19TH Anniversary Annual Shinnenkai Reception

Co-hosted by Silicon Valley Japanese Entrepreneur Network
Friday, January 30, 2009

Honoring International Political Economist Legend
Professor Daniel I. Okimoto

Please come celebrate the Keizai Society's 19th anniversary at our Shinnenkai, Friday, January 30th at 6:00 pm at the Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. This is the third joint event with SVJEN (Silicon Valley Japanese Entrepreneur Network: http://www.svjen.org/index.html) and supported by JETRO San Francisco (Japan External Trade Organization: http://www.jetro.org).

We will be honoring Professor Daniel I. Okimoto* with a Lifetime Achievement award. Professor Okimoto is a pioneer and legend in Political Economics. As our governments seek “revitalization” of the international credit crisis, it is more important than ever to understand the interaction between financial globalization and domestic politics. Professor Okimoto is recognized by the Japanese government with The Order of the Rising Sun, the highest honor that can be conferred on a non-Japanese citizen. In addition, California Secretary of State Debra Bowen (Keizai Advisory Board member and 2007 Keizai Rising Star award recipient) kicks off the evening addressing the state of California and will offer her perspective for businesses between California and Japan.

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Please RSVP by January 26, 2009 for the best price @ http://www.keizai.org

DATE
Friday, January 30, 2009

LOCATION
Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club
3000 Alexis Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94304

TIME
6:00–10:00 p.m.
Hors d’oeuvres

DRESS
Business casual

FEES
$30 for those who rsvp by 1/26/09
$50 for late registrations and walk-ins
Words from the Co-Presidents

Keizai means Economy in Japanese. In light of the present economic crisis (and in keeping with the organization’s name), the Keizai Society (http://www.keizai.org) has chosen “Revitalization—Finding the Real Economy” as its theme for the year 2009. We believe our mission in these times is to focus on providing information that is useful to your economic understanding and helpful in your decision making; much of what we plan to bring you is simply not readily available elsewhere.

This is our measure of “economic efficiency.” Our case in point is this year’s Shinnenkai honoree, Professor Daniel I. Okimoto (http://aparc.stanford.edu/people/danieliokimoto), is being awarded for his Lifetime Achievement in Political Economics, as described separately in this newsletter.

It is generally known that Economics is often called the Dismal Science, yet when a given “bubble” bursts or another crisis emerges, everyone wants to know more about the topic. With governments seeking “revitalization” of international credit as the only way out of this crisis, it becomes more important than ever to understand the interaction between financial globalization, regional economies and domestic politics.

In the months to follow, we will be focused on providing programs that present new (and we believe useful) insights into the Real Economy. Our speakers may touch on economic systems more than in past years, but throughout, we will center on workable approaches to today’s situations, always with exemplary solutions that make sense.

We see our success in this endeavor as helping your success, and thereby the hope of a truly Happy New Year.

Most sincerely,

Mark Kato & Chimmy Shioya

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About Professor Daniel I. Okimoto

Professor Daniel I. Okimoto is the Chairman of the Sterling Stamos Global Institute and Asia Strategy Group, as well as a Partner at Sterling Stamos. He is Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Senior Fellow of the Institute for International Studies, and Director Emeritus and Co-Founder of the Shorenstein Asia/Pacific Research Center at Stanford University.

During his 30-plus years at Stanford, Professor Okimoto played a central role in establishing several interdisciplinary programs and research institutions, including the Stanford Institute for International Studies, the East Asian Studies Program, the Shorenstein Forum on Asia Pacific Studies, the Asia/Pacific Scholars Program, and the Stanford Center in Japan. He has taught at the Stockholm School of Economics and the International Research Center in Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan.

The Shorenstein Asia/Pacific Research Center, which Professor Okimoto co-founded, is a leading center for scholarly research, public policy, and policy outreach. He has been Vice-Chairman of the Japan Committee of the National Research Council at the National Academy of Sciences and a member of the Advisory Council of the Department of Politics at Princeton University.

