

# **A 120-Year Retrospective: The Russo-Japanese War and Treaty of Portsmouth with Implications for Today**



**Admiral Togo taking the hand of a Russian sailor in a Japanese hospital after he was washed ashore on the island of Tsushima.  
The sailor's ship was sunk by Admiral Togo in the Battle of Tsushima on May 27, 1905.**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2025**

**8:30 AM - 5 PM**

**Kilachand Honors College, Room 101**

**91 Bay State Road, Boston MA**

**Boston University**



Pardee School of Global Studies  
Center for the Study of Asia  
Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future  
International History Institute  
Division of Military Education  
Kilachand Honors College

**Free and open to the public.  
Please register through this QR code  
or BY CLICKING HERE.**



# Conference Program Schedule

Coffee will be available at the conference venue before the start of the conference.

## 8:30 AM Introductions

Scott Taylor	Pardee School Welcome
John Woodward	Boston University Welcome
Seiichiro Takahashi	Japan Consulate Welcome
Grant Rhode	Program overview

## 9:00 AM Panel 1: War: The Russo-Japanese War

John Woodward	Moderator
James R. Holmes	Japanese Strategy in the Russo-Japanese War
John H. Maurer	Alfred T Mahan, Sea Power, and the Russo-Japanese War
Vitaly Kozyrev	Russian Military Lessons from the Russo-Japanese War
Lyle Goldstein	The Russian Navy Museum Account of the Russo-Japanese War

## 10:30 AM Break

## 10:45 AM Panel 2: How Wars End: The Treaty of Portsmouth

Aimee Genell	Moderator
William Tilchin	Theodore Roosevelt's Centrality to the Portsmouth Treaty
Rui Hua	Transnational Legal Impacts of the Russo-Japanese War
Chiharu Inaba	The Russo-Japanese Negotiations on the Brink of Collapse and the US Mediation
Charles Doleac	A Multi-track Path to Peace: Citizen Diplomacy in Portsmouth

## 12:15 PM Morning Summation

Andrei Mamolea	The Russo-Japanese War and Portsmouth War Termination
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## 12:30 PM Lunch Break

Robert Murowchick  
Conference Hall Digital Exhibition

## Sandwich lunch provided at the conference venue

Introduction to the World's Fairs Digital Exhibition  
Japan at the World's Fairs: A 160-Year Retrospective

## 1:30 PM Keynote Talk

Thomas Berger	Moderator
Frederick Dickinson	Rethinking the 20th Century through the Prism of Portsmouth
Rockford Weitz	Discussant

## 2:45 PM Break

### 3:00 PM Panel 3: The Japanese Cultural Context

Robert Hefner	Moderator
Alice Tseng	Assessing Japan at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair
Hiromi Miyagi-Lusthaus	Japanese Attitudes toward Jews During and After the Russo-Japanese War
Keith Vincent	"Let loose the hungry dogs!" Natsume Sōseki as a Post-Russo-Japanese War Writer
Sarah Frederick	The Russo-Japanese War and the Birth of Shoujo Culture

### 4:30 PM Closing

John H. Maurer & Erik Goldstein	Conference Summation
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### Conference Speakers and Panelists:

**Frederick R. Dickinson** is Professor of Japanese History and Director of the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Charles B. Doleac** is President of the Japan-America Society of NH, founder and moderator of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty Forum, and a NH Superior Court mediator.

**Sarah Frederick** is Associate Professor of Japanese and Comparative Literature at Boston University and Director of Undergraduate Studies.

**Lyle Goldstein** is Director of the China Initiative at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University and serves as Director of Asia Engagement at Defense Priorities.

**Rui Hua** is Assistant Professor of History at in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Boston University who formerly taught at the University of British Columbia.

**James Holmes** is the J. C. Wylie Chair of Maritime Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College.

**Chiharu Inaba** is Professor of International Relations, Faculty of Urban Science, Meijo University, Nagoya.

**Vitaly Kozyrev** is Distinguished Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Endicott College and Associate in Research at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University.

**Andrei Mamolea** is Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University.

**John H. Maurer** is the Alfred Thayer Mahan Professor of Sea Power and Grand Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College.

**Hiromi Miyagi-Lusthaus** is Senior Lecturer in Japanese in World Languages & Literature at Boston University.

**Robert Murowchick** is Lecturer of Archaeology and Director of Archaeology Undergraduate Studies at Boston University.

**William Tilchin** is Associate Professor Emeritus of Social Sciences and History at Boston University and Editor of the Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal.

**Alice Y. Tseng** is Associate Dean of the Faculty for the Humanities and Professor of Japanese Art and Architecture in the Department of History of Art and Architecture at Boston University.

**Keith Vincent** is Associate Professor of Japanese and Comparative Literature and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Boston University.

### **Moderators and Discussant:**

**Thomas Berger** is Professor of International Relations at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and former Director of the Center for the Study of Asia.

**Aimee Genell** is Assistant Professor of International History at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University.

**Robert Hefner** is Professor of Anthropology and International Relations at Boston University and Director of the Center for the Study of Asia.

**Rockford Weitz** is Professor of Practice and Director of the Fletcher Maritime Studies Program at The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University.

**John Woodwardis** Professor of the Practice of International Relations at Boston University and Director of both the BU Division of Military Education and the BU International History Institute.

### **Welcomes, Overview, Summation:**

**Erik Goldstein** is Professor Emeritus of International Relations and History at Boston University, Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (Britain), and former Secretary of the Navy Senior Research Fellow.

**Grant Rhode** is Senior Fellow and Research Affiliate respectively of the BU International History Institute and BU Center for the Study of Asia.

**Seiichiro Takahashi** is the Consul General of Japan in Boston.

**Scott Taylor** is Dean of the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University.

### **Conference Sponsors:**

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BU Faculty Thomas Berger, Aimee Genell, Andrei Mamolea, and Grant Rhode