

No. 5

SUMMER

2003

JSPS

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Quarterly



TOPICS

● Officers Appointed for JSPS Research Center	2
● FY 2003 COE Project Selections Announced	2
● Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research in FY 2003	4
● JSPS Office Opened in San Francisco Bay Area	4
● Science in Japan Forum Held in Washington	5
● Memorandum Concluded with CIHR	5
● Report on Colloquium Held by Stockholm Office	6
● New Director Welcomed at Bangkok Office	7
● JSPS-University of Sheffield Symposium	7
● MEXT Commends French Administrators	8
● Steering Committee Held for Japan-US Cancer Research Program	8
● JSPS-LIPI Workshop and Exposé	9
● 13 th Meeting of Japan-Korea Joint Committee Held	9
● Joint Projects Selected under SAKURA Program	9
● Recent Visitors to JSPS	10
● JSPS Summer Program Held	11

Officers Appointed for Research Center for Science System

In July, the Research Center for Science System was established within JSPS. Staffed with a cadre of excellent frontline researchers, the Center's mission is to enhance the selection and evaluation functions of JSPS's Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and other programs, while strengthening the planning capacity of JSPS's overall program and operation.

Dr. Ryoji Noyori, director, Research Center for Materials Science, Nagoya University, and Dr. Shiro Ishii, professor emeritus, The University of Tokyo, have accepted appointments to the Center's respective posts of director and deputy director. In these capacities, they will direct the Center's operations, including its role in planning and conducting JSPS's project selections and evaluations and its function of carrying out surveys and research activities.

In addition to the director and deputy director, the Center will also staff researchers in each of its 9 research groups, which span the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Plans are to staff 48 such researchers: 8



Dr. Ryoji Noyori, director



Dr. Shiro Ishii, deputy director

senior program officers and 40 program officers.

The establishment of the Center will allow the creation of a more impartial, highly transparent selection and evaluation system, while involving researchers directly in the planning of science promotion programs. These enhancements will, it is believed, enable more effective advancement of scientific research in Japan.

FY 2003 Project Selections Announced Under 21st Century COE Program

The FY 2003 selection results for the 21st Century COE Program were announced on 17 July. This program, launched by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in FY 2002, is now in its second year of operation. JSPS conducts the program's selection and evaluation functions.

Among the program's ten fields, the following five were targeted this year: (1) medical sciences; (2) mathematics, physics, earth sciences; (3) mechanical, civil, architectural and other fields of engineering; (4) social sciences; and (5) interdisciplinary, combined fields, new disciplines. In March, project proposals in these fields were received by JSPS from Japanese national, public and private universities. Subsequently, the 21st Century COE Program Committee, established within JSPS and chaired by Dr. Leo Esaki, president, Shibaura Institute of Technology, met to deliberate the proposals and make the grant selections.

The 21st Century COE Program establishes, and infuses prioritized funding into development of, research and

education bases of the highest world order in a wide range of scientific and academic fields. In so doing, it seeks to raise the standard of research in Japan's national, public and private universities, while fostering creative young people capable of becoming future world leaders in their respective fields. Ultimately, the Program works to build universities with a radiant institutional culture and strong prowess to compete internationally. Both the Program's application and selection approaches are designed in such a way as to achieve these ends.

Applications for grants are filed by the president of the university, who submits three documents: (1) the university's future vision, (2) a plan for establishing the COE in one of the university's PhD-level graduate schools or departments, and (3) a record of the university's research and educational achievements in the subject field. The reason for having the university president prepare and submit the application is to assure that under his/her leadership the COE will be created based on an institutional level strategy. In this way, the system embodies a novel concept for fostering COEs of the highest world order.

In the selection process, which extends over four months from the time the applications are received, members of the 21st Century COE Program Committee conduct document and panel evaluations, taking into reference the views and comments of referees who are specialists in each of the subject fields. For those applicants that pass this stage of the review, a hearing is held with the university president or leader of the proposed COE, followed by deliberations among the Committee to make the final selections for the fiscal year.

In this selection process, consideration is given to the applicant's ability to meet the following four expectations:

- (1) To produce excellent research results in the subject field; possess the potential for enhanced capacity in the future; and have the capability to foster people who can do highly advanced research.
- (2) To establish a COE that, under a management setup led by the university president, is capable of carrying out research and education at the world's highest level through a powerful capacity to implement highly original future plans.
- (3) To yield both creative and epochal results through the pioneering of markedly unique academic disciplines.

- (4) To continue their research and education activities at the highest world standard after the funding program has ended.

This selection process does not focus on the scale of the proposed COE, but rather gives consideration to the distinctive nature of the research to be pursued. As a result, both universities in Japan's outlying regions and private universities receive more grants than they have under other funding schemes.

