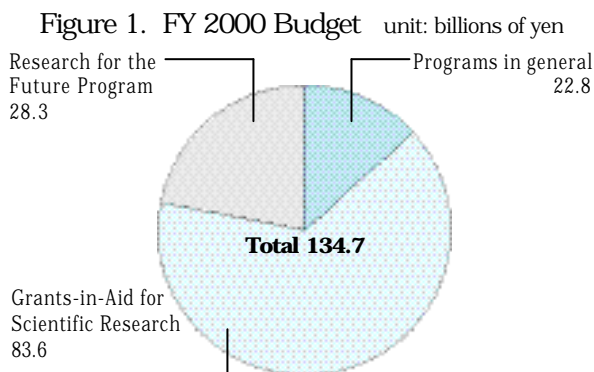




JSPS Receives ¥135 Billion in Government's FY 2000 Budget, 3.6% Increase over Previous Year

In the government's FY 2000 budget passed by the Diet on March 17, 2000, JSPS received funding in the amount of ¥135 billion, which constitutes a 3.6% increase over the previous fiscal year. JSPS's programs can be divided by government-funding sources into three categories: 1) Programs in general (funded by direct subsidies, including their administrative costs), 2) Research for the Future Program (supported by capital investment from the government), and 3) Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (provided by way of indirect subsidies).

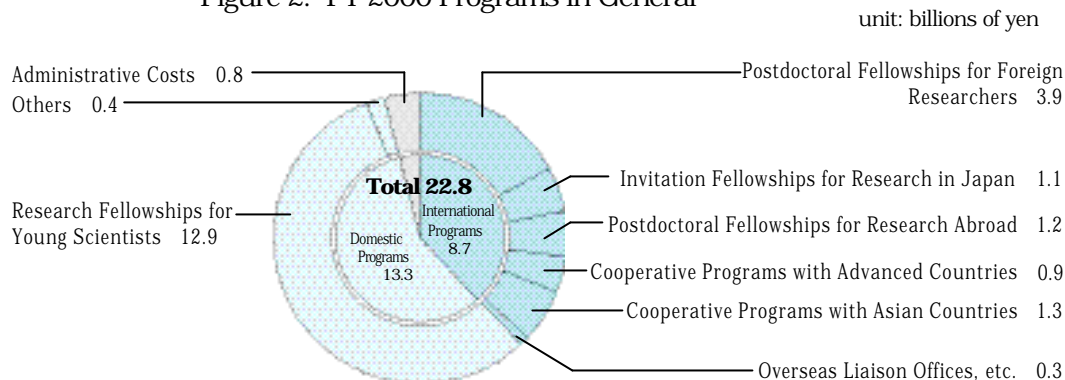
A by-category breakdown of the government-funded JSPS's FY 2000 budget is as follows:



Programs in general

The budget of ¥22.8 billion in this category represents an increase of more than ¥300 million over the previous fiscal year. It is broken down by international/domestic programs and administrative costs in the following figure 2.

Figure 2. FY 2000 Programs in General



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The contents of each major program in this category are summarized below. (Funding is noted in billions of yen, and the figures in parentheses are ones for the previous year.)

- 1) Postdoctoral Fellowships for Foreign Researchers
Funds: 3.9 (3.9)
Content : 560 general fellowships, 50 fellowships for COEs, 135 fellowships for U.S. researchers (short-term)
- 2) Invitation Fellowships for Research in Japan
Funds: 1.1 (1.1)
Content: Research Professorship Invitation Program (new), Invitation Fellowships for Research in Japan (short- and long-term), Bilateral Scientist Exchange Programs.
- 3) Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research Abroad (Japanese)
Funds: 1.2 (1.1)
Content: 190 Fellowships
- 4) Cooperative Programs with Advanced Countries
Funds: 0.9 (0.9)
Content: Cooperative Programs with the U.S., Australia, France, Germany, U.K., and other European Countries ; Inter-Research Centers Cooperative Program
- 5) Cooperative Programs with Asian Countries
Funds: 1.3 (1.3)
Content: a) Core University Program, RON-PAKU(Dissertation Ph.D.) Program, Scientist Exchange Program b) Asian

Science Seminars, etc.

