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# JSPS DC Report

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(2010 April to June Issue)

## Appointment of New Advisor/International Program Associates (April 1)

With the start of a new year, the Washington Office was joined by one advisor from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology(MEXT), and three international program associates who are trainees sent from national universities to work at the Washington Office.

The names of four new colleagues are as follows:

(Ms. Yukiko Yamagami, Advisor):

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

(Ms. Akemi Omura, International Program Associate):

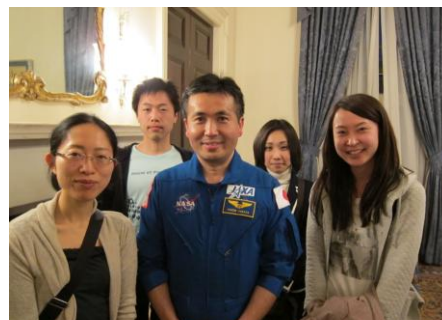
Kyushu University

(Mr. Kohta Tanigaki, International Program Associate):

Kyoto University

(Ms. Saori Ito, International Program Associate):

Nagoya Institute of Technology



At the lecture of Dr. Wakata, Japanese astronaut, at former JPN Ambassador's residence. From front left, Ms. Omura, Dr. Wakata, Ms. Ito, and from back left, Mr. Tanigaki and Ms. Yamagami.

## Replacement of Deputy Director (May)



New Deputy Director, Ms. Fumiyo Kaneko

After completing his term of office lasting two and a half years, Deputy Director Kotaro Kodera returned to the JSPS's Tokyo Headquarters on May 7. Mr. Kodera will be working at the Planning Information Section of the JSPS's General Affairs Department. His replacement is Ms. Fumiyo Kaneko, who began her new post as Deputy Director on May 21.

For this fiscal year, the JSPS Washington office will be run by a total of seven people including Director Hiroataka Sugawara, local staff Thet Win, as well as the new advisor/international program associates and new Deputy Director mentioned above.

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## Participation in EAPSI Orientation of U.S. National Science Foundation (April 11 through 13)

The JSPS Washington Office participated in the orientation of the EAPSI Program administered by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), together with visitors from the JSPS's Tokyo Headquarters, on April 11 through 13.

The EAPSI (East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes) Program has been running under the guidance of the NSF since 1990, where the aim is to provide graduate students and young researchers an opportunity to receive training at an overseas research organization for two months or so. The NSF has been administering this program in cooperation with seven countries including Japan (JSPS) and nine

participating organizations. Sixty five individuals were selected as trainees to Japan this summer.

In this orientation, the overview of the program was explained first, followed by presentations by respective countries. The trainees to Japan were given an explanation of the Japan portion of the program from Dr. Machi Dilworth from the NSF's Tokyo Office, who spoke under the theme of "Living and Doing Research in Japan." After that, Yamaoka and Yonehara from Overseas Fellowship Division of the International Program Department at the JSPS's Tokyo Headquarters explained the schedule in Japan, method of expense reimbursement and financial assistance, passport and visa procedures, and so on.



From the JSPS Washington office, Director Sugawara gave a lecture on the research environment in Japan as well as what the host researchers are expecting from trainees. Deputy Director Kodera gave a presentation on the Japanese language and culture.

It is hoped that through this program, young American researchers who may play an active role on the international stage will experience the Japanese culture and advanced research environment in Japan to help drive further exchange activities between Japan and the U.S. in the field of research.

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### **Participation in NAFSA 2010 Annual Conference & EXPO (June 1 through 3)**

Advisor Yamagami and International Program Associates Ito and Tanigaki took part in the NAFSA (Association of International Educators) Annual Conference & EXPO held in Kansas City on June 1 through 4. The NAFSA is an organization working to promote global education and provide opportunities for special skills development. With help from more than 100 volunteer members and several thousand advocates who share the Association's commitment to global education, the NAFSA organizes trainings and special skills development programs, run a network of educators and education organizations, and engaged in other activities designed to promote global education. This year's Annual Conference & EXPO had more than 7,000 participants from 95 countries around the world. There were many participants from Japan, who exchanged opinions and deepened friendship with foreign university faculty members, researchers and government agency representatives involved in global education.



