



# Japan's Friendship Ties Program (USA)

## KAKEHASHI Project

### Young Researchers Program Report

#### 1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan's Friendship Ties Program, 42 Young Researchers from the U.S. visited Japan from January 8 to January 15, 2019 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan with regard to Japan's politics, economics, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. Through lectures by ministries, observation of historical sites, Japanese cultural experience, and opinion exchanges at various institutions, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan and shared their individual interests and experiences through social media. 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 Numbers of Participants】

United States of America: 42 participants [The George Washington University (Elliott School): 8, University of Pennsylvania (Penn Biden Center): 11, Georgetown University MSFS: 8, Johns Hopkins University SAIS: 8, Think tank Staff Members: 7]

#### 【Prefectures Visited】

Tokyo, Hiroshima, Okinawa

#### 2. Program Schedules

	The George Washington University (Elliott School)	University of Pennsylvania (Penn Biden Center)	Georgetown University MSFS/ Johns Hopkins University SAIS	Think tank Staff Members
Jan.8 (Tue)	[Arrival]			
Jan.9 (Wed)	[Orientation] [Lecture] North American Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs			[Courtesy Call] Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ Ministry of Defense /Embassy of United States of America in Japan/National Security Secretariat
	[School Exchange] Keio University	[Observation] National Diet Building/Edo- Tokyo Museum	[School Exchange] The University of Tokyo	
Jan.10 (Thu)	[Observation] National Diet Building/Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.	[Observation] The United States Air Force, Yokota/ Ishikawa Brewery Co.,Ltd.	[School Exchange] National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies	[Observation] The United States Air Force, Yokota/ National Diet Building

			[Observation]Tokyo Metropolitan Government	
	Move to Hiroshima from Tokyo		Move to Okinawa from Tokyo	
Jan.11 (Fri)	[Observation] Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Peace Memorial Park/Miyajima [Lecture] Testimony by Atomic Bomb Survivor	[Observation] MAZDA Museum/ Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Peace Memorial Park [Lecture] Testimony by Atomic Bomb Survivor	[Observation]Camp Kinser Battle of Okinawa Historical Display [School Exchange] Okinawa University	[Observation] Camp Foster/ Shuri Castle
Jan.12 (Sat)	[Observation]Hiroshima Castle [Meeting with Host Family] [Homestay]	[Observation] Miyajima [Meeting with Host Family] [Homestay]	[Observation] Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum [Lecture] The Battle of Okinawa Survivor [Meeting with Host Family] [Homestay]	
Jan.13 (Sun)	[Farewell with host family] Move to Tokyo from Hiroshima		[Farewell with host family] Move to Tokyo from Okinawa	
Jan.14 (Mon)	[Observation]Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency(JAXA) [Observation]Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku	[Observation]Asakusa/Kabukiza Gallery/Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku [Culture Experience] Tea Ceremony	[Observation]Asakusa/Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku	[Observation]Asakusa/ Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Jan.15 (Tue)	[Observation]Tsukiji Wholesale food Market [Courtesy Call] Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs			[Observation] Rakuten, Inc.
	[Departure]	[School Exchange] Sophia University [Departure]	[Departure]	

### 3. Program Photos

#### The George Washington University (Elliott School)



1/10[Observation] Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.



1/11[Lecture] Testimony by Atomic Bomb Survivor



1/11[Observation] Miyajima



1/12[Observation]Hiroshima Castle

#### University of Pennsylvania (Penn Biden Center)





1/9[Observation]Edo-Tokyo Museum



1/11[Observation] MAZDA Museum



	
1/11[Observation] Peace Memorial Park	1/14[Culture Experience]Tea Ceremony

### Georgetown University MSFS/ Johns Hopkins University SAIS

	
1/9[School Exchange]The University of Tokyo	1/10[School Exchange] National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
	
1/15[Courtesy Call] Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs with Georgetown University MSFS	1/15[Courtesy Call] Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs with Johns Hopkins University SAIS

