

Edited For Public Release

Singapore Students'
Association (Japan)
2024-25
Executive Committee
Annual General Meeting
Report

SSAJ 2024-2025 Executive Committee

28 June 2025



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President's Report

In my term as President, I am proud to announce that we successfully organised events not just within the Singaporean community, but also connecting the Singaporean community to the wider one here in Japan. I firmly believe that as Singaporeans abroad, SSAJ is well-positioned to encourage and support our students in sharing more about Singaporean culture, especially through food, an experience which transcends language.

To that end, we made use of Singapore Global Network (SGN) funding to execute our inaugural SSAJ x PPIJ (Indonesia's Student Organisation in Japan) interaction event, as well as the Singapore Innovation Night conducted in conjunction with Moon Creative Lab. We also did a pilot run of the Let's Makan initiative, a 500yen subsidy for both a Singaporean student and their non-Singaporean friend to try Singaporean/Malaysian food, and were in discussions with SGN for them to begin funding it. Organisations continued to reach out to us to advertise their jobs, scholarships (EDB and JUGAS) and occasionally, internships, highlighting the key role that SSAJ plays as the gateway between students and various organisations looking to publicise to students.

Additionally, we continued our mainstay events such as the pre-departure briefings, senpai-kouhai programme, minna no event and hanami, maintaining SSAJ's function as a safe and enjoyable space for Singaporean students to connect with each other. We also innovated new initiatives like the General Election watch party, which allowed students to gather and watch the elections together.

It is this mix of maintaining tradition and continually innovating that I believe this year's EXCO should move forward with. A balance must be struck between the two, and the EXCO must be conscious of what part of SSAJ's role they are compromising on, to achieve other new initiatives. It is an honour and a heavy responsibility to be part of SSAJ, as well as to be a part of advocating for Singapore's brand abroad. That being said, I am confident that all new EXCO members, and all members of SSAJ will be able to play their part in fulfilling this responsibility. I wish the new EXCO all the best for the year ahead.



Committee Members from August 2024

Our term began after taking over from the 2023-2024 EXCO committee during the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 3 August 2024. The AGM in 2024 was held in a hybrid manner with members participating both online and in person at the Singapore Embassy in Tokyo.

The committee members were:

- **President:** Evelyne Chua - University of Tokyo
- **Vice-President (External):** Jonathan James Ng - Waseda University
- **Vice-President (Internal):** Ng Qian Xing - Waseda University
- **Treasurer:** Cheang Hui Xin - Waseda University
- **Secretary:** Vanessa Lin - Waseda University
- **PR Head:** Yvette Ortega - Ritsumeikan University

Committee Structure and Roles

Our team has decided to continue on the roles set out by the previous EXCO committee, which were as follows:

- The **President** would oversee the functioning of the entire executive committee, helping to set goals and directions, as well as oversee any new initiatives to be carried out. The President would also play a large part in liaising with organisations and partners, as well as attending external events.
- The **Vice-President (Internal)** would be in charge of the internal functioning of the association, through organising events, looking after the welfare of the members, and helping to manage internal communications. The vice-president would also be in charge of engaging members for new event ideas.
- The **Vice-President (External)** would be in-charge of liaising with external organisations and partners, including seeking deals, partnerships, and career opportunities for students, as well as sponsorship opportunities from organisations.
- The **Treasurer** would be in charge of the finances of the association, including budgeting, managing claims, and overseeing the financial prudence of the association when spending on events. The Treasurer would also be the association's representative of the official association bank account.
- The **Secretary** would be in charge of managing administrative matters and digital platforms of the association. This includes maintaining the Membership Database and the association websites on Wix and Squarespace. They would also be responsible for



handling the Study in Japan Singapore portal, which serves as a one-stop resource for Singaporeans interested in studying in Japan.

- The **Public Relations Head** would be in charge of handling social media platforms, as well as digital platforms together with the Secretary. They would also be in charge of outreach and increasing the visibility of the association to schools and universities.

Objectives of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee

The 2024-2025 Executive Committee sought to connect SSAJ with other student organisations in Japan and opportunities for networking, scholarships and jobs, all whilst continuing events to encourage connections within the Singaporean community.

