

My Time Abroad

Kosuke Hori, *councilor* (The ex-member of the Diet)

It was in the year 1985 that, upon graduating from university, I joined Nihon Seikō (NSK). After working in the business department for eight years, I was transferred to their exportation department at a time when the company was just beginning to apply itself to the project of international export: a business alliance was formed with the Huber Corporation in America, and a branch office was established in Düsseldorf, which then served as a point of entry into France and England. In those years the American dollar was very strong, with an exchange rate of one dollar to 360 yen, for which reason it was generally believed that Japanese bearings, considering their relatively inexpensive prices on the international market, must naturally be of inferior quality. Fortunately, this prejudice was dispelled once the fine quality of Japanese bearings was recognized. Business gradually improved until our three branches in Germany, France, and England expanded the market into Europe.

Later on it became necessary to provide products manufactured not only in Japan but in Europe as well. To this end, after numerous deliberations about the construction of a factory abroad, the company decided to build a factory in a town near Newcastle, England. Automated production machinery was brought over from Japan, and about 150 people were hired to begin operations. That England harbored high hopes for our operation was most clearly demonstrated by the fact that Prince Charles himself attended the inauguration ceremony of our new factory. The location of this factory was in Peterlee, once famous for its coal production, and the British government was eager to encourage the establishment of new manufacturing industries in that area. Nihon Seikō, being the first to respond to this offer, received a generous subsidy from the British government amounting to one-third of our total investment capital.

The bearing manufacturing machines brought over from Japan were fully automated. In Japan, one employee was responsible for operating ten of these machines. In England, however, this arrangement was not possible, seeing as how the labor union there would not permit one employee to operate more than three such machines at any one time. Had we complied with these regulations, labor costs would have gone through the roof and no profit would have been gained. In order to show the British people how exactly these machines were operated, workers and foremen were brought over from Japan and a demonstration was given. This was sufficient to convince the British labor union that our proposed arrangement—one worker operating ten machines—was well within the limits of a reasonable work load.

Our factory in Peterlee began operations in 1976. Two years prior, in 1974, I was appointed to work in France. Though I had been working in export for eight years, this sudden order to go to France took me quite by surprise. In the past, I had studied English now and again with an elderly teacher. As for French, however, I knew absolutely nothing. Incidentally, I had studied German in university and would have understood being sent to Germany. France, on the other hand, was truly foreign to me. As it turns out, I was sent to France to serve as the second president of our French subsidiary. In preparation for their work in France, regular employees were routinely sent to study French for at least three months in Besançon, near the Swiss border. As president, however, I was too busy to enjoy this luxury. Consequently, I regret to say that despite my time in France, my French ability is negligible. Fortunately for me, English was

used for most correspondences with our headquarters in Japan.

Though a married man, I went to France alone. Even everyday chores seemed troublesome to me. Take shopping, for example: I was pleased to find a supermarket close to my residence. Putting groceries in my basket and taking them to the register was easy enough. The problem, as you might imagine, was paying. Try as I might, there was no way for me to understand how much the cashier wanted me to pay. As a last resort, I presented the cashier with a sum of money I estimated ought to cover the cost of what I had placed in my basket. In this way, I would happily get my change and head home. On a related note, I used to visit a local bakery in order to purchase bread. After greeting the old lady who worked there with "Bonjour, Madame" (Hello, miss), I once pointed to a thin piece of bread and asked; "Un Baguette, s'il vous plait." (One French loaf, please). Hearing this, she responded with; "Voilà, une Baguette, Monsieur." (Here you are, sir: one French loaf). You see, she placed special emphasis on the word *une*, correcting my mistaken *un*. It was in this way that I managed to learn a little bit of French grammar.

Eventually, my wife and two daughters joined me in France. When I went to Charles de Gaulle Airport to pick up my family, my youngest daughter spotted me waiting for them outside of the customs gate. She ran to me and jumped into my arms. I must admit I was very happy. My wife, who had graduated from an art university, knew some French, and I felt I could depend on her for help. Initially my wife had some trouble getting our children enrolled in school. Eventually, though, she was successful. Our children found their experience in a French school joyful at times and difficult at others. When my daughters first arrived in France, the older was in grade eight while the younger was in grade five. My older daughter stayed in Paris for five years, where she completed her secondary education and obtained a baccalauréat (more-or-less equivalent to what we consider a university entrance exam). My younger daughter stayed for three years, whereupon she returned to Japan to attend high school.

My parents visited me twice while I was working in Paris. My father once asked me; "What do you think about France, now that you've been working here for some time?" I replied; "In terms of economic relations, France and Japan are certainly getting closer. Regarding political relations, however, the influence from America is so strong that Japan and Europe still remain far apart." After returning to Japan my father worked towards forming a federation of congressmen for the promotion of friendly relations between Japan and Europe. This federation, which is still active today, occasionally holds international meetings.

I turned eighty last year, and have since retired from the world of politics. Both of my daughters are now in their fifties and have lives of their own. The oldest went to Kyoto where she obtained a license to teach the tea ceremony. She now has a number of young pupils. I often think how nice it would be if she could teach some French people about the tea ceremony.

(Translated by
Christopher Reeves)



Words from the President

President
Teruko Honjo

Today I am very happy to see present and past Honjo International Scholarship Foundation scholars. I express my heartiest greetings to all and most welcome in the event. I really feel proud when I hear that Honjo scholars are doing very good success globally.

The Honjo International Scholarship Foundation is already 19 years which we started on December 1996. This is our 19th anniversary and many scholars completed their study by this time. Our main objective is that young people will get higher education and contribute for the nation well-being to look forward peace and development. To till date, HISF offered 467 individual scholarships from 71 nationalities and focused the different field of research from the different parts of the world.

This Foundation not only offers scholarships but also supports the scholars in various ways throughout the year. We continue organizing study tours in Shizuoka and Kyoto

each year for the scholars. We also organize lecture workshops several times for the scholarship recipients. In addition, since 2011, we started voluntary activities in the Tsunami affected area (Tohoku area) and supplying bottled water to the residents of temporary houses. Moreover, we organized a reunion party in Shanghai and welcomed 15 Chinese alumni last year. We believe that we are passing great time under the umbrella of "Honjo Family" beyond age, ethnic group, and the fields of research. We are looking forward to seeing you all participating actively in these profoundly meaningful events.

Our foundation will continue its yearly efforts for further international peace and provide scholarships to more and more young, ambitious students for their study and research. We continue to encourage our scholars to set their eyes forward upon the loftiest visions that they may all become a bridge between their home country and Japan.

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Fifty Years of Diplomatic Normalization between Japan and Korea: Neighbors Just Across the Water or All-Too-Distant Neighbors?

CHO Jingoo^{*1}
(South Korean, 1998-2000 Scholarship Recipient)

Lecturer at Kangwon National University



Greetings, fellow Honjo affiliates. My name is Cho Jingoo and I am a teacher of international politics, Japanese-Korean relations, and Japanese foreign policy at Kangwon National University in Korea. Today I would like to share with you some thoughts regarding my specialty, namely, Japan-Korea international relations.