c) Bilateral programs with Korea and China

- 6) Overseas Liaison Offices
Funds: 0.2 (0.2)
Content: Operation of seven liaison offices in Washington, D.C., Bonn, London, Bangkok, Cairo, Nairobi, and São Paulo
- 7) Research Fellowships for Young Scientists
Funds: 12.9 (12.7)
Content: 4,414 fellowships (2,924 doctor course students, 1,490 postdoctoral researchers)

Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research

Funds: 83.6 (82.6)

Content: 1) Original and pioneering research; 2) Exploratory research; 3) Encouragement of young scientists; 4) Publication of scientific research results; 5) Grants for JSPS fellows

Research for the Future Program

Funds: 28.3 (25.0)

Content: 321 projects

Dr. Atsuhiko Nishida Appointed as a JSPS Supervisor

On January 27, 2000, Dr. Atsuhiko Nishida, former Director of the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, was appointed as a supervisor of JSPS.

New

Research Professorship Invitation Program Being Established

A newly conceived program for inviting research professors to Japan has been funded in JSPS's FY 2000 budget. The program's aim is to solicit the guidance and cooperation of eminent researchers from counterpart countries in promoting and advancing research activities in Japan and in elevating the international assessment of their achievements.

Each year starting from FY 2000, three distinguished scientists and/or scholars will be invited from abroad to make visits to Japan over a tenure of 6-12 months each.

The program guidelines will be prepared and distributed to Japanese universities and research institutions.

FY 2000 Programs of the Monbusho's Science and International Affairs Bureau

The Science and International Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture (Monbusho) provides funding for research activities conducted at universities and other Monbusho-affiliated institutions. The following is a breakdown of the amounts allocated by the Bureau to major programs in FY 2000. (Units are in billions of yen, and the figures in parentheses are the amount for the previous fiscal year.)

Expansion of Grants-in-Aid, etc. 188.1(174.0)	Helical Device at the National Institute for Fusion Science, etc.
1) Grants-in-aid for scientific research 141.9 (131.4)	• Area studies 0.2 (0.2)
Promoting areas of specific research related to bioscience; encouraging excellent research by young researchers; promoting the reporting and dissemination of research achievements; promoting excellent research plans.	Expanding the activities of the Japan Center for Area Studies, the National Museum of Ethnology
2) Research for the Future Program (JSPS) 28.3 (25.0)	• Earthquake and volcanic eruption prediction research 2.7 (2.6)
Increase of projects to 321 from 281	New observation work on earthquake prediction, etc.
3) Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (JSPS) 18.0 (17.6)	• Antarctic research 4.6 (4.5)
	Dispatching the 42nd observation mission to the Antarctic base
	• Upgrading research facilities 3.2 (3.6)
	2) Improving research-support systems, etc. 7.3 (6.4)
	• Expanding research-support systems 4.8 (4.6)
Expansion of Priority Funds for Basic Research 159.9 (143.6)	Increasing the number of research assistants (RAs) to 4,000 from 2,761, etc.
1) Priority funds for basic research 113.2 (98.0)	• Expanding leadership-support systems 2.4 (1.9)
• Strengthening systems for promoting bioscience research 42.9 (27.5)	Vitalizing research activities at research organizations by strengthening the leadership of their directors
• Establishing the National Institute of Informatics 0.1 (0)	3) Improving the infrastructure for disseminating scientific information 39.4 (39.1)
• Preparing the establishment of the Institute of Comprehensive Global Environment Research (tentative) 0.1 (0)	Improving the scientific information network administered by the NACSIS, reorganizing the Computer Center at the University of Tokyo
• Forming COEs 15.3 (15.5)	
• Astrological research 2.9 (2.9)	
Starting observations at the National Observatory in Hawaii using a large-scale optical infrared telescope	
• Accelerator science 9.8 (9.6)	Promoting University-Industry Research Cooperation 121.0 (117.8)
Starting experiments using TRISTAN II at the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, etc.	Creating a 21st century model for university-industry alliance
• Space science 19.2 (19.4)	
Manufacturing scientific satellites and launching M-V rockets by the Institute of Space and Astronomical Science	Improving Measures for Receiving Foreign Students 54.9 (52.9)
• Nuclear fusion research 12.3 (12.2)	Increasing the number of overseas students supported financially by Japanese government, etc.
Conducting research using the Large	

JSPS Invites Applications for its Programs for FY 2001

This February, JSPS made annual announcement which invites applications for its international cooperative programs for Japanese fiscal year 2001 (April 1, 2001-March 31, 2002). Applications are made on behalf of foreign researchers by Japanese scientists employed at universities or Monbusho-affiliated research institutions. For more information, visit our website ; <http://www.jsp.go.jp/>

Fellowships for foreign researchers

Fellowships, closing dates, and quota.