Before we began new initiatives, we made sure that we did not neglect our existing initiatives. We must emphasise to the incoming EXCO that the pre-departure briefings and initial welcome event are some of the most highly-attended events. They also serve as the main way incoming exchange students, a large portion of our community, find out about SSAJ, as we contact Singaporean universities directly to share about the pre-departure briefings. Thus, these events, alongside the senpai-kouhai programme should not be deprioritised in the slightest.

We also focused more heavily on outreach to companies rather than outreach to educational institutes. We made sure to emphasise that students were always actively looking for internship opportunities, and networked more with the Singaporean community than the headhunting companies which SSAJ had collaborated with previously. That being said, we continued to communicate with educational institutes, with two of our members involved in the Study in Japan Webinar as Q&A hosts.

All in all, we focused on expanding our collaborations whilst retaining the base of events that SSAJ regularly holds.



Note: This section has been modified for the public version of this report.

Data on Current Members

The distribution of our currently studying members across 19 prefectures in Japan is shown in the pie chart below (removed for public version). Members based in Kanto region (Tokyo, Kanagawa) make up almost three quarters of the total (72.6%), followed by Kansai region (Kyoto, Osaka and Hyogo) at under 15%.

Reflections

The first thing that has preoccupied my mind is the tension between what I perceive to be the two main, but divergent roles of SSAJ. In the constitution, the following six items are listed as our objectives.

1. To support the welfare of members to the best of the association's capacity
2. To serve as a social platform to meet one another and a support network for members
3. To help onboard new members and help them integrate into the community
4. To provide job opportunities to members
5. To boost the profile of studying in Japan to Singaporean students in Singapore
6. To maintain channels of communication between the association and members

I'd like to draw your attention to number 5. The remaining five items can be accomplished relatively well through outreach within Japan, but number 5 requires outreach to Singapore. In my term, we focused mainly on the "SSAJ" function rather than the "Study in Japan" function. To that end, the Study in Japan Telegram group chat and website was not the main focus of our attention. It would be prudent for future EXCO batches to make a more concerted effort into the above, perhaps through establishing a few KPIs (eg. one new student profile on the website every quarter, weekly responses to the Study in Japan telegram group chat/email).

The second thing I'd like to raise is our websites and social media at large. We currently focus on Telegram and Instagram for outreach, with most members receiving updates through Telegram. That being said, we would be able to reach more audiences in Singapore through our Instagram and website, rather than Telegram. As such, I would like to propose that the next EXCO continue our effort to port over the websites, and update the content of both, as well as engage with students on Instagram. This would allow SSAJ's visibility as an organisation to increase, given that many find us through Google searches about studying in Japan, and occasionally, through their Instagram algorithm.



Finally, I'd like to quickly talk about the changing demographics of SSAJ. In my first year, most of the students I met were full-time students here in Japan, but increasingly it seems like the number of exchange students coming for our events is equal to, or even larger than that of full-time students. This may have to do with the composition of undergraduate students shrinking from over 50%, to 40% of our current students. I understand that most of the full-time students here may not want to come for SSAJ events, instead choosing to spend time with their other friends, but in my opinion, I think it'd be prudent for the next EXCO to conduct an analysis of the full-time students' needs. Do they want more social events? More help with job hunting? More subsidies? Only then will SSAJ be able to increase our support for these students too.

Funding

I was fortunate enough to have met the then-Regional Director of Northeast Asia for the Singapore Global Network (SGN), at an event organised by Scoot for National Day, before I was elected into the EXCO. He was actively promoting applications for SGN funding, and explained that we could get funding depending on how many times we had applied for funding, and the purpose of the event.

As such, we tapped on this SGN funding for the inaugural SSAJ x PPIJ event, as well as the Singapore Innovation Night. However, it must be noted that a relatively large amount of personal data is collected – name, nationality, course of study, email, so on and so forth. This data is then submitted to SGN upon the event's conclusion before funds can be released.

It was also in discussion that SGN potentially fund the Let's Makan initiative, but talks fizzled out. Nevertheless, if future batches hope to secure funding for any project or initiative, I highly recommend reaching out to SGN, as they may be able to help fund projects even if they are in formats unlike what is listed on their website.

