies, with Professor Kiang Kang-hu in charge. Professor Kiang Kang-hu is a graduate of the Imperial University of Tokyo and is quite competent to teach the Japanese language.

I may say that when we set up the Department, it was not our intention by any means to confine it to the study of Chinese language, literature, history, etc; but we envisioned a Department of Far Eastern Studies, which would embrace the whole field of far eastern studies. I had in mind that some time we would add to it an Indian scholar, a Japanese scholar, and men of other tongues, who could be classed as scholars in far eastern culture. Lack of funds for extension in the last few years has curtailed our plan, and at present we are doing nothing other than keep the Chinese classes going.

In reply to your second question, as to whether it would be considered desirable to exchange professors or students with a Japanese University, I would say, yes; although for the present I should much prefer to exchange professors than to contemplate an exchange of students, unless it were post-graduate students. I would sympathize very much with the exchange of, say, a Professor of Political Economy, Social Economics, or an allied subject. I shall always be glad to hear of any progress in making such a plan feasible.

Yours faithfully,

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