Postdoctoral Fellowships (from 12 to 24 months)

- September 14, 2000; 170 awardees (to arrive in Japan between April 1-September 30, 2001)
- May 18, 2001; 130 awardees (to arrive in Japan between September 1-November 30, 2001)

Postdoctoral Fellowships (Short-term) for U.S. Researchers (from 3 to 11 months)

- September 14, 2000; 15 awardees (to arrive in Japan between April 1-September 30, 2001)
- May, 18, 2001; 10 awardees (to arrive in Japan between September 1-November 30, 2001)

Invitation Fellowship Programs for Research in Japan

- 1) Short-term (from 14 to 60 days)
 - September 14, 2000; 110 awardees (to arrive in Japan between April 1, 2001-March 31, 2002)
 - May 18, 2001; 85 awardees (to arrive in Japan between October 1, 2001-March 31, 2002)
- 2) Long-term (from 6 to 10 months)
 - September 14, 2000
 - 58 (to arrive in Japan between April 1, 2001-March 31, 2002)

Invitation Fellowships for Senior German Scientists (from 4 to 10 months, the visit can be divided into two parts)

- May 19, 2000; 3 awardees (the first visit to Japan should be between April 1, 2001-March 31, 2002)
 - Counterpart German Institution: Alexander von Humbolt-Stiftung
- Researcher exchanges with NIS** (former USSR) countries
- May 19, 2000; 9 short- and 5 long- term (to arrive in Japan between April 1, 2001-March 31, 2002)

Joint Research Projects and Joint Seminars

Under this category JSPS provides funds for groups of Japanese researchers while their counterpart researchers overseas may apply for financial support to those foreign academic institutions which have bilateral agreement with JSPS. The joint research projects supported by JSPS are usually consisting of small numbers of participating scientists from both Japanese institutions and their counterparts overseas and last two-year period. The joint seminars are to be held either in Japan or in counterpart's country and with up to 30 participants from the two countries. The joint activities of this type are namely the Japan-U.S. Cooperative Science Program, Japan-China Cooperative Science Program, Japan-Europe Research Cooperative Program and Japan-Australia Research Cooperative Program.

Second Recruitment for FY 2000 Programs

There will be a second recruitment for applications of the following fellowship programs: closing date, May 19, 2000.

- Invitation Fellowships (Short-term)
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships (Short-term) for U.S. Researchers

Awardees of FY 2000 RONPAKU Program

On February 2, the JSPS RONPAKU Selection Committee met to select FY 2000 RONPAKU Fellows out of the 190 applications received. A breakdown of the newly selected and continuing RONPAKU fellows is provided in the following table.

So far, 281 RONPAKU fellows have been awarded dissertation Ph.D. under the program.

Fellows Country	Newly Selected	Continuing	Total
Bangladesh	0	2	2
China	4	9	13
India	4	13	17
Indonesia	6	20	26
Korea	4	19	23
Malaysia	2	4	6
Philippines	2	11	13
Singapore	1	0	1
Thailand	4	41	45
Vietnam	2	4	6
Total	29	123	152

The Chinese Academy of Sciences and JSPS Jointly Celebrate their 20th Anniversary of Scientific Cooperation

The signing of the Memorandum of Academic Exchange between the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and JSPS opened an excellent channel for the fostering of Sino-Japanese academic exchange, laying the foundation for the development of scientific cooperation not only between the two agencies but among various scientific institutions and universities in the two countries as well. These 20 years have witnessed a continuous process of cooperation building between the CAS and JSPS—with a mutually fruitful relationship having been developed through the joint efforts

of dedicated people in the science and science administration communities of both countries. Sino-Japanese academic cooperation now takes a rich variety of forms, including research collaboration under the Core University Program and the holding of Asian Science Seminars, among other programs.