In 2004, he received the Japanese Foreign Minister’s Commendation in recognition of his contributions to US-Japan relations during the 150th anniversary celebration of bilateral relations.

Professor Okimoto serves on several Advisory Boards and Boards of Directors, including the Development Bank of Japan, the Queen Lili‘uokalani Trust, and the San Diego Padres.

Professor Okimoto earned a BA from Princeton University, received an MA from Harvard University, and earned a PhD (Political Science) from the University of Michigan. He is the author and editor of numerous books and articles, including *Between MITI and the Market: Japanese Industrial Policy for High Technology* and co-editor, *The Political Economy of Japan and Competitive Edge: The Semiconductor Industry in the U.S. and Japan*. 

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**Entrepreneur, Global Leader, Philanthropist**

The Morrison & Foerster logo is displayed along with the text: "Morrison & Foerster is Proud to Support The Keizai Society."
Come and be part of the Kagamiwari (traditional sake barrel “breaking”) ceremony with the Consul General of Japan, Consul General Nagamine.

Due to the anticipated number of attendees, register on-line (www.keizai.org) to ensure your participation. Start 2009 by strengthening your business relationships and forging new ones. Bring lots of business cards to exchange, including one to enter the drawing for the exciting door prizes, including a free round trip airline ticket to Japan. We look forward to celebrating 2009 with you at our 19th anniversary Shinnenkai.

In the keynote presentation, Professor Daniel I. Okimoto will be speaking on the topic of “US-Japan Economic Interdependence: Financial Crises and Capital Dependence”

Keizai Society members and other Shinnenkai attendees will likely agree on the importance of considering China’s ascendency when asking whether the lessons Japan learned in coping with its economic crises in the 1990s can truly help the world better manage the present US credit crisis, now become global.

Professor Okimoto will be comparing the Japanese and American financial crises (the similarities and differences) and offering his assessment of the scope and implications

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Kagamiwari, a traditional Japanese sake barrel breaking ceremony for good luck

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Shinnenkai has great food.
Every year, Keizai Society honors an individual who has made special contributions to US-Japan relation in his/her specific field of work.

Welcome and useful light on today’s dismal economic discussions, stimulating the kind of thinking needed to succeed in this New Year.


America’s skyrocketing national debt and its dependence on capital inflows from Japan and China: scope and implications.

Outlook: rapid recovery or long stagnation?

We believe the presentation’s key points will shine a welcome and useful light on today’s dismal economic discussions, stimulating the kind of thinking needed to succeed in this New Year.

Palo Alto Research Center, a subsidiary of Xerox Corporation, providing strategic research services, technology, and intellectual property to industry/partners and government agencies

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San Jose Office: 990 N. First St, San Jose, CA
Our corporate sponsor, ZL Technologies has immediate openings for sales engineers, technical support, technical writing and others. Sales engineer and technical support positions shall require Japanese language skills. The job descriptions for other openings are on the website: http://www.zlti.com/company/careers/sales.html. If you are interested, please contact Chimmy at cshioya@ZLTI.com

We are Hiring!
The Keizai Society, all-volunteer organization, is looking for more team members. Volunteers would benefit by having a venue to meet and network with leaders in the community and given that the job is done well, you will be able to get a job reference if needed. As a core team member, you will be able to attend Keizai events for free along with other benefits.

1) Program Committee
We are looking for native English speakers and self starters to develop programs “from cradle to grave” to figure out a program that should be of interest to both the American and Japanese Keizai membership. This would involve determining the right speaker(s), writing up a draft flyer for review and distribution, and coordinating with the speaker(s), especially if one decides on a panel. At the event, the program developer would introduce the speaker(s), and play host.

2) Other positions
Other positions are also available for marketing and business development. Japanese language skills is a plus, but not a requirement. Please contact us for more detail. Please contact chimmy@keizai.org or mark@keizai.org to discuss these opportunities. We hope you’ll join the Keizai Team!