I wonder if you have ever had the opportunity of travelling to Busan, the second largest city in Korea. Every year in late October this beautiful port town is lit up with the Busan Fireworks Festival. People flock by the hundreds-of-thousands to Gwangalli Beach and Gwangang Bridge in order to witness the fireworks. Whereas there is often times fierce competition to secure the best viewing spots around these two places, it is actually possible to see the fireworks from Japan, too. Do you know where in Japan I am talking about? The answer is Tsushima Island, located a mere fifty kilometers from Busan. It is for this reason that Japan and Korea are referred to as "neighbors just across the water." These two countries are close to one another not only in terms of geographical distance but in regards to culture as well—perhaps more so than any other two countries in the world. In the end of the sixteenth century, a Japanese warlord by the name of Toyotomi Hideyoshi (1536-1598), credited with unifying the nation of Japan under a single regime, led two invasions into the Korean peninsula (1592-1598). The first invasion in 1592 is known in Korea as Imjin Waeran, and after a brief truce Hideyoshi launched the second invasion (Jungyu Jaeran in Korean) in 1597. In Japan they are referred to as the Bunroku-Keicho no eki, or the Campaigns of Bunroku and Keicho.^{*2} This episode and the Japanese colonization and subject of Korea are the first calamities that come to mind when most Koreans hear the name of Japan. At the time of these invasions, Sa Yoshitoshi (1568-1615), then the feudal lord of Tsushima, along with his father-in-law Konishi Yukinaga (?-1600), exerted a great deal of energy in attempts at avoiding war and coming to a peaceful resolution through negotiation talks. In the end, however, their efforts proved fruitless. Hideyoshi, launching the invasion from his outpost on Tsushima, first landed his troops on the shores of Busan.

More than two centuries after these invasions, during the Edo period (1603-1867), Korea and Japan agreed upon a good neighbor and friendship treaty. In accordance with this treaty, the king of Korea ordered a number of delegates to be sent to Japan, thereby inaugurating a series of similar undertakings known as the Joseon Tongsinso, or the Korean Missions.^{*3} These delegations would depart from the port at Busan and arrive at Tsushima, where they would then be conducted to the new Japanese capital of Edo, that is, modern-day Tokyo. Despite cultural differences between Japan and Korea which led to all sorts of misunderstandings great and small, the port of call and lodgings used by these delegates served as excellent venues for the exchange of knowledge and technology between Korean and Japanese scholars, artists and doctors alike. Moreover, these friendly relations resulted in increasingly intimate economic relations between the two countries. One noteworthy example of the sort of exchange first enjoyed during this time was the import from Tsushima into Korea of chili peppers and sweet potatoes, two ingredients that served to greatly enrich the Korean table. Chili peppers are essential in the preparation of kimchi, or spicy pickled cabbage, which has not only become a symbol of Korea, but has also drawn attention worldwide as a healthy condiment. Despite the popularity of kimchi, it is surprising to note how few people are aware of the fact that chili peppers were imported from Japan in the seventeenth century. Seedlings of sweet potatoes, similarly, were brought back to Korea by a learned delegate who mastered the cultivation method during one of his visits in Japan. Once introduced, sweet potatoes spread rapidly throughout Korea, and it was in virtue of sweet potatoes that many a Korean life was sustained during spells of extreme famine. Apparently, sweet potatoes are referred to by the inhabitants of Tsushima as kokkimo, that is, "the potato of filial piety." It is surprising, therefore, to note the phonetic similarity between this term and the Korean name for the same potato, goguma.

On the other hand, when Japan-Korean relations become strained, the phrase "all-too-distant neighbors" is often heard. This is similar to the English expression, "so near and yet so far." This year marks the peaceful end of some fourteen years of strife and turmoil in Japan-Korean relations. This year simultaneously marks the fiftieth year of official relations between these two countries. Consequently, 2015 ought to be an auspicious year. The current

political situation, however, is quite the contrary. December 2012 and February 2013 witnessed the ascendancy of new governmental parties for Japan and Korea respectively. Despite such changes, rich in potential as they are, the leaders of both nations have yet to arrange any conference to discuss the matter of international relations. Moreover, citizens of each nation harbor negative images towards those of the other, making the prospect of friendly relations between Korea and Japan look rather dim. According to a survey of public opinion conducted throughout May and June, 2014, by the joint efforts of the East Asia Institute (EAI) of Korea and the Genron NPO of Japan, 70.9% of all Korean citizens and 54.4% of all Japanese citizens harbor negative views about their neighbor across the water. Setting aside questions of intensity, citizens of both nations gave as their reasons for these negative views things such as historical problems, territorial disputes, as well as the words and behavior of politicians. This same survey tells us that 73.8% of all Japanese citizens and 77.8% of all Korean citizens understand Japan-Korean relations to be less than ideal, while 56% of the Japanese population and 78% of the Korean population furthermore believe that Japan-Korean relations will grow progressively worse as years go by. Interestingly enough, more than 60% of the population of both nations answered that they believe media exerts a profound influence on public opinion. Media, in other words, forms a main source of information for knowledge about the neighboring nation.

Even a passing acquaintance with Japanese media reveals something very interesting: whereas Korean dramas aired on daily television depict the glamorous lives of Korean stars and singers, Japanese news reports only darker, more somber topics, such as recent scandals or misfortunes occurring in Korea, or any number of harsh criticisms aimed at Japan by Korean politicians. Positive messages, things that might serve to encourage more friendly relations between Japan and Korea are never reported on the news. It is obvious, looking at the current situation, that the best way of ameliorating mutually negative public opinions, and thereby improving Japan-Korean relations, is to approach the problem by considering issues of historical consciousness and territorial disputes, including such painful episodes as the institution of comfort women during wartime—all of which are both political sensitive and exceptionally difficult to resolve—separately from economic and social problems. In other words, a degree of distance between these sensitive issues and current affairs must be permitted. If only this is allowed, it would then be possible to engage in dialogue that engages both nations on numerous levels. To this end, it is of utmost importance that political figures and those in charge of a nation's media strive not to fan the fires of public hatred by presenting what is false as though it were real or by exaggerating matters.

Fifty years ago, Japan-Korea relations were officially established amidst much adversity. While far from perfect, these relations have continued to unfold in leaps and bounds for half a century. These two nations, considering the internal transformations and international pressures faced by each, are currently working through a period of what might prove to be their greatest trial ever faced. Both nations must now enter into a new era, one in which the long-held concepts of nation and citizen must be transcended. We may take courage in knowing that, despite present waves, the period in history during which the waters between Tsushima and Busan were peaceful lasted many more years than our current age. Besides, we now live in a time when a businessman can eat his breakfast in Tokyo, have lunch in Seoul, and be back in Tokyo to have drinks with his friends in the evening. Five-million people from Korea and Japan make the trip to their neighboring nation every year. It is my sincere wish that the citizens of Korea and Japan, neighbors just across the water from one another, may one day become truly close, not merely in terms of geographical distance, but also in terms of mutual understanding. Hopefully I might be able to contribute a little something towards this end.

