

JSPS Quarterly

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science



FEATURE: FoS Symposia Held in FY 2008

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Frontiers of Science (FoS) Symposia are held by JSPS in cooperation with its partner agencies in participating countries. These symposia lodge 60-80 (30-40 from each side) talented young researchers from Japan and the counterpart country under one roof for a period of three days. Specializing in a wide range of research fields, the participants use this time together to engage in cross-disciplinary discussions on the leading edge of scientific pursuits. Differing from the general symposium format, FoS symposia do not attempt to reach conclusions or compile results; their aim is to further enrich the young researchers' ability to think freely and creatively so as to be better equipped to challenge and expand the frontiers of science. Concurrently, these symposia are meant to develop leaders who possess broad perspectives—transcending minutely defined boundaries among research fields—and who are capable of jelling colleagues across wide spectrums of science into collaborative undertakings.

On the Japan side, the JSPS Frontiers of Science Symposium Advisory Board selects the symposium participants, whose achievements have already been recognized via the JSPS Prize and other merit awards.

In FY 2008, FoS symposia were held with an unprecedented four counterpart countries: the US, Germany, France, and the UK. The members of their planning groups were chosen from among the participants of the previous year's symposia. They spent a period of about one year planning and organizing their respective symposia, while proposing and selecting session topics that envelop cutting-edge fields of highest academic interest across a wide spectrum of disciplines including biology, chemistry, medicine, physics, mathematics, and social sciences.

At the symposia, presentations were given on the appeal and potential of each of these topics, followed by discussions among the participants. They allowed the young researchers to take a step across the lines dividing their various specializations in exploring and elucidating the topics' interdisciplinary possibilities. These discussions proved to be so engrossing as to often carry over into lunch breaks or evening free time.

In his message to the participants at the farewell reception of the Japanese-French FoS Symposium, JSPS Executive Director Dr. Makoto Kobayashi (2008 Nobel laureate in physics) said the following: "The frontiers of science are advancing very fast these days, making it difficult to foresee in which direction they will go. Amidst this environment, each of you gathered here is a central player; what you do now will determine the future direction of your field. So you should work hard on the subjects you think to be most important from a broad point of view. This symposium has covered a wide range of fields; the kind of inter-disciplinary interaction experienced through your participation in it gave you a good opportunity to not only better comprehend other fields but to also rethink your own."

A great many of the participants in these symposia praised the event for having brought them together with researchers from diverse fields whom they wouldn't ordinarily have a chance to meet and engage in discussion. This, they said, gave them a more holistic view of frontier research, one that they can apply to initiating research collaborations with new colleagues from other disciplines.

More information on the Frontiers of Science Symposium series can be found on its website: <http://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-fos/>.

UK-Japan Frontiers of Science (UK-Japan FoS) Symposium

This UK-Japan FoS symposium was held as one of the events of UK-Japan 2008, which commemorated the 150th anniversary of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Amity and Commerce.

Cosponsored with the Royal Society, the symposium was held on 4-6 October at Shonan Village Center in Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture. The session topics addressed through interdisciplinary discussions were as follows: Olfaction and Pheromonal Communication in Vertebrates; Self-assembling Materials; Frontiers in the Plankton; Jellyfish Ecology; Bio-inspired Approaches to Advanced Materials; Transport Networks; Genetic Basis of Cogni-



UK-Japan FoS Symposium

tion; and Gamma-ray Bursts. A farewell party for the participants was hosted by Ambassador David Warren at the British Embassy in Tokyo.

Japanese-German Frontiers of Science (JGFoS) Symposium

The JGFoS symposium series was established as part of an agreement to strengthen bilateral scientific exchange, particularly among young researchers, made at a summit held in August 2003 between the Japanese and German heads of state. Launched in 2004, the program is implemented in cooperation with Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH).

This fifth symposium in the series was held from 31 October through 2 November in Mainz, Germany. Cross-disciplinary discussions were advanced on the following session topics: Biological Clocks; New Directions in Catalysis; Stable Isotopes in Earth and Space Science;

Frontiers of Bioinformatics; Quantum Information; and Sustainability: Challenges for (Social) Sciences.



5th Japanese-German FoS Symposium

Japanese-American Frontiers of Science (JAFoS) Symposium

This symposium series has its origins in an August 1996 discussion between Mr. Hidenao Nakagawa, then-Minister of the Science and Technology Agency of



11th Japanese-American FoS Symposium

Japan, and Dr. Bruce M. Alberts, then-President of the National Academy of Sciences. JAFoS symposia are carried out in partnership with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). Its framework provides the basis for JSPS's overall Frontiers of Science Program.

Cosponsored again with NAS, this eleventh symposium in the series was held on 5-7 December in Irvine, California. The chosen session topics were Evolution of Sleep and Memory; New Chemistry for Renewable Raw Materials; Prediction of Future Sea Level in a Greenhouse World-Theory and Observation; Nanomedicine; Bayesian Statistics and Massive Data Streams; Optical Measurement and Control of Neuronal Activity; Detecting Dark Matter; and Measurements and Conditions for Happiness.

Japanese-French Frontiers of Science (JFFoS) Symposium

The JFFoS series was established based on an agreement "to create a framework conducive to the development of exchanges" between the Japanese and French heads of state at their summit in March 2005. These symposia have been carried out since FY 2006 in cooperation with the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MAEE), French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR), and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS).

Held on 24-26 January at Shonan Village Center in Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture, this third symposium featured the following session topics: Induced Pluripotent Stem (iPS) Cell and Stem-cell Therapy; NMR; High Pressure Mineralogy to Investigate the Deep Earth; Hy-

brid Materials; Molecules Affecting Behaviour; Granular Dynamics; Social Choice and Justice; and Go/Shogi Computer Program. A farewell party hosted by Ambassador Philippe Faure was held for the participants at the French Embassy in Tokyo.



3rd Japanese-French FoS Symposium

Presentation Ceremony Held for 2008 International Prize for Biology

On 8 December, the 24th annual ceremony for awarding the International Prize for Biology was held in the presence of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan at the Japan Academy, located in Ueno Park, Tokyo. The ceremony was organized by the Committee on the International Prize for Biology, chaired by Dr. Takashi Sugimura, vice president of the Japan Academy.