New SSAJ EXCO for 2025/26

Following the Presidential and EXCO elections at the SSAJ AGM 2025, which was held in a hybrid format on 28 June 2025, I am proud to announce the new SSAJ EXCO members for 2025/26. Congratulations on getting elected into SSAJ EXCO and all the best for your term ahead!

- **President:** Haru Dalal - Waseda University
- **Vice-President (Internal):** Cassandra Chew - Waseda University
- **Vice-President (External):** Kent Yeow - Waseda University
- **Treasurer:** Lim Han Sheng - Waseda University



Vice-President (Internal)'s Report

List of Events

Over the course of our term, we organised a variety of events aimed at fostering a relaxed and welcoming environment. Given the open nature of these gatherings, we often made use of flexible event spaces that allowed attendees to come and go freely. Whenever possible, we held events in public outdoor venues such as parks and gardens to take advantage of good weather. In many cases, members were encouraged to bring along food to share or games to play.

Date	Event	Location	Details
31 Aug, 2024	Autumn 2024 Pre-Departure Briefing	Online	An anchor event of SSAJ; held online for incoming Fall 2024 students to cover crucial information such as visa applications, admin procedures in Japan, and daily life tips. Over 50 students joined to prepare for their journey.
Aug- Sep 2024	Outreach to JUGAS, Singapore Ministry of Education's Language Education Centre, and MEXT Scholars' Association	Singapore/Online	SSAJ executive committee members attended a series of meetings with JUGAS, MOELC and MSA's leaders and discussed the current situation of the attractiveness of Japan as a study destination, and avenues of cooperation
10 Sep, 2024	SG Potluck Gathering	Tampines West/Simei, Singapore	A pre-departure social event where students gathered for a potluck meal before heading off for Fall semester in Japan. Attendees brought food and snacks to share in a relaxed setting.

14 Sep, 2024 (Deadline)	Senpai-Kouhai Programme – Fall 2024 Cycle	Group dependent	The Fall cycle of SSAJ's mentorship programme paired new students with seniors already studying in Japan. The programme promotes guidance and friendship, with a 500 yen subsidy for their first meal together.
30 Sep, 2024	Tokyo Autumn Welcome Gathering	Okubo, Tokyo	A casual meetup to welcome new students and reconnect with returning ones in the Tokyo area. Also doubled as a mid-autumn event where the EXCO provided mooncakes.
23 Oct, 2024	Autumn Clothes Swap Event	Okubo, Tokyo	A community-driven fashion swap where members brought clothes, bags, hats and accessories to exchange with one another.
28 Oct, 2024	Dinner with the Ambassador	SINKIES Singapore Restaurant, Shibuya, Tokyo	A dinner for SSAJ members hosted at SINKIES, with the Singapore Ambassador in attendance, organised by the SG Embassy. RSVP was limited to 35 people due to venue size.
~Oct, 2024	Let's Makan!	Group dependent	A food-sharing initiative where SSAJ subsidised 500 yen each for a Singaporean student and one non-Singaporean friend to dine together at a Singaporean or Malaysian restaurant. Limited to the first 10 sign-ups.
13 Nov, 2024	SSAJ Waseda Picnic	Okuma Garden	Gathering of mostly Waseda students for an afternoon lunch in a garden.
13 Nov, 2024	Deepavali Dinner	Indian Ryori Muttu, Tokyo	Dinner organised for Deepavali and a chance to eat Indian food, the decision on restaurant selection was based on whether they served South Indian food.



