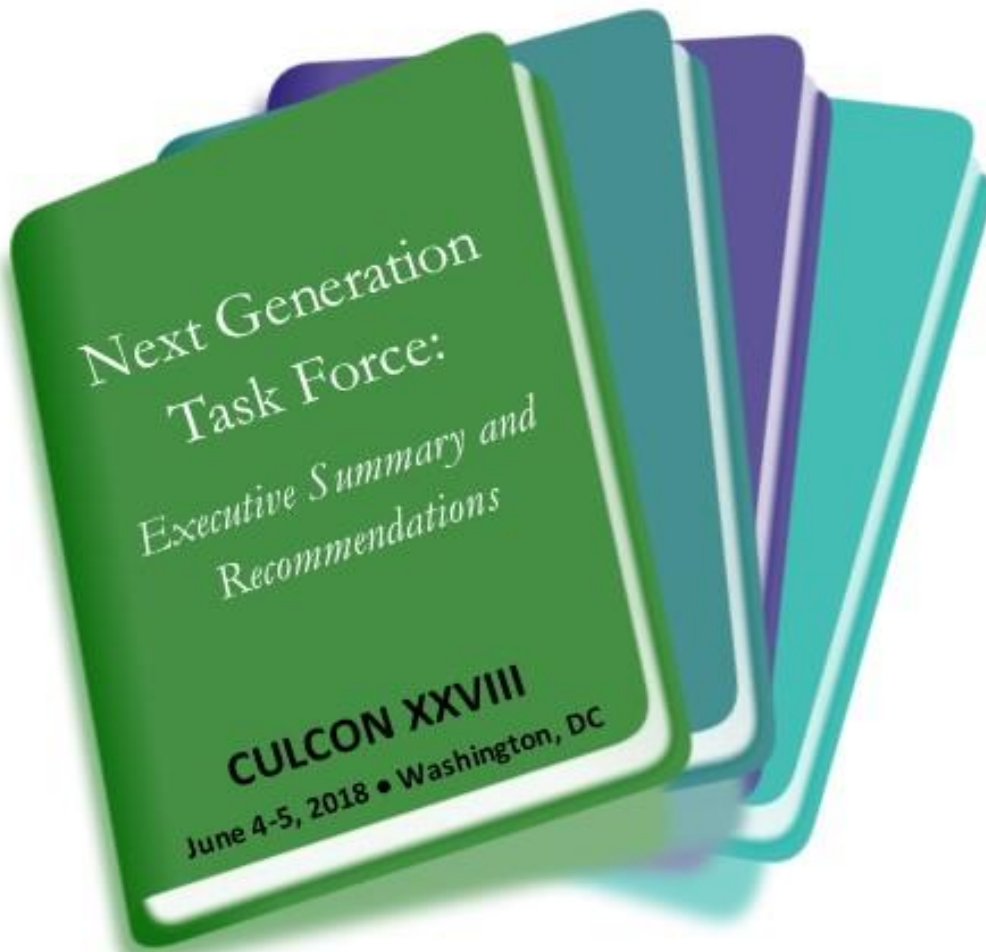


日米文化
教育交流
会議

CULCON

United States ~ Japan Conference
on Cultural & Educational Interchange

Ideas & Opportunities for Public/Private Partnerships



I. Executive Summary

In 2016, CULCON convened the binational Next Generation Task Force (NGTF) to consider ways of supporting the professional development of younger Japanese and Americans in order to work collaboratively with their counterparts to solve the shared challenges of the future as well as to sustain and grow the U.S.-Japan partnership. The Japan Task Force (JTF) members and U.S. Task Force (USTF) members have met together and separately, in Japan and the United States. Throughout their deliberations, the NGTF recognized there are areas of shared vision for the future, as well as issues unique to the specific needs and circumstances of each country.

Since 2016, the JTF has engaged in a vigorous series of discussions and retreats¹ and commissioned a comprehensive report on U.S.-Japan Intellectual Interchanges². According to this report, U.S.-Japan exchanges have broadened and deepened, but the number of funders has narrowed and it is not clear in what direction funding will go. Japanese policy and exchange organizations struggle with weak institutional bases, finances and human resources.

The USTF has also conducted research and engaged in extensive consultations within and without its membership, focusing on emerging areas of U.S.-Japan cooperation, such as space and energy. In October 2017, the binational NGTF met in Tokyo, Japan to share information, identify issues of mutual interest and make recommendations.