The staff from the JSPS Washington Office could make friends, and exchange information, not only with university researchers from various countries including the U.S., but also with faculty members from other universities in Japan whom they wouldn't otherwise have an opportunity to meet. Held during the conference was an event called "Friendship Meeting of Japanese University Faculty Members in the U.S.," participated by officials from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology(MEXT), faculty members from Osaka University, Kyushu University, Tokyo University of Science, as well as trainees under the LEAP (Long-term Educational Administrators Program for International Exchanges) initiative designed to provide opportunities for young university faculty members in Japan to gain field experience on administration of global programs and English training.

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## Opening Ceremony of JSPS Washington Office (June 14)

The JSPS Washington Office relocated to its new office on L Street, from the former office on K Street, on March 1. The new office is shared with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and has a common meeting room cum multi-purpose hall that can accommodate 40 to 50 people.

A belated opening ceremony of the new office was held on June 14, where around 50 representatives and researchers from science and technology agencies in Japan and the U.S. gathered.



JSPS President Motoyuki Ono attended the ceremony from the Tokyo Headquarters and made a speech commemorating the opening of the new office. We also received congratulatory messages from Science and Technology Counselor Takashi Inuzuka from the Japanese Embassy, Dr. Roger Weber, Director of Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE), NSF, Dr. Vaughn Trakian, Chief International Officer, AAAS, and Dr. Tina Chung, Fogarty International Center, NIH.

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## “Science in Japan Forum” Organized by JSPS Washington Office (June 15)

“Science in Japan Forum,” organized by the JSPS Washington Office, was held on June 15 at Cosmos Club in Washington D.C. This forum is held every year under a different theme, inviting top-class Japan and U.S. researchers as speakers. Participants comprise a wide cross-section of the research community in and around Washington D.C., including researchers, university faculty members, and representatives from science and technology agencies. This year marked the fifteenth installation of the Forum, where speakers gave talks under the theme of “Energy and Environment.”

The Forum began with an opening message by JSPS President Ono from the Tokyo Headquarters, followed by a speech by Shinozuka, Minister of the Japanese Embassy in the U.S. Director Sugawara of Washington Office talked about the importance of this Science in Japan Forum and why the theme of “Energy and Environment” was selected this year.

The Forum consisted of four sessions, respectively entitled “Environment,” “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency,” “Advanced Energy Sources” and “Government Policy.” The speakers in each session are listed below.

- 1) Environment  
Teruyuki Nakajima Professor, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, the University of Tokyo  
William Lau, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
Mike MacCracken, The Climate Institute  
Syukuro Manabe, Princeton University
- 2) Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency  
Burton Richter, Former SLAC Director (winner of the 1976 Nobel Prize in Physics)  
Henry Kelly, US Department of Energy  
Yoshihiro Suda, Professor, the University of Tokyo
- 3) Advanced Energy Sources  
Chris Llewellyn-Smith, Former CERN Director  
Steven Cowley, Director, Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (UK)  
Youichi Fujiie, Emeritus Professor, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Former Chairman of Japan Nuclear Power Commission

4) Government Policy

Neal Lane, Former NSF Director

Nina Federoff, US Department of State

Sadayuki Tsuchiya, Deputy Director-General, Office of Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Participants from Japan and the U.S. gathered in the Warren Lounge inside the building of the Cosmos Club, a historic society of U.S. scientists, keenly listening to the talks and exchanging active discussions from the speakers.



[Reference] Forum website

<http://www.jspsusa.org/FORUM2010/forumoutline10.html>

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**- Topics on Education, Science and Technology in the U.S. -**

- Growing Number of Foreign Students Studying at U.S. Universities (April 2010)

According to a survey on foreign graduate school students in the U.S. released by the Council of Graduate Schools, an organization representing graduate schools in the U.S. with the purpose of improvement of education and research at graduate schools, the number of foreign students who applied for a graduate school in the U.S. for the year 2009-2010 increased by 7% from the previous year. The top three countries sending students to U.S. graduate schools are China, India and South Korea, of which the percentage of applications accounted for by Chinese students grew 19%, while the numbers of applications by India and South Korean students remained relatively flat. Another notable point is that there have been growing numbers of applications from students in the Middle and Near East and Turkey, which together increased 18% in the year 2009-2010 compared to the previous year (see the table below).