At the ceremony, an opening message was delivered by Dr. Sugimura and a report on the selection process was provided by Dr. Masamitsu Wada, chair of this year's Selection Committee, after which the prize and an Imperial gift were presented to this year's awardee Dr. George David Tilman, Regents Professor of the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior at the University of Minnesota, USA. A message was then de-



Dr. Tilman receives Prize in presence of the Emperor and Empress

livered by His Majesty, followed by congratulatory remarks from the Prime Minister (read by Mr. Jun Matsumoto, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary) and from Mr. Ryu Shionoya, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). The ceremony concluded with an acceptance address from Dr. Tilman.

At the reception following the ceremony, a congenial atmosphere prevailed with Their Majesties and Dr. Tilman

engaging in amicable conversation with each other and with the guests who included MEXT minister Mr. Shionoya, embassy representatives and the Prize Committee members.



Dr. Tilman and Emperor Akihito engaged in conversation at the reception

The International Prize for Biology Commemorative Symposium and Lecture on Ecology was then held on 10-11 December at the Sendai International Center, Sendai.

— General Affairs Division

Acceptance Address by Dr. George David Tilman

Your Majesties, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My thoughts, today, are of gratitude and humility. For almost a quarter of a century, the International Prize for Biology has honored eminent biologists whose fundamental achievements have advanced knowledge and inspired the next generation of scholars. Past recipients in the areas that I know best, ecology, evolution and systematics, are scholarly giants in whose reflected light I am honored and humbled to stand.

It is with pleasure and thanks that I accept this award. I thank, first, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and especially Their Majesties, the Emperor, himself a highly accomplished biologist, and the Empress, whose presence adds to the honor of this award and exemplifies the value that they place on science.

As I think of all those to whom I am so deeply indebted, I am drawn first back to my youth and to my parents who encouraged my scientific curiosity and gave me the freedom to explore the sand dune and forest ecosystems that bordered the shores of Lake Michigan where we lived. I think next of my high school biology teacher, Don Farnum,

whose enthusiasm for experimentation and research led me, for the first time, to consider a career in science.

Biology was my love, but I never imagined that it could also be my profession. When I started at the University of Michigan, I studied physics, envisioning it to be the branch of science in which I could combine my interests in mathematics and experimentation. Then two new faculty members at the University of Michigan, Drs. Stephen Hubbell and John Vandermeer, introduced me to ecology, which was ripe with opportunities for someone interested in theory and experimentation. I had found the profession to which I would dedicate my life.

As a graduate student, Professors Peter Kilham and Susan Kilham mentored and guided me, emphasizing the importance of pursuing the field's largest mysteries. Since then, I have been fortunate to collaborate with many other faculty, graduate students and post-doctoral researchers. This award honors all of these individuals.

The major mystery to which I have dedicated my studies has been biodiversity. Why has the number of species on earth progressively increased for

the past three billion years? What allows so many competing species to coexist? How does the loss of this diversity impact the functioning of ecosystems? For the past three and a half decades I have pursued such questions using a combination of experimentation, mathematical theory and observation in natural ecosystems, and, in doing so, have shown that ecology can be a mechanistic and predictive science.

I began this work because it interested me so deeply, never imagining that others would find it of interest, too. Nor did I foresee, then, the relevance of this work to an increasingly human-dominated world in which habitat simplification and habitat destruction would come to threaten biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystems upon which society depends.

The next half-century poses great challenges. Global population is likely to increase by 50% at the same time that global per capita consumption increases by 140%. During this period, global demand for both food and energy are likely to double. How we meet these demands for food and energy will determine the world that our descendants inherit.

I am optimistic that, with advances both in science and in environmental ethics, and with these advances applied to the pressing issues that the earth faces, we will be able to sustain the biodiversity and functioning of global ecosystems while also providing all the peoples of the world with lives as rich and full as those that we are

privileged to live. This, though, will require a close partnership between science and society. It will especially require that we attract to science some of the best young minds of every nation.

By their presence here today, Their Majesties bestow great honor on science, thus telling young scholars that

fundamental research in the biological sciences is of central importance to society and its future. That message is the deeper meaning and the most important purpose of the International Prize for Biology. I thank Their Majesties and all of you for supporting science by your presence here today.

MoU Signed for Joint Research with VINNOVA

On 11 December, JSPS signed a memorandum of understanding to support joint research projects with the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA).

Attended by JSPS president Prof. Motoyuki Ono, JSPS Stockholm Office director Prof. Hiroshi Sano, VINNOVA director general Prof. Per Eriksson, and VINNOVA program manager for International Collaboration and Networks Dr. Henrik Fridén, the signing ceremony was held amidst an amicable atmosphere.

Up till now, VINNOVA has nominated candidates for JSPS's Postdoctoral Fellowships for Foreign Researchers

and Invitation Fellowship for Research in Japan (Short-term) programs. The new MoU establishes a framework for supporting joint research conducted by teams of Swedish and Japanese researchers. Steps are being taken to recruit bilateral joint projects that meet the high standard of Swedish research. When launched, they are expected to greatly strengthen the partnership between Sweden and Japan while advancing research collaboration between the two countries.

Under the program, an FY2009 open call for proposals will be issued for projects in fields of the natural sciences, engineering and medicine. The selected projects are scheduled to start



from FY 2010. During their 2-year durations, JSPS will support the projects with an annual grant of up to 2.5 million yen while VINNOVA will fund them with up to 150,000 kronor. Detailed application information will be posted on JSPS's website in June 2009.

— Research Cooperation Division I

Symposium Held under Strategic Fund for Establishing International Headquarters in Universities

On 1-2 December, a 2008 symposium under the program "Strategic Fund for Establishing International Headquarters in Universities" was held on the theme "University Internationalization: Trends with Faculty and Funding" at Waseda University in Tokyo.

In May, a JSPS-NSF symposium had been held in Washington, DC. (See 2008 fall issue of *JSPS Quarterly* for related article.) Held as a continuum,



the December symposium also saw a set of presentations by US researchers who receive research funding from the National Science Foundation.

