



Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)

KAKEHASHI Project

Young Researchers the 1st Slot Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 12 Young Researchers from the United States visited Japan from November 16th to November 22nd, 2016 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through visiting ministries and think tanks, observation of historical sites and other cultural experiences, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan and shared their individual interests and experiences through SNS. Based on their findings and learning in Japan, each group of participants made a presentation in the final session and reported on the action plans to be taken after returning to their home country.

【Participating Countries and Number of Participants】

U.S.A. 12 participants

[Group A: The Center for New American Security (CNAS) / Center for American Progress (CAP), Group B: Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)]

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo, Nagasaki

2. Program Schedule

Nov. 16 (Wed)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
Nov. 17 (Thu)	[Orientation] [Lecture] North American Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs “Japan’s Foreign Policy” [Ministry Visit] Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry “Japan’s Trade Policy” [Ministry Visit] Ministry of Defense “Japan’s Defense Policy”
Nov. 18 (Fri)	[Opinion Exchange] Group A: The Canon Institute for Global Studies Group B: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), [Cultural Experience] Tea Ceremony at Happo-en [Cutting-Edge Technology] HONDA Welcome Plaza
Nov. 19 (Sat)	Move to Nagasaki [Historical Landmarks] Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, Nagasaki Peace Park [Observation] Inasayama

Nov.20 (Sun) [Observation] Gunkanjima Museum
 [Cultural Experience] Making Kaleidoscope (Rurian Glass Studio)
 [Historical Landmark] Dejima
 [Historical Landmarks] Oura Church, Glover Street
 [Workshop]

Nov. 21 (Mon) Move to Tokyo
 [Historical Landmarks] Meiji Jingu Shrine
 [Think Tank Visit] The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan
 [Reporting Session]

Nov. 22 (Tue) [Think Tank Visit] Japan Institute of International Affairs
 Departure from Narita International Airport

3. Program Photos

Tokyo

	
11/17 [Lecture] Ministry of Foreign Affairs North American Bureau (Tokyo)	11/18 [Opinion Exchange] The Canon Institute for Global Studies (Group A) (Tokyo)
	
11/18 [Cultural Experience] Tea Ceremony at Happo-en (Tokyo)	11/18 [Cutting Edge Technology] HONDA Welcome Plaza (Tokyo)
	
11/21[Historical Landmark] Meiji Jingu Shrine	11/21[Reporting Session] (Tokyo)

(Tokyo)

Nagasaki Prefecture



11/19[Historical Landmark] Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum (Nagasaki City)



11/19[Historical Landmark] Nagasaki Peace Park (Nagasaki City)



11/20 [Cultural Experience]
Making Kaleidoscope (Rurian Glass Studio)
(Nagasaki City)



11/20 [Historical Landmark] Dejima
(Nagasaki City)



11/20 [Historical Landmark] Oura Church
(Nagasaki City)



11/20 [Workshop] (Nagasaki City)

4. Voice from Participants

◆ US Young Researcher

Travelling to Nagasaki, particularly the Nagasaki Peace Park, was meaningful from an economics/industrial standpoint and from the post-nuclear era standpoint.

It was also great to meet with government officials from METI, MOFA and the MOD, getting

the perspective on the US-Japan alliance from the Japanese perspective.

◆ **US Young Researcher**

I am so delighted and blessed that I had the opportunity to be a part of the Kakehashi program this year. It is certainly an experience that I will never forget.

I have learned so much about Japan and its national security policy, history and international affairs, but more importantly about the people and the amazing culture. Our visits to government establishments and think-tanks also allowed me to receive Japan's view on current issues from many different perspective. Additionally, we were able to fully immerse ourselves in the culture through historical visits, cultural experiences and food. It was a great balance to be able to experience Japan through the Kakehashi program because I know it's a priceless experience and one that I would have never been able to do on my own. I have nothing but great things to say about Japan and the Kakehashi project. I am looking forward to continue to build the bridge between US-Japan relations.

◆ **US Young Researcher**

I found it interesting how focused on TPP the government officers were, but the think tank researchers were more pessimistic.

I loved the Japanese people and the kindness they showed us. I also loved learning more about Japan's rich cultural history.

◆ **US Young Researcher**

1) The lectures at MOFA kicking off the visit were the most significant impression lecture because it helped set the framework for the rest of the trip. After those lectures I had a better understanding of the importance of the US-Japan alliance.

2) The visit to JICA was the most significant impression. Prior to the visit, I had almost no knowledge of Japanese development. After the JICA visit, I better understood why Japan emphasized high quality infrastructure.

3) The visit to Honda was the most significant company visit. Prior to the Honda visit, I did not know about the emphasis Honda place on the local-community. Furthermore, it was interesting to watch and learn about the technological and R&D investments Honda and other similar Japanese companies make.

4) The most significant visit impression was the trip to the Atomic Peace Museum in Nagasaki. By visiting the museum, I now better understand an event that had prior been an abstract event.

5. Voice from Japanese Students/Schools/ Host Families /Organizations

◆ **Staff of Japanese think tank**

We basically offer participants only our lecture and Q&A session, however, we assume that mutual discussion between our young researcher and US researchers would be more effective to both of us. We hope this meeting contribute to build network among prominent young researchers of the US and Japan.

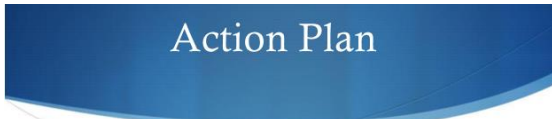
◆ Staff of Japanese think tank

We hope that we could have more people who have more interest in Japan through this project, and Japan-Hand is spreading widely in U.S.

6. Dissemination by the participants

	
<p>The juxtaposition of modern and ancient abounds (Facebook)</p>	<p>Commitment to pacifism shaped by historical experience at Hiroshima and Nagasaki (Facebook)</p>

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p>ACTION PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upon our return, we will share our experience with colleagues, friends, and family. ○ We will use our new understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship in working groups and convenings with members of the national security field, in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ WHY: Educational, eye-opening experience that has made us appreciate the U.S.-Japan relationship and Japan's positive role in world. ◆ WHO: Friends, family, coworkers, people visiting Japan in coming future, new friends, etc. ◆ HOW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ SNS Posts ◆ Blog Posts ◆ In-person interactions ◆ Meet with Japanese Kakehashi coming to CSIS
<p>Action Plan (Group A)</p> <p>Have conversations with members of our community about our experience, showing them photos and materials from our trip to show them the beauty of Japan.</p> <p>Use our newfound knowledge of the US-Japan relationship in working groups and conversations with members of the national security field in Washington D.C. and elsewhere.</p>	<p>Action Plan (Group B)</p> <p>We will each post 2-3 items on various social media accounts about what we learned and experienced during our trip. We will focus publications and outreach on the a continued US-Japan relationship in the upcoming term</p>