22 Nov, 2024	EDB Info Sharing Session	Andaz Toranomon Hills Hotel, Tokyo	An in-person session where EDB officers shared details about their internships, scholarships, and career paths.
30 Nov, 2024	Minna no Event (Mahjong)	Takadanobaba, Tokyo	Members, both new and experienced, interested in mahjong, gathered for a session.
1 Dec, 2024	SSAJ x PPIJ Interaction Event	Higashi-Shinjuku, Tokyo	A student exchange event co-hosted with the Indonesian student association (PPIJ), featuring cultural food, games and mingling.
20 Dec, 2024	Tokyo Christmas Meetup	Hyakunincho, Tokyo	Annual Christmas Party which usually has some of the largest turnouts in SSAJ Events. Members brought food and shared them potluck style. A Random Secret Santa, where members anonymously exchanged gifts with each other, was also held.
22 Dec, 2024	Kansai Christmas Meetup	Pegopayoumedate n Korean Restaurant, Doyamacho, Osaka	A Christmas gathering at a Korean Restaurant for SSAJ members in Kansai.
11 Jan, 2024	SSAJ x ASEJU Graduation Event	ASEAN-Japan Centre, Tokyo	A few SSAJ/ASEJU members graduated in March 2025, and the collaboration was a small farewell/welcome event to commemorate this milestone.
4 Mar, 2025	Spring 2024 Pre-Departure Briefing	Online	An anchor event of SSAJ; held online for incoming Spring 2024 students to cover crucial information such as visa applications, admin procedures in Japan, and daily life tips. Over 50 students joined to prepare for their journey.
31 Mar, 2025	Osaka Spring Hanami	Osaka Castle Park, Osaka	Organised to let students hang out with each other and enjoy sakura viewing together.





Initiatives

Minna no Events (Tokyo)

1. Clothes Swap

Held twice in Okubo (Oct 2024 and May 2025), this now-regular feature continued its run due to previous successes. In both sessions, members brought pre-loved clothes and accessories to exchange. The events were timed with the seasonal transitions and any unclaimed items were either donated or repurposed.

2. Mahjong

Introduced by Josephine, mahjong sessions were organised twice (October 2024 and April 2025) as part of our Minna no Event series. They catered to players across all skill levels and were a welcome addition to the list of SSAJ activities.

3. Board Games

Unfortunately, event fatigue made it such that it was difficult to insert this without clashing with others. It was held at a reduced frequency from the previous years at only one time and as a hybrid Boardgame/Cooking event. Malaxiangguo was made and shared while enjoying a variety of board and card games. Hopefully, the trend of board games can continue.

4. Let's Makan

Launched by Evelyne in October 2024, *Let's Makan!* was a food-sharing initiative aimed at encouraging cultural exchange and deeper individual connections. SSAJ offered a 500-yen subsidy to both a Singaporean student and one non-Singaporean friend, provided they dined at a restaurant serving Singaporean or Malaysian cuisine. The programme was intentionally designed to be small-scale and informal, with a cap on the number of claims to keep it manageable. Although modest in size, the initiative provided a warm, low-barrier opportunity for SSAJ members to share their culture in a one-on-one setting.

Collaboration with other student organisations

During our term, we successfully collaborated with the Indonesian Student Association in Japan (PPIJ) to host a joint cultural exchange event in December 2024. Organised with the support of the Singapore Global Network (SGN), this was the first formal partnership between SSAJ and PPIJ. Planning for the event began in October, with both committees aligning on format, food, and participation caps. The event was limited to 40 participants, split evenly between the two



associations. This marked the first time SSAJ conducted a collaboration of this scale with another national student body, and it was well-received on both sides and has opened the door for future cross-cultural collaborations.

While not a student organisation, SSAJ has close ties to ASEJU as the latter consists heavily of graduated students from SSAJ. A small-scale graduation gathering was hosted by ASEJU and promoted by SSAJ at the ASEAN-Japan Centre in Tokyo. The event served as both a farewell for graduating students and a welcome for newer members to ASEJU. Following its success, ASEJU has expressed interest in repeating the event in August 2025, potentially establishing it as a recurring tradition.

Events of note

In April 2025, SSAJ held its first-ever collaborative event with a private company, Moon Creative Lab, a design and incubation studio backed by Mitsui & Co. The event, Singapore Innovation Night, was held in Omotesando and featured six Singaporean entrepreneurs and creatives sharing their personal journeys, projects and challenges. Food and drinks were provided by Sinkies and Kopiya, and the event drew around 50 attendees. This was another event where SSAJ had a hand in organising it as opposed to the usual blasting of announcements on Telegram.

The election watch party was organised to follow the live results of Singapore's 2025 General Election. The event ran from 10 PM to 6:30 AM, making it one of the few SSAJ events held through the night. The turnout far exceeded expectations, perhaps as it was something uncommon in the typical student event calendar.