(Translated by Kris Reeves)

^{*1} Cho Jingoo is currently a part-time instructor in the Department of Japanese Studies at Kangwon National University, Korea.

^{*2} While the Korean term Imjin, strictly speaking, refers only to the year 1592, it is now used to refer to both invasions. The Japanese terms Bunroku and Keicho are names, referring to the years 1592-1596 and 1596-1598, respectively.

^{*3} The Korean term Joseon (Chosen in Japanese) is an old name for Korea.

Why Ken Takakura remains famous in China

Wang Ting
(Chinese, 1998-2000 Scholarship Recipient)

General Manager at the Japan Research Institute, Ltd. Beijing Branch



On 18 November 2014, a Chinese newspaper covered the news that Mr. Ken Takakura had passed away. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China pressed a release saying that "Mr. Ken Takakura was a well-known Japanese artist in China and he contributed towards cultural exchange between China and Japan. We do express our sincere sorrows. The Chinese Central Television (CCTV) changed their regular program and provided the work about Mr. Ken Takakura and his journey as an artist about 30 minutes. The people from China liked him a lot as he was exceptional actor in China. The most famous movies are "It's You, Cross the Angry River," "Happy Yellow Handkerchief," etc.

Why do Chinese people have this special feeling towards Mr. Ken Takakura? First, Mr. Ken Takakura changed the Chinese people's perception of man towards women. A lot of women in the 80s and 90s said, "If they had to get marry, they would like to marry a cool man like Ken Takakura." They realize their model though the movie "It's you, Cross the Angry River" which was first broadcasted in 1978 in China. It was the first foreign movie in China after the government conducted an opening-up reform policy. During 1966 to 1976, the main



A movie poster of "It's You, Cross the Angry River" released in Japan in 1976

character of the movies in China had a pattern, the color of clothes were navy blue and gray only, and there was little or no entertainment at all. However, in "It's you, Cross the Angry River", the main character who is just, patient and surprising, was a fresh and an attractive thing to the Chinese people in those days! The trench coat that Mr. Ken Takakura

wore in the movie was produced in China and it's said that 100,000 pieces of the trench coat were sold in 15 days after release the movie.

Through Mr. Ken Takakura's movies opened the gate for the Chinese people to understand about Japan and the world. Since the new China was established in 1949. In the movie "It's you, Cross the Angry River," showed the atmosphere of the cheerful town and the main character was different to educate the Chinese people. Therefore, the movie raised strong curiosity to the Chinese people. The other two movies "Red Series" performed by Momoe Yamaguchi, and the long drama "Pith" were also broadcasted in China. The actor and actress were Momoe Yamaguchi, Tomokazu Miura, Kurihara Komaki, Yuko Tanaka and Yoshiko Nakano. Those movies clearly showed Japan Society to the Chinese people.



"It's You, Cross the Angry River" was retitled "Manhunt" and released in China in 1978.

Lastly, the Chinese society also understood the reality when reform continues during 1980s. Thus Chinese people get cultural freedom than before and get a good relation with Japan. Some Chinese people we believe movies helps a lot to come out and realize Mr. Ken Takakura as a symbol. I watched the movie "Red Series" when I was in junior high school student. I liked Ms. Momoe Yamaguchi very much that when I had to choose between English and Japanese for a specialty at the university entrance exam, without wavering, I chose Japanese. When talking about the present-day international relations, soft power is becoming more and more important and can't be ignored. Mr. Ken Takakura was the quintessential typical example of Japanese soft power. I strongly believe that soft power is necessary for improving the present China-Japanese relations.



Stefanus Harjo, Ph.D.
(Indonesian, 1997-2000 Scholarship Recipient)

Principal Researcher at Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)

Picture above was taken on my birthday.
We usually celebrate our birthday together at home with my wife cooking.



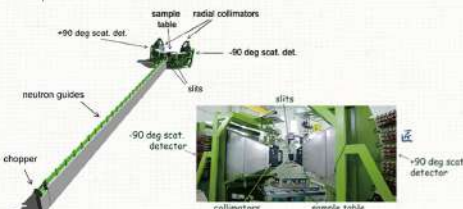
What is JAEA?

We may think that only researches relating to the nuclear energy are done at JAEA, but I am now doing researches mainly of about materials engineering. In Tokai site of JAEA, a facility named Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC) was built and is managed by collaboration of JAEA and High Energy Research Organization (KEK). I am working at the facility as a JAEA staff. J-PARC is a research complex of proton accelerators and experimental facilities to carry out advanced researches covering a very wide field of particle physics, atomic nuclear physics, materials science, life science and atomic energy. J-PARC is also an international multipurpose user facility with the unique feature of the use of various secondary quantum beams, like neutron, muon, kaon, neutrino, etc. that are produced from the world leading 1 MW class proton beam.

A nickname of my instrument is "TAKUMI"

I am working for an experimental facility named Materials and Life Science Experimental Facility (MLF) that was built for doing materials science and life science. I have designed and constructed a neutron (diffractometer) instrument dedicated for researches on engineering materials (metallic materials as the main target), and now manage the instrument while conducting the upgrading works and my own research (steels). Concretely, by utilizing the neutron and its high penetration capacity, we perform the observation of stress in engineering parts that relates to the strength and safety, the elucidation of the deformation behaviors and/or functional revelation feature under various conditions of the advanced material, and make clear its relation to the metallographic structure. Many difficult things were mentioned above, but speaking simply, I am enjoying my favorite researches about the engineering material using neutron.

I gave a nickname to my instrument of "TAKUMI", a Japanese word that means professional, teacher, good engineer etc. This is not to show that we are already excellent and enormous, but TAKUMI is our goal or the way that we want to be. That is to implement an excellent instrument for various engineering materials researches, and to create many excellent results from the instrument. Thanks to the performances of neutron source, collaboration from our colleagues and users, TAKUMI has grown to be one of most popular instrument in the MLF, having many users from national and international institutes, and from industry. The competition ratio achieved two.



Typical picture and the photograph of TAKUMI (neutron diffractometer for engineering materials at MLF, J-PARC). The sample table can mount large samples up to 1 ton with the precision of less than 100 micron. The typical measured gage volume is about 10mm³.

Target on my future

Simply speaking, to make efforts that the neutron and TAKUMI to be more widely well known, to be used to in researches of the various engineering materials. I am happier if finally we can activate the researches which are related not only to scientific studies but also to industry. Japan needs to cover the weak point of little resources by the technology. For example, Japan though is not the largest supplier of steel in the world, supplies more than 70 % of the high performance steels. To keep the world-leading supplier of high performance steels, the development of advanced steels and manufacturing technologies are needed to perform continuously. The basic research is therefore very important, and TAKUMI may play an important role at this stage. We already started discussion and collaboration with researchers from several steel companies and universities. Meanwhile, we also need to be a world-leading instrument as Takumi's goal and increase users from abroad. We plan to attend many international conferences and publish papers to the international journals to spread the excellent research results from TAKUMI.

