THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF **JAPAN**

When Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, led by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, regained power in December 2012, Japan's government embarked on a set of economic policies dubbed "Abenomics."

READ MORE ON PG. 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MEET US AT **INFO SESSION**

Interested in applying for a JSPS Fellowship? Check out our website to get updates on upcoming information sessions where we cover everything from program details to life in Japan. Don't miss out on an opportunity to meet with us and other researchers, and ask loads of questions!

READ MORE ON PG. 5

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT **SLEEP**

Learn and explore the world of quality sleep with a Stanford University professor and bestselling author of the book "the Stanford Method for Ultimate Sound Sleep".

READ MORE ON PG. 4

"HAS **ABENOMICS** SUCCEEDED?"

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The Abenomics policies aimed to end Japan's economic stagnation and restore growth. As the Abe administration enters its 7th year the prime minister looks likely to become the longest serving head of state in the post war era. Abenomics seems to have achieved some degree of success. The economy has enjoyed its longest phase of expansion in the post war era. Unemployment is at a record low with many employers claiming they can not find enough workers. However, Abenomics has yet to achieve its stated goals of 2% inflation rate and 2% real growth. Can Abenomics really be considered a success?

To discuss these issues, JSPS San Francisco (JSPS) and Stanford University's Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center (APARC) held a joint symposium titled "The Political Economy of Japan under the Abe Government" at Stanford University on March 1 and 2. The panel featured four experts who have been closely watching Abenomics's impacts on the Japanese economy. They evaluated what Abenomics has accomplished so far in various areas.

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Panelists included Joshua Hausman from University of Michigan, Takatoshi Ito from Columbia University, Nobuko Nagase from Ochanomizu University, and Steven Vogel University of California, Berkeley.

This was the second year in a row that this symposium was held. About 25 scholars from various parts of the US and Japan joined us to present and discuss papers that address the political economy of the Abe government and assess its long-term implications for Japan.

The conference focused on three themes: (1) what economic policies did the Abe government seek to implement, and to what extent have the objectives been achieved; (2) the implications of the Abe government on longstanding debates about Japanese politics; and (3) Abe's foreign policy and its implications for the broader region. The papers presented at this event will be edited into a conference volume that should be published by 2020.

JSPS San Francisco will continue to support events like this that strengthen global academic exchange. For more information about JSPS San Francisco Office and our upcoming events, please contact us: webmaster@jspsusa-sf.org or visit our website: http://www.jspsusa-sf.org/index.php

"FASCINATING TOPIC."
"I WAS OVERFLOWING WITH INTEREST."

FOR MORE THAN A DECADE JSPS SAN FRANCISCO HAS BEEN HOSTING GATHERINGS A FEW TIMES IN A YEAR TO PROMOTE INTERACTION BETWEEN US-BASED JAPANESE RESEARCHERS FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES, AGE GROUPS, AND POSITIONS.

The first gathering of the academic year of 2019 was held on May 25 in the evening on the beautiful campus of Stanford University. The format of the event was slightly different from regular gatherings, with a networking session held before the beginning of the main lecture. More than 30 highly-motivated participants of diverse disciplinary backgrounds enjoyed building connections with each other, and the following lecture started in an animated atmosphere.

The excited audience filled the room, sat at the table and listened to Dr. Seiji Nishino, a renowned professor at Stanford University whose expertise covers various topics of scientific interest including the mechanism of quality sleep.

Dr. Nishino's lecture dug down into the details of sleep by presenting a series of experimental data and theories, amusing the audience with interesting stories about one's sleeping habits from a medical standpoint. The lecture also provided useful tips to gain access to quality sleep and reduce the risks associated with "sleep debt".

The following Q&A session was the highlight of the day. Questions from the audience varied from simple and fundamental ones to highly academic ones. Dr. Nishino answered all of them respectfully and in detail, encouraging the audience to understand the topic even better.

At the end of the session, Dr. Taisuke Ono, one of the assistants of Dr. Nishino, briefly introduced the Animal Laboratory at Stanford and several ongoing research projects. The event ended on a high note with highly satisfactory feedback from participants.