Pre-Departure Briefing

We have continued the initiative of offering pre-departure briefings to incoming students, and have conducted two in our term: one for the Fall 2024 intake and another for the Spring 2025 intake. These briefings were adapted to reflect recent developments affecting new arrivals, including the discontinuation of LINE Pay and resumption of issuance of IC cards (SUICA/PASMO).

In addition to immigration and logistical information, the briefings also introduced SSAJ and our core initiatives and included optional breakout room sessions for new students to interact with one another and meet the EXCO. These sessions continued to serve as an important first point of contact between SSAJ and incoming students, especially to share our upcoming events like senpai-kouhai and SG/Tokyo/Kansai welpas. Turnout remained strong, and for our batch, the



Spring briefing outweighed anything before it, but as with previous years, not all attendees went on to remain active SSAJ members.

Senpai-Kouhai Programme

We have continued this year with the Senpai-Kouhai programme, following the same procedure as last year. This year, we offered it over two runs (Fall and Spring), with ¥500 per pax subsidies for up to two meet-ups. The programme aims to provide opportunities for new students to get to know existing students, while also providing a platform for them to ask questions about life in Japan.

The organisation of the programme is as follows:

1. Announcement of programme and dissemination of separate senpai and kouhai sign-up forms via Telegram channel, newsletter, Instagram and the Pre-departure briefings.
2. Sign-up period
3. Allocation of Senpai-Kouhai groups
4. Creation of Telegram groups for each Senpai-Kouhai group
5. Groups meet up within the period of the programme
6. One group member claims the subsidy on behalf of the group

The programme continues to be successful – most allocated groups meet at least once, and a few meet twice, especially with a previous EXCO's introduction of a second round of meet up subsidies. While previously the subsidies were instructed as being intended for a meal, we removed this restriction in order to encourage groups to organise more varied activities. The majority of the groups are based in Tokyo, but we also had regional groups this year.

A large amount of effort was spent to connect the solitary students in prefectures outside of Tokyo/Kansai with senpais. These senpais did not sign up for the programme but were kind enough when contacted privately to be a guide for the student.

Efforts have been made to group participants by their universities, interests, or locations, as far as possible.

Overall Comments

Overall, there was a deluge of events across our term, many of which were staples from previous EXCOs and new additions like mahjong were also introduced. However, a large part of our focus this year shifted toward bigger outreach events, such as the Moon Creative Lab and PPIJ collaborations, to capture the attention of Singaporeans who may not otherwise engage. Both



events were successful in terms of turnout and reception, but the smaller-scale events were noticeably less so.

Member turnout in general left more to be desired. Among those who did attend, most were short-term exchange students rather than full-time students. I've identified three main reasons for this trend:

1. The democratic method of date selection tends to favour exchange students, whose schedules are often more flexible. This unintentionally excludes full time students who have more rigid commitments.
2. The sheer number of events may have diluted their individual impact. When everything is an event, nothing really feels special, look up the Braess's paradox.
3. While the content of the events themselves could be a factor, many of them had been successful in past years, so I'm inclined to believe it's less about the content and more about the timing or saturation.

The possible fixes I am thinking of are to tighten the scheduling filter, instead of an open poll, send a quick pre-survey to full time members, lock the two or three most viable windows, then let everyone vote within that bracket. This might require the separation of full time and exchange students and thus unfeasible, but alternatives or adjacent ideas can should be explored.

Next, lean on anchor events, trim the rest, or bundle interest groups with core events, if mahjong or board games are popular, fold them into the bigger meetups instead of running them standalone. This was slightly successful, as some events by themselves would have likely failed.

Unluckily, for CNY of 2025, due to the timing of it coinciding with spring break, many students were not in Japan, and we were ultimately unable to hold the event. Had it been attached to a larger gathering or more flexible in format, it might have still gone ahead in some form.

All in all, I would say the events this term were a success. We maintained key traditions, explored new formats and pulled off some meaningful collaborations that expanded SSAJ's reach. While there's always room to improve, I'm proud of what we managed to do and hopeful that future EXCOs can build on this foundation.



Vice-President (External)'s Report

The vice president's role is to further SSAJ's interests through maintaining and expanding external correspondences. Over the past year, SSAJ has continued to reach out and expand our ever-growing network, while maintaining cordial relationships with existing partners that share common interests with SSAJ.