This fiscal year, 611 applications were submitted by 225 universities, from which 133 COE grants were awarded to 56 universities. A breakdown of the applications and selections is shown in the table and graphs below.

The budget for the overall FY 2003 program is approximately 33.4 billion yen. Subtracting the amount allocated for the second year of projects selected in FY 2002, some 15.8 billion yen is earmarked for this fiscal year's awardees. These funds will be distributed to the selected universities by MEXT.

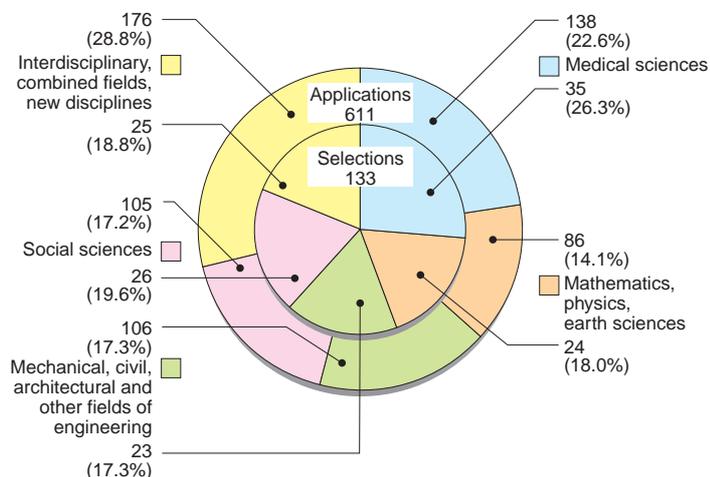
Detailed information on the 21st Century COE Program can be found on JSPS's Japanese website. (www.jspss.go.jp/j-21coe/index.html)

FY 2003 Applications and Selections in Each Category by University Types

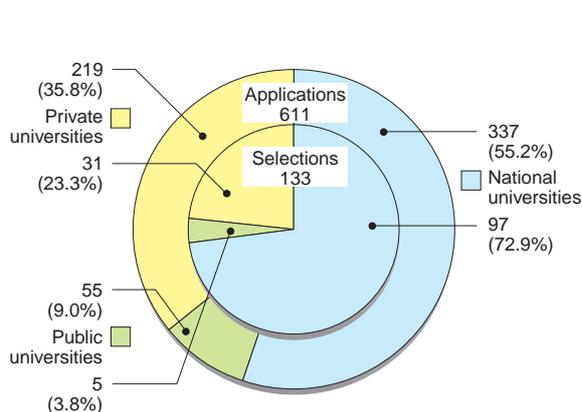
Categories		Medical sciences	Mathematics, physics, earth sciences	Mechanical, civil, architectural and other fields of engineering	Social sciences	Interdisciplinary, combined fields, new disciplines	Total
National	Applied	86 (41)	56 (33)	62 (42)	38 (19)	95 (59)	337 (81)
	Selected	24 (17)	21 (12)	16 (11)	17 (8)	19 (15)	97 (31)
Public	Applied	14 (13)	6 (4)	8 (7)	12 (7)	15 (14)	55 (29)
	Selected	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)	5 (4)
Private	Applied	38 (31)	24 (18)	36 (29)	55 (36)	66 (54)	219 (115)
	Selected	9 (8)	2 (2)	6 (6)	8 (5)	6 (6)	31 (21)
Total	Applied	138 (85)	86 (55)	106 (78)	105 (62)	176 (127)	611 (225)
	Selected	35 (27)	24 (15)	23 (18)	26 (14)	25 (21)	133 (56)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the number of universities.

Applications and Selections by Grant Categories



Applications and Selections by University Types



Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research in FY 2003

As a program to subsidize and advance research carried out at universities and other Japanese institutions, Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) are distributed by JSPS to researchers and small research groups. These grants are divided into several categories based on the purpose and content of the subject research. In June, grants in the basic research category were distributed for the projects reviewed and selected at the March meeting of the JSPS's Committee on Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.

Under this category, some 42,500 new proposals were submitted for FY 2003, from which approximately 9,000 (or 21.4%) were selected. Grantees under the program's largest

funding category "Scientific Research (S)" (creative and leading-edge research conducted by university researchers individually or in small groups) are posted, including the leading researcher's name and an abstract, on JSPS's homepage (see <http://www.jsps.go.jp/e-grants/grants07.html>). However, information on FY 2003 applications and selections is only provided in Japanese.

The fruits of research conducted under these grants-in-aid are widely published in scientific journals and other literature as well as being announced at international symposia. (When such results are published, reference is made of the research having been conducted under the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.)

