

MEDIA ADVISORY: Consulate General of Japan in collaboration with Marx Layne & Company

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN IN DETROIT
CO-SPONSORS TOWN HALL MEETINGS AT WESTERN
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WITH FORMER JAPANESE
AMBASSADOR**

WHAT: On Wednesday, March 16 the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit will co-sponsor a town hall meeting at Western Michigan University with a Japanese delegation headed by the Honorable Shuji Shimokoji, the former Japanese Ambassador to Panama and Venezuela.

The “Walk in the U.S., Talk on Japan” events, supported by the Prime Minister’s Office, are to increase awareness about Japan on a variety of issues and further develop the U.S. – Japan relationship through people-to-people diplomacy. Accompanying Ambassador Shimokoji will be a retired businessman from the auto industry, a retired Air Force General in Japan’s Ministry of Defense, a young CEO/owner of a travel company, and a Shizuoka University student to discuss issues on Japan’s society, business, education, security, politics and economy.

“These town halls are a wonderful opportunity for students and community members to informally discuss Japan-U.S. relations, ask questions and interact with different representatives from Japan,” said Mitsuhiro Wada, Consul General of Japan in Detroit. “The friendship between Japan and the United States has never been stronger and events like this which promote open dialogue are a great way to enhance both countries’ economic and cultural contributions to one another.”

Admission is free and open to the public.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Western Michigan University 1035-1045 room of Fetzer Center, 2350 Business Ct, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

About the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit

The Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit was established in 1993 by the Government of Japan to serve in the states of Michigan and Ohio. The Detroit office is one of 14 Japanese Consulates General in the United States. The Consulate strives to promote better understanding of Japan and Japanese culture through educational and cultural programs. The office protects the interests of Japanese citizens and strengthens the Japan-U.S. alliance through furthering relations with local governments, companies, educational institutions, cultural organizations and

the general public. For more information, visit www.detroit.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ or call (313) 567-0120.

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