The JTF and USTF agree the U.S.-Japan partnership has benefitted greatly from the work of numerous well-established exchange organizations. From these, the NGTF seeks to identify best practices and to support established networks that have demonstrated effective strategies for generating future leaders. Beyond sustaining existing exchange opportunities, the NGTF believes there is a need to build new and innovative networks to capture the evolution in professional pathways as the U.S.-Japan partnership constantly evolves.

The NGTF also recognizes the importance of creating a new platform through which future generations can collaborate either virtually or physically. Social media and other types of communications technologies offer an opportunity for many around the globe to communicate and share knowledge. Broadening the dialogue between professionals would encourage and enable them to go beyond the bilateral relationship to both learn from and inform counterparts around the globe.

All of these efforts to support the next generation require the financial support of public and private institutions that benefit from and support the U.S.-Japan partnership. JTF, in particular, highlights the need to think strategically about how to balance the financial burden between public and private sectors to continue to support people-to-people and intellectual exchanges. The NGTF agreed it will be important to continue to identify new sources of funding by creating linkages between industry and education, and building public-private partnerships.

The binational NGTF has identified tangible recommendations in three categories listed below. They are: **1) Cultivate the Study of Japan in the United States and Cultivate the Study of the United States in Japan; 2) Explore Emerging Areas of U.S.-Japan Collaboration; and 3) Energize Networks and Build Platforms for Collaboration.**

¹ In FY2016: 1) August 3rd, 2016 Discussion at MOFA, 2) October 13th & 14th Retreat discussion in Yokohama, 3) March 30th and 31st, 2017, Retreat discussion in Lake Biwa. In FY2017: 1) August 5th, 2017, 2) October 5th and 6th, 2017, and 3) December 18th, 2017.

² The Japanese version is available at Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) website: <http://www.jcie.or.jp/japan/report/activity-report-2081/>

The NGTF hopes to provide a menu of opportunity for those individuals and institutions that can help younger professionals sustain their interest and their careers through U.S.-Japan collaboration. The NGTF endorses the following recommendations:

A. Cultivate the Study of Japan in the United States and the Study of the United States in Japan

#	Recommendation
A1.	Support learning about Japan in the United States and learning about the United States in Japan*
A2.	Continue financial support of Japan Studies*
A3.	Improve access to research and teaching resources on Japan and the U.S.*
A4.	Encourage creation of opportunities for non-Japan faculty specialists to gain context about Japan*
A5.	Encourage more funding for U.S.-Japan policy-oriented research.*
A6.	Support the Japanese or Asian collections and librarians at U.S. libraries*

B. Explore Emerging Areas of U.S.-Japan collaboration

#	Recommendation
B1.	Convene workshops on new emerging areas of U.S.-Japan collaboration*
B2.	Develop pilot programs for engaging policy-makers on specific topics on an innovative platform*
B3.	Consider promotion of an incubator fund for engaging new ideas and stakeholders***
B4.	Nurture future sports leaders and utilize sports diplomacy*

C. Energize Exchange Networks and Build New Platforms for Collaboration

#	Recommendation
C1.	Create a bilingual information portal on the CULCON website for existing programs and scholarships***
C2.	Use emerging technology to promote alumni engagement*
C3.	Nurture the next generation of government officials*
C4.	Create and fund a new center and utilize expertise of emerging scholars**
C5.	Support grassroots activities*
C6.	Focus on engaging “best connectors”*
C7.	Consider social entrepreneurship as platform*
C8.	Explore virtual exchange opportunities*

C9.	Connect legislators with resources/contacts*
C10.	Focus on engaging state/regional/local governments*

D. Task Force Next Steps

Continued analysis of U.S.-Japan exchanges is required to identify areas of specific and concrete recommendations for the future.

#	Recommendation
D1.	Analyze and identify best practices in longstanding exchange programs and promising new initiatives.*
D2.	Identify existing exchanges that could be expanded to add next generation participants*
D3.	Identify and mobilize funders*

