



# Japan Society for the Promotion of Science San Francisco Office

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## EVENTS OF FALL 2009

Issue December 2009

### JSPS held the 12th Gathering of JSPS Japanese Fellows at Boston.

Volume XVI



JSPS San Francisco office held the 12th Gathering of JSPS Japanese Fellows

On October 23rd, JSPS San Francisco office held its 12th "Gathering of JSPS Japanese Fellows" in Boston, Massachusetts. These meetings are meant to promote cross disciplinary exchange among Japanese researchers working in the U.S. 33 researchers participated in this year's second gathering, many of whom were on JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research Abroad and Research Fellowships for Young Scientists.

In a pleasantly relaxed atmosphere, they engaged each other in free conversation about their diverse activities and experiences in the U.S. Time was also set aside for the participants to introduce themselves and briefly describe their research work.

Seishi Takeda,  
Director of JSPS San Francisco office

Questionnaire results from them showed that there was a good reputation, saying that this Gathering of JSPS Japanese Fellows was really helpful for building a wide network among researchers, and that they could have stimulations for their researches. It also showed that many of participants were interested in the information about recruitment from the research institutions.



JSPS San Francisco office will continue to provide such an opportunity for network building events among young Japanese researchers. The next gathering for young Japanese researchers will be held in Berkeley, California in the coming spring.

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### The 13<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Japanese Fellows on February 26th

JSPS San Francisco office will hold the 13th Gathering of JSPS Fellows on February 26th. The purpose of this gathering is to provide Japanese researchers in the U.S. with a good opportunity to share useful information, promote the exchange of research, not only in common research fields but in different research fields, and support network-building among these researchers. We have had 12 gatherings in the past, and this time, we will hold the next gathering in Berkeley, CA. We are looking forward to a lot of researchers' participation.

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## EVENTS OF FALL 2009

### Connection between "Japan and Japanese America" Explored at University of California, Berkeley

On 9-11 October, the JSPS San Francisco office supported an international meeting on the theme "Japan and Japanese America: Connections Across the Pacific Rim," sponsored by University of California, Berkeley's Center for Japanese Studies and held by the David Brower Center. At the meeting, experts from the U.S. and Japan discussed from a historical perspective the connectivity between Japan and the Japanese-American community. Meant to deepen understanding of the mutual relationship between Japan and the United States, the meeting's discussion was opened to both researchers and interested members of the public in the U.S.



Norman Mineta,  
Former US Secretary of Transportation



Gary Okihira,  
Professor of Columbia University

On the meeting's first day, Norman Mineta, former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, delivered the keynote address. On the second day, Gary Okihira, Professor of Columbia University gave a keynote speech, followed by a panel discussion by experts from the two countries on the theme from the perspectives of history, literature and religion. Another keynote speech was given by Glen S. Fukushima, CEO, Airbus Japan K.K. On the third day, the group repaired to Japan Town in San Francisco, where they enjoyed a luncheon hosted by the Consulate-General of Japan.

For further information about the meeting, please see the Institute of East Asian Studies' webpage: <http://ieas.berkeley.edu/events/2009.10.10.html>

### Public forum regarding Japanese studies held with University of California, Berkeley "Past, Present, and Future"

JSPS San Francisco office convened a public forum in co - sponsorship with University of California, Berkeley's Center for Japanese Studies (CJS) from December 5th to December 6th. Held in the Alumni House of University of California at Berkeley, the forum addressed the theme "Past, Present, and Future ". JSPS San Francisco office joined this forum as one of the supporters.



Seishi Takeda,  
Director of JSPS San Francisco office

The purpose of this forum was to explore what place Japan and the study of Japan would have in the 21st century. With the rise of China and India as prominent global influences, the field of Japanese Studies is at a critical point as international powers and politics shift. This forum was to focus on this theme by looking back at the history of the field and looking forward to how Japanese Studies in North America might develop.

The panel members were the former CJS chairs and leaders from the top centers in the U.S. and Canada. In the discussions, they shared their best practices and ideas to develop strategies for Japanese studies. The forum was a great success with heated sessions and around 50 participants from various fields.



