

Press Release

Embassy of Japan in South Africa

3 November 2020

**2020 Autumn Conferment of Decoration from Japan
Professor Garth Lawrence Shelton**

On 3 November, 2020, the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2020 Autumn Imperial Decoration. Professor Garth Lawrence Shelton is among the recipients of the decoration by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

Professor Garth Lawrence Shelton, Associate Professor in the department of International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand has contributed greatly to the relationship between Japan and South Africa through his research and as a lecturer.

In 1992 Professor Shelton helped to establish the East Asia Project (EAP) in the Department of International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand to promote a greater awareness and understanding of Asia in general and East Asia in particular.

Since 1998, Professor Shelton has assisted the Embassy of Japan by being a vital member on the selection panel of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme which aims to promote grass-roots international exchange between Japan and other nations by inviting young college graduates from around the world to be involved in foreign language education in Japan.

Furthermore, since 1998, Professor Shelton has been on the selection committee of the Japanese Government's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) Scholarship Programme through which recipients can attain a qualification and experience placing them in the unique position of being a bridge between South Africa and Japan.

Dates and arrangement of the conferment ceremony will be decided in due course.

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