In the meeting, the keynote speech was given on the topic "Building International Networks among Universities." The ensuing sessions addressed the themes "Expanding Opportunities for Young Researchers to Gain Overseas Training Experience" and "Acquiring External Funding." They were followed by a panel discussion on the evaluation of university internationalization, in which questions were asked and answered and views exchanged between the Japanese and American participants.



Interaction among participants in symposium session

Through the symposium, directions were explored toward university reform, particularly by sharing institutional examples of university internationalization and information on international strategies being mapped out in each country.

— Research Cooperation Division I

Sixth A-HORCs Meeting Held in Korea

On 5-7 November, the sixth meeting of the Heads of Research Councils in Asia (A-HORCs) was held on Cheju Island in Korea. A-HORCs meetings bring together top executives of the leading science-promotion agencies in Japan, China and Korea for the purpose of strengthening scientific cooperation among the three East Asian countries. This sixth in the round of annual meetings was attended by Prof. Motoyuki Ono, president of JSPS; Prof. Yiyu Chen, president of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC); and Mr. Hyung-Chul Moon, acting chairman and CEO of the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF). Each delivered a presentation, followed by active Q&A discussions and exchanges of views on S&T



policies and practices in the respective countries.

Then, a discussion was held on JSPS's A3 Foresight Program, implemented jointly with NSFC and KOSEF, and on the trilateral Northeastern Asian Symposiums. It was decided to adopt "Renewable Energy" as the topic for the eleventh Symposium to be held in the

next fiscal year.

Concurrent with the convening of the A-HORCs meeting, the tenth Northeastern Asian Symposium was held on the theme "Cancer Epigenetics." It was attended by about 40 researchers from the three countries, most of whom gave presentations on their research activities. All participated in an active exchange of views. The interaction that thrived at the symposium holds strong promise for the initiation of future joint research projects.

Hosted next time around by JSPS, the seventh A-HORCs meeting and eleventh Northeastern Asian Symposium will be held in Hiroshima, Japan.

— Asian Program Division

2008 ASIAHORCs Meeting Held in Japan

JSPS hosted the second meeting of the Asian Heads of Research Councils (ASIAHORCs), held at the hotel Grand Pacific Le Daiba in Tokyo on 26-28 November. It assembled the heads of science-promotion agencies from around the Asian region.

In FY 2006, JSPS was commissioned by Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology to carry out what's called the Strategic Program for Building an Asian Science and Technology Community. Its aim is to programmatically build and strengthen a cooperative multilateral relationship between Japan and the scientifically advancing countries of Asia. To move forward in forging a working network among the region's science-promotion and -funding agencies, JSPS organized and convened the first ASIAHORCs

meeting in FY 2007. It was held at the peak of the November fall-color season in Kyoto.

This second ASIAHORCs meeting enjoyed the participation of eight member agencies, the heads of which discussed S&T policy trends along with matters related to research funding and international collaboration in their respective countries. At the meeting, the keynote address was given by one of this year's Nobel laureates in physics, JSPS executive director Dr. Makoto Kobayashi. He was followed by presentations from each of the agency representatives and ensuing discussions.

As a result of the discussions, a mutual consensus was formed as to the desirability of implementing a joint project within the ASIAHORCs framework. In



the working group convened after the ASIAHORCs meeting, it was agreed to have JSPS sponsor an international symposium as an ASIAHORCs pilot project in the following fiscal year. It was also agreed to expand the membership of the ASIAHORCs consortium. Finally, it was decided to hold the 2009 ASIAHORCs meeting in Seoul, Korea, and the 2010 meeting in India.

— Asian Program Division

Meeting Held of Japan-India Science Council

Co-organized by JSPS and the Indian government's Department of Science and Technology (DST), the twelfth meeting of the Japan-India Science Council was held on 21 January in Yokohama, Japan. It was attended by the two co-chairs, Prof. Keitaro

Yoshihara, on the Japanese side, and Prof. C.N.R. Rao, on the Indian side, and eleven Japanese and Indian members who coordinate the Council's six priority areas, titled: 1) Molecular Structure, Dynamics and Molecular Materials including Supramolecular

Science; 2) Advanced Materials, including Polymers and Nanomaterials; 3) Modern Biology and Biotechnology; 4) Manufacturing Science; 5) Astronomical and Space Science; and 6) Surface and Interface Science, including Catalysis.

Much of the meeting was devoted to selecting the joint research projects and seminars to be supported in FY 2009 and to planning the next fiscal year's Asia Academic Seminar to be held with India in Japan. A discussion was also advanced on the future policy and implementation of the Council's program. As a special addition, Prof. Teruyuki Kato, Earthquake Research Institute, the University of Tokyo, who attended as an advisor to the Council in the area of earthquakes and tsunami, shared his views and insights with the members on this area of vital bilateral importance.

The Japan-India Science Council was originally established at the time exchange began between JSPS and DST in 1992. Comprising leading authorities

of the two countries, the Council oversees all JSPS/DST-supported cooperative science programs carried out between Japan and India.

Dr. Saburo Nagakura, former president of the Japan Academy, attended this meeting as a special advisor. Having devoted himself to promoting the work of the Council and Indo-Japanese scientific exchange from its earliest stages, he offered the members valuable advice based on his long years of experience. Remarks were also offered by Prof. C.N.R. Rao who, as the chair of the Indian side since the Council's establishment, has been a driving force in advancing Indo-Japanese collaboration. Stepping down from his post as co-chair after this meeting, Prof. Rao used the



occasion to express his conviction that the future will hold ever-greater depths and dimensions of scientific exchange between India and Japan. The Council members expressed their heartfelt appreciation to Prof. Rao for his valuable contributions along with their regrets that he would be retiring from the Council.

It was agreed to hold next year's Council meeting in early-to-mid January in India.

— Asian Program Division

Symposia Held between Japanese and Chinese Universities

In 2008, the number of college students in China had swelled to 27 million. Name universities around the world are competing with growing intensity to attract outstanding Chinese students to their institutions. Some 28 Japanese universities have established operational centers and other bases in China, and are actively implementing joint research projects and student exchanges with Chinese universities. To support such activities by Japanese universities, the JSPS Beijing Office carries out a vigorous program of co-sponsoring symposia between them and Chinese institutions of higher education and research. Between the time the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics ended in October through December 2008, the Office cosponsored seven such events.