JSPS Office Established in San Francisco Bay Area

On 27 May, a ceremony was held to celebrate the opening of JSPS's San Francisco Office. The venue was the Radisson Hotel Berkeley Marina in California. This is JSPS's second base of operations in the US, the first having been established in Washington, DC in 1990.

The office is housed in a building near the Berkeley campus of the University of California. Its principal functions will be to provide and gather information and materials needed to advance scientific cooperation and exchange with researchers mainly on the West Coast of the United States. The office will also carry out cooperative activities with local research institutions, among which science fora are slated to proactively disseminate information on the latest scientific programs and developments in Japan.

Prof. Seishi Takeda, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, will concurrently hold the directorships of both JSPS's Washington, DC and San Francisco offices.

The ceremony opened with an address by JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono, who asked the guests for their support and cooperation to the new office. He was followed by Mr. Masayuki Inoue, senior deputy director-general, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), who read in proxy a message of greeting from minister Ms Atsuko Toyama. Among the some 140 in attendance were consul general Shigeru Nakamura, Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco; Prof. C. Judson King, provost and senior vice president, Academic



JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono and staff of San Francisco office

Affairs of University of California (UC) System; Prof. Beth Burnside, vice chancellor for research, University of California, Berkeley; and representatives of universities and other scientific research institutions in Northern California. They all applauded the opening of the office as forming a new base for scientific exchange between the West Coast and Japan.

In remarks based on their own experiences in US-Japan joint research, Prof. Christopher McKee, University of California, Berkeley, and Prof. James McEwan Paterson, Stanford University, expressed high expectation in the success of the new office's activities. Lauding JSPS's international exchange programs for their effectiveness, other attendants were quick to offer various ideas on cooperative activities that the office might initiate. All in all, the ceremony was a very meaningful event.

Fully utilizing its East and West Coast hubs of operation, JSPS will strive to promote further scientific exchange between the US and Japan.

Science in Japan Forum Held in Washington, DC

On 6 June, JSPS's Washington liaison office convened the eighth in its series of Science in Japan Forums at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC. Cosponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Science Foundation (NSF), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the Forum has been held annually since 1996 for the purpose of promoting scientific exchange between the US and Japan. The theme this time was "Cosmos and Earth."

The event opened with welcoming remarks by JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono, who stressed the importance of international cooperation in advancing scientific research. The following morning and afternoon sessions featured presentations by leading researchers in the subject domain from the two countries.

On the Japan side, Dr. Masatoshi Koshihara, 2002 Nobel laureate in physics and professor emeritus, The University of Tokyo, spoke on the theme "Birth of Neutrino Astrophysics"; Prof. Hajime Inoue, The Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS), reported on "Progress of Black Hole Astronomy"; Prof. Kimio Hanawa, Tohoku University, described "Recent Progress in Physical Oceanography in Japan"; and Prof. Akimasa Sumi, The University of Tokyo, elaborated "Recent Development of Climate Models by Using the Earth Simulator."

On the US side, Dr. Riccardo Giacconi, president, Associated Universities, Inc., who was the co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics with Dr. Koshihara, spoke on "The



Lecture delivered by Dr. Masatoshi Koshihara

Rise of X-ray Astronomy"; and Dr. Richard S. Fiske, volcanologist and former director of the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, explored the subject "Volcanoes and People: Hawaii and Japan."

Dr. Koshihara had served as the director of JSPS's Washington office from 1995 through 1997, during which time he sired the first Science in Japan Forum with an eye toward introducing the results of research done by Japanese scientists to their American colleagues.

This year's Forum drew an audience of some 150 university researchers, science administrators and others from around the US. They listened eagerly to the lectures, and took advantage of the occasion to exchange views and information among each other.

Memorandum Concluded with CIHR

On 16 May, JSPS signed a memorandum of understanding with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), agreeing to support researchers in Japan and Canada engaged in medical research on health issues common to the populations of both nations. The MoU provides a flexible framework for advancing such research—one which allows investigator-driven collaboration across institutions and domains.

In promoting research exchange, this MoU-based program seeks to facilitate and advance laboratory-to-laboratory collaborations and researcher-initiated investigations. To this end, it incorporates the flexibility to stay abreast with leading-edge research trends, while supporting projects that meet the requirements of peer-review excellence. The program also supports joint research activities that give young scientists opportunities to acquire international experience on one hand, and which contribute to significant discoveries on the other. Moreover, it promotes the accrual of international experi-

ence by doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows within each other's countries.

Attending the MoU signing ceremony were Mr. Motoyuki Ono, JSPS director general, and four members of JSPS's executive; and Dr. Rémi Quirion, scientific director, Institute of Neuroscience, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA), and two officers of CIHR. Also in attendance were Mr. Masayuki Inoue, senior deputy director-general, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, and another official of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; and Mr. Peter G. Campbell, minister (economic/commercial), and three officials from the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo.