Securing funding

As with previous years, securing funding continues to be paramount to the operations of SSAJ. With that said, the usual avenues of funding were approached and new ones were sought out, such as support from JUGAS and JASSO, and now SGN, for which we are grateful for.

In the financial year of 2024 - 2025, we began approaching Singapore Global Network for their support in hosting large-scale interorganisational events with the use of their partial funding programme. This combined with partnerships with the generosity of companies we worked with allowed us to be more ambitious with our planned events this year with one example being Singapore Innovation Night, which was done in collaboration with Moon Creative Lab and entirely funded from external sources. More details on this can be found in the Treasurer's report.

Conducting diplomacy

SSAJ has continued to show its presence over the past year and we have focused on concretising ties with other Singaporean organisations in Japan such as Singapore Global Network, Enterprise Singapore, ASEJU, and the newly formed Singapore Chamber of Commerce Japan.

SSAJ has also maintained communication channels with JASSO and MEXT's international student affairs' offices and continues to work with them in promoting Japan as an attractive destination to study and work in hopes of future collaborative efforts.

Job Hunting Related Matters

This term has come with many opportunities from a variety of sources, from existing partners and new ones, especially from organisations who have ties to the Singaporean community in Japan. This includes scholarship opportunities from EDB Singapore, JUGAS' SJ60 Anniversary, and JASSO/MEXT. Many ad hoc job opportunities were also sprinkled in throughout the course of the year.



We have also seen more interest in job/internship hunting this year which is encouraging, as it shows that many of our students are keen on pursuing careers in Japan after graduation. With that said, efforts to expose them to such opportunities were made and resulted in the collaborative event with Moon Creative Lab, Singapore Innovation Night. Both Singaporean and Japanese speakers were invited to share their experiences with startups in Japan, and the event garnered the participation of both active professionals and students keen on networking. The turnout for this event was higher than usual and reinforced the notion that many of our students are keen to find job opportunities here.

Our collaborative graduation events with ASEJU are also promising, as they are a potential source of encouragement for these graduating students to seek employment as they are able to learn from their seniors and have any questions answered by those with experience.

On a separate note, a long-term partnership with the recently founded Singapore Chamber of Commerce Japan has been in the works and aims to link our students with Singaporean entrepreneurs based in Japan in order to enhance job prospects and to expose them to worklife in Japan. Unfortunately, due to the timing of this intended collaboration, we will have to pass the torch to the incumbent EXCO team while this project is still in its fledgling state. We hope that with the correct guidance, the next team can make this partnership work and allow our students to reap the benefits.

Collaboration with Restaurants

SSAJ also strives to partner restaurants that serve Singapore food so that students will be able to get a taste of home even when studying abroad here in Japan. In principle, SSAJ's partnership with our restaurant partners from the previous year will be continued if possible. In addition to existing partnerships such as those with Oriental Cafe & Restaurant in Tokyo and The Sultry Straits in Kobe. Unfortunately, some of our previously partnered restaurants have since closed down and some partnerships have remained unrenewed, it would be good if the new EXCO can look into this and expand, although it is not as much of a priority as compared to seeking out employment opportunities.

Liaising with Singapore Government Institutions

The Singapore Embassy in Tokyo has been gracious enough to continue providing us with support in various capacities such as opportunities to host events on their premises such as our annual AGM and in inviting us to various events like the annual National Day Reception in Tokyo.



We have expanded our communications with SGN and have successfully enlisted their assistance in funding a few of our events this year such as the aforementioned collaboration with Moon Creative Lab and the collaboration with the Indonesian student group in Tokyo (PPIJ), the details of which can be found in the Vice-President (Internal)'s report. Hopefully this can continue and allow for future batches to expand the scope of their projects.

Outreach to prospective students in Singapore

To increase membership and maintain the community of students in Japan as individuals come and go, we have continued in our attempts to publicise and reach out to different pre-university institutions in Singapore.

This includes a few activities such as maintaining our flyer distribution with Japanese language schools in Singapore and the Japanese Embassy in Singapore, participating in their Study in Japan Webinar as Q&A hosts, and revamping the Study in Japan website.