Duncan Williams,  
CJS Chair,  
Professor of University of  
California, Berkeley

## JSPS staff visit Japanese researchers at U.S. universities

JSPS staff visited Japanese researchers at U.S. universities from Oct. 26 to Oct. 30. The purpose of their visit was to ask how research grants were spent in the U.S. and how the research environment was different between Japan and the U.S.



Motohiko Mulase,  
Professor of University of California,  
Davis

They visited 10 researchers, who were tenured professors, JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research Abroad, and Research Fellowships for Young Scientists. The visits proceeded through interviews with the researchers. The researchers answered our questions sincerely. Some researchers gave us requests for their research. Time passed so fast that the 1hour interviews seemed too short for them.

Interviewing the researchers was really helpful to understand the circumstances of Japanese researchers in the U.S. The JSPS staff can utilize the knowledge they acquired through these visits. Moreover, it will help improve the system of research grants in Japan.



Here are some common comments in their opinion.

- Female researchers' rights are well protected. For example research institutions have nursing rooms so they can spare time for their children.
- Staff can commit their own research independently, though staff in Japan are tied to the pyramid structures like professors, assistant professors and associate professors.
- As an opinion from JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research Abroad, more than the current 2 year period for this grant would be necessary to accomplish their research tasks and to find a position after the grant ends.

The JSPS staff really appreciated their taking time for us out of their busy schedule. JSPS San Francisco office will continue to make such an opportunity.

The research institutions they visited are as below: University of California Berkeley, University of California Davis, University of California San Francisco, University of California Los Angeles, Stanford University, and California Institute of Technology



Hiroaki Ishikawa,  
University of California, San Francisco



Kentarō Somiya,  
California Institute of Technology



Asami Oguro, University of California, Los Angeles  
and JSPS staff

# THE OFFICE STAFF SWITCH

## JSPS San Francisco office Welcomes three New Members

### Yoko Teranishi , Deputy Director of the Tokyo University of Science San Francisco office



Yoko Teranishi is the 3rd deputy chief of the Tokyo University of Science (TUS) San Francisco office. After working at a college for 5 years in a computing center and international admissions office, she got a master's degree from Tokyo Institute of Technology where she studied information security. She came to the bay area this past September from the international exchange division at TUS.

During her stay, she hopes to contribute to strengthening the network construction between TUS and universities & companies in the bay area. In addition to it, she coordinates TUS students and faculties stay in the U.S., using the knowledge and experiences of her stay at the University of Texas at Austin.

Relating to her duty here, Ms. Teranishi is very interested in technology licensing activity and opened collaborative research organizations such as CITRIS and Intel Lab in Berkeley.

She's excited about her life in Berkeley since she can meet many people who are individually professional and talented in research or business. Such a chance doesn't happen to her living in one place in Japan. She also appreciates the slow food culture in Berkeley.

### Shunichi Taniai, Adviser of JSPS



Shunichi Taniai was assigned as the 10th Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) fellow for the exchange program between MEXT and University of California, Office of the President (UCOP), which was initiated by the president of University of California and the Administrative Vice-Minister of MEXT 12 years ago. He has another title, Adviser of JSPS, so he works for UCOP Monday through Thursday, and works for JSPS on Friday every week.

He has worked concerning the elementary and primary educational administration at MEXT since 1992. He has also worked for the past two years concerning financial affairs at The University of Tokyo.

Actually, he never expected to work in a foreign country at all. However, he now thinks this is a good chance which gives him valuable experiences and expands his views. He hopes to visit various educational and research facilities, and to meet as many people as possible.

He plans to research current situations and issues at the University of California, especially financial matters, during his one year stay. Moreover, he looks forward to enjoying Californian life with his wife and his eight-year-old daughter from next April.

### Tsuyoshi Yamamoto, Adviser of JSPS



The new adviser for the San Francisco office is Tsuyoshi Yamamoto who arrived from Japan at the beginning of December. As adviser, Mr. Yamamoto supports the operation of our office.

He worked for MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) for three years prior to working for JSPS. Working his way up through three different positions at MEXT, his last position was the Unit Chief, where his main duty was Liaison and Coordination of the international education division of MEXT, which governs education for children living abroad, returnees and children of foreign nationality and English Education in the elementary and secondary education.

This is the first time for him to live and work in a foreign country. So, his major concerns at present are getting used to life in America and studying English harder.