After JSPS and CIHR finish deliberating and deciding upon the MoU's details of implementation, the first joint research activities will be recruited and funded under this new program.

Report on "Colloquium on Photonics" Held by Stockholm Liaison Office

By **Kenichi Iga**

JSPS executive director

The Colloquium on Photonics was held in Kista near the capital on 2-3 June, a most appropriate time of the year as days in Sweden stay light until about 10 p.m. It was also just one week before the beginning of summer vacation.

Each year, JSPS's Stockholm office holds two colloquia for mainly young researchers. At them, about six lecturers are selected from each the scientific communities of Japan and Sweden to deliver presentations and engage in discussions. The ultimate purpose of these events is to deepen friendly relations between the young researchers who will shoulder the future of their respective countries.

The first day of the colloquium got underway at 9 a.m. in the auditorium of IT University, which is located within the Electrum research complex inside Kista Science Park and was established by way of collaboration between The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) and Stockholm University. Prof. Yoshiro Shimura, director of JSPS's Stockholm office, started off the session with words of greeting to the participants and of appreciation to the lecturers.

Next, I gave a talk introducing Japan's science budget and JSPS's programs, and provided an overview of leading work being conducted in the field of photonics. I commented on the turbulent state of the telecommunications domain, having been impacted by the sweeping IT bubble, and how the next challenges will be in the direction of ultra-high speed networks, high density photonics, and multi-functionality. I pointed out that Sweden has a pivotal role to play in advancing R&D in this field, as attested by its success in commercializing vertical cavity surface emitting lasers (VCSELs).

Leading off the plenary session, the coordinators, Prof. Anders Karlsson of KTH and Prof. Shigehisa Arai of Tokyo Institute of Technology, described the state of related research in their respective countries. They touched upon progress being made through research exchange between the two countries in optical devices and systems, some of which are now in practical application. Following them, the 12 lecturers gave their presentations and fielded questions from the floor.

Finally, Prof. Lars Thylén, also from KTH, delivered some closing remarks and touched upon future advances in photonics. Given the scale of both its industry and research budget, it appears that Sweden is narrowing the scope of its thrust to such specific fields as high-speed

networks, sensors, biophotonics and quantum computation, rather than targeting the whole spectrum of the domain. Many examples can be cited of advances that Sweden has made on Japanese research conducted in such fields as optical communication networks, high-speed optical modulation, quantum computing, and semiconductor lasers, including VCSELs.

After the colloquium adjourned that day at around 5:30 p.m., a confabulation to spur exchange was held in Electrum's dining room.



The author (fourth from left, bottom row) and colloquium participants

On the second day, a study visit was made to observe photonics-related research facilities within Electrum. The group went to KTH's Photonics Laboratory in the morning and moved in the afternoon to ACREO's Semiconductor Laboratory to take a look at the state of its research and facilities. ACREO was established through an alliance of over 20 corporations. Its semiconductor laboratory comprises three sections: research, development, and production. Two out of every three of its some 70 researchers hold PhDs. The laboratory features a large-scale clean room of about 1,200 square meters in area, equipped with four MOCVD crystal growth systems. This clean room is open to use by the members of the various venture businesses established within KTH and Electrum. The pace at which the electronics business is expanding in Sweden has outstripped that of the US, making it the world's fastest growing country in this field. Aiming at the development of next-generation networks, Sweden's research is also leading-edge.

In the afternoon, the group moved to KTH's Physics Department, where we observed spectroscopic experiment and femtosecond laser facilities. On that note, the wide-ranging activities of the colloquium came to an end.

I was very pleased to see this colloquium create a nexus for the participating young researchers of the two countries to foster and expand exchanges among themselves.

New Director Welcomed at Bangkok Office

On 1 April, Dr. Toshiomi Yoshida assumed the post of director of JSPS's liaison office in Bangkok, Thailand. In commemoration, a lecture meeting was held on 22 July by the Bangkok office and Mahidol University.

Up till then, Dr. Yoshida had been a professor at the International Center for Biotechnology, Osaka University, in which position he contributed widely to research exchange between Japan and academic institutions in Thailand and other Asian countries. Consequently, he is very well versed on scientific research trends in the Asian region.

At the commemorative lecture meeting held on the campus of Mahidol University, the opening ceremony was kicked off with a message by JSPS executive director Mr. Koji Nakanishi, followed by remarks from National Research Council of Thailand deputy secretary-general Ms Wanasri Samanasena, and Mahidol University president Prof. Pornchai Matangkasombut. Commemorative lectures on the theme "Science in the 21st Century: Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and Environmental Science"



Dr. Toshiomi Yoshida addressing audience

were then delivered by two researchers, including Dr. Yoshida, from each the Thai and Japanese sides.