For the private, I need to complete pergola and wood-deck in our garden as my wife's request, and going our hometown to see my parents after a busy last year.

Don't worry if we find any problems

The life style and research style in Japanese universities are different from other. The research activity in Japanese university is done as a team consisting professor as the leader and several students. The relation among them is like family, and they usually share their feeling about their researches. Therefore don't worry if we find any problems because we are still students and many friends surrounding us, who always help and support us. When we graduate and joint in society as employee, teacher, etc., we are needed to do all and take the responsibilities by ourselves, but I believe that our friends in the university will give us continuous support.

I spent wonderful three years of HISF scholarship for my PhD course. I lived at Hitachi-city in Ibaraki prefecture. It was far enough and took time to go to Tokyo for the monthly counseling, but because of that I could take a break from my busy-research, became relax that gave me a mental supporting. In various HISF meetings, from the conversations with our late Mr. Honjo, famous politicians, staffs of Itoen and other people who already work in various societies we learned many things, and by meeting with other HISF students we could share and solve our worries.

Now I am living in a small village, Tokai-mura, in Ibaraki prefecture, with my wife (Haruko) and my two children (Shihori: 8, Daigo: 6). I often go home late, and also work on Saturday and Sunday, when the J-PARC operates their accelerators and the MLF. I can take holidays on Saturday and Sunday, stay at home and play together with my children, only during the summer time. My son, however, sometimes asks me making me sad, "Why you don't go to the office?"



Nina Nocon-Shimoguchi, Ph.D.
(Filipino, 2005-2007 Scholarship Recipient)

Part-time Lecturer at Tokyo University of Agriculture



To the field of Biobusiness

I came to Japan under the Special Foreign Student Program of the Tokyo University of Agriculture in 1998 and entered the Department of Bio-Business Management and Information (currently the Department of International Biobusiness Studies). In the Philippines, I was very interested in management, particularly Hotel and Restaurant Management (HRM), which was highly influenced by my exposure to various businesses of our family. In Japan, my plan was to study the management strategies of Japanese companies, particularly to determine their secrets to success.

However, my interest shifted to agriculture after having numerous and priceless opportunities at Tokyo University of Agriculture (Tokyo NODAI). Among these, I had the opportunity to learn the differences and similarities in food culture, socio-economic conditions and agricultural conditions from foreign students coming not only from Southeast Asia but also from many other parts of the world. It was also this time that I realized I did not know much about my own country. I had the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture and agriculture through visits to various beautiful landscapes and farms across the country organized by my late mentor for 9 years, Prof. Dr. Akimi Fujimoto. I also had the opportunity to do farm stay at Abashiri, Hokkaido. Through the International Students Summit (ISS) organized by the university and attended by students from many different countries, I had the opportunity to discuss and assess global issues on food, agriculture and environment. The summit focused particularly on the need for environmentally-friendly farming methods, how to have safe and stable supply of food, what determines the safety of GMOs, and how students can address these issues.

Through the process, I was able to deepen my focus on organic agriculture (OA), which initially caught my attention in 1999 when I visited an organic farm as part of the department's Philippine Biobusiness Field Practice. For my undergraduate thesis, I conducted a farm management study of an organic lettuce farm in the Cavite, Philippines. Then for my MS course, I focused on the market, hotels/restaurants and consumers of organic vegetables in Metro Manila. During PhD course, I attempted to capture the whole industry by clarifying the present conditions and issues involved in the demand for organic rice and vegetables in Metro Manila, and the production and marketing of organic rice and vegetables in major producing areas.

The research of Organic Agriculture in Philippines and Japan

I have acquired many different perspectives in pursuing this topic for more than a decade, both as an individual, researcher and as a mother. My experience with the smallholder vegetable farmers I met has been my main source of motivation in pursuing these studies. Convinced by the trader,

these farmers decided to take the risk of engaging in organic farming. However, they found that they did not have the skills or proper training to do so and there were no support systems in place to aid them. This was when I realized the importance of education and various kinds of support services for the farmers.

In 2013, I was honored and thankful to become part of a 4 year-JSPS research project entitled "Support System for Rural Innovation Towards Human Development and Knowledge Creation." This research project aims to clarify the roles of public, private and NGO/NPO sectors for agriculture and rural development in the context of socio-economic development and location-specific issues. My responsibility is to conduct case studies related to organic agriculture in the Philippines and Japan under the conceptual framework of Agricultural Knowledge Information System (AKIS), Community of Practice (CoP) and Legitimate Peripheral Participation (LPP). My research sites are Saitama Prefecture in Japan, Negros Island and various Luzon provinces in the Philippines. In addition to this, I plan to add Kagoshima Prefecture this year. As an end result, I plan to compare the sites and find key points and secrets of success for the further development of organic agriculture at various levels.

"Abante" — "To move forward"

I would like to share some thoughts that I use in my daily life. Feel blessed with all the opportunities and challenges you come across. Be thankful to all the people you meet. Whatever physical, mental, socio-economic challenges you bump into, just move forward or abante! In Filipino, which means "To move forward"! And, don't forget to smile and think of happy thoughts, even during difficult situations!

Always feel blessed to be part of the HISF family, which is now a fast growing and promising global network of more than 400 professionals and students from different fields. With the upcoming 20th Founding Anniversary, we have the responsibility to stay connected, to work together and to find ways to utilize this network's full potential. Abante!



With fellow HISF scholars, Lowela (R-Side) and Mark (L-Side) after attending the HISF event with my kids last March 2015.

Visiting alumni at their work places, we interviewed them about their own work and memory of their school days.



Shen Wei Dong, Ph.D.
(Chinese, 1997-2000 Scholarship Recipient)
Japan Cochlear Ltd.

The Leading Company of cochlear implant

Nihon Cochlear Ltd, whose headquarter is located in Australia, is a company developing and selling otolaryngeal products like cochlear implants. It has the largest market share in Japan and across world. The history of cochlear implants is not long however, this cutting-edge technology in medicine-an epoch-making method of treatment-has benefited more than 200,000 patients suffering from hearing loss, all over the world. Dr. Clark, a developer and researcher of cochlear implant, is said to be one of the people to be nominated for a Nobel Prize in Medicine in the nearby future. I belong to the Clinical Service Division of Cochlear Ltd, Japan. Our company is so small, consisting of thirty members of staff, working in a wide range of areas; clinical

research, training personnel within and out of the company, organizing conferences and support desks. I go on many business trips throughout the year and also have a chance to observe real otological surgery in hospitals. Through such experiences I get to communicate with many people and learn surgery skills. Consequently, these experiences are helpful and beneficial to my future work.

To create the network of HISF Chinese alumni

First of all I would like to fulfill my responsibilities at my company. In addition, I would also like to help Honjo Foundation in creating and fostering active communication within the Chinese alumni, building a network among them.