Draft Supporting Information Submitted by Japan Task Force

A. Cultivate the Study of Japan in the U.S. and the Study of the United States in Japan

	Recommendation Drafting
A1	<p>Launch a research group to identify the issues and challenges that both countries are facing in supporting learning about Japan and “Japanese Studies” in the U.S. and learning about the U.S. and “American Studies” in Japan.</p>
A2	<p>Continue financial support to Japanese Studies (in the United States).</p> <p>Perspectives:</p> <p>I. On securing financial resources to “fund”</p> <p>Conceive creating a public-private funding consortium to support Japanese Studies in collaboration with Japanese and American corporations. (Discussed and recommended at the AAC meeting held in January 2018.)</p> <p>II. On “mode” of funding</p> <p>Identify specific topics, spheres and/or methodologies in the field of Japanese Studies, which need to be further explored and advanced, and selectively invest limited budgetary resources into such areas/fields.</p> <p>Japanese studies programs at the higher educational institutions in the US have drawn many proficient students from overseas including Asia. They have successfully functioned in nurturing promising future public intellectuals from countries Japan (and the US) need(s) to engage. Given, public funding to support such students through new fellowship programs, for example, may worth conceiving.</p> <p>III. Overall/General</p> <p>Define the term “Japanese Studies” more clearly in light of contemporary context and rigorously discuss the entire discipline taking the differences in basic character of the fields that constitutes so called “Japanese Studies” into consideration. Any specific issues about funding need to be discussed in accordance with substantive differences within “Japanese Studies.”</p> <p>(More concretely, policy-oriented studies and researches on Japan and traditional Japanese studies as a branch of area studies needs to be separately discussed, or at least discussed being aware of the basic differences of the disciplines).</p> <p>Based on the clearly established notion of contemporary Japanese Studies, which need to be supported, encourage efforts that strengthen the linkage between traditional Japanese Studies (area studies) and policy-oriented (discipline-based) studies on Japan. Public funding to the research and education on Japan should be implemented so as not to fix or expand the cleavage that lies between area and discipline.</p>

A4	The Japan Foundation used to offer an invitation program; inviting social studies teachers from secondary education together with other countries to promote understanding of Japan. It was a beneficial way to introduce Japanese culture to the non-Japan specialist through visiting the country and interacting not only with local people, but also with other peer group of members. MOFA successfully got allocated with supplemental budget to enforce grass-roots exchanges between the U.S. and Japan, and we hope that something similar or equivalent will be offered in the next fiscal year. .
A5	Expand the scope of “American Studies” programs in Japan by (1) encouraging more policy-oriented studies through private and government funding (2) transforming existing American studies programs and fora by inviting non-American studies experts from various academic fields such as law and political science, (3) making available to scholars in this field non-classified information on American politics, economy, technology, etc. prepared by MOFA and other government agencies, particularly the Japan Embassy in D.C. and Consulates General in the U.S., and (4) regularly translating and provide synopses of select quality books and journal articles in Japanese on various aspects of the U.S. by American studies scholars in Japan through a web-site for that purpose.
A6	The historic Japanese Collection in Asian Division of LoC is regarded as the most extensive in the world outside Japan with 1.15 million of books, 10,100 reels of microfilm and 15,000 sheets of microfiche. On top of Asian Division, there are also extensive collection of rare and historic children's literature publications related with Japan and Japanese-Americans in Children's Literature Division at LoC. Since Asian Division is in short of Japanese librarians and specialists for some time in the past already, the acute attention and proper support in, for example, categorization and digitization of materials will be much needed so that these precious materials can become in full use for not only for the Japan specialists but also for the wider global use. It has been already twenty years since the Gordon Prange Collection became open to the public, so it may be the right time to think about the new and immediate support.

B. Explore emerging Areas of U.S.-Japan collaboration

Recommendation Drafting	
B4	Towards 2020 Tokyo Olympics/Paralympics, the US and Japan can collaboratively send the specialists/coaches and training team to the third countries that are in need of nurturing the young athletes and sporting materials. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has dispatched those US-Japan collectives, especially in Baseball, with an excellent example of Little League, to overseas countries in the past successfully. It is also Japan's wishes as the Olympic games host country to promote Baseball and Softball as one of Olympic official games. Baseball is not the only item that the US and Japan can collaborate together, and Rugby and Soccer may become other good examples.