Batting at the top of the lineup, Dr. Yoshida promised to draw upon his experience as a researcher in doing all within his power as the office director to develop various forms of international exchange within the Asian region.

Attending the meeting were more than 100 people, mostly researchers and students from Mahidol University, who listened attentively to the lectures.

JSPS-University of Sheffield Symposium

On 25-26 July, JSPS's London Office joined forces with The University of Sheffield in holding a large-scale symposium as part of a menu of events to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the University's Centre for Japanese Studies. By introducing leading-edge research being conducted in fields of the social sciences in Japan, the symposium sought to promote international exchange between Japan and the United Kingdom. Aimed at highlighting the importance of Japan Studies being carried out in the UK, the symposium was divided into two parts: the first being a discussion among leading Japanese and British researchers in the fields of political science and economics, and the second being a lecture session.

The first session, held at Shrigley Hall in the Cheshire countryside on the outskirts of Manchester, pitched some twenty of the two countries' best and brightest social scientists in a lively discussion on the theme "Beyond Globalization in Japan and Asia: A Multilevel Approach." While analyzing the state of international relations amidst proliferating globalization, they advanced a dialogue on the direction such relations might take in a post-globalization era.



For the second session, the venue moved to Firth Court at The University of Sheffield, where Prof. Takeshi Sasaki, president, The University of Tokyo, and Prof. Robert F. Boucher, vice chancellor, The University of Sheffield, gave presentations on globalization in the context of higher education. Altogether, some 70 people, including Mrs. Diane Leek, Lord Mayor of Sheffield, and Ambassador Masaki Orita, Japanese Embassy, London, came to hear the lectures.

Looking back, this event bespoke both the strength and potential of Japan's academic competitiveness within the international arena at a juncture when it is seeking to establish itself as a nation rich in intellectual creativity. Besides contributing to the development of the Centre for Japanese Studies, the symposium also served to increase interest in Japan within Britain's academic community.

MEXT Commendations Go to French Administrators

The “Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Prize” was awarded jointly to Prof. Jean-Yves Mérindol, former president, Louis Pasteur University, and Prof. Michel Hoffert, former vice president of international policy, Louis Pasteur University, for their long and dedicated years of contribution to Franco-Japan exchange. As the busy schedule of the two administrators made it difficult for them to come to Japan to receive the Prize, on 24 June Mr. Fumiyasu Hirashita, director, International Science and Technology Affairs Division, MEXT, traveled as the minister’s envoy to France, where an award ceremony was held at the consul general’s official residence in Strasbourg. An article covering the Prize and ceremony in detail was carried the next day in the regional paper *Dernières Nouvelles d’Alsace* (DNA).

Professors Mérindol and Hoffert have contributed in numerous ways to the building of friendly relations between France and Japan, beginning with their key roles in establishing the Franco-Japanese Student Exchange System (e.g., Programme 8 and Programme Renault educational scholarships). They also arranged for former Japanese prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to receive an honorary doctorate degree from Louis Pasteur University for his having at the 1980 G7 Economic Summit in Venice advocated the creation of the Human Frontier Science Program. (That ceremony was held on the tenth anniversary of HFSP’s successful operation.) In addition to the leading roles they played in planning and organizing the second Conference of University Presidents held in 2001, as a part of that Conference, they announced the establishment of the Maison Universitaire France-Japon and were later instrumental in the decision made to in-

vide JSPS to set up its French liaison office on the premises of the Universitaire.

In an expression of gratitude for the tremendous contributions made by Professors Mérindol and Hoffert, a reception to celebrate their receipt of the Prize was held in Strasbourg on a later date. Mr. Tei-ichi Sato, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO, came from Paris to join the reception along with Mr. Hidekazu Yamaguchi, consul general of Japan in Strasbourg, Dr. Yoichi Nakatani, director of JSPS’s Strasbourg office, and other distinguished guests. In their speeches, Professors Mérindol and Hoffert expressed their delight in having been chosen to receive the MEXT Prize and stated their strong intent to continue to work for the future development of exchange between France and Japan.



From left: Dr. Yoichi Nakatani, Mr. Tei-ichi Sato, Prof. Jean-Yves Mérindol, Prof. Michel Hoffert, Mr. Hidekazu Yamaguchi

Steering Committee Held for Japan-US Cancer Research Program

On 14 July in Washington, DC, JSPS and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) held a joint steering committee meeting for the Japan-US Cooperation in Cancer Research Program, which is carried out by the two agencies in the subject fields of basic science, clinical science, and epidemiology (behavioral science). At the meeting, executives in charge of the program at JSPS and NCI and the program coordinators, who are leading cancer researchers, from the two countries assembled and discussed fu-

ture plans for implementing the program.