Held on 10 October, the first was a symposium on "World Grain Crisis and China Stockbreeding Trend," held by the Japan-China Friendship Association of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology at China Agricultural University. On 11-12 October, a Japanese Language International Forum titled "Japanese Verbs and Their Peripherals" was held between Soka University and Tsinghua University on the latter's campus. Then on 31 October-1 November, a commemorative symposium titled "Japan and China's Future Based on Comparison of Language,

Culture and Society between China and Japan" was held between Daito Bunka University and Northeast Normal University on the latter's campus in Changchun (capital of Jilin Province).

Proceeding into November, on the 3rd, the "Kobe University Beijing Day" was held by Kobe University at the Beijing Friendship Hotel. It opened with remarks from the university's president Prof. Tomoyuki Nogami and an introduction by its vice president Prof. Hiroshi Ohta on the university's research and education programs. Afterwards, a ceremony was held to sign an academic exchange agreement between Kobe University and Beijing Foreign Studies University. The event also featured a symposium on topics of mutual interest, including "Lessons Learned from the Great Sichuan Earthquake and the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake," "The Japanese Experience and Chinese Response to Declining Birthrate and Aging Population," and "The



Kobe University Beijing Day

New Asian Era's Common Challenge and the Image of the Innovative Type Human Resources."

On 6 December, the Office cosponsored a symposium with Chiba University, held at the Tsinghua Unisplendour International Center in Tsinghua Science Park. Opening remarks were given by Chiba University president Prof. Yasushi Saito, after which representatives of the university's research departments in the fields of medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, nursing, education, social sciences and humanities, engineering, science, and advanced integrated science each gave reports on the results of their joint research with Chinese counterpart universities. A panel discussion was held on the cooperative program between Chiba and Tsinghua Universities to train and educate young researchers and scholars.

On 8-9 December, an international symposium on "Creation of Safe Mobility Society and International Cooperation" was held by Hiroshima University's Center of Asian Safe Mobility Research and Beijing Jiaotong University on the latter's campus. Then on 13 December, "Tohoku University Forum in Beijing" was put on cooperatively by Tohoku University, Peking University and Tsinghua University. Venued at the Lake View Hotel in Peking Univer-



Tohoku University Forum in Beijing

sity Science Park, the forum began with remarks from Tohoku University president Prof. Akihisa Inoue and executive vice president Prof. Toshiya Ueki on the university's research and education programs, followed by a lecture session. It was attended by the presidents, vice presidents and inter-

national exchange program officers of Tohoku University's some 20 affiliated universities, who also enjoyed a luncheon and a congenial get-together with the executive members of the Tohoku University China Alumni Association.

— JSPS Beijing Office

Public Symposium on Japan's International Relations Held with UC Berkeley

On 14 November, the JSPS San Francisco Office convened a public symposium in co-sponsorship with UC Berkeley's Center for Japanese Studies (CJS). Celebrating its 50th anniversary at UC Berkeley, CJS had planned a year of special commemorative events. Dr. Sadako Ogata (former United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and current president of Japan International Cooperation Agency) was invited to be the symposium's keynote speaker.

Held in the Lipman Room of Barrows Hall, the symposium addressed the theme "Japan's International Relations: Diplomacy and Foreign Aid."

Invited to address the symposium as panelists were two University of Tokyo professors: Prof. Shinichi Kitaoka (former Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations) and Prof. Takatoshi Ito (author of *The Japanese Economy* and *The Political Economy of Japanese Monetary Policy*). They were

joined on the panel by UC Berkeley Prof. T.J. Pempel. Some 150 students, researchers and others with special interests in Japan filled the room to capacity.

The event started with remarks by CJS chair Prof. Duncan Williams. He was followed by UCB Prof. Steven Vogel, who welcomed Dr. Ogata and the participants. Then, UCB Prof. Robert Scalapino talked about Dr. Ogata during her stay as a student at UC Berkeley, following which Dr. Ogata delivered her keynote speech, titled "US-Japan: Global Responsibility and Development Assistance," from the perspective of her long experience as a diplomat. Her remarks prompted many questions from the audience, to which she not only answered but when appropriate offered sound advice.

After the keynote speech, the panel discussed the topic "Japan's International Relations: Diplomacy and Foreign Aid." The discussion was followed by



Dr. Ogata giving keynote speech

presentations from the aforementioned three panelists, who addressed the subject of Japan's international relations from various perspectives including diplomatic and monetary policies.

The event continued with a cordial reception in which the participants made and enjoyed each other's acquaintance. Afterwards, Dr. Ogata and the panelists held a meeting with JSPS executive director Mr. Naoki Murata and JSPS San Francisco Office director Dr. Seishi Takeda to discuss and wrap up the event.

— JSPS San Francisco Office

JUNBA 2009 Held to Advance University-Industry Collaboration

On 12-13 January, JUNBA (Japanese University Network in the Bay Area) held its annual event JUNBA 2009 in the vicinity of San Francisco, California. The JSPS San Francisco Office serves as JUNBA's secretariat. Titled "Next Step to a Greener Earth," this third event in the series featured presentations by US and Japanese universities and corporations on the results of their latest research aimed at addressing environmental problems.

On the first day, representatives of JUNBA core-member universities engaged each other in topical presenta-



JSPS president Prof. Ono delivering remarks

tions and discussions and in an exchange of views on forming university-industry collaborations in areas of environmental research and on fostering young researchers adept at carrying out international exchanges.

The second day centerpiece a symposium and technology fair, both open to the general public. The morning saw presentations on environmental initiatives being taken by various branches of the University of California and on the roles of venture capital and intellectual property within a context of university S&T enhancement. Two sessions were held on energy and environmental topics in the afternoon, featuring some 30 presentations on advanced technologies being developed in these areas by US and Japanese universities. Concurrently, samples and posters of the technologies were dis-

played in an exhibit hall.