The ceremony to commemorate the signing of the Memorandum was held on December 6, 1999 at CAS's head office in Beijing. The key representatives from each country were Dr. Lu Yongxiang, President of CAS, and Dr. Ken Kikuchi, Director General of JSPS. In all, 50 Chinese and 20 Japanese attended the ceremony followed by a dinner to celebrate the anniversary.



UT Forum 2000 in Boston

JSPS held, in cooperation with the University of Tokyo (UT), a science forum titled "UT Forum 2000 in Boston" on January 24, 2000, as part of its program to disseminate information on Japan's scientific research activities worldwide. Following the opening remarks delivered by Prof. Shigehiko Hasumi, President of UT, and Prof. Charles Vest, President of MIT, seven leading researchers from UT, including Professors Nobutaka Hirokawa, Makoto Asashima, Reiko Kuroda, Masatoshi Koshiba, Hiroyuki Yoshikawa, Tadao Ando and Yoichiro Kawaguchi, gave presentations on their state-of-art research to an audience of some 300 at MIT's Wong Auditorium.

The First Japan-U.S. Cooperative Cancer Research Symposium in Bethesda

On February 22-23, a symposium entitled 'Common Frontiers in Cancer Research' was held at the Natcher Auditorium on the NIH Campus in Bethesda. The symposium, jointly organized by JSPS and NCI, was the first in a series to be held alternately between the United States and Japan over the next five years. Special lectures were delivered by U.S. scientists, followed by nine speakers from the U.S. and Japan who gave presentations on various relevant subjects in the four sessions: Cancer Genetics, Biomarkers/Early Detection, Apoptosis and Angiogenesis. A poster session on related research fields was also held in the

lobby. Approximately 200 scientists attended the symposium.



Dr. Terada, Japanese organizer, makes a speech at the 1st U.S.-Japan Cooperative Cancer Research Symposium.

Research Development Program of University-Industry Alliance-A Matching Funds Approach

In the government's FY 1999 supplementary budget, both JSPS and the New Engineering Development Organization (NEDO) were allocated funding for implementing the Research Development Program of University-Industry Alliance. Under this scheme, the two agencies provide matching funds to universities (from JSPS) and to corporations (from NEDO) participating in cooperative projects. The aim of the Program is to transfer the fruits of research initiatives by universities to the industrial sector for further development into products and business seeds. The Program's guidelines, issued in January, extend a broad invitation for applications to researchers in both universities and corporations. The following is a basic overview of the Program.

(1) Eligibility of Research

- Research conducted at universities must have the potential of being transferred and further developed into products and applications.
- It must be linked organically to R&D conducted at corporations so as to contribute to enhancement of society's economic and

social infrastructure

- The applied and developmental research must be carried out jointly by researchers of universities and corporations.

Note:

- "Universities" refers to universities, inter-university research institutes, and technical colleges.
- "Corporations" refers to companies incorporated under the Commercial Law, joint government-private sector organizations, and quasi-governmental organizations.

(2) Research Fields

Research topics must be capable of commercialization within three years after the R&D work is completed. There are six fields of eligibility: materials development, biotechnology, electronics and information sciences, machinery and systems energy and the environment, and others.

(3) Funding

Up to a total of ¥200 million is allocated to each project team, i.e., up to ¥100 million respectively to the university researchers and to the corporate researchers participating in a project.

(4) Duration of R&D work

One year, in principle

(5) Number of Applications

Applications were received January 24-27, 2000, with altogether 489 coming from universities for program's six research fields.

(6) Project Selection Results

Applications were reviewed by a selection committee jointly organized by JSPS and

NEDO, and 33 research projects were selected.

The number of the research projects selected in each field was as follows: materials development, 4 projects, biotechnology, 6 projects, electronics and information, 8 projects, machinery and systems, 3 projects, energy and the environment, 5 projects, and others, 7 projects.