As 2004 will mark the program’s 30th anniversary, it was decided to hold a commemorative event as part of the large symposium scheduled for the end of this fiscal year.

Details of the large symposium are as follows:

Date: 1-2 March 2004

Venue: Natcher Conference Center (NIH), Bethesda

Theme: Molecular Cancer Therapeutics (tentative)

JSPS-LIPI Workshop and Exposé

Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia (Indonesian Institute of Sciences) organized a workshop to celebrate the 25 years of JSPS-LIPI collaboration in the Core University, RONPAKU, and Scientist Exchange Programs. Held in Jakarta on 17 July, it acted to introduce within Indonesia the results realized through collaboration under these programs. Attending were members of LIPI and JSPS staffs, key researchers from each side, and a large audience of some 100 people.

In the workshop, presentations were given on the frameworks and outcomes of core university programs with Indonesia in the four areas of wood science, environmental earth science, biotechnology and coastal oceanography—all germane to the development of Indonesia's natural resources. It was evident from the presentations that the results gained through the cooperative activities of the two countries' researchers, which have been pub-



Opening remarks by JSPS inspector general Dr. Keisuke Taira

lished in various papers and journals, are now beginning to take the form of industrial applications and societal contributions. Through these exchanges, research networks are being formed which facilitate active exchange among the young researchers upon whose shoulders the future of the two countries will rest.

During their stay for the workshop in Indonesia, the JSPS delegation held a small joint staff meeting with LIPI to discuss modalities for future activities as well as ways to cooperate in making JSPS-LIPI research exchanges even more productive.

The 13th Meeting of Japan-Korea Joint Committee for Basic Scientific Research

On 20 May, the 13th Meeting of the Japan-Korea Joint Committee for Basic Scientific Research was held in Sapporo, Japan.

Under the Japan-Korea Basic Scientific Cooperation Program, JSPS and the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF) support joint research projects and seminars carried out between researchers of the two



countries. The Japanese and Korean members of this Joint Committee meet periodically to discuss the program's implementation.

This time, the Committee reviewed the results of the FY 2002 collaborative activities and selected new projects and seminars for FY 2003, as shown in the table below.

	Applications	Selections
Joint Research Projects	121	32
Joint Seminars	25	14

On the day following of the committee meeting, the members visited Hokkaido University, where they learned about the university's international exchange activities and toured its Research Institute for Electronic Science and its Institute of Low Temperature Science.

Joint Research Projects Selected under SAKURA Program

On 27 June, the Japan-France Joint Selection Committee of the SAKURA (Japan-France Integrated Action) Program met to select joint research projects and seminars from openly recruited applications. Due to the unexpectedly large response, both FY 2003 and FY 2004 joint research projects were selected. The numbers of applications received and selected are shown in the table to the right.

	Applications	Selections		
		FY 2003	FY 2004	Total
Joint Research Projects	103	10	10	20
Joint Seminars	2	0	—	0

Recent Visitors to JSPS (April-July 2003)

Prof. Sheldon Lee Glashow

Prof. Glashow, from Boston University in the US, was invited to Japan by the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) under the JSPS Award for Eminent Scientists. Prof. Glashow won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1979. This was his second visit under the JSPS program, the first having been in March of last year.

On 16 May, Prof. Glashow exchanged views with JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono, who introduced him to the international exchange activities being carried out by JSPS and KEK and explained how efforts are being made to vitalize research activities in Japan by launching the new 21st Century COE Program and by strengthening competition among national universities through their conversion to autonomous "corporations." Pointing out that improved education in math and science is needed in both Japan and the US, Mr. Ono described Japan's "Super Science High School" program as an initiative to

forge progress in that direction. While discussing the subject, Prof. Glashow noted that when he was in high school he had an opportunity to listen to a lecture by the 1949 Nobel laureate in physics, Dr. Hideki Yukawa. He said he was very impressed with Dr. Yukawa's presentation.



Mr. Motoyuki Ono,
Prof. Sheldon Lee
Glashow

Delegation from NCST

On 30 May, Vietnam's National Center for Natural Science and Technology (NCST) delegation, headed by its



From left: Mr. Tsuyoshi Enomoto, Mr. Motoyuki Ono from JSPS; and Prof. Nguyen Khoa Son, Prof. Bui Cong Que, Dr. Nguyen Xuan Hoan, Mr. Chu Tri Thang from NCST

deputy director general Prof. Nguyen Khoa Son, came to JSPS to hold a joint staff meeting. Launched in 1996, JSPS's program of exchange with NCST currently includes the Core University Program, RONPAKU Program, and a Scientist Exchange Program, all carried out between Japan and Vietnam. In addition, JSPS invites Vietnamese researchers to Japan through its fellowship programs.