### 4. Voice from Participants

#### ◆U.S.A. Student

The initial lecture from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs not only placed Japan in a historical context that enhanced my understanding of the country today, but the humor through which

the lecture was given introduced a lesser realized side of the Japanese character that instantly bridged our two cultures. Meeting young students in Japan who study space law was powerful as I know they are the future leaders of the industry who may become future counterparts. The ease with which we interacted and laughed brought great promise for future relations. Discussions with Mitsubishi – especially such senior members of the company – left the impression that not only is US-Japan partnership in commercial space possible, but Japan's major companies are enthusiastic, eager collaborators. No words can describe the impact of the homestay. The humor, unconditional generosity, love of country, and hospitality with which the family selflessly shared their culture and heritage blew me away. I saw my grandmother in my host grandmother, my uncle in their uncle, and in doing so, was overcome by the simple fact that more than policies or common goals, I am bound to the Japanese people by our shared humanity.

◆U.S.A. Student

The lectures were interesting as they gave us a new perspective from which to understand foreign policy and public diplomacy. Going to Okinawa university showed me how students in Japan interact with each other. Meeting the Eisa Club was a wonderful experience that demonstrated how much effort students put into club activity. Visiting the Tokyo Metropolitan Government left me reassured that the Japanese government is taking all of the public's concerns regarding the Tokyo Olympics 2020 seriously and is implementing new and innovative methods to deal with issues such as pollution and overcrowding. The homestay was the most significant parts of my program as it taught me not only about the Okinawan lifestyle, but also about how the war continues to effect people's lives in Okinawa today.

◆Think tank Staff Member

I really enjoyed the presentation by the elderly Okinawan man who had lived through WW II as a young boy. His insights gave me a new perspective on the Okinawa's suffering. My favorite meetings were at MOFA and the U.S. Embassy, as the people in those offices gave great insight into foreign affairs and the strong alliance between the U.S. and Japan. The homestay in Okinawa was a highlight of the trip by far! It was such a unique experience.

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



◆Person at the organization who accepted students from Penn Biden Center

We received feedback from our students saying that they learned so much from the deep discussions that they had with local coordinators and students from the US regarding the future political situation. Other feedback that we received also mentioned that they quite enjoyed talking about the details of each other's student lives.

Our university has an exchange agreement with The University of Pennsylvania, however the number of visits from their campus to our campus is less than the number of visits from our campus to their campus. Therefore, we were quite pleased to have the opportunity to talk about this arrangement with our counterparts this time. Our students had a chance to directly speak with top-level students from the US, and we feel that it was an extremely good

experience in broadening their views and boosting self-confidence. One of our faculty members, who is also the director of the Sophia Institute of International Relations, gave a one-hour lecture to students. We feel that it was a very good opportunity to show the quality of both our instructors and our university, as well as Japanese higher education institutions.

