

2023 Autumn Conferment of Decorations

Dr Wayne Lawrence

Consulate-General of Japan in Auckland

November 3, 2023

On 3 November 2023, the Government of Japan announced the list of foreign recipients of the 2023 Autumn Conferment of Decorations. Dr Wayne Lawrence of Auckland receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette for his contributions to promoting academic exchanges and mutual understanding between Japan and New Zealand.

(LINK) Conferment of Decorations on Foreign Nationals (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Webpage)

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/protocol/jokun.html> (Japanese)

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/info/conferment/index.html> (English)

- NAME: Wayne Lawrence (DR)
- AGE: 65 years old
- MAJOR TITLE:
 - Current Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Auckland
 - Former Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland



SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr Wayne Lawrence has been dedicated to Japanese language education in New Zealand for about 40 years after completing his doctoral studies at Tsukuba University. Dr Lawrence has been involved in Japanese language education at the University of Auckland (UoA) since 1987, and as a linguist (mainly studying Ryukyuan dialects) has led the classical Japanese language course there since 2000. He has played a central contributing role in the development of Japanese language education through teaching students to become a bridge between Japan and New Zealand.

Dr Lawrence has also contributed to academic exchange between the two countries as a linguist, serving as a researcher at Okinawa Prefectural University of Arts, Tsukuba University and the University of the Ryukyus.

Dr Lawrence has made a significant contribution to the promotion of people to people exchange between the two countries over the past 30 years through his involvement in the Japanese Government's JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Programme and MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) Scholarships.

For more information about Dr Lawrence's activities, please visit our homepage for his profile.

https://www.auckland.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/dr_lawrence_j.html (Japanese)

https://www.auckland.nz.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/dr_lawrence_e.html (English)