At the meeting, JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono welcomed JSPS's Vietnamese colleagues, saying how delighted he was that academic exchange is growing between Japan and Vietnam. In the following administrative session, the staff members reviewed the present state of exchange between the two countries and discussed concrete plans for enhancements.

Delegation from NRCT

The 21st Joint Staff Meeting between JSPS and National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) was convened in Tokyo on 10 June. This meeting is held biennially for the purpose of reviewing the present state of collaboration and discussing future plans for enhancing the cooperative activities carried out by the two organizations.

JSPS and NRCT have built a strong partnership over their 26 years of on-going exchange; and their collaborative programs, such as the Core University, RONPAKU, and Scientist Exchange Programs, are all being implemented effectively.

To open the meeting, JSPS director general Mr. Motoyuki Ono welcomed the Thai delegation. Attending from JSPS were Mr. Koji Nakanishi, executive director; Mr. Tsuyoshi Enomoto, head of Asian Program Division;

and some other members of the Division's staff. From NRCT were Ms Wanasri Samanasena, deputy secretary-general; Ms Mathuros Sumipan, director of Translation and Foreign Relations Division; and Ms Warangkana Punyathorn, foreign relation officer. Presided over jointly by Mr. Nakanishi and Ms Samanasena, the meeting gave venue to a vigorous discussion on a variety of program-related review and improvement issues.



On the right, Ms Warangkana Punyathorn, Ms Wanasri Samanasena, Ms Mathuros Sumipan from NRCT

JSPS Summer Program Held

With its opening ceremony, the JSPS Summer Program was launched on 25 June at the campus of Sokendai, The Graduate University for Advanced Studies. This Summer Program is designed to provide an opportunity for young pre- and post-doctoral researchers from Western countries to familiarize themselves with the Japanese culture and research environment, while conducting research under the leadership of host scientists at Japanese universities and research institutes over a period of two months during the summer. (For further program details, see http://www.jsps.go.jp/e-summer/english_ns4/index.html)

Under this year's program, JSPS welcomed 101 fellows from the US, the UK, France, Germany and Canada. In addition to these fellows, the opening ceremony was attended by representatives of Sokendai, MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and the following overseas partners: National Science Foundation-NSF (USA), British Council (UK), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique-CNRS (France), Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst-DAAD (Germany), and the Canadian Embassy in Japan.

Opening addresses were delivered by Prof. Keiichi Kodaira, president of Sokendai, Prof. Kenichi Iga, executive director of JSPS, and Mr. Kenjiro Sasaoka, director for international exchange promotion of MEXT. In their messages, each extended a cordial welcome to the fellows and expressed their gratitude to the implementing organizations for the dedicated support they accord the program.

Stressing the importance of gaining firsthand experience even in today's highly technetronic society, Prof. Kodaira expressed his admiration of the fellows for the ambition and pluck that brought them all the way to Japan. He also emphasized the importance of mutual understanding between different cultures, and encouraged the fel-

lows to be "cultural ambassadors riding the wings of a vehicle named research."

Following Prof. Kodaira's words of encouragement to the fellows, Prof. Iga gave them practical information on such topics as basic research systems in Japan and JSPS's role in Japan's research-funding framework.

Mr. Sasaoka expressed his expectation for the young fellows to contribute to the promotion of mutual understanding, encouraging them to actively communicate and exchange ideas with Japanese researchers so as to make their two-month stays an asset not only to themselves but also to their Japanese colleagues with whom the JSPS Summer Program will hopefully be the first step to joint research activities in the future.

The opening ceremony was followed by a reception, led off with a toast by Dr. Christopher A. Loretz, director of NSF's Tokyo Regional Office.

During the first week of the program, the fellows attended an orientation session on the Sokendai campus, which gave them a chance to learn some basic Japanese language, experience a touch of Japanese culture through a visit to the old Japanese city of Kamakura, and try their hand at the tea ceremony and other traditional customs. It also included a few days of homestay with Japanese host families.

Following the orientation at Sokendai, the fellows moved to their respective host institutions to conduct their own research activities until the latter part of August. On 21 August, the program was wrapped up by reassembling the fellows and giving them an opportunity to report on their experiences over the course of their summer stays in Japan.



To Past and Present JSPS Fellows:

We are in the process of updating our mailing list. If you have changed your address or would like to add your name to the *JSPS Quarterly* mailing list, please mail your full name and address (including country) to JSPS Fellows Plaza, 6 Ichibancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8471 or fax it to us at +81-3-3234-3700. Please indicate whether you are a current or former JSPS Fellow.