Efforts were made to reach out to tertiary education institutes in Singapore such as Junior Colleges and Polytechnics but this was difficult. Many requests went unanswered and we have only managed to continue with our information sessions with Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) so far (Aug 2025).

The Study in Japan initiative has still been a sore spot in our operations as individual experiences from the EXCO are not sufficient to answer all questions posed by those seeking information. The Telegram channel and Instagram account continue to require more attention and refinement in terms of data provided and timeliness of responses.

Overall reflections and areas for improvement

Our team has worked hard throughout the year to improve multiple aspects of SSAJ alongside our individual and universal ambitions. Many of our new initiatives have ended in success however, there are still many things that can be improved on and solidified, of which some have been historically lacking and others due to a change in focus as compared to previous batches.

Our student population has expanded recently due to the increased number of exchange students coming into Japan, which resulted in an unexpected spike in attendees for our most recent pre-departure briefing. This highlights the need for more events to encourage participation and ensure that even the more transient members of SSAJ feel welcome to join them in order to bolster turnout rates.



Unfortunately, due to the focus on internal efforts and large-scale events such as Singapore Innovation Night, which was one of the crowning achievements of our batch, progress on job hunting related matters and restaurant partnerships have stagnated. This was by no means unavoidable, but due to constraints in balancing student responsibilities and other initiatives, something that was overlooked. New partnerships continue to be difficult to make as SSAJ has little to offer other organisations besides the promise of student attendance and future prospects. Ideally, the 2025-2026 EXCO can turn this around with their gumption and continue to bring SSAJ to greater heights.



Note: This section has been modified for the public version of this report.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's job is to ensure the financial stability of SSAJ, as well as dispense advice and reports whenever necessary to advise the EXCO on spending decisions. Where we choose to spend money reflects what our EXCO's priorities are. For this EXCO, one of our primary aims was to **hold more events to increase SSAJ collaboration with external organisations**. Along those same lines, we also tried to **pilot more initiatives and new events**.

Note: This section has been modified for the public version of this report.

Secretary's Report

Changes in Secretary Role

Reflecting on my year as secretary in SSAJ, I came to realise how the jobscope for secretary is smaller in comparison to other roles. Working with the President, I have made minor amendments to the secretary role and expectations and this will be passed onto incoming EXCO. The updated jobscope can be found and referred to in the handover document for the incoming EXCO, as well as this AGM Report (underlined are new additions/changes).

1. Take meeting minutes + Scheduling + Maintenance of EXCO Welfare
 - i. In addition to making notes during monthly meetings, the secretary, as an administrative role, is required now onwards to find common timings for both EXCO meetings and events (coordinated work with IVP). Additionally, they are to check in on progress/lend help to other EXCO members whenever needed, especially if within a tight deadline period.
2. Send monthly newsletter on Telegram
 - i. Changed newsletter from Mailchimp via email, to posting in the main channel on Telegram.
3. Filing and creating of necessary documents
 - i. This is worked collaboratively with EVP and IVP mostly, and the rest of the EXCO. However, there's an emphasis on organization and ensuring everything is where it's supposed to be.
4. Management of websites
 - i. Since making the new SSAJ website, 'Student Voices' was removed and there have been no periodic updates made. However, it's highly suggested for the next EXCO to continue it or something similar.

Public Relations Officer's Report

Social Media



Our Instagram feed

Though Telegram is where most of our members get their information from, we have been trying to increase the outreach on our Instagram. Hence, we have included different Singaporean restaurants on our Instagram (it has gotten 32 likes and 14 bookmarks) and our updates on our EXCO members. We have included more story posting and posting in general, hoping that more people will follow our Instagram and see that our Instagram is still working.

We have gotten a range of likes on our posts but our bookmarks have been highest (so far) and hope to get more followers from that. Wanting to make our Instagram more engaging and inclusive we have also started making posts for different public holidays and reminding followers of JLPT registration. Maybe increasing more engaging posts like “golden week recos” or JLPT papers and other important facts for members might be good.

During this time we have not been working on Study in Japan Instagram. However, in the Telegram we have been answering every question that has been asked and have been trying to



educate ourselves on the different types of methods of applying and not only universities in Japan but language schools as well.