Tran Ha-Nguyen, Ph.D.
(Vietnamese, 2004-2006 Scholarship Recipient)
Expert Researcher, Smart Wireless Laboratory
National Institute of Information and Communications Technology

Research on Wireless Communication

My research topic is about white space wireless systems and broadband wireless access systems which aim to improve the spectrum efficiency, system performance, and user experience. Especially I am working on R&D of white space database, a system which utilizes geo-location data and time-location variant spectrum usage data to determine and provide information about available channels and transmission power to the wireless devices.

that we can deploy and evaluate our system there.

To experience Japanese culture with HISF members

In Japan you may not only be able to study on your major (in my case, engineering) but you also have chance to use Japanese every day. It is a good opportunity to learn Japanese, and to join many Japanese traditional, cultural, and social events when you are student. You may find out later that they are precious experiences that you can hardly get in any other place or timing. For many foreign students, looking for a scholarship in Japan might be a big challenge. I would suggest you try to apply for HISF scholarship. You will find here the best foundation with very kind staffs and officers, many excellent students, many interesting activities, and a wide network of OB/OG.

Implement the technology to my hometown in Vietnam

The white space system developed by our team has been evaluated in several locations including foreign countries. More deployments improvements are needed so that the system can be adopted all over the world. Recently there is news about the transition to digital terrestrial TV in my home town in Da Nang, which opens a potential trial site of the systems similar to ours. I hope



CHEONG Kar-Hooi, Ph.D.
(Malaysian, 2004-2007 Scholarship Recipient)
National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology
National Metrology Institute of Japan

Guardian of national measurement standards in Japan

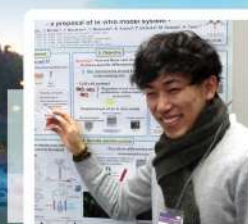
I'm working in the field of metrological research which focuses on developing and maintaining national measurement standards (length, mass, time etc.). My mission is to establish a national standard for small liquid oil flow rate to provide measurement traceability in such flow range related to automobile fuel efficiency.

You are not alone

All of us have worries and problems either in our professional or private life. Maybe by thinking that how fortunate I am to be a Honjo scholar in Japan may light up our feelings and change our perspective on the circumstances we are in. Try to look at the brighter side of our lives when the situation turns darker.

Just achieved my mission of past five years

After 5 years of research work, I finally achieved my mission last year. Going through many failures all these years makes the feeling of satisfaction sweeter. Now I'm trying to get my mind refreshed to get ready for the next challenge.



Hiroyuki Igarash
(Japanese, 2014 Scholarship Recipient)
Tohoku University School of Medicine

My one year experience in HISF

My ambition, when I was a junior high school student, was to be a researcher who finds new treatments for disabilities and incurable diseases. I feel very lucky that my career has been shaping up well along that path - I am doing research in the field of stem cell biology and regenerative medicine using pluripotent stem cells. As I changed my area of study from electrical engineering to molecular biology and to stem cell biology, I found that my broad expertise became very useful when I develop new research methods to tackle something unknown. I really enjoy research, and so to become a professional researcher, I decided to continue studying as a Ph.D. candidate. Honjo International Scholarship Foundation (HISF) has been helping me with hospitable support since the beginning of my Ph.D. studies. Because of that, I have never been bothered by any financial difficulties, and I have been able to fully commit to my study. I don't know any other scholarship programs in which the organizers call their fellows "family", and I imagine that relationship makes HISF exceptional.

Here I would like to briefly describe my research and my feelings on being a member of the Honjo Family.

Muse cell - a new revolution in regenerative medicine -

Regenerative medicine is a field of translational research in tissue engineering and molecular biology, which deals with the process of engineering or regenerating human cells, tissues and organs to restore normal function. In this field, pluripotent stem cells, which are immature and able to differentiate into various cell types, are often used as a resource for regeneration. In 2010, the research group of Dr. Mari Dezawa from Tohoku University isolated Muse, a new line of mesenchymal pluripotent stem cells derived from adult human tissue (Kuroda et al., 2010). Muse (Multi-lineage undifferentiating stress enduring) cell has great advantages over other cell lines for clinical applications because it has low tumorigenicity and is naturally pluripotent (Wakao et al., 2013). Research on Muse cells has been mainly conducted in vivo, such as cell transplantation into a number of human disease models, which has shown that the transplantation of Muse cells can actually facilitate recovery from damage. However, the detailed mechanism of its differentiation is somewhat obscure. The goal of my research is to understand this differentiation mechanism of these cells. It is expected that an efficient method to induce the differentiation of Muse cells toward specific cell types will be established upon the detailed understanding of this mechanism. If such a method were to be established, the recovery brought by Muse cell

transplantation could be further facilitated. Thus far in my research, I have found that human Muse cells undergo myogenic differentiation under conditions of co-culture with the immortalized murine myoblast cell line (C2C12), and I have reported this work at an international conference as first author.

Experience at the international conference, and after

HISF has a subsidy system to assist student to participate in an international conference. By means of this support, I presented my findings at the "5th International Congress on Stem Cells and Tissue Formation" held in Dresden, Germany. It's been often said that Japanese people are shy, and that it takes time for us to get familiar with a community, but that wasn't the case for me. When I look back, I think my experience with the many international fellows of HISF encouraged me to confidently communicate with new faces at the conference. I was alone at the beginning, but by evening I was surrounded by many new friends, chatting over bottles of beer. I clearly remember the sense of happiness enveloping me at that moment. During our discussion, I had many chances to exchange ideas with the other participants. A famous professor came and discussed my work with me for almost an hour. As well as the relationship with Honjo fellows, the friendship and inspirations I got through this conference will enrich my future.

When we interact with individuals for the first time, just a little bit of courage and the accumulation of experience can make interaction easier, and this can have a major effect on future development. Considering this, I really appreciate this environment that has allowed me a lot of chances to join in extracurricular activities that we do not usually find open to us in ordinary school life.

Aiming to be a "Bridge"

A style of research which uses a single method and applies it to different objectives is called "method-oriented". On the other hand, research which seeks a suitable method and resources to solve an issue in the near future, is called "problem-oriented". In current research, we can see fragmentation between various research fields, and specialization is accelerating in each field. If I can work in a problem-oriented style, I may build a linking bridge to novel approaches and methods. To challenge existing problems, I believe it's important to collaborate with people from different fields and obtain new, deeper understanding in a cross-discipline manner. In the Honjo-family, each member has a different specialty, and their research topics are unique. This diversity is very beneficial in the process of cultivating knowledge and inspiration. In this circle of Honjo, I would like to catch a glimpse of deep truths in science, and I hope to serve as a bridge which connects Japan to the rest of the world through mutual friendship, as the founder of HISF wished.



A letter from
Hawaii



Sachiko Oshiyama
(2014 UH Scholarship Program Recipient)

Waseda University Graduate School of Accountancy

University of Hawaii at Manoa Report

I would like to compose my report about the international fellowship program at University of Hawaii, Shidler College of Business, where I participated last summer. It was there that I experienced a great opportunity to study international finance taught by Professor Mitsuru Misawa from May to July 2014.