JSPS San Francisco will continue to offer events like this that can serves as venues for researchers to expand their academic networks and make new connections.

FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN **JAPAN**

INFORMATION SESSION & NETWORKING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ ON MAY 30 AND STANFORD UNIVERSITY ON JUNE 20

Fellowship information and networking sessions were held at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) on May 30 and Stanford University on June 20 with the generous support from coordinators at each university.

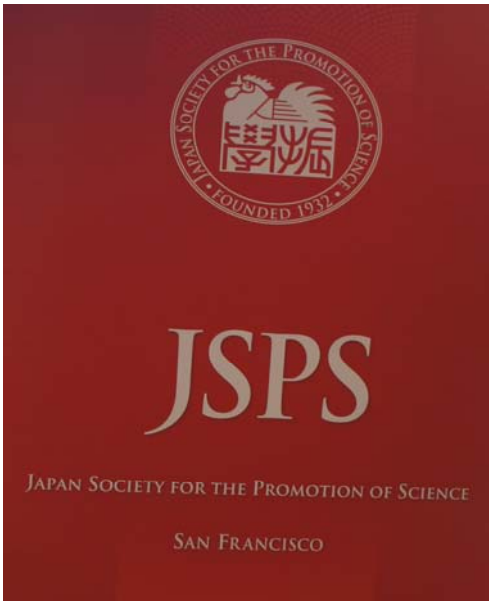
The sessions drew a large variety of researchers at different career stages from different fields, including late-term doctoral students, postdocs, faculty members, and even university staff members who learned about the different types of JSPS fellowships for research in Japan and connected with fellow researchers.

Each of the two-hours sessions included a detailed lecture on fellowship programs, fellowship alumni talks, and FAQ sessions. Alumni talks highlighted each session, providing valuable insight through first-hand experiences.

Here are some helpful tips that you can use when considering to apply to our fellowship programs, or even just traveling to Japan: (1) the more you communicate with your host researcher, the better your chance at being accepted into the program; (2) make sure to keep track of deadlines set by your host institution, not just those set by JSPS; (3) you can bring your family with you to Japan, but your living arrangements and administrative procedures must be discussed between you, your host researcher, and your host institution prior to arrival in Japan.

JSPS San Francisco will continue to hold regular networking information sessions at universities around the Bay Area. All interested researchers are welcome to attend. For more information about upcoming sessions, as well as fellowship eligibility and other details, please feel free to contact us: fellowships@jspsusa-sf.org or visit us at our website:

http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/



UPCOMING EVENTS

INFORMATION SESSIONS

September 9 University of California, San Diego
September 12 University of California, Berkeley
September 25 University of California, Merced
November (TBD) University of California, Davis

SYMPOSIUMS AND OTHER EVENTS

September 9 –10
"US-Japan Joint Workshop on Bioengineering and Data Science"
University of California, San Diego

November 1
"Workshop for University Administrative Staff in America"
（在米大学職員研究会）
JSPS San Francisco Office

January 10, 2020
"JUNBA symposium 2020: University Fundraising"
*Official title to be announced
San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront

… Read more on the next page

January - March, 2020
"Joint symposium with University of California, Los Angeles"
*Details to be announced

"Joint symposium with University of Berkeley,
Center for Japanese Studies"
*Details to be announced

JUNBA SYMPOSIUM

2020

JUNBA, Japanese University Network in the Bay Area, will sponsor a symposium together with the JSPS San Francisco Office on January 10, 2020. Given an increasing interest on and the necessity of fundraising among many universities in Japan, this symposium is designed to provide university leaders and administrative staff with an opportunity to learn about issues and strategies regarding fundraising through experiences and examples of U.S. universities. Experts from renowned universities in the Bay Area will be invited to give talks.

