

The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP)

The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) was established in April 1991 with the objective of fostering more intimate Japan-US relations and contributing to the world with collaboration between Japan and the US with offices in Tokyo and New York. CGP conducts projects in the following two major fields to achieve the objectives:

- (1) Intellectual exchange to promote the global partnership.
- (2) Promotion of mutual understanding on the local and grassroots level.

CGP conducted various commemorative events in FY2003 as it was the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange.

1. Intellectual Exchange to Promote Global Partnership

(1) Intellectual exchange program

The objective of the intellectual exchange programs by CGP is to contribute to resolution of global issues, issues common among developed countries and issues to foster more intimate relations between Japan and the United States through intellectual cooperation between Japan and the United States, and CGP supports research projects with relevancy in policies.

<Examples of FY2003>

- “Development of Japan-US relations in the post-war era and the role of philanthropy”

This project concerned the study of the roles of civilian philanthropy in the United States in the Japan-US intellectual exchange field, reconstruction of Japan and accession to the international community and reinforcement of Japan-US relations during the period at the end of WWII until the mid-1970s. The results of studies by document investigations and interviews with relevant persons were discussed at the workshop attended by philanthropy-related persons in Japan and the United States and the final report will be prepared both in Japanese and English.

- “Solution for the Japanese economy: American policies and the implication of the history of Japan-US relations” (Research Institute on Japanese Economy, Columbia University)

This was a project where Japanese and American specialists discussed policies to solve the long-lasting slump of the Japanese economy.

- “Beyond TCOG: Prospects from the Japan, Korea and USA Coordination Group as a method for alliance management” (Research Institute for Diplomacy Analysis, affiliation of the Fletcher School, Tuft University)

This was a research project on the TCOG (Japan, Korea and USA coordination group concerning the North Korean issue) with the objective of reinforcing the relations among Japan, Korea and the United States and studying how to stabilize the region. The TCOG is a group that periodically discusses the North Korean issue at high-level government officials of Japan, Korea and the United States.

- (2) **Abe Fellowship**

Co-sponsor: Social Science Research Council, SSRC

Cooperation: American Council of Learned Societies, ACLS

A total of 13 persons from Japan and the United States were admitted in FY2003.

At the CGP-SSRC Seminar Series in FY2003, the workshop “Consumer Culture and Its Discontents” was held in Tokyo and the “Fellows’ Retreat” with the objective of promoting formation of a network among the Fellows was held in Florida in mid-January and late January 2004, respectively.

- (3) **Commemorative events for the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange**

- “Redefining Japan & the U.S.-Japan Alliance”

This was an intellectual exchange project to discuss the future of the Japan-US alliance and world agreement by policy makers, enterprisers, journalists, scholars and researchers from Japan, the United States, China, Korea, Indonesia and Singapore. CGP co-sponsored this event with the New York Japan Society, International Cultural Center and the Yomiuri Shimbun and held a closed round-table symposium and an open symposium in Tokyo in November 2003. CGP also conducted an open seminar with cooperation from CSIS, Stanford University and other American institutions in New York, Washington D.C. and Palo Alto.

- **Open symposium “History and Prospect of Japan-US Relations”**

CGP started preparation of an open symposium, one of the official commemorative events for the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange to be held on April 3, 2004. This symposium shall consist of Part 1 where Japanese and American historians look back at the exchange over 150 years and Part 2 where various panelists including a Nobel Prize winner talk about the future of Japan-US relations.

2. Promotion of Mutual Understanding on the Local, Grassroots Level

(1) Citizens’ exchange program

CGP supports exchange projects on the grassroots level expecting deepening of mutual understanding by continuing dialogues between citizens of Japan and the United States and



Japan-US relations in the post-war era and the role of philanthropy (a scene from the conference in the US)



Redefining Japan & the U.S.-Japan Alliance

contributing to the world through joint efforts on common issues.

<Examples of FY2003>

- **“Japan-US joint event: Reinforcement of local communities through volunteers” (Points of Light Foundation, USA)**

The staff from nine volunteer centers in Japan and the United States exchanged information on volunteer programs and volunteer training through visits to each other’s countries and observing relevant organizations.

- **“Japan-US EcoRes (Eco Community Restaurant) collaboration project: Community empowerment – focus on food issues” (Special Non-Profit Activity Corporation, NPO Training and Information Center in Japan)**

This was a project to exchange know-how on programs focusing on food with the objective of achieving continuous, recycling local communities.

- **“Service Learning Project” (Special Non-Profit Activity Corporation Hamamatsu NPO Network Center, Japan)**

CGP conducted a pilot classroom project with an environmental theme during comprehensive study hours at local primary schools with the objective of propagating service learning in Japan, an educational method of the United States.

(2) **Program to promote understanding of each other’s countries through education**

CGP supports projects for outreach activities, development and prevalence of curricula to promote understanding of the United States in Japan and understanding of Japan in the United States to foster unbiased, comprehensive understanding of each other’s countries.

<Examples of FY2003>

- **“Development of Teaching Materials for USA Understanding (1st phase) (Society for US Understanding)**

This was a project to develop teaching materials in the form of booklets by selecting around 15 topics with the theme “USA today” to be used at comprehensive study hours in junior and senior high schools.

- **“Development of teaching materials and practice for multicultural society” (Research group on education for understanding a multicultural society, USA and Japan)**

This was a project to develop teaching materials for understanding the United States, focusing on the “multicultural society, USA” for primary to senior high school students.

- **“Teaching East and West: Establishing Historical Context Through a Comparison of Tokugawa Japan and Elizabethan England” (Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, USA)**

This project comprised a three-day training session for teachers of English, social studies and arts in the primary and secondary schools to study and compare Tokugawa Japan and Elizabethan England.

(3) **JOI (Japan Outreach Initiative) program**

This program was established to dispatch coordinators to conduct activities as volunteers at organizations used as bases for local exchange with the objective of promoting interest in Japan, understanding of Japan and Japan-US exchange in mostly the southern part of the United States where opportunities for exchange with Japan are relatively few. In FY2003, CGP dispatched two second-term Fellows in cooperation with the co-sponsoring Laurasian Institution.

(4) **“CGP NPO Fellowship” program**

This is a project to provide opportunities for the mainstay staff engaged in activities at the NPO in Japan to receive training in medium- to long-term management at NPOs in the United States with the objective of training next-generation human resources who will form the bridge between Japan and the United States, and to reinforce the foundation of the non-profit sector. CGP dispatched four fourth-term Fellows in FY2003.

(5) **Commemorative events for the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange**

CGP conducted the following projects as commemorative events for the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange:

- **Open symposium “Japanese Cool: New cultural power of Japan”**

The theme of this symposium was the cultural power of Japan currently attracting worldwide attention focused on the animation film field. CGP proposed the new national power “gross national cool” with cultural power as the axis.

- **Educational project to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Japan-US exchange “Snapshots from Japan: Profiles of seven high school students”**

CGP develops 16 educational lesson plans on understanding Japan at social studies classes mostly in the secondary school level in the United States using Japanese-Language teaching material developed by the International Cultural Forum Foundation “Encounter: Profiles of seven high school students”.



Enterprisers’ volunteer seminar: Tokyo Volunteers and Citizens’ Activity Center



Japanese Cool: New cultural power of Japan