He hopes that he will improve his English skill and then communicate with a lot of people living around here and coming from other areas. And he also wants to study the educational system in America.



## Working to restore and protect the East China Sea: *The Institute for East China Sea Research (ECSER)*

The Institute for East China Sea Research (ECSER) is an inter-departmental education and research facility of Nagasaki University, located in the International Joint Marine Research Zone (Nagasaki Marine Polis) of the New Nagasaki Fishing Port. The Institute is adjacent to the Seikai National Fisheries Research Institute of the Fisheries Research Agency and the Nagasaki Prefectural Institute of Fisheries. Through close cooperation with these institutes, it conducts joint research as well as public education. Conveniently in front of the institute is a dock, which is the permanent mooring site for the Training Vessel Nagasaki-maru and the Training Vessel Kakuyo-maru belonging to Nagasaki University. Through these vessels, it plays an active role in training young professionals in marine and fisheries sciences through educational and scientific cruises that investigate the marine environment of the surrounding seas.

ECSER is highly active in its role of studying the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the East China Sea and her marginal areas. Its scientific staff comprises of 3 Professors, 1 Associate Professor, and 1 Assistant Professor whose institutional goal is the restoration of bio-resources in this region. They are examining the effects of global climate change and more local human activity on environmental parameters of the East China Sea Rim. Questions they are trying to answer include, the change of nutrient supply mechanism with special reference to harmful algal blooms, the effect of ocean acidification on the early development and growth of marine organisms; the feeding and migratory behavior of pelagic fish (e.g., tuna and dolphinfish); the effects of water motion on marine seaweed beds; and how physical and chemical changes in the East China Sea are affecting the distribution and species diversity of phytoplankton and the reproductive processes of fish. Finally, ECSER plays an active international role in this region, through joint projects with China, Korea, and Taiwan and they just concluded the 7th International Workshop on the Oceanography and Fisheries Science of the East China Sea at Shanghai Ocean University held during December 4 – 5, 2009.

For any questions or comments please contact Greg Nishihara ([greg@nagasaki-u.ac.jp](mailto:greg@nagasaki-u.ac.jp)).



## Announcing a new journal from Elsevier: *City, Culture and Society*

The 21st century has been dubbed the century of cities – sustainable cities, compact cities, post-modern cities, mega-cities, and more. CCS focuses on urban governance, under the banner of cultural creativity and social inclusion. Its primary goal is to promote pioneering research on cities and to foster the sort of urban administration that has the vision and authority to reinvent cities adapted to the challenges. The journal aims to stimulate a new interdisciplinary paradigm that embraces multiple perspectives and applies this paradigm to the urban imperative that defines this century. Topics of special interest to CCS include urban economics, cultural creation, social inclusion, social sustainability, cultural technology, urban governance, sustainable cities, and creative cities. As a peer-reviewed international journal, CCS welcomes contributions from disciplines including but not limited to economics, business, planning, political science, statistics, geography, sociology, cultural studies, population studies and public administration.

### Editor-in-Chief:

Professor Masayuki Sasaki, URP & Graduate School for Creative Cities, Osaka City University

### Managing Editor:

Professor Hiroshi Okano, URP & Graduate School of Business, Osaka City University

In advance of the first issue of *City, Culture and Society* there will be an issue in *Cities* devoted to “Social Inclusion”.

### • For more information, please visit the Journal's homepage:

[www.elsevier.com/locate/ccs](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ccs)

### • For online submission, please refer to:

<http://ees.elsevier.com/ccs/>

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## Interview with JSPS Fellow in the U.S.



### Dr. Kazuyoshi Uruga

2004: B.S., Nagoya University

2006: M.S., Department of Energy Engineering and Science, Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

2008: Ph.D. Engineering, Department of Materials, Physics and Energy Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

2008-2009 : Research Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science ( Nagoya University )

2009-: Research Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science ( Washington State University )

Kazuyoshi Uruga has been interested in environmental issues, especially the global warming problem since he was in high school. This is the reason Dr. Uruga started a study of nuclear engineering. He studied about reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel and treatment of high-level radioactive waste at the Department of Quantum Science and Energy Engineering at Nagoya University. He mainly tried an extraction of metals such as platinum group metals and molybdenum from molten glass using fused copper at high temperature in order to solve problems occurring in the vitrification process of radioactive wastes. After he got a Ph.D. there, he moved to Washington State University (WSU) as a JSPS research fellow from this April to study about solvent extraction of minor actinide (MA) elements. Separation of MA will become much more important in the nuclear fuel cycle of first reactor in the future. He is now learning the basics and the mechanisms of solvent extraction and finally, He would like to achieve a separation of MA from highly acidic aqueous media.

