

A Tribute to Professor Gibbs on His Retirement

Atsuko Kikuchi

It is my pleasure and privilege to be one of the contributors to this special issue of “Foreign Language Studies” honouring Professor Gibbs. To me, Professor Gibbs represents a classic academic: a truly cultured and well-read man with a deep appreciation of traditional Japanese culture and literature — the kind of professor who has become a rare species in this day and age where people who can provide practical and immediately applicable knowledge in the workplace have become dominant. Professor Gibbs is always ready to talk about the latest book he’s been reading and he introduced me to numerous interesting books. I will miss these little chats that we had. I would like to congratulate Professor Gibbs on the wonderful career that he had at Kansai University and I wish him all the best for the next phase of his life, which I know would involve more reading. It has been an honour to know you and to work with you.