<JSPS Overseas Liaison Offices> Report from São Paulo

By Eisaku Yamamoto

The JSPS Liaison Office, São Paulo, is located in the penthouse of a building near Siqueira Campos Park (Trianon Park) and the São Paulo Art Museum (MASP) in the center of Brazil's largest city. Easily accessible by public transportation, the office is very conveniently situated just a five-minute walk from either the Trianon-MASP station or the Consolação Station on the Paulista Metro-Line, which runs through the main part of the city. Standing on the office's balcony, a panoramic view can be enjoyed of Paulista Avenue, or Brazil's Wall Street as it is called, with its urbanesque rows of office buildings.

The São Paulo office, one of JSPS's seven liaison offices, was opened on 26 January 1990. The reason that São Paulo was selected for the site of the liaison office is its proximity to Brazil's premier institution of higher education, the University of São Paulo (USP), and to the offices of various government agencies and corporations from Japan and other countries. Both from the standpoint of its academic and economic sectors, São Paulo is Brazil's most dynamic metropolis.

On the academic side, of particular note is that Brazil's southeastern region, including the state of São Paulo, has a concentration of approximately 80% of the country's researchers; it also receives 80% of the national education budget.

At present, the office is staffed by a total of four members. The researcher-cum-director currently dispatched to the office is myself,

Eisaku Yamamoto, a Ph.D. candidate in the Health and Sports Sciences Department of the University of Tsukuba. My tenure in this position is for two years from April 1998 through March 2000. I am the seventh in the line of office directors since its establishment. While taking responsibility for the office's operation, I am also conducting a study of the history of physical education and sports in Brazil with a special emphasis on the social history of soccer. The three local staff members are Ms. Diana R. N. Ferreira, the office secretary, Ms. Darcy J. Gonçalves, the housekeeper, and Mr. Walter H. Nakagawa, the driver.

The liaison office has four principal functions: (1) Distributing and gathering information and materials needed in promoting academic exchange between Japanese and Brazilian researchers; (2) conducting liaison and cooperation related to academic exchanges with JSPS's two counterpart institutions in Brazil, namely the National Council for Scientific and Technology Development (CNPq) and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC); (3) providing services for Japanese researchers visiting Brazil to perform international exchanges; and (4) conducting cooperation and exchange activities with JSPS fellows in Brazil.

Currently, all four of these functions are being performed by the office director and the secretary. Considerable innovation is needed to carry out the office's mission with such a small staff. Over the past two years, the thrust of our effort has had to be concentrated on pro-

viding information on JSPS's programs and on conducting liaison with JSPS's counterpart institutions.

In the area of providing program information, in addition to distributing JSPS brochures, newsletters and other relevant literature, the office utilizes JSPS's Internet website (<http://www.jsp.go.jp>) to disseminate information over the computer networks of main universities and research institutes, and uses email to reply quickly to inquiries it receives. As the staff researcher, I also attend, as much as possible, the meetings of academic societies held around the country, where I publicize and explain JSPS's programs.

With regard to the office's inter-institutional liaison activities, JSPS carries out researcher exchange activities with Brazil based on its memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with ABC (headquartered in Rio de Janeiro) in the fields

of mathematics and natural sciences, and with CNPq (headquartered in the capital Brasilia) in all other fields of science, including the humanities, social sciences, applied sciences such as engineering, agricultural sciences and medical sciences. The office has continuously maintained close communication channels with these two institutions; over the past two years, I have also traveled to both of them to discuss issues related to the dispatching and receiving of researchers between the two countries and exchange views on how to further energize bilateral academic exchanges.

By way of statistics, the scale of Japan's exchanges with the Latin American region is not as large as those with the U.S., Europe and Asia; nevertheless, there has over long years been a continuous flow of exchange to and from Latin America across a wide range of fields. These activities have been very meaningful in maintaining the good relationships built up with research institutions throughout the region. As a valuable base in the southern hemisphere for disseminating information on JSPS's programs, the São Paulo liaison office is expected to play an increasingly instrumental role in the years ahead.



Office Building



Mr. Eisaku Yamamoto (2nd from left) and staff members

The JSPS Newsletter is distributed free of charge to individuals and organizations interested in promotion of science. Communication concerning this publication, including requests for address corrections, should be sent to the following addresses:

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