**Title of doctoral thesis: Separation of metals from high-level radioactive waste glass using distribution into immiscible two phases**

#### Q1 Why did you choose the U.S. to pursue your research?

The direct reason to choose the U.S. is we can use MA much more easily than in my country. Using MA is internationally strictly limited and it is very difficult to

study about MA in Japan. However, one more important reason is my supervisor, Prof. Nash, is an authority on the separation science of MA and most of the lab member's research topic is concerning the separation of MA. Thus, here is the best environment to learn the most advanced separation technology in a short time with concentration.

#### Q2 What is your impression of the research environment in the U.S.? How is it different from your lab in Japan?

Every lab member says their opinions actively. For example, in the group meeting, most of the comments and advices were given only by professors in my country, but every professor, post-doc and even student make comments freely in the U.S. The group meeting is exciting every time. It may come from the close relationship between students and professors here. Students call professors by their first name. It is almost impossible in Japan and I still have difficulty calling my supervisor by his first name even now. The familiar relationship between students and professors will progress their research faster. Is it a real American freedom?

#### Q3 What merits do you derive from conducting your research in the U.S.?

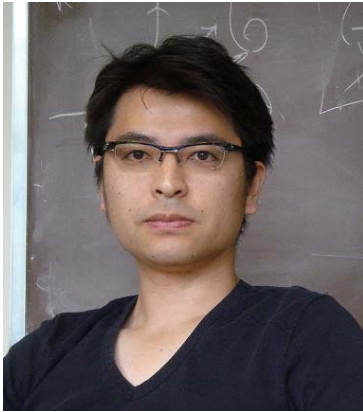
Separation technology of actinide elements was historically developed not only for the nuclear fuel cycle but also for the production of nuclear weapons. The U.S. is a country which possesses nuclear weap-

ons and their views for the nuclear technology would be different from my country. I would like to ask the Americans and other people what they think about the issues of nuclear weapons. Studying in the U.S. should be a good opportunity to expand my view and think about a compatibility of nuclear development and nonproliferation.

#### Q4 What is your dream? And do you have any advice about doing research abroad for young researchers?

My dream is to accomplish the nuclear fuel cycle of first reactor and save the environment of the Earth. I am sure to see the reprocessing plant for the spent nuclear fuel working well in my life. I do my best to contribute to the development of nuclear science and technology. One thing I would like to say for young researchers is to stop waiting negatively in the U.S. No matter how long you have waited, there will be no "kamikaze" blowing in the U.S. Acting positively will draw a good response and it will open your bright future.

Thank you.



## Dr. Takashi Shibata

1998: B.A. Human Sciences, Waseda University

2000: M.A. Human Sciences, Waseda University

2004: Ph.D. Global Information and Telecommunication Studies, Waseda University

2003-2006 : Research Associate at Global Information and Telecommunication Institute, Waseda University

2006-2008 : Visiting Assistant Professor at Advanced Media Research Institute, Waseda University

2008- : JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (PD) at Graduate School of Global Information and Telecommunication Studies, Waseda University

2008- : Postdoctoral Scholar at Vision Science Program, University of California, Berkeley

Takashi Shibata's primary research interest focuses on making efficient use of stereoscopic 3-D images. Stereoscopic 3-D images have a dramatic effect on representing depth because of binocular disparity and can produce a good user experience due to the more realistic and immersive effect than 2-D images. The use of 3-D images is recently getting widespread; most notably, movie production companies show a strong interest in 3-D cinema. Dr. Shibata studies stereoscopic 3-D images from the viewpoint of ergonomics/human factors. Ergonomics is the study of interactions between humans and their environment. Dr. Shibata is currently conducting research on the visual fatigue and comfort associated with viewing stereoscopic 3-D images at the Visual Space Perception Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley.