The day's events offered the participants an excellent opportunity to disseminate and swap information with an eye to

promoting international university-industry collaboration. Throughout the proceedings, JUNBA 2009 enjoyed tremendous success attracting some 250 attendees, far exceeding expectations.

For more detailed information on JUNBA 2009, please see JUNBA's website: <http://www.junba.org/>.

— JSPS San Francisco Office

London Meeting Held for Japanese Researchers Based in UK

On 28 November, the fourth London meeting for Japanese researchers based in the UK on research funding policy was held at JSPS's London Office. It was attended by seven leading Japanese researchers in fields ranging from the natural sciences to social sciences who are directing independent research labs in UK universities and research institutes. They were Dr. Tomoko Iwata, University of Glasgow; Prof. Shin-ichi Ohnuma, University College London; Prof. Kenichi Soga, University of Cambridge; Dr. Takashi Toda, Cancer Research UK; Prof. Hideaki Nagase, Imperial College London; Dr. Hiroyuki Yamano, Marie Curie Research Institute; and Prof. Toshio Watanabe, University of the Arts London.

A group of five members from JSPS's headquarters, led by Research Program Department director Mr. Junpei Watanabe, came from Tokyo to attend this meeting for the first time. Some representatives from the Japanese Embassy and JETRO London were also present. In the days following, the JSPS members visited and exchanged views with Dr. Kiyoshi Nagai, MRC Labora-



tory of Molecular Biology, and Prof. So Iwata, Imperial College London, who were unable to attend the meeting.

The meeting began with opening remarks from JSPS London Office director Prof. Yuko Furukawa, followed by self-introductions by each of the participants. Then, Mr. Watanabe described Japan's research funding system and introduced the discussion themes. An active, in-depth exchange of views ensued on the future of Japan's university system and basic research, based on the views of the funding-system administrators, on one hand, and the experience of the Japanese researchers conducting research in the UK, on the other. The results of this discussion were posted on the London Office's website and disseminated to

JSPS's headquarters, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and other related Japanese agencies for reference in planning and implementing Japanese funding strategies.

A networking reception was held after the meeting, attended by 50 people including both the meeting participants and a wide array of Japanese researchers based in the UK. At the beginning of the reception, Prof. Furukawa and Mr. Watanabe described to the audience the London Office's recent activities and JSPS's main research support programs. Many participants said they enjoyed the excellent chance that the get-together gave them to meet and converse with fellow UK-based Japanese researchers, and appreciated the opportunity to talk directly with funding administrators from JSPS's headquarters. On its part, the London Office also found the event to be meaningful as it allowed them to hear firsthand about the participants' activities in the UK and to receive their candid views regarding JSPS's programs.

— JSPS London Office

UK-Japan Workshop Held Along with JSPS-STFC MoU Signing Ceremony

On 15-16 December, a bilateral workshop, supported by JSPS and STFC (Science and Technology Facilities Council), was held at the Royal Society between Osaka University and STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory on the theme "High Energy Density Science." It was organized under a comprehensive Anglo-Japanese exchange scientific program at the core of which is carried out a joint research project between Osaka University and Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, coordinated by Prof. Ryouusuke Kodama from Osaka University and Prof. Peter Norreys from

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. Both institutions have over long years been leaders in the field of high-energy density science and boast programs that promise to break new ground across a spectrum of scientific and technological fields by forging advances in laser technology.

The workshop began with opening remarks delivered by Prof. Kodama and Prof. Norreys, followed by presentations from Japanese and British researchers on the latest research advances being made in the field of

high-energy density science. The some 70 researchers in attendance listened intently to the presentations and engaged the speakers in spirited discussions over the two days of the event.

In the evening of the workshop's first day, a ceremony was held to sign a memorandum of understanding between JSPS and STFC, the two organizations having decided to enter into a formal agreement to strengthen joint research and scientific collaboration between the UK and Japan. The ceremony began with a welcoming speech by Prof. Mike

Dunne, director, STFC Photon Science Department. The MoU, which had been signed in advance by JSPS president Prof. Motoyuki Ono, was then signed by STFC chief operating officer and deputy chief executive Prof. Richard Wade. In a formal manner, he exchanged copies of the executed document with JSPS London Office director Prof. Yuko Furukawa, who had witnessed the signing. Then, Prof. Wade gave a speech, followed by a message from Prof. Furukawa, which included re-

marks sent by JSPS president Prof. Ono. Amidst this celebratory atmosphere, Prof. Dunne offered a toast accentuating this new milestone in the scientific partnership between the UK and Japan. With that, the transition was made from the signing ceremony to the following buffet reception, attended again by some 70 researchers from the two countries, whose conversations buzzed with enthusiasm for yet-stronger growing Anglo-Japanese exchange.

— JSPS London Office



Prof. Wade and Prof. Furukawa exchanging documents

UK JSPS Alumni Association FURUSATO Award Ceremony and Pre-Departure Seminar

On 21 January, a pre-departure seminar was held at the JSPS London Office for young UK researchers most recently selected to participate in the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term) Program for North American and European Researchers. It started with opening remarks from Prof. Yuko Furukawa, director of JSPS London, followed by a presentation from Mr. Takeshi Sekiguchi, deputy director of JSPS London, who introduced JSPS's activities to the new fellows. Another presentation was then given by Dr. James Fountaine from the Scottish Agricultural College, who had stayed in Japan as a JSPS postdoctoral fellow from 2005 to 2007. His presentation provided a lot of useful information on working practices in the Japanese research environment as well as on daily life in Japan. The fellows, then, asked questions to the London Office staff on



preparing for their upcoming research visits.

The pre-departure seminar was followed by an Alumni Evening. It started with an award ceremony for seven alumni granted the Office's new *FURUSATO Award for fiscal year 2008. Each of them was presented a memorial gift and certificate by Prof. Furukawa in recognition of their excellent achievements in cultivating Japan-UK academic collaboration.

The award ceremony was followed by an announcement from the UK JSPS Alumni Association chair person, Dr.