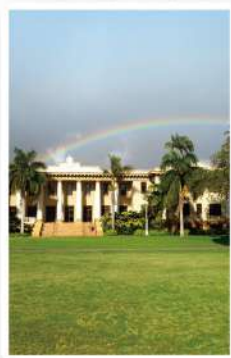
First of all, I would like to introduce the University of Hawaii at Manoa. It was founded in 1907 and its location is in the island of O'ahu, in Honolulu's Manoa valley. More than 20,000 students are studying at the campus, including numerous international students from around 120 countries. The school is filled with beautiful nature, such as big lush trees, the occasional rainbow after a shower and many birds. I enjoyed studying at the library listening to birds singing and a gentle breeze flowing from open window. Although their campus is a calm and peaceful environment, their students are very enthusiastic and motivated. I was also impressed with their positive and collaborative attitude during the lectures. In addition to this, most of the students managed to improve their academic performance as part-time MBA students despite also having a full time job. Their diligence is an ideal example for all Japanese students.

Secondly, I would like to mention the lecture on the topic of international finance by professor Misawa. It was a significant and valuable time to learn from professor Misawa with highly motivated students. Professor Misawa graduated from Tokyo University and Harvard Law School, and he had an impressive career as an investment banker. His lectures were based on his professional

experience gained over the years and were full of insightful knowledge. I could deepen my understanding of financial knowledge, such as one of a derivative transaction, option, arbitrage transaction and international capital budgeting. It is also meaningful for my future career to study this financial knowledge by the universal language of English. I believe professor Misawa taught us not only academic knowledge but also what is important as a professional business person by his noble lecture.

In addition to the academic aspects, this international fellowship program has helped broaden my horizon. United States, especially Hawaii, is a multiracial and multicultural society, since many people there have different ethnicities and backgrounds. This challenging environment allowed me to learn a different sense of value and was invaluable in learning more about the world in general. Moreover, I could gain mental confidence by overcoming difficulties within a different culture while experiencing many other ethnicities at the same time.

I would like to conclude my report by showing my appreciation to this fellowship program. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for Honjo International Scholarship Foundation. I am deeply grateful for this wonderful opportunity to study at the University of Hawaii. I also express my appreciation to professor Misawa for giving me interesting and insightful lectures and encouragement for my future. I will in return try my best to contribute my acquired knowledge to our society. Thank you very much.



A letter from
New York



Daiyu Suzuki
(2013 JAA Scholarship Program Recipient)

Doctoral student, Teachers College at Columbia University



The American "Public" Education that Elites Don't Know

I wonder what kind of images you might have for American education. Lively and interactive classes, liberating classroom atmosphere where students are encouraged to challenge their teachers, emphasis on critical thinking rather than rote memorization, something opposite from the education in Japan where teachers give one-directional lectures to students? Such positive images of the American education are quite common in Japan, which has strived for a massive social reconstruction trying to catch up and surpass the U.S. after its defeat in the World War II. These images indeed capture "the American education," but only partially. And its dark side is hardly known to Japan.

I myself knew only of its glorious side. I grew up looking up to the U.S. and eventually left Japan to study in the U.S. when I was 16. I was astonished by the education that I received at a small private boarding school in New Hampshire, as it pushed me to think deeply and was wholly different from the one I had received in Japan. It was then that I decided that, one day, I would reform the Japanese education system. I went on to Colgate University and Stanford University School of Education to pursue education degrees. 8 years of my life had already passed in the U.S., and it was time for me to return to Japan to see the reality of Japanese schools.

Going "public"

Back in Japan, it took me another two and a half years just to acquire a Japanese teaching license. Once licensed, I chose a public middle school without a hesitation and, against my initial expectation, ended up teaching ESL for more than six years. This rich, emotional, intellectual experience taught me the challenges, significance, and possibilities of public education, where students varied academic abilities gather from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. I came to understand the roles of teachers to assist students in believing in the goodness of people, finding and developing one's unique strength to live in the society, and understanding the joy of being fully alive among others.

In my 7th year, I left teaching to continue my study in the U.S. The U.S. had already been implementing major education reforms—merit pay for teachers, marketization of teacher recruitment, introduction of charter schools and school choice system—that extensively adopted market principles. The radicalness and speed of the reforms was unimaginable when compared to the inflexible Japanese education system. My goal was to acquire a Ph.D and return to Japan with the knowhow of American market-based education reform. What I did not know, though, was that the market-based education reforms in the U.S. functions to mask one of the best-kept secrets of the U.S.

A best-kept secret

"All men are created equal..." Needless to say, this is a phrase from the U.S. Declaration of Independence. Many people would be surprised to know, then, that the federal constitution of the U.S. does not guarantee education as a fundamental human right. In fact, numerous children are receiving substandard education in impoverished

districts, and it is no wonder that the U.S. has not ratified the UNICEF Convention on the Rights of the Child. The U.S. is one of the only three countries among the 193 United Nations countries, next to Somalia and South Sudan. In the U.S., the property tax traditionally constitutes the basis of the educational funding, and this necessarily creates stark inequities among districts depending on the values of their land. While excellent public schools exist in affluent districts whose facilities and staff evoke prestigious private schools, many schools in poor, high-needs neighborhoods cannot afford to hire experienced teachers, buy enough textbooks for all students, or even prepare sufficient chalks or toilet papers. Japanese elites whose privileges allow them to study in the U.S. would have no idea about the realities of such impoverished schools. And I was one of them.

The constitutionality of such inequitable education budget systems has been tried in the federal Supreme Court. However, the U.S. eventually chose—instead of investing in poor children and guaranteeing all citizens' right to a sufficient education—to conduct a surprisingly simplistic social experiment on impoverished districts. This was to introduce market principles into their education reforms, where schools compete against each other for survival over "customers" and a limited budget. In order to marketize public education, education needed to be quantified, standardized, and commodified. All this has enabled aggressive privatization of all areas of education and ultimately transformed U.S. public education system into a 600-billion-dollar market.

Based on standardized testing, numerous "failing" public schools were closed while new "choice schools" such as charter schools sprouted. Under the guise of "school choice," stratification among public schools has become legitimized, and the notion of public schools that are open to all has become obsolete. This has ironically exacerbated the class disparity and caused a situation where children in poor districts receive impoverished education that focuses narrowly on test-prep while children in affluent districts receive rich liberal arts education that has little to do with test-prep.

Our responsibility

Similar things, however, could be said about the state of Japanese public education. The government seems to be setting the stage for marketizing its public education system as it combines an all-students national standardized exam, publication of students' test scores by schools, and creation of tax-funded privately run charter schools. Escalating privatization is also seen in increasing outsourcing of school functions to private tutorial schools and launching of "global elite education" using charter schools. As such stratification of public schools intensifies, it may not be such a distant future when critical thinking and holistic education becomes a privilege of the select few while test-prep and rote memorization becomes the norm for the rest. What do we mean by "public" education? What kind of human beings do we wish to foster? What do we wish to pass on to the next generation? And, what responsibilities are we, the privileged ones who have received rich education, willing to assume?