## 6. Dissemination by the participants

 <p>1:27</p> <p>Post</p> <p>ciscoguillermo Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park</p> <p>Liked by redblueyellow and 38 others</p> <p>ciscoguillermo "...Learn the lessons of history, pass it on to the future, and build a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons." #kakehashi2018</p> <p>View all 3 comments</p> <p>jilitea Ahhh this museum made me cry so much</p> <p>yennicookie Wow can't wait to hear all about your experience!</p>	 <p>9:27 PM 26%</p> <p>Stephen Damianos @StephenDamianos</p> <p>University of Pennsylvania '19   Political Science and Journalism   Human Rights   Truman Scholar</p> <p>447 Following 121 Followers</p> <p>Tweets Tweets &amp; replies Media Likes</p> <p>Stephen Damianos @StephenD... · 6m</p> <p>Politicians are announcing their runs for president but I'd like to announce that I now know how to make sushi, which is arguably more important.</p> <p>#Kakehashi2018 @PennBiden</p>
<p>About the observation (Instagram)</p> <p>Learn the lessons of history, pass it on to the future, and build a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons.</p>	<p>About the culture experience (Twitter)</p> <p>Politicians are announcing their runs for president but I would like to announce that I now know how to make sushi, which is arguably more important.</p>
 <p>9:11 PM 87%</p> <p>Penn Biden Center 1,282 Tweets</p> <p>Tweets Tweets &amp; replies Media Likes</p> <p>Penn Biden Center @PennBiden · 3d</p> <p>#PBC's #Kakehashi2018 group exploring #Japan's history at the Edo-Tokyo Museum and enjoying Japanese cuisine to round out day one!</p> <p>Penn Biden Center @PennBiden · 4d</p> <p>The #PBC team of @Penn students visiting the National Diet of #Japan and Parliamentary museum as part of our #Kakehashi2018 visit.</p>	 <p>13:16</p> <p>Mathew Jun Suk Ha</p> <p>投稿</p> <p>Mathew Jun Suk Haさんは沖縄県平和記念資料館,Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museumにいます。</p> <p>10/19/2019 · 25</p> <p>Washington DC think tankers in Japan. #kakehashi2019 #jice</p> <p>24件 いいね! コメントする</p>
<p>About the program (Twitter)</p> <p>Group exploring Japan's history at the Edo-Tokyo Museum and enjoying Japanese cuisine to round out day one!</p>	<p>About the observation (Facebook)</p> <p>Washington DC think tankers at Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum in Japan.</p>



## 7. Action Plan

<p><b>Johns Hopkins University SAIS Kakehashi Project Action Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ As <i>Young Researchers</i> we will publish monographs on the topic of Public Diplomacy in U.S. – Japan Relations.</li> <li>➢ The monographs will be published in a journal by Johns Hopkins' Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies.</li> <li>➢ Researchers will reflect on our visit to Camp Kinser in Okinawa, Okinawa Peace Memorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, homestay in Naha, GRIPS, and the University of Tokyo in writing about their research topic.</li> <li>➢ The research publications will highlight the success of the trip, and broaden our institutional knowledge of U.S.—Japan relations and Public Diplomacy.</li> <li>➢ Monographs will be due on <u>March 1<sup>st</sup></u>, with an editing period from March-April, and will be printed in April.</li> </ul> 	<p>Action Plan (Think Tank)</p> <p>WHY : (Reasons to do it)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To apply what we learned from our travels and experiences with KAKEHASHI by integrating gained knowledge regarding Japan into current research, including Asia-related research</li> </ul> <p>WHEN : (When will it be done?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Throughout 2019</li> </ul> <p>WHO : (Who will do it?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The seven of us, at our respective institutions and personal accounts</li> </ul>
<p>Action Plan (Johns Hopkins University SAIS)</p> <p>As <i>Young Researchers</i> we will publish monographs on the topic of Public Diplomacy in U.S. – Japan Relations. The monographs will be published in a journal by Johns Hopkins' Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies. Researchers will reflect on our visit to Camp Kinser in Okinawa, Okinawa Peace Memorial, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo Metropolitan Government, homestay in Naha, GRIPS, and the University of Tokyo in writing about their research topic. The research publications will highlight the success of the trip, and broaden our institutional knowledge of U.S.—Japan relations and Public Diplomacy. Monographs will be due on March 1st, with an editing period from March-April, and will be printed in April.</p>	<p>WHO : (To whom?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General public and policymakers (through institutions)</li> </ul> <p>WHAT : (What are you planning on doing)</p> <p>/HOW : (How will you implement your plan)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Writing blog posts, through individual institutions when possible or on own websites</li> <li>▪ Writing op-eds on topics related to Japan when possible</li> <li>▪ Submitting a collective reflection to the Okinawa Essay Contest</li> <li>▪ Keeping up to date with Japanese politics and U.S.-Japan alliance issues</li> <li>▪ Using our respective platforms to play a part in the strengthening of U.S.-Japan ties</li> <li>▪ Further exploring Japanese culture</li> <li>▪ Traveling back to Japan when possible</li> </ul>