

# ●●● The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership

The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership was established in April 1991 with offices in Tokyo and New York to encourage closer dialogue and interchange between Japan and the United States and contribute to global welfare through cooperative efforts.

To carry out its mission, CGP operates grant programs in three areas—intellectual exchange, grassroots exchange, and education—as well as self-initiated projects and fellowships. It supports an array of institutions and individuals, including nonprofit organizations, universities, policymakers, scholars, and educators, based on a belief in the power of broad-based, multichannel approaches to effect positive change.

## ●●● Soft Power and Public Diplomacy



In March 2006, CGP in New York cohosted a seminar titled “Soft Power and Public Diplomacy” to review the concept and application of soft

power in Japan and the United States. The panelists were Joseph S. Nye, former dean for the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, who created the concept of soft power; Watanabe Yasushi, associate professor at the Graduate School of Media and Governance of Keio University; Lawrence Repeta, professor at Omiya Law School; Kondo Seiichi, ambassador for international economic affairs for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; and William G. Crowell, former officer of the US Department of State. The event engaged researchers, NGO personnel, and students majoring in Japanese studies in multifaceted discussions on the critical role of soft power.

The seminar was coorganized with the Harvard University Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and the Social Science Research Council in the United States.

## ●●● The Rebuilding of Kobe and Its Lessons for New Orleans



Hurricane Katrina caused unprecedented damage in New Orleans and surrounding areas in August 2005, exposing pressing issues in disaster prevention and response and post-disaster reconstruction. In March 2006, CGP in New York invited researchers and reporters involved in reconstruction after the Great Hanshin Earthquake to give a seminar titled

“The Rebuilding of Kobe and Its Lessons for New Orleans,” which drew about 110 people including city and federal workers as well as members of civic organizations.

The event was co-organized with the Consulate-General of Japan in New Orleans, the World Affairs Council of New Orleans, and the Port of New Orleans.

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## ●●● Abe Fellowship and NPO Fellowship

The Abe Fellowship supports intellectual exchange and cultivates an international network of researchers in the humanities and social sciences with the joint sponsorship of the Social Science Research Council in the United States. Sixteen fellows were named in 2005, bringing

the total since the program's launch in 1991 to more than 230.

The NPO Fellowship, meanwhile, provides training in the United States for leaders of Japanese nonprofit organizations. Three fellows were selected in 2005.



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## ●●● Japan Outreach Initiative

The Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI) dispatches volunteer coordinators to spend two years preparing and arranging presentations in U.S. regions that have little contact with Japan.

In 2005, new coordinators were sent to

the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth in Texas, the Multicultural Center of the South in Louisiana, and Coastal Carolina University in South Carolina to enhance grassroots exchange.



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CGP publishes reports of its activities, which can be downloaded from its website at: <http://www.cgp.org/>.

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## ●●● Other Major Programs

### Intellectual exchange conferences

The Foundation cosponsors intellectual events and provides financial support to cover the costs of holding intellectual exchange conferences as well as participant travel expenses. In 2005, the Japan Foundation cosponsored with the Korea Foundation and the All-China Youth Federation the Future Leaders Forum 2005: Korea-China-Japan and held an open seminar, "Negotiating Diversity: Challenge to Global Citizenship," for 18 participants from 12 countries as part of the Asia Pacific Forum Okinawa. In addition, it offered financial support to 51 conferences in 11 countries, as well as providing financial assistance to cover the transportation expenses for experts attending international conferences.

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### Support for Asian studies centers

Under the Southeast Asian Studies Regional Exchange Program, the Japan Foundation supported the projects of eight universities in four Southeast Asian countries to promote Southeast Asian studies and build an academic network of institutions in the region.

The Foundation also held an Asia Emporium lecture series in Thailand on Southeast Asian studies for Southeast Asian students, attracting 15 participants from 6 countries.

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### An Introductory Bibliography for Japanese Studies

The Japan Foundation regularly publishes *An Introductory Bibliography for Japanese Studies*, a comprehensive English-language bibliography of overseas researchers on Japanese studies. In 2005, Volume 14, No. 2 (humanities) was published and sent to 850 institutions in 90 countries.