**Increase/Decrease in Overseas Applications for U.S. Graduate Schools  
(2006 through 2010)**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
<b>Total</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Country</b>				
--China	+19%	+11%	+14%	+19%
--India	+12%	+2%	-12%	-2%
--South Korea	+0%	+2%	-9%	+0%

--Middle East and Turkey	+17%	+14%	+22%	+18%
Major				
--Arts and humanities	+8%	+7%	+5%	+6%
--Business	+15%	+10%	+7%	+8%
--Education	+12%	-1%	+8%	+8%
--Engineering	+13%	+4%	+3%	+7%
--Life sciences	+18%	+3%	+0%	+3%
--Physical and earth sciences	+12%	+7%	+2%	+10%
--Social sciences	+0%	+9%	+6%	+11%

Source: Inside Higher Education, "International Grad Applications Up,"  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2010/04/06/intl>

Graduate schools that already have many foreign students are receiving more applications from overseas. In addition, a comparison of universities with PhD programs finds that the percentage of increase in the number of foreign students is higher among private universities (12%) than among public universities (6%). Looking at the data by major, the percentage of increase in the number of applications is lower in the field of life science than other fields, but other than that, there is not much difference among the fields.

<Related Information>

- International Grad Applications Up,  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2010/04/06/intl>
- 'The Great Brain Race'  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2010/04/05/wildavsky>

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• Increase in U.S. Universities Having Overseas Offices (April 2010)

A growing number of U.S. universities are setting up overseas offices in countries like China. Overseas offices of U.S. universities are nothing new, but the roles of these overseas offices were limited to those relating to administration, such as providing assistance for American exchange students abroad. Today, university offices are mushrooming abroad, and especially those in China have multiple missions including not only providing assistance for exchange students sent from the main campus back home, but also recruiting local students, fostering friendship among overseas students graduating from the university, and funding research programs. Particularly in China, where people prefer face-to-face communication, setting up a local office is considered an effective way to attract students.

For example, Ohio State University, which opened its representative office "China Gateway" in Shanghai in February 2010, is one of the pioneers. The University plans to open offices in India and Brazil, and also considering the same in Turkey, Africa and Europe.

On the other hand, some universities are suffering from high costs of maintaining an overseas presence and ineffective use of the office. For example, Georgetown University has been running its Shanghai office for three years, but many Georgetown professors are visiting China on their own, instead of going through the Shanghai Office because the existence of this office is not well promoted in the main campus in the U.S.

Source:

- College 'Embassies' Advance Their Interests Abroad  
<http://chronicle.com/article/Colleges-Set-Up-Their-Own/65225/>
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- [U.S. President Obama Nominates Subra Suresh, Dean of Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology \(MIT\), for Next NSF Director \(June 3\)](#)

The White House announced that President Obama will nominate Dr. Subra Suresh for the Next Director of the NSF.

Dr. Suresh, currently Dean of Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), is 53 years old. He was born in India. He graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, India, in 1977, and received a PhD from MIT in 1981. After being on the faculty at Brown University, he moved to MIT in 1991 and was promoted to MIT's Dean of Engineering in 2007.

Dr. Suresh has made extensive contributions in the relatively new field of nano-biomechanics. At MIT, Dr. Suresh coordinates with Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, etc., to demonstrate strong leadership in joint interdisciplinary research programs involving material science, nano-technology and life science.

Since Dr. Suresh took the position of Dean of Engineering in 2007, MIT's Engineering Department has hired faculty members from wide-ranging fields and made dramatic advancements. In 2009, the number of female researchers in the Engineering Department exceeded that of male researchers for the first time in the history of MIT.

Dr. Suresh also authored more than 220 research articles published on international journals, and is a co-inventor in 12 U.S. patents. He has received many awards, such as the European Materials Medal in 2007.

Dr. Suresh is a member of the U.S. Engineering Academy as well as academies in other countries such as Germany, India and Spain.

Source:

- Press Release on the official website of the White House (June 3):  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-announces-more-key-administration-posts-1>
- Article from the SCIENCE website (June 3):  
<http://news.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2010/06/obama-nominates-suresh-to-lead-n.html?etoc>
- SCIENCE article (March 19, Vol. 327)
- Article from the MIT website (June 3):  
<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2010/suresh-nsf-06039987.html>

(Editor-at-Large: Fumiyo Kaneko)