



KAKEHASHI Project Inbound Program (USA, Young Researchers Slot No.1) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 35 young researchers visited Japan. During the 7 days program from October 14 to October 20, 2015, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, culture, foreign policy, and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (35 Participants)

- A) National Economist Club (11 participants)
- B) Heritage Foundation (10 participants)
- C) Congressional Research Service (14 participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo and Yamanashi

4. Program Schedule

October 14(Wed)

Arrival at Narita International Airport

October 15(Thu)

【Historical and Traditional Cultures】 Edo Tokyo Museum

【Courtesy Call】 Embassy of the USA

【Lecture and discussion on Japan】

1. “Japanese economy, environment and energy” by the Faculty of Social Sciences, Waseda University
2. "National security" by the Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University
3. "Japan's Foreign Policy" by the First North America Division, MOFA

October 16(Fri)

【Visit】 Bank of Japan, Canon Institute for Global Studies, Japan Business Foundation (Keidanren)

【Government Office】 Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry/ Agency of Natural Resources and Energy

October 17(Sat)

Move to Yamanashi

【Cutting-Edge Technology】 Yamanashi Prefectural Maglev Exhibition Center

【World Heritage Site/Nature/Environment】 Mount Fuji : Nature Observation guided by the 5th Station Park Office

【Historical Landmark】 Kitaguchi Fuji Sengen Shrine

October 18(Sun)

【Cultural Experience and Exchange】 Iyashi no sato Neba, Autum Harvest Festival

【Local Industry】 Yamanashi Meijo Co.,Ltd.

【Workshop】 Preparing for reporting session

October 19(Mon)

【Cutting-Edge Technology/Exchange】 University of Yamanashi /Fuel Cell Nanomaterials Center

Move to Tokyo

【Ministry Visit/Exchange】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Meeting with junior officers

【Cutting-Edge Technology】 National Mueum of Emerging Science and Innovation

【Reporting Session】

October 20 (Tue)

【History and Culture】 Senso-ji Temple

Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Young Researchers Slot No.1 Program photo



October 15 【Lecture and discussion on Japan】 Waseda University



October 16 【Visit】 Bank of Japan



October 16 【Visit】 Japan Business Foundation (Keidanren)



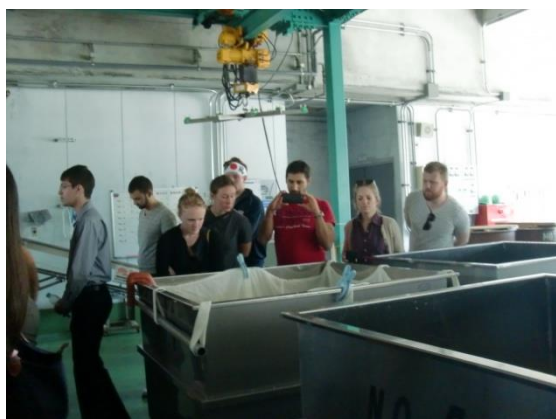
October 17 【Cutting-Edge Technology】 Yamanashi Prefectural Maglev Exhibition Center



October 17 【World Heritage Site/Nature/Environment】 Mount Fuji : 5th Station Park Office



October 18 【Cultural Experience and Exchange】 Iyashi no sato Neba,



October 18【Regional Industry】Yamanashi Meijo Co., Ltd. (Brewery)



October 19 【Cutting-Edge Technology/Exchange】 University of Yamanashi /Fuel Cell Nanomaterials Center

6. Voice from Participants

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

I strongly believe that one of the best ways to better understand a country's people, culture, governance, and values is to immerse yourself in that country. The Kakehashi program allowed us to do just this, and I am so impressed with my experience here. While I have learned so much in a variety of areas, I would like to share with my friends and colleges more about Japanese culture, society, technology, and security policies. Japan's changing demographics and forthcoming policies on women's equality are some things I will continue to follow. Also, the United States relies so much on Japanese technology and I will be excited to see if we incorporate additional technology such as MAGLEV into our society. In addition, as a researcher focusing on security issues, I will encourage people to follow Japan's changing security policies and how these changes impact our bilateral relationship.

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

Japan impressed me in many ways. The infrastructure in Tokyo, such as the amazing subway system, is fantastic. The city is so large, but also has beautiful parks, gardens, and other green space. Also the friendly, and hard-working nature of all the people working on the Kakehashi Program was amazing. It seemed that everywhere we went the Japanese people were eager to share and explain their culture and practices with us.