ALL INTERESTED UNIVERSITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

EVENT INFORMATION

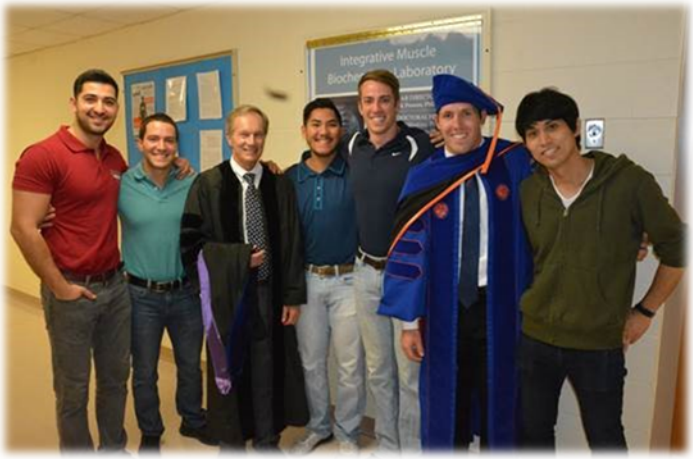
Date: January 10, 2020

Venue: San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront

Fees: To be Announced

*Please check out our website for upcoming details: http://www.junba.org/index.html or copied flyers of official information that will be distributed shortly.

JSPS FELLOW IN AMERICA



Dr. Powers's lab (Integrative Muscle Biochemistry) at Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology

TOSHINORI YOSHIHARA

2017-

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad, Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, University of Florida, USA

2015-

Research Assistant Professor, COI project center, Juntendo University

2014-2015

Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Health and Sports Science & Medicine, Juntendo University

2011-2014

JSPS Research Fellow (DC1→PD), Juntendo University

2011-2013

Graduate School of Health and Sports Science (Doctor of Sports Health & Science), Juntendo University

Toshinori Yoshihara is a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad. He is working on a project for evaluating the mechanisms responsible for diaphragmatic dysfunction induced by mechanical ventilation (MV) in Dr. Scott K. Powers' laboratory (Integrative Muscle Biochemistry) at the University of Florida.

MV is a life-saving intervention for many critically ill patients, but prolonged MV results in the rapid development of inspiratory muscle weakness due to diaphragmatic atrophy and contractile dysfunction, collectively termed ventilator-induced diaphragmatic dysfunction (VIDD). Notably, VIDD is a major risk factor for problems in weaning patients from the ventilator; however, currently, no standard therapy exists to protect against VIDD.

Actually, >15 million patients each year need support for pulmonary gas exchange during critical illness and surgery, thus, his research is significant because successful completion of experiments will identify new biological targets for therapeutic intervention to prevent VIDD and reduce problems in weaning patients from MV.

Q1. WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO RESEARCH IN THE U.S.?

My research focus is to identify the mechanisms of skeletal muscle atrophy and develop countermeasures for preventing this issue. To investigate inactivity-induced skeletal muscle atrophy in humans, a variety of animal models have been used. Particularly, controlled MV model is a unique and clinically important situation that promotes inactivity-induced atrophy in respiratory muscles. A unique aspect of this ventilator-induced respiratory muscle atrophy is the rapidity of the atrophic response.

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For example, as few as 18 hours of MV can result in significant diaphragmatic atrophy in both humans and rodents. Indeed, a comparable level of disuse muscle atrophy in locomotor skeletal muscles would require 96 hours of muscle unloading. Therefore, this model is clinically important for human medicine; however, there are not many institutions working on this model .

In this regard, the University of Florida is a research institution that is conducting the world's top-level research in this field using the controlled MV model, and tons of papers are published in authoritative international journals. Moreover, Dr. Scott Powers, the leader of the agency of the dispatched institution, always has state-of-the-art technologies and ideas in the field of skeletal muscle atrophy and has been conducting research as a researcher who is globally acknowledged. For this reason, I choose the U.S. to conduct my research as a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad.

Q2. WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT IN THE U.S.?

