



Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)

KAKEHASHI Project

CBCF Emerging Leaders Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 18 university students and young professionals from the United States visited Japan from March 16th to March 23rd, 2017 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 lecture by ministry, visiting historical sites, experience of traditional culture and other 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, 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. 18 Participants (Congressional Black Caucus Foundation)

【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo, Kanagawa, Shizuoka

2. Program Schedule

March 16 th (Thu)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
March 17 th (Fri)	[Orientation] [Lecture] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, North American Bureau “Japan’s Foreign Policy” [Cutting-Edge Technology] Chiba Institute of Technology, Tokyo SKY TREE town Campus
March 18 th (Sat)	[Cutting-Edge Technology] Panasonic Center [Historical Landmark] Imperial Palace [Cultural Experience] Tea experience (Ippodo) Move to Shizuoka [Observation] Tokino Sumika (Illuminations)
March 19 th (Sun)	[Nature] Hakone Owakutani (View of Mt. Fuji) [Historical Landmark] Hakone Checkpoint [Observation] MOA Museum of Art
March 20 th (Mon)	[Regional Industry] Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd. Fuji Susono Plant [Historical Landmark] Mishima Taisha Shrine Move to Tokyo
March 21 st (Tue)	[Observation] National Diet (guided tour) [School Exchange] Luncheon with Meiji University students

[Workshop]
 March 22nd (Wed) [Exchange] The Matsushita Institute of Government and Management
 [Reporting Session]
 [Observation] Observatory of Tokyo Metropolitan Government
 March 23rd (Thu) Departure from Narita International Airport

3. Program Photos

Tokyo



3/18 [Cutting-Edge Technology] Panasonic Center (Tokyo)



3/18 [Cultural Experience] Tea experience (Ippodo) (Tokyo)



3/21 [School Exchange] Luncheon with Meiji University students (Tokyo)



3/22 [Exchange] The Matsushita Institute of Government and Management (Chigasaki City)



Kanagawa, Shizuoka



3/19 [Nature] Hakone Owakudani (Hakone-machi, Kanagawa)



3/19 [Observation] MOA Museum (Atami City, Shizuoka)

	
<p>3/20 [Regional Industry] Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd. Fuji Susono Plant (Susono City, Shizuoka)</p>	<p>3/20 [Historical Landmark] Mishima Taisha Shrine (Mishima City, Shizuoka)</p>

4. Voice from Participants

◆ U.S.A. Adult

I am thankful to the government of Japan for allowing this opportunity to travel to Japan and experience its culture, history and traditions first-hand. The Japanese people have been extremely welcoming. I have been introduced to Japanese language, religions, politics, companies and students and plan to continue studying and building upon the foundation provided by the Kakehashi Project upon my return to America.

◆ U.S.A. Student

- 1) The lecture was extremely informative and I learnt a significant amount about the history of the international and economic development of Japan.
- 2) I wish the school exchange was longer, I really enjoyed meeting Japanese students and I feel as if they inspired me to want to study in Japan.
- 3) I enjoyed getting to learn more in depth about the National Diet and how the Japanese governments operated. It was inspiring to me to know that the government was so impactful.

◆ U.S.A. Student

My most significant impression of the KAKEHASHI project's exchange program was the opportunity to eat lunch with students from Meiji University. They were knowledgeable and open to sharing experiences about their lives and cultures, as well as their impressions and understanding of Americans. Some of the most valuable insight I gained about Japan was through the students we met. The introductory lecture into Japan's history, as well as visit to Japan's National Diet, were crucial in helping me develop a better understanding of Japan's political system.

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

◆ Officer from the respective university

I was glad that more than half of our students who participated in the KAKEHASHI outbound project could join this meeting. I assume that their experience of KAKEHASHI trip to U.S. helped them to interact with the delegation from U.S.



◆ University students from school exchange

I could understand the delegation's feeling well because I was also the participant of KAKEHASHI outbound project. Even though the time was limited, I productively talked with them through my experience in U.S., and we became good friends.



◆ Participant of exchange session

I personally think that there should be more opportunities to have interactions with many different people. For this reason, it was an excellent opportunity to welcome the Kakehashi group. It was unfortunate that I was the only one to participate, but I hope that there will be more chances in the future for our students to participate and learn many different things about each other.

6. Dissemination by the participants

<p>Dr. KAA @DrKwam · 3月18日 @CBCFInc Emerging Leaders w/PCEO Washington visit China Institute of Technology in Tokyo hosted by #kakehashi2016 @Tokyo's Skytree</p>  <p>KakehashiProject TLJ, Dr. KAA, CBCF Inc. and 2 others</p>	<p>Dr. KAA @DrKwam · 3月21日 #cbcfinc Emerging Leaders visit The National Diet Bldg - political center of the nation. Thx to #kakehashi2016 for making this possible!</p>  <p>Dr. KAA, Shuanise Washington, CBCF Inc. and 2 others</p>
<p>Visit Chiba Institute of Technology in Tokyo hosted by #Kakehashi2016 @Tokyo Skytree</p>	<p>Visit the National Diet Bldg-political center of the nation. Thnx to #Kakehashi2016 for making this possible.</p>

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

 <p>ACTION PLAN: THE "GO SERIES"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture • Immersion • Policy • Innovation • Stewardship 	<p>The GO Series</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 15 members will participate in the interviews, and will be put into 5 groups of 2-4, each dissecting our own interests, and how they relate under a larger umbrella topic. <p>The 5 themes: 1)Culture 2)Immersion 3)Policy 4)Innovation 5)Stewardship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropping a new video on YouTube every two weeks, a trailer premiering in May 2017 and videos premiering in June 2017 • Using existing social media platforms to continue to disseminate information
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