With regard to political policies, I was very impressed to learn how the Japanese government was able to quickly adapt their energy policies in the wake of the earthquake. Also, learning about the new energy policy goals going forward impressed me because the future goals are new policies reflect the considerate lessons learned from the earthquake while still looking to improve energy, security, safety, and the environment.

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

I was very impressed by the strength of the culture in Japan, natural beauty, orderliness and professionalism of government officials + professional organizations. I was surprised to find such a unique culture here that permeates through so many aspects of daily life. I enjoyed visiting the Yamanashi prefecture and hiking on Mt. Fuji. The surrounding area and lake were beautiful and respected by the people. Meetings & discussions with organizations were informative and allowed for insight into the economic issues faced by the country. Everyone we have met and encountered have been so generous and kind. I was also struck by how clean Tokyo is despite being a large city. The subway was extremely orderly and clean, in addition to being efficient. These aspects are unique to Japan and things I will bring back with me & share with family, friends and colleagues.


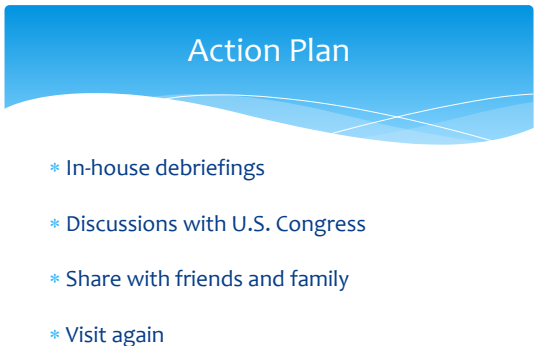
◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

I enjoyed learning about the history of Japan and how that still affects daily society. The culture events were very fun and interesting. I will tell everyone of how kind and inviting the

Japanese people are. I was impressed that people were so friendly and helpful and wanted to share their traditions with me – not only our guides but also people at the hotel and shops and at site visits. I loved all of the Japanese food we ate and was excited to try new tastes and flavors. Even though it is very different from the American pallet, the food was very delicious. I also liked experiencing the traditional Japanese baths. At first I was nervous to bathe in public but it was very relaxing and nice to get out of my comfort zone. I felt safe the entire time I was here because of the kindness of the people I met. The guides/coordinators are so nice and very helpful. They explained many traditions and customs that were unfamiliar. Their English was also so good, I was very impressed. I like that we got to see the Japanese countryside & Fujisan is so beautiful and I'm glad we got to walk on the mountain trail. Driving through the mountains, I was awestruck by the amazing views of Japanese nature. I had an amazing trip and can't wait to come back to Japan.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Deeper knowledge of the importance of Japan as a US ally in a fragile and important part of the world. – Greater appreciation for the impacts of US energy policy on Japan, particularly regarding LNG exports; more generally, the power of free markets in the energy sector to provide affordable energy, whether in the US or Japan. – Respect for city of Tokyo to provide a safe, clean, civil environment for such a densely populated metropolis. – Consideration in drafting and implementing security legislation, including regional threats. Article 9 constraints and commitment to Japanese allies. 	<p>Briefings sharing information learned with media. Especially national security writers.</p> <p>One-One-meetings with congressmen and their staff, not only important facts/details of the trip but also detailing how and why this information is vital to them.</p>
Findings through the Program in Japan	Action Plan

<p>METI – Agency for Natural Resources & Energy: we gained a thorough understanding of Japan’s fourth strategic energy plan, with aspirations to develop a diverse generation mix with consideration for security and the environment. The US faces similar challenges and goals with recently introduced federal legislation.</p>	<p>OUR ACTION PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Share lessons learned & experiences <p>Web material within a month – D.C. event in early new year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post – trip event, create NEC – Kakehashi Linked-in page, ~ 100instagram posts + tweets, web log of event/trip + related research on NEC website (invited before trip)
Findings through the Program in Japan	Action Plan
 <p>Three Arrows of Gained Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Foreign policy – changing national security policy, role in international trade, development ➤ Domestic policy – aging demographics, labor force, recovery ➤ Culture – balancing history and modernity, social consciousness, appreciation of natural resources 	 <p>Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * In-house debriefings * Discussions with U.S. Congress * Share with friends and family * Visit again
Findings through the Program in Japan	Action Plan