Topics ①

Father and son to contribute to astronomy in Peru



Dr. Mutsumi Ishitsuka



Dr. Jose Ishitsuka

Dr. Jose Ishitsuka, from Peru, was a recipient of a scholarship from the Honjo Foundation from 1998 to 1991, when he was at Tokyo University for his doctoral research in astronomy. He appeared in a TV program "Sekai no mura de hakken! Konnatokoro ni nihonjin", which literally means "We found a Japanese living in such a small village abroad", aired on January 31, 2015. Dr. Jose was born in Peru, his father, Dr. Mutsumi Ishitsuka who is also an astronomer, emigrated from Japan to construct a solar observatory in Peru sixty years ago. Dr. Mutsumi Ishituka struggled against many odds for twenty years until a solar observatory named "COSMOS" was completed in 1978 at Huancaayo, located

350Km from Lima. Unfortunately, it was destroyed by terrorists in 1988. In the TV program, he talked about the tragedy, biting his lips and holding back tears as if the dastardly acts happened just a week ago. However, father and son of Drs. Ishitsuka stood up again to reconstruct an astronomical observatory in Huancaayo, having good support from the Japanese people, who kindly shipped to them necessary equipments for it. As a result, they significantly contributed to the development of astronomy in Peru. "COSMOS was lost, but my sixty years in Peru was to deliver my son to astronomy." When Dr. Mutsumi Ishitsuka vigorously said these words, Dr. Jose Ishitsuka, who is usually calmer than his father, had his eyes tearing up. Dr. Jose Ishitsuka currently works for the Huancaayo Geomagnetic Observatory located in the place where the sun can be seen the most beautifully in the world.



The solar observatory "COSMOS" destroyed by terrorists

Topics ②

Lighting my Ugandan Village

David Odeke Otuya (Ugandan, 2011-2016 Scholarship Recipient)

Research Institute of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University



I come from Uganda, a country that can be described by the colors on her national flag: black, yellow and red. The color yellow signifies that Uganda is a country that bathes in abundant sunshine all year round, from January to December. This, obviously, is a consequence of Uganda's location right on the equator. In as much as the days in my country are bright and sunny, most villages and hamlets are usually engulfed in total darkness at night. My home village is no exception, the only sources of light comprise of mainly kerosene lamps. Regrettably, not only is daily purchases of kerosene for lighting a big economic burden, prolonged usage of kerosene lamps often lead to visual impairments besides the fumes from these lamps being a health hazard.

After coming to Japan, my preoccupation drifted to how I could alleviate the lighting situation at our home in the village, back in Uganda. Being a student with limited financial resources available to me, finding a solution that was cost-effective, sustainable and easy to maintain was the only option left at my disposal. After thinking, what came to mind was solar panels, an energy generating device that would take advantage of the readily available solar energy in Uganda. With the help of some meager funds from my scholarship, I was able to buy a solar panel set and got it transported to Uganda. Some years have passed, and I am glad to say that the solar panels are still working and continue to bring light and smiles to my parents back in the village. My future plan is to continue adding the number of solar panels with the intention to keep the number of smiles increasing in the little hamlet I come from.



An inverter



The solar panels on the roof

Guideline for Scholarship and Research Fellowship in 2015~2016

Scholarship Program

- **Scholarship for Foreign Students**
For Foreign students studying in Japanese graduate school
- **Scholarship for Japanese Domestic Students**
For Japanese students studying in Japanese graduate school
- **Scholarship for Japanese International Students**
For Japanese students studying in graduate school in overseas

Overseas Scholarship Program

- Jack Lewis Scholarship Program (University of Southern California)
- Professor Misawa Scholarship Program (University of Hawaii)
- JMSA Scholarship Program (Japanese Medical Society in America)
- JAA Scholarship Program (Japan Association in America)
- CUSSW Scholarship Program (Columbia University School of Social Work)

Research Fellowship Program

● Food and Health Research Fellowship Program

This program is to support the research to clarify the efficiency of food or ingredient of food to maintain good health by means of assay targeting human beings or alternate assay without using animal.

※The detailed information about the application is announced on our website. Application forms are available there, too.

※The application of Overseas Scholarship Program is operated by partnership bodies. Please visit their website for detailed information.

Find Us on Facebook!



We have a group page account on Facebook. Find our page, Honjo International Scholarship Foundation. We make event announcements, and current scholars and alumni exchange information regarding their study, work, countries, and their private events as well. Please send us your request.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HISFhonjo/>



Send Us Your Information!

We are making all the Honjo scholars contact list on our website. Go to "Alumni Data Update" from our webpage and send us the form. You will need an ID and password to enter the scholars list. Let us know if you do not know them, but only Honjo Scholars and alumni are available for them.

<https://hisf.or.jp/update/form.html>

About Us

[Name]
Honjo International Scholarship Foundation
[Year of Establishment]
December 25, 1996
[President]
Ms. Teruko Honjo

[Purpose]
Honjo International Scholarship Foundation has been established to support outstanding students and researchers. To help them learn advanced technologies and improve their good intentions will serve as a bridge connecting Japan with the rest of the world in culture and mutual friendships.

Acknowledgement

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Kristopher Reeves, Mr. David Otuya Odeke, and Dr. Syed Emdadul, each of whom supplied English translations and revisions for this issue of our magazine. Furthermore, I must thank everyone who so readily cooperated in writing unique and interesting essays or articles and sending us many photographs, despite busy schedule.

HISF Annual Activities

March 2014 ~ March 2015

1 Welcome & Farewell Party and Research Grant Awards Ceremony

March 24, 2014

Welcome & Farewell Party and Research Grant Awards Ceremony has been organized at Hyatt Regency Tokyo. As of usual practice, the international students, Lahiru Jayakody (the 2011 recipient, Sri Lankan) and Kyi Chan Nyein (the 2012 recipient, Burmese) arranged the first and last duo performance by playing guitar, made a very cheerful environment.



2 Doctoral Thesis Presentation Program

May 25, 2014

Doctoral Thesis Presentation Program was held at Hyatt Regency Tokyo.



3 Shizuoka Field Trip

June 20~21, 2014

Visited and observed Central Research Institute of Itoen and Fujikawa factory of Hotei Foods Corporation Ltd.



4 HISF Workshop Vol.7

July 6, 2014

Lecture titled "Re-thinking 'Economics' - experimental and behavioral approaches", by Dr. Nobuyuki Hanaki (the 1998 recipient, Japanese), Professor at Faculty of Economics and Business Management in Aix-Marseille University, was held at Hyatt Regency Tokyo. It was a good opportunity to feel economics closely by doing experiment oneself.