Events

Stockholm Office

Forum "Frontiers in Life Science"
Nobel Forum, Stockholm, 27 October 2003
Colloquium "What to Analyze About Contemporary Japanese Society"
Göteborg University, 21-22 April 2004

Strasbourg Office

Forum "Postgenome"
Centre Culturel St-Thomas, Strasbourg, 28 November 2003

Bonn Office

Japan-Germany Science Symposium
Halle, 14-15 May 2004

Recruitments

For FY 2003
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships (Short-Term) for North American and European Researchers
Application deadline to JSPS: 6-10 October 2003

For FY 2004
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Foreign Researchers
JSPS Invitation Fellowships for Research in Japan (Short-Term)
Application deadline to JSPS: 10-14 May 2004

Publications

Doppler-Free High Resolution Spectral Atlas of Iodine Molecule 15000 to 19000 cm⁻¹

By Hajime Katô et al., Kobe University; four volumes (4,000 pages with CD-ROM); ¥60,000 [about \$500] plus delivery. For details and ordering, see: www.jsps.go.jp/e-rftf/gaiyo/gaiyo_pub_i.html

Life in Japan for Foreign Researchers 2002

The handbook contains useful information on living, working, housing, banking, medical services, etc; 230 pages in English & Japanese; ¥1,680 [about \$14] plus delivery. For details, ask Maruzen bookstore: fax +81-3-3272-0693 or email e-shop@maruzen.co.jp



For further information on JSPS's organization and programs, please visit our website [www.jsps.go.jp/e-home.htm], or mail or fax inquiries to JSPS Fellows Plaza using the address or fax number given below. JSPS Quarterly and our brochure may also be downloaded [www.jsps.go.jp/e-admin/about.html].

● JSPS Fellows Plaza

6 Ichibancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8471
Tel: +81-3-3263-1872 Fax: +81-3-3234-3700 <http://www.jsps.go.jp/e-home.htm>

Information can also be obtained from our regional liaison offices listed below.

● JSPS Washington Liaison Office

Suite 920, 1800 K Street N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20006, USA
Tel: +1-202-659-8190 Fax: +1-202-659-8199
E-mail: webmaster@jpsusa.org
<http://www.jpsusa.org>

● JSPS San Francisco Office

2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 610,
Berkeley, CA 94704, USA
Tel: +1-510-665-1890 Fax: +1-510-665-1891
E-mail: webmaster@jpsusa-sf.org
<http://www.jpsusa-sf.org>

● JSPS Liaison Office, Bonn

Wissenschaftszentrum, Ahrstr. 58, 53175,
Bonn, GERMANY
Tel: +49-228-375050 Fax: +49-228-957777
E-mail: jps-bonn@t-online.de
<http://www.jps-bonn.de>

● JSPS Liaison Office, London

12 Berkeley Street, London W1J 8DT, UK
Tel: +44-20-7629-3577 Fax: +44-20-7629-3588
E-mail: enquire@jps.org
<http://www.jps.org>

● JSPS Liaison Office, Stockholm

Fogdevreten 2, S-171 77 Stockholm, SWEDEN
Tel: +46-8-5088-4561 Fax: +46-8-31-38-86
E-mail: gakushin2@jps-sto.com
<http://www.jps-sto.com>

● JSPS Liaison Office, Strasbourg

Maison Universitaire France-Japon
42a, avenue de la Forêt-Noire,
67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE
Tel: +33-3-9024-2017 Fax: +33-3-9024-2014
E-mail: jps@japon.u-strasbg.fr
<http://jps.u-strasbg.fr>

● JSPS Liaison Office, Bangkok

113 TWY Office Center, 10th Fl., Serm-mit Tower,
159 Sukhumvit Soi 21,
Bangkok 10110, THAILAND
Tel: +66-2-661-6453 Fax: +66-2-661-6454
E-mail: jpsb@mozart.inet.co.th
<http://www.inet.co.th/org/jpsps>

● JSPS Research Station, Cairo

9 Al-Kamel Muhammad Street,
Flat No.19 Zamalek,
Cairo, EGYPT
Tel & Fax: +20-2-7363752
E-mail: jps@soficom.com.eg

● JSPS Research Station, Nairobi

Chiromo Access Road, Off Riverside Drive,
Nairobi, KENYA
Tel: +254-20-4442424 Fax: +254-20-4442112
E-mail: jps1@africaonline.co.ke
<http://www.jpsnairobi.org>



Crowing Rooster, Emblem of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

From days of old in Japan, it has been the belief that the vigorous cry of the rooster in the gray of the morning augurs the coming of a new and bright day. As the crowing rooster can therefore be thought of as a harbinger of the kind of new knowledge that promises a brilliant future for humankind, it was chosen as the emblem of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. This emblem was designed in 1938 by Professor Sanzo Wada of Tokyo Fine Arts School to depict the rooster that symbolizes the breaking dawn in a verse composed by Emperor Showa.