

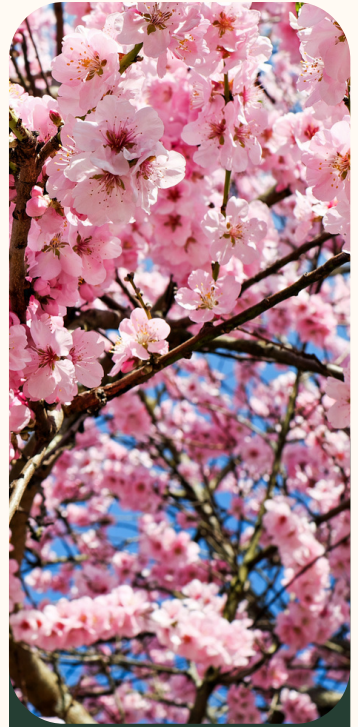
**The Japan Center  
at Stony Brook presents**

## **Natsuko Oku**

**Consul, Deputy Director,  
Japan Information Center,  
Consulate-General of Japan in  
New York**

# **“The Choice to Become a Japanese Diplomat”**

Ms. Natsuko Oku is a Japanese diplomat working at the Consulate-General of Japan in New York. Her current mission is to introduce Japan to the people of New York. In this lecture, she will talk about why she decided to become a diplomat, what she studied when she was a college student, and what exactly she is doing now in New York. She is a Korean language specialist at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and has experience as an interpreter for the Prime Minister. She will share her unique experience as a Korean-speaking Japanese diplomat and her thoughts on the role of a diplomat. We hope that her experience will be helpful to you as you consider your future international career path.



**MONDAY,  
MARCH 25, 2024  
2:30PM  
Charles B.  
Wang Center  
Lecture Hall 2**



**Stony Brook  
University**



**Ms. Natsuko Oku is a diplomat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) with around 20 years of experience and is an expert in the Korean Peninsula and Korean language. Born in 1976 and raised in Fukuoka, she graduated from the University of Kobe, Faculty of Law, and joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in 2000. She also studied as a diplomatic attaché at Seoul National University in South Korea and received a master's degree in social sciences. She has worked in the Northeast Asia Division, the International Press Division, the Intelligence and Analysis Service (IAS), the Cabinet Secretariat in Tokyo and posted to the Embassy of Japan in Seoul, South Korea. Since October 2021, she has joined the Consulate-General of Japan in New York. She speaks Japanese, Korean, English, and a little bit of French.**