5 Mizu Volunteer Trip in Tohoku

September 26~28, 2014

2nd Joint Mizu Volunteer Excursion Tour of Iwate Prefectural University and Ohio State University and Honjo International Scholarship Foundation was held at Otsuchi Machi, Ofunato City and Rikuzentakata City of Iwate Prefecture, which was damaged severely in the disaster of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Enjoyed the local entertainment "Tiger Dance". Felt honest mind and strong will to get powerfully recovered within the residents of Otsuchi Machi where many precious lives were swept away by the tsunami.



6 Food and Health Program Research Grant Result Presentation

October 10, 2014

The research achievements report meeting in accordance with 1st term Food and Health Program Research Grant Scholars, was held at Itoen headquarter building. Professor Nagaoka Satoshi from Gifu University, Associate Professor Mochizuki Kazuki from Yamanashi University and Dr. Young-il Kim has announced their research results about the mechanism of action on health by food and food ingredients.



7 Sports Day

October 16, 2014

Badminton tournament was held at National Youth Memorial Olympic Center. Dr. Shimada Yuichi (the 2011 recipient, Japanese) coming back to Japan temporarily, also participated the event that made the event really lively.



8 Alumni Meeting in Shanghai

October 18~19, 2014

Alumni Meeting was held in Shanghai. 15 members from 1st term to 15th term OIBs and OGBs came to gather from different parts of China. Despite most of them are first to meet, they toasted and talked themselves friendly as brothers and sisters. They also enjoyed the meeting by talking about the time studying in Japan, present work and status, socio-political environment, etc. On the 2nd day, visited the Shaoxing Town, which has a very close relation with Japan.



9 Study Tour in Kyoto

October 25~26, 2014

Kyoto study tour with staying in Kyo-machiya was held. Made a field trip and the tea ceremony experience at the famous tea house in Kodajiji temple, participated in the Kyogen workshop by Shigeyama Yoshinobu at a dojo in Machiya. On the next day joined the Zen meditation experience in Kenninji temple. Valuable lecture of the chief priest might added the food of thought along with the experience to all participants.



10 Barbeque Party

November 15, 2014

Barbeque party was held at Tokyo international exchange center. At the time Dr. Nabin Aryal (the 2011 recipient, Nepalese) was visiting Japan, called for the participation. Unfortunately it was a rainy day and so have to satisfy by indoor event, using the kitchen room. It became the Nepalese cuisine party.



11 HISF Workshop Vol.8

November 24, 2014

Lecture titled "Suki: Refinement and Eccentricity of Japanese Tea Culture and its Influence on Architecture" by Dr. Adriana Piccinini Higashino (the 2011 recipient, Brazilian), Assistant Professor at National College of Technology, was held at Cerulean Tower Tokyo Hotel. Many questions from international students from different countries were thrown regarding traditional architecture and contemporary houses on Japan.



12 Year-End Party

December 26, 2014

Year-end party was held at Shinagawa Prince Hotel. As of usual practice "Country pride quiz" was organized to win the ticket of New year grand sumo tournament. This year, Mr. Dione Aimé Charles Alfred (the 2013 recipient, Senegalese) presented the quiz related to his country Senegal.



13 Welcome & Farewell Party and Research Grant Awards Ceremony

March 24, 2014

Welcome & Farewell Party and Research Grant Awards Ceremony has been organized at Hyatt Regency Tokyo. Mrs. Sofiya Suidasari (the 2013 recipient, Indonesian) made a splendid performance of Bali traditional dance of Indonesia, with the music of gamelan.



14 Mizu Volunteer

It has been almost two years past participating the "Mizu Volunteer" activities, led by Professor Chiba Keiko of Iwate Prefectural University. Visiting the temporary housing and the private homes in Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture, we are continuing to communicate and distributing water and tea to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Within the fiscal year 2014, 92 members from HISF participated in 12 times of Mizu Volunteer activities.



15 Nostalgic Reunion

Those who visited the Foundation office, whom we met in your home countries, who participated in the mini-reunion, thank you very much for remembering the Foundation forever.





1997年 11月4日
懇親会 伊藤園本社会議室
November 4, 1997
The annual party
at Itoen head office building



1998年 6月18日
研修旅行 伊藤園中央研究所
June 18, 1998
Shizuoka trip
at Itoen Central Research Institute



1999年 12月10日
忘年会 伊藤園本社会議室
December 10, 1999
Year-End party
at Itoen head office building



2000年 6月28日
懇親会 伊藤園本社会議室
June 28, 2000
The annual party
at Itoen head office building



2001年 3月30日
歓迎迎会 小田急センチュリーハイアットホテル
(現ハイアットリージェンシー東京)
March 30, 2001,
Welcome and farewell party
at Odakyu Century Hyatt Hotel
(Hyatt Regency Tokyo at present)



2002年 3月29日
歓迎迎会 小田急センチュリーハイアットホテル
(現ハイアットリージェンシー東京)
March 29, 2002
Welcome and farewell party
at Odakyu Century Hyatt Hotel
(Hyatt Regency Tokyo at present)

18年間の軌跡 Journey of 18 years

1期生から18期生まで思い出の写真を集めました。懐かしい顔が見つかりますか？
Pictures from 1997-2014. Find someone looks familiar!!



2003年 6月6日
研修旅行 伊藤園中央研究所
June 6, 2003
Shizuoka trip
at Itoen Central Research Institute



2004年 3月30日
歓迎迎会 小田急センチュリーハイアットホテル
(現ハイアットリージェンシー東京)
March 30, 2004
Welcome and farewell party
at Odakyu Century Hyatt Hotel
(Hyatt Regency Tokyo at present)



2005年 8月9日
野球観戦 神宮球場
August 9, 2005
Watching a professional baseball game
at Jingu Stadium



2006年 7月14日
野球合宿 筑波山登山
July 14, 2006
Baseball training camp
at Mt. Tsukuba



2007年 6月8日
研修旅行 伊藤園中央研究所
June 8, 2007
Shizuoka trip
at Itoen Central Research Institute



2008年 6月6日
研修旅行 伊藤園中央研究所
June 6, 2008
Shizuoka trip
at Itoen Central Research Institute



2009年 3月18日
歓迎迎会 ハイアットリージェンシー東京
March 18, 2009
Welcome and farewell party
at Hyatt Regency Tokyo



2010年 3月30日
歓迎迎会 ハイアットリージェンシー東京
March 30, 2010
Welcome and farewell party
at Hyatt Regency Tokyo



2011年 4月9日
卒業生を囲む会 ハイアットリージェンシー東京
April 9, 2011
Dinner party with graduates
at Hyatt Regency Tokyo



2012年 7月18日
台湾留学生の会 居酒屋阿波おどり
July 18, 2012
Dinner party with Taiwanese Alumni



2013年 9月5日
仙台同窓会 居酒屋みのむし
September 5, 2013
Alumni reunion party at Sendai



2014年 3月16日
卒業生を囲む会 東京大江戸博物館
March 16, 2014
Trip with graduates
at Tokyo Oedo Museum