### Q1 Why did you choose the U.S. to pursue your research?

All scientific experiments should be conducted under strictly controlled stimulus conditions; thus, having established 3-D display and related equipment and the necessary techniques is such an advantage here for my research. I can easily simulate the visual conditions for both stereo and natural viewing, using equipment readily available in our lab. Additionally, the level of interest in 3-D image research is very high in both academia and industry in the U.S., partially due to major movie companies actively producing stereoscopic 3-D movies. Many

regular people are also interested in advancement of 3-D technology and its possible influence on human health.

### Q2 What is your impression of the research environment in the U.S.? How is it different from your lab in Japan?

Lab members here regularly engage in discussion on a wide variety of topics, which is related to our research, science, and daily life, etc. All members contribute their ideas and knowledge to these discussions. This candid and collaborative atmosphere stands out as a major difference from my lab in Japan, and I believe such an atmosphere has a tremendous effect on the development of a researcher.

### Q3 What merits do you derive from conducting your research in the U.S.?

My current location provides an ideal research environment. UC Berkeley also has other labs conducting research in related areas, and I can communicate directly with their researchers, whom I used to know only through published papers. I also feel that there is less of a barrier when I communicate with top researchers within the U.S. Another merit is that here I know firsthand that 3-D movies are making news and what type of techniques are currently being utilized. It is also fun to see the response of a live audience to 3-D contents in a movie theater.

### Q4 What is your dream? And do you have any advice about doing research abroad for young researchers?

I want to be a scientist who conducts research that is relevant to the daily lives of many people. Like many other research aspirations, mine came from a simple incident that happened in my childhood. I was watching television and noticed that I could see the screen through my index finger held right in front of my face. I realized for the first time that my right and left eyes provided two slightly different views of the world. I saw the screen not through my finger but just with two different views. (Much later in my life, I learned that this is called binocular disparity.) This incident made me curious about how we see things. Later the curiosity was formed into something more structured, and I decided to study the vision system, stereoscopic 3-D images, and human sciences. Remembering this, I would like to continue to value interest in simple things that happen in daily life to further my research.

I strongly recommend that young researchers should go abroad, where they can gain countless valuable experiences both in and outside of their research. I appreciate the JSPS fellowship, which gave me an opportunity to do just that, and I hope many young Japanese researchers will have the same opportunity. I would like to advise young researchers to go abroad at all costs if they have even the slightest chance.

## Interview with JSPS Fellow in the U.S.



### Dr. Megumi Matsuyama

1998: B.S. Department of Architecture, Tokyo University of Science

2000: M.S. Department of Architecture, Tokyo University of Science

2006: Ph.D. Department of Architecture, The University of Tokyo

2004-2008: COE Researcher, The University of Tokyo

2008-: JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad

2008-present -Visiting Scholar of GSAPP (Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation), Columbia University

Megumi Matsuyama has been a Visiting Scholar of GSAPP (Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation), Columbia University since 2008 September. Dr. Matsuyama received her M.S. from Tokyo University of Science (2000) and her Ph.D. from Tokyo University (2006). Before being granted the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research Abroad, she worked at the Center for Sustainable Urban Regeneration (CSUR), Tokyo University.

Her original research subject is the history of East Asian cities and architecture, especially that of Edo-Tokyo from the mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth century. At GSAPP she is carrying on a research project "Comparative and Transnational Study in Edo-Tokyo and New York" with the sponsorship of Professor Richard A. Plunz, who is an authority on the history of New York City. This project consists of the following three topics:

1. Influence of Charles A. Beard on Tokyo City Planning and Administration after the great earthquake of 1923
2. Japanese Private Developers' and City Administrators' Interests in American Cities
3. Changing Meaning and Character of the "Public" in Tokyo and New York

While collecting various historical maps and documents at Columbian Library, New York Historical Society and New York Public Library etc., she is struggling to grasp the actual conditions of daily life in early modern New York from a viewpoint of urban socio-spatial structures.

### Q1 Why did you choose the U.S. to pursue your research?

To be more precise, I chose "New York" to pursue my research. One of my current research interests is to investigate how the multicultural and international building-environment of New York has been created since the early modern period. I definitely believe that it is worth knowing the New York experience when we discuss about how Japanese cities, especially Tokyo, should be in the near future.