Martyn Kingsbury, Imperial College London, of a new executive board member and three regional managers. The executive board member is Dr. Ruth Goodridge, Loughborough University, and the regional managers are Dr. Andrew Quantock, Cardiff University; Dr. James Fountaine; and Dr. Emma Sokell, University College Dublin. It is expected that they will move forward in strengthening the influence of the UK JSPS Alumni Association in their respective regions of Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

* The FURUSATO Award provides financial support to members of the UK JSPS Alumni Association for the purpose of helping them strengthen their links and ties with the Japanese scientific community—their "second home" (*furusato* in Japanese).

— JSPS London Office

NSF Selects Prospective Candidates for JSPS Summer Program

Over the two days of 22-23 January, amidst the excitement of Barack Obama's presidential inauguration, a selection committee for the JSPS Summer Program was held at the headquarters of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Washington, DC.

The JSPS Summer Program provides opportunities for young pre- and post-doctoral researchers from North America and Europe to receive an orientation on Japanese culture and research systems and to pursue research under

the guidance of host researchers at Japanese universities and research institutes over a period of two months during the summer. In implementing the program, including the selection of the candidates, JSPS enjoys the cooperation of its overseas partner agencies.

In the United States, NSF carries out the East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes (EAPSI), which introduces US graduate students to East Asia and Pacific science and engineering within the context of a research setting, and

helps them initiate scientific relationships that will better enable future collaboration with counterparts in the program's respective locations: Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan.

For the 2009 program, NSF received a total of more than 300 applications. Through two-day deliberations conducted in subpanels for each field of science and engineering, 65 Japan-bound candidates were selected. They will be nominated to JSPS as fellows in

the JSPS Summer Program. If accepted, JSPS will send each of them a formal letter of invitation.

In the committee meeting's plenary session, Dr. Larry Weber, director of NSF's Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE), touched upon

the selection policy and criteria while emphasizing the importance of EAPSI's three elements: international collaboration, networking, and self-enhancement in another country with a different culture and language.

The Summer Program fellowships will

be awarded for a period of ten weeks from 16 June to 26 August 2009. The JSPS Washington Office is pleased to assist the fellows in ways that will help make their stays in Japan most fruitful.

— JSPS Washington Office

JSPS International Forum Held in Bangkok

On 23-24 January, the JSPS Bangkok Office sponsored a JSPS International Forum titled "Roles of Universities in Community/Regional Development," held at Siam City Hotel in Bangkok. At the Forum, representatives of Japanese and Thai universities shared expertise and examples of good practices with regard to the community-outreach programs of their respective institutions of higher education and research. They discussed the future of such initiatives and the prospects of assisting, through bilateral collaboration, universities in both countries to internationalize their programs in ways that amplify their respective strengths.

Participating in the Forum were representatives of 14 universities (seven each from Thailand and Japan) and three Thai research-funding agencies. They introduced their various programs to contribute to local communities and regions. Dr. Masayuki Kondo, professor, Yokohama National University, gave

an informative presentation on Japan's regional innovation undertakings.

These presentations and invigorated discussions revealed several points of interest. It was pointed out that inter-regional networking among universities is relatively weak in Thailand, resulting in a dearth of shared experience and information. Also that, compared to Japan, Thailand does not have as many regionally based national university or municipal/prefectural public universities and research laboratories, which places a weighty burden on the role of Thai universities in the area of regional development. On another plane, it was shown that Japanese and Thai universities share many common issues and tasks, such as developing technologies to support local industrial arts and traditional crafts and fostering such artisans and craftsmen, developing agricultural processing techniques, and supporting the development and distribution of functional foods.



A poster space was provided for the universities to introduce their institutions and programs. This information swap spawned an animated exchange of views on future inter-university cooperation and liaison.

The Forum ended on a productive note with suggestions on ways to enhance its agenda, including dividing the forum into technical sessions for sharing expertise and advancing detailed discussions on topical issues and widening participation to include representatives of corporations, regional administrations, and international cooperation agencies.

— JSPS Bangkok Office

Joint Meeting for RONPAKU Fellows and Alumni Meeting Held in Bangkok

On 30 January, the JSPS Bangkok Office jointly held the seventh JSPS-NRCT-ARAT Meeting for RONPAKU Fellows with the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and the Association of RONPAKU Alumni of Thailand (ARAT).

This joint meeting has been held every year since 2003. Originally called the JSPS-NRCT-RONPAKU Fellows Meeting, its title was changed to the JSPS-NRCT-ARAT Meeting along with the establishment of ARAT in 2005. It provides opportunities to share knowledge and information on various re-



search fields and to expand and strengthen ties among JSPS staffs and Thai fellows.

This year's meeting started with remarks by Dr. Kou Ikejima, director, JSPS Bangkok Office, followed by

Mrs. Kanchana Pankhoingam, deputy secretary-general, NRCT, who expressed appreciation for the remarkable contribution made to fostering excellent researchers by the RONPAKU Program. Both of them offered warm words of congratulations to the RONPAKU fellows for their achievements, and encouraged them to optimize their efforts in advancing Thailand's sustainable development.

A message from JSPS president Prof. Motoyuki Ono, read by Dr. Ikejima, contained the following milestone augmentation to JSPS's support for Thai

alumni activities: "We plan to use additional funding to establish a Thai alumni association, whose members will be both past RONPAKU fellows and past JSPS postdoctoral fellows. Through the alumni association, we hope that Thai researchers who have participated in JSPS programs will convey their experiences in Japan to younger researchers, thus increasing the number

of Thai researchers who wish to pursue research in Japan in the future."

Following these remarks, RONPAKU Medals were presented by Dr. Ikejima to seven Thai RONPAKU fellows who had successfully obtained their PhDs from Japanese universities in FY 2007. These new ARAT members gave presentations on their thesis research in

the following seminar session.

Prior to the Joint Meeting, an ARAT meeting was held in which Dr. Busaba Yongsmith, professor, Kasetsart University, delivered a forward-looking presentation entitled "Past, Present and Future Activities of ARAT."

— JSPS Bangkok Office

INRA-JSPS Workshop on Molecular Host-Bacterial Dialogue

On 30 January, a workshop co-organized by the JSPS Strasbourg Office and INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique) was held on the theme "Molecular Dialogue of Bacteria with the Host." Venued at INRA's head office, the workshop enjoyed the participation of some 90 Japanese and French researchers.