C. Energize Networks and Building Platforms

Recommendation Drafting	
C2	<p>Organizations which should be promoted by alumni engagement: Fulbright, MOFA, Social Science Research Council (SSRC), The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP), USJETAA, and U.S-Japan Council</p> <p>Programs which should be promoted by alumni engagement: Abe Fellowship Program, J-LEAP, Japan Outreach Initiative Coordinator (JOI), and TOMODACHI Initiative.</p> <p>USJETAA was launched to encourage and energize¹⁹ regional JET alumni associations in the U.S. with former JET participants. USJETAA has already started utilizing new technologies including WEBINAR, etc.</p>
C3	<p>Encourage more bi-lingual and bi-cultural Japanese undergraduate and graduate students and others with proven academic records, particularly those who graduate from the U.S. universities and colleges, to enter the government agencies by (1) enforcing the English contents of National Examination for Public Services including English essay test, (2) providing the most promising bi-lingual and bi-cultural students with highly intensive writing and oral advocacy training for certain period of time during their career, (3) establishing a Singapore style service obligation program with full scholarship to study at select U.S. undergraduate and graduate schools before entering government agencies, (4) promoting to recruit mid-career Japanese professionals with working experiences in English spoken environment at U.S. and multi-national corporations/institutions with options to stay on or leave the government service after three years of the initial contract period and with a level of salary that is competitive accordingly with its title and its responsibility, and with options to be certified to be officially hired in the government offices for those who had excellent achievements during their tenure and cleared some examinations for the experienced.</p> <p>The U.S. Congress created the Mansfield Fellowships in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. federal government employees with proficiency in the Japanese language and practical, firsthand knowledge about Japan and its government. It is an excellent one-year program which has continued for more than 20 years successfully achieving its objective.</p> <p>Wouldn't it be possible to consider the creation of a reciprocal program with the US government to build a corps of Japanese government employees with proficiency in the English language and practical, firsthand knowledge about the US and its government?</p>

C4	<p>To commemorate 10th anniversary since the Great Eastern Earthquake in 2011, Japanese Government in a collective effort with Regional governments, Private sectors and individuals, should establish a Think-Tank with the new endowment in Washington DC that is operated by the American. The operational areas of this Think-Tank will be Research division, Event/Forum division and possibly Grant-making division.</p> <p>This can become a new kind of platform for the next generation leaders in both countries' core areas in enhancing the US-Japan partnership as their attractive professional pathways. By the establishment of this Think Tank in DC by public-private partnership, it will supplement and collaborate with the other relevant institutions and individuals not only in DC but in the worldwide scale.</p>
C5	<p>Establish a new local program by giving opportunities to young men and women of U.S. Armed Forces stationed at U.S. bases throughout Japan to teach English at local middle schools and high schools on a regular basis.</p>
C7	<p>The U.S. and Japan commonly share the characters of millennial generation who would find much value in transactional exchanges by way of participating in social innovation and global contribution. The University of Tokyo has already produced over 200 venture businesses that made 500 new findings annually based upon the 1600 R&D projects, totaling US\$9Billion in net worth. There are also other examples that Japan's national universities offer social entrepreneurship or social innovation related courses, including The Tokyo University of Technology and Kyushu University. Some of the organizations ranging from NPOs to profit making corporations, it is notable that there are many Japanese young women who studied abroad and then successfully set up their own social entrepreneurship in various ways, i.e. NPO Katariba, Beyond Tomorrow, Kamonohashi Project, MEDIVA, Wantedly, Mercari, etc. These role models should become excellent mentors for the future generation in both countries.</p>
C10	<p>Consideration should be given to exploring the potential of closer ties with organizations such as Sister City International to identify future leaders in U.S.-Japan relations and also to revitalizing the partnership with existing 23 appointed Honorary Consul Generals across the United States.</p> <p>The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) program is an example of an exchange program with a focus on cultivating young political leaders at the state/regional/local governments. The current trend is for the U.S. and Japanese governments to reduce budgets for these programs. Considering the enhanced need to strengthen these ties, there should be a concerted effort to reverse the current trend of budget cuts in these programs.</p> <p>Creating more opportunity to gather local political leaders who are elected officials at the state and municipal levels in the United States and the prefectural and municipal levels in Japan.</p> <p>For example, it may be beneficial for us to survey and identify the names from both sides: those who have studied abroad in each other's country for shorter or longer term.</p>

	Ex. Governor’s Circle (USJC), National Governor’s Association (NGA), and United States Conference on Mayors are primary examples of exchanges for local-level political leaders.
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D. Task Force Next Steps

Continued analysis of U.S.-Japan exchanges is required to identify areas of specific and concrete recommendations for the future.

Recommendation Drafting	
D1	Japan TF would like to commend the following longstanding excellent names of institutions and programs: Amb. Ryozo Kato Award, Fulbright Program, Japanese American Leadership Delegation(JALD), JCIE, JET, JUMP, Manjiro-Whitfield Program, Mansfield Program, NAJAS and all local Japan-America Societies, Tomodachi Program by USJC.