### Q2 What is your impression of the research environment in the U.S.? How is it different from your lab in Japan?

In the physical environment, I do not see much difference between Columbia University and Japanese ones where I used to study and work. However, in social aspects, there is a big difference: a lot of students, researchers and professors gather here from all over the world. And, in general, students are more serious about their studies than in Japan. I often see them studying in university libraries till late at night.

### Q3 What merits do you derive from conducting your research in the U.S.?

In the first place, for carrying on my research project, I need to check historical maps and documents owned by the organizations in New York. Besides that, Columbia University is a leading research institution in my research field, the architectural and urban history. I can have much more opportunities to meet and discuss with various researchers and students here than in Japan.

### Q4 What is your dream? And do you have any advice about doing research abroad for young researchers?

I would like to conduct urban history research and take part in university education in Japan while applying what I have learnt at Columbia University. For young researchers, I definitely encourage them to stay and learn at leading research institutions of their fields. There is no doubt that your experiences there must help your research vision widen and make your research life more fertile.





## Dr. Masashi Miura

2005: MS: Dept. of Energy Engineering and Science, Nagoya University

2006: DS: Dept. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Nagoya University

2004-2007: Researcher, Japan Science and Technology Agency-Core Research for Evolutional Science and Technology

2006: JSPS Research Fellow (DC), Nagoya University

2007- : JSPS Research Fellow (PD) at Superconductivity Research Laboratory, International Superconductivity Technology Center

2009- : Visiting fellow at Superconductivity Technology Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory

Masashi Miura has been studying the creation of high temperature superconducting (HTS) wire by artificial controlling of the nanostructure. Environmental and energy issues are getting widespread international attention; therefore, HTS is in the spotlight around the world. Since HTS wires have high critical current especially in applied magnetic fields, it is greatly anticipated for electrical power applications, such as transmission cables superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES), and electrical transformers. These power applications are one of the important technologies to overcome the environmental and energy issues. The R&D of HTS is advancing worldwide with national projects in Japan, the U.S., and other countries.

As a member of the Superconductivity Technology Center, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Dr. Miura adds his efforts in the HTS technology field to contribute to solving environmental and energy issues.

### Q1 Why did you choose the U.S. to pursue your research?

The main reason is related to my dream. I had an interest in the U.S. since I was a small child, because I dreamed of becoming a basketball player in the U.S. like Yuta Tabuse, but that didn't happen. So then, I thought "When I grow up, I will go to the U.S. in a different form." Ten years later, I have achieved my dream, albeit in a different fashion, i.e. as a scientist. Another reason is that the U.S. has the world's highest standards in the field of science and technology.

### Q2 What is your impression of the research environment in the U.S.? How is it different from your lab in Japan?

The differences from my lab in Japan are the working time and the cultural diversity. When I worked in Japan, there weren't researchers from many countries, such as Argentine, China, India etc. Furthermore, Japanese people, including myself, try to stay in the lab for very long hours. In contrast, most of the people who are working in the U.S. do not stay in the lab until late, and instead cherish those moments spent with one's family members.

### Q3 What merits do you derive from conducting your research in the U.S.?

I can experience so many different things that I could not have in my everyday life in Japan. And I can discuss with scientists who have ideas unlike my own. By discussion with many scientists, I can gain new knowledge and heighten my sensitivity. Finally, I can have the thrill and pleasure of learning something new and understanding one another.

### Q4 What is your dream? And do you have any advice about doing research abroad for young researchers?

I hope that my nano-designed technique in HTS contributes to the practical use of

many applications, such as cables, electric transformers, and SMES, which will provide a new nano-technology for other functional ceramic materials. It is my hearty hope to make research and developments of superconducting technologies for the construction of the new energy society, including saving energy as well as significant reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emission, through international cooperation and for the world of the 21st century.

For young researchers including myself, I think that it is important to widen our view by research collaboration with professors and researchers who have different backgrounds, cultures, and mother language. These opportunities give us the necessary elements to become an excellent researcher, such as the approach to construction of research milestones to achieve results, the enhancement of communication skills, improvement of research motivation, building up of a network of connections, etc. I believe that such research environments are a great resource for developing world-class researchers.