In recent years, the threat of new and resurgent infectious diseases has risen along with climate change and environmental degradation. There has also been an increase in multidrug-resistant bacteria and opportunistic infections accompanying advanced medical procedures and patient aging. Such phenomena have elevated awareness in the need for intensified basic research in areas of infectious diseases and pathogenic microorganisms. Amidst this



environment, bacteriologists from Japan and France, both countries having long histories of microbiological research, get together often in workshops for the purpose of strengthening their collaborative framework for research on microorganism pathogenicity. JSPS and its French counterpart INRA supported the subject workshop to advance further collaboration between Japanese and French researchers in the field of pathogenic microbiology.

To the workshop were invited ten

leading researchers in the field, who, while giving examples of various pathogenic microorganisms, presented and exchanged knowledge derived from the latest cutting-edge research on the interaction between pathogens and their hosts, a key to understanding the genesis of infectious diseases. This Franco-Japanese workshop served to facilitate collaboration and networking in the area of infectious disease research. As such, it is expected to have strengthened the infrastructure for bilateral cooperation, spawning ever-more vigorous joint research initiatives in the future.

The proceedings of the workshop were broadcast over the Internet in real time via the website Canal-U, where they are also archived. (See <http://www.canal2.tv/>.)

— JSPS Strasbourg Office

Eminent Scientists Give Lectures at University of Tokyo

On 22 October, lectures were given at the University of Tokyo by Dr. James D. Watson, chancellor emeritus, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and Dr. Joan A. Steitz, professor, Yale University, who were visiting Japan under the JSPS Award for Eminent Scientists. The title of their dual presentation was "Watson and Steitz Discuss the Future of Biological Science."

Dr. Watson is well known as a researcher who won the 1962 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his pioneering work on the double helix structure of DNA molecules. Dr. Steitz, who studied under him, is also a distinguished biologist, having received the Rosalind E. Franklin Award for

Women in Science from the National Cancer Institute and numerous other awards for her breakthrough achievements in RNA research.

Their lectures packed the university's Yasuda Auditorium with some 1,000 mainly young researchers and other attendees. They were given by Drs. Steitz and Watson, in that order, after which a discussion was held with the audience's participation. The wide-ranging inquiries asked from the floor included such questions as "How is 'life' defined?" "Can cancer be controlled?" "What in essence is a 'researcher'?" The insightful lectures and spirited discussion were greatly enjoyed by all in attendance.



On that day, JSPS president Prof. Motoyuki Ono went to the University of Tokyo to engage in an exchange of views with Drs. Watson and Steitz along with Dr. Yoshiro Shimura, president, National Institutes of Natural Sciences, which was hosting the two professors under JSPS's program.

— Overseas Fellowship Division

Science Agora Held in Japan

Recently, the term “science communication” has become somewhat vogue in Japan. It connotes elevated perception, thinking and conversation on what is interesting about and required of science and technology.

Every year, JSPS supports an event called the “Science Agora.” (In ancient Greece, an “agora” was an open space used for public discourse.) In Japan, it takes the form of a 3-day science fair. The main venue of this year’s third-in-the-series Science Agora was the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) in Tokyo. Held from Saturday, 22 November, the science fair was enjoyed by more than 6,000 people. Among its many events was the demonstration of a lecture under JSPS’s Science Dia-

logue Program, which was conducted under the slogan “Interlinking the World through Science.”

As you may know, the Science Dialogue Program provides opportunities for Japanese high school students to receive lectures in English from JSPS postdoctoral fellows. In this demonstration, the lecturer was Dr. Yannick Klein, who hails from France and is doing research at his host institution, Waseda University. He was accompanied by a Japanese colleague, Mr. Soichiro Shibasaki (a JSPS doctoral research fellow). The mock classroom for the lecture comprised a group of students from Yamanashi Prefectural Tsuru High School. In his lecture, Dr. Klein introduced the students to the culture of his mother country and to



Superconductivity experiment

his work in superconductivity. He conducted an experiment for them that yielded magical results using liquid nitrogen of -196 degrees centigrade. Not only the students but the audience as well were all very impressed. With several JSPS fellows and other overseas guests in attendance, an international ambience abounded, adding spice to the scientific flavor of the Agora.

— Overseas Fellowship Division

Science Dialogue

The following fellows participated in JSPS’s Science Dialogue Program during the period from November 2008 through January 2009. For details about the program, please see its webpage: <http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/e-sdialogue/>

— Overseas Fellowship Division

Aichi Prefectural Zuiryo Senior High School

Date: 10 December
Dr. Barry J. Ripley (UK)
Host institution: Osaka University
Title: “The Science of Green Tea”



Gifu Prefectural Ena High School

Date: 28 January
Dr. Albert Djemetio (Cameroon)
Host institution: Meiji Gakuin University
Title: “Sustainable Management of Wetland Ecosystems for Human Well-being and Ecological Balance”



Fukui Prefectural Takefu High School

Date: 16 December
Dr. Galina P. Zamfirova (Bulgaria)
Host institution: Kobe University
Title: “Science and Our Life Choices”



Gifu Prefectural Gizan Senior High School

Date: 19 January
Dr. Shafi M. Tareq (Bangladesh)
Host institution: Nagoya University
Title: “Lignin Biomarker Geochemistry”



Dr. Prem N. Sharma (Nepal)
Host institution: Kobe University
Title: “Introduction about Nepal and My Research Works in Japan”

Fukushima Prefectural Soma High School

Date: 18 December
Dr. Louis J. Irving (UK)
Host institution: Tohoku University
Title: “My Life Doing Science”



Hyogo Prefectural Kakogawa Higashi High School

Date: 27 January
Dr. Christian W. Becker-Asano (Germany)
Host institution: Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International
Title: “Emotions & Laughter for Robots and Androids”



Gunma Prefectural Takasaki High School
Gunma Prefectural Takasaki Girls' High School
Waseda University Honjo Senior High School (Saitama)

Date: 8-9 November

Prof. Ibrahim E. El-Sayed (Egypt)
Host institution: Okayama University
Title: "Chemistry for Better Human Health and Society Development"

Dr. Jerome M. Petit (France)
Host institution: Tokyo Institute of Technology
Title: "Knots in Mathematics"

Dr. Chi Wai Wong (UK)
Host institution: The University of Tokyo
Title: "Flow Control Studies on Airfoils"

Dr. Julian M. Rosalie (Australia)
Host institution: National Institute for Materials Science
Title: "Materials Engineering: An Introduction"

Dr. Lok K. Shrestha (Nepal)
Host institution: Yokohama National University
Title: "Colloid and Polymer Science: Fundamentals to Applications"

Dr. Oleg Gusev (Russia)
Host institution: National Institute of Agrobiological Resources
Title: "'Sleeping' Chironomid and Its Utilization in Space Life Science"

Dr. Hsinyi S. Tsang (USA)
Host institution: National Hospital Organization Nagoya Medical Center
Title: "Bioinformatics: Is It Really Science?"

Dr. Anthony N. David (France)
Host institution: National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology
Title: "Tourism, Gastronomy and Robots—An Introduction to France and Humanoid Robotics"

Dr. Hussein T. Znad (Iraq)
Host institution: Toyo University
Title: "Solar Photo-Catalyst for Clean Environment"

Dr. Xingjun Wang (China)
Host institution: The University of Electro-Communications
Title: "Nano-Science and Silicon Photonics"



Hyogo Prefectural Kobe High School

Date: 22 December

Dr. Markus Bischofberger (Switzerland)
Host institution: Nara Women's University
Title: "A Short Introduction to Particle Physics"



Ikeda High School (Kagoshima)

Date: 26 January

Dr. Khanh D. Tran (Vietnam)
Host institution: University of the Ryukyus
Title: "Utilization of Allelopathy for Sustainable Agricultural Production"



Kanagawa Prefectural Yokohama Ryokuen Sogo High School

Date: 16 December/21 January

Dr. Robert P. Olinski (Poland)
Host institution: Tokyo Institute of Technology
Title: "A Journey to Europe with a DNA in the Backpack"



Kumamoto Prefectural Daini High School

Date: 18 November

Dr. Gergely M. Juhasz (Hungary)
Host institution: Kyushu University
Title: "Future of Chemistry?"



Date: 19 December

Dr. Mohamed F. El-Amin (Egypt)
Host institution: Kyushu University
Title: "Modeling and Simulation of the Hydrogen Leakage in the Air"

Date: 27 January

Dr. Julie Bellerose (Canada)
Host institution: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
Title: "Challenges of Space Exploration"



Kumamoto Prefectural Kumamoto Kita High School

Date: 8 December

Dr. Gergely M. Juhasz (Hungary)
Host institution: Kyushu University
Title: "Future of Chemistry?"



Miyazaki Prefectural Miyazaki Kita High School

Date: 10 December

Dr. Markus Kriener (Germany)
Host institution: Kyoto University
Title: "About Germany, Me, and Physics"



Mukogawa Womens University Junior & Senior High School (Hyogo)

Date: 31 January

Dr. Zenobia Lewis (UK)

Host institution: Okayama University

Title: "My Country, My Research, and Why You Should Become a Scientist Too!"



Okayama Prefectural Okayama Ichinomiya High School

Date: 15 January

Prof. Ibrahim E. El-Sayed

(Egypt)

Host institution: Okayama University

Title: "Chemistry for Better Human Health and Society Development"



Ritsumeikan Senior High School (Kyoto) Ritsumeikan Uji Senior High School (Kyoto) Ritsumeikan Keisho Senior High School (Hokkaido) Ritsumeikan Moriyama Senior High School (Shiga) Ikueinishi Senior High School (Nara)

Date: 10-11 January

Dr. Thi Thi Zin (Myanmar)

Host institution: Osaka City University

Title: "Current Topics in Image Processing"

Dr. Qian-Ming Wang (China)

Host institution: Ritsumeikan University

Title: "Lanthanide Complexes and Luminescence"

Dr. Sebastien Lemire (France)

Host institution: Osaka University

Title: "Bacterial Evolution and Challenges for the 21st Century's Microbiologist"

Dr. Erik M. Muller (Australia)

Host institution: Nagoya University

Title: "Our Place in Space"



Shizuoka Kita High School (Shizuoka)

Date: 14 November

Dr. Julie K. Pearce (UK)

Host institution: Nagoya University

Title: "Atmospheric Chemistry, My Research, and My Home Country England"



Date: 26 January

Dr. Paul Kuad (France)

Host institution: Osaka University

Title: "A Look on Chemistry"



Shizuoka Prefectural Iwata Minami High School

Date: 10 December

Dr. Feroz Khan (India)

Host institution: The University of Tokyo

Title: "Importance and Use of Restriction Enzymes"



Wakayama Prefectural Koyo High School

Date: 9 January

Dr. Sabine S. S. Gouraud

(France)

Host institution: Wakayama Medical College

Title: "Looking for Causes of Essential Hypertension in the Brain: An Application of Molecular Biology Technologies"



Yamanashi Prefectural Tsuru High School

Date: 22 November

Dr. Yannick Klein (France)

Host institution: Waseda University

Title: "Superconductivity: Science or Magic?"



Date: 19 December

Dr. Matthew J. Flood (Australia)

Host institution: Teikyo University of Science & Technology



Date: 16 January

Dr. Simon G. Hill (Australia)

Host institution: Tokyo Metropolitan University

Title: "Too Much Noise"



Date: 28 January

Dr. Casey M. Lambert (Canada)

Host institution: The University of Tokyo

Title: "When a Satellite Needs an Attitude Adjustment"



Yamanashi Prefectural Yoshida High School

Date: 6 December

Dr. Jean-Baptiste Leca (France)

Host institution: Kyoto University

Title: "Stone Handling in Japanese Macaques: Different Approaches to Studying a Behavioral Tradition"





Cover photo:

Pieces of the spring doll festival arranged on a lacquered plate with peach sprays

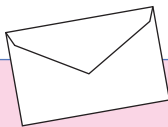
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The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) operates as an independent administrative institution to perform the following main functions: fund scientific research, foster researchers, promote international scientific exchange, and advance university reform.



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.



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