To be honest, I did not feel any difference between the research environment in Japan and the U.S. However, at some points, I feel the research environment to concentrate on research is better in the US than Japan. In particular, the biggest difference is human resources and the allocation of roles in research. In the U.S., the member of the laboratory clearly understand the role of each and sharing their results; therefore it seemed to work well as an exact system. I am not sure which system, Japan or the U.S. is more suitable for researchers but from the viewpoint of productivity and a systematic approach, it seems that there is an advantage to the U.S. Another difference is that most of the laboratories in the U.S. are internationalized. There are pros and cons in the internationalization of the laboratory, at least our laboratory, we can share their own experience well and have been doing much better experiments and analysis.

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The University of Florida Ben Hill Griffin Stadium

Members of Dr. Powers's lab

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Q3. HOW DO YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR EXPERIENCES IN THE U.S. AND APPLY IT TO YOUR RESEARCH OR CAREER?

Especially in the U.S, we can learn several innovative research methods and approaches in this field. For example, Dr. Scott Powers laboratory has pioneered a novel adeno-associated virus transduction technique to overexpress specific genes in diaphragm muscle fibers during prolonged MV. This is a powerful tool to decrease or overexpress the specific receptors in diaphragm muscle fibers.

Now I am learning this technique and the way to confirm the transduction efficiency in order to apply that to my research. Moreover, I am also able to get approach methods and strategies to use this technique in future studies.

Of course, improving my English conversation skill is going to be a huge advantage for me because the world is becoming more globalized in a variety of areas. Moreover, making new connections in the world is a great opportunity for us. Even after the end of my research abroad, we can keep in touch with each other, exchange our opinions, and collaborate in future studies. I would like to take advantage of my experiences here, becoming a scientist who can contribute to society.

Finally, I would like to appreciate everyone who has supported my research in the U.S., especially JSPS for giving me an opportunity to do research abroad and Dr. Scott Powers and his laboratory members (Dr. Hayden Hyatt, Dr. Rafael Deminice, Dr. Aaron Morton, Mustafa Ozdemir, and Branden Nguyen) for their great guidance of my research.

THE **LATEST** FROM UNIVERSITIES IN **JAPAN**

A water reservoir in the sky

–Discovery of tiny water-storing cells inside leaves of the world's tallest redwood trees–

H. ROAKI ISHII

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE, KOBE UNIVERSITY

Coast redwoods are the tallest trees in the world, growing up to 100 m (300 feet) in northern California. It has been long debated how redwoods transport enough water from roots to maintain physiological function of pinnacle leaves high in the sky. In most plants, water is absorbed from roots and pulled up to leaves via passive transport. Water molecules adhere to each other by hydrogen bonding, which is theoretically strong enough for water to be sucked up to heights over 100 m. For this to be possible, however, the water column inside transporting pipes of plants, known as xylem, needs to be continuous from root to leaf. For very tall trees, however, the tension on the vertical water column is so great that, should the water column break, they risk loss of water flow. Ironically, sun-light and the potential for photosynthesis is greatest and water is needed the most at the tree top. How do coast redwoods overcome this dilemma?

Drs. Roaki Ishii and Wakana Azuma, tree physiologists from Kobe University, Japan in collaboration with Dr. Stephen Sillet of Humboldt State University, California, used ropes to climb the tallest redwoods and investigate water conducting properties of its leaves.

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Fig. A. Dr. Wakana Azuma climbing a coast redwood tree

Inside each needle-shaped leaf, they found tiny water-storing cells flanking the xylem. These cells were more numerous and well-developed near the tree top, i.e., the highest leaves had the largest tanks for storing water. They also found that leaves of Cryptomeria, a close relative of redwood and the tallest trees in Japan, have the same water-storing cells. Using a technique called cryo-SEM, where leaf cross-sections flash-frozen in the field, were observed under a scanning electron microscope, they observed in Cryptomeria that water is replenished and the cells expanded during the night, and as water is used up for transpiration and photosynthesis during the day, the cells contracted. This proved that these cells function as tiny, water-storing reservoirs inside each leaf.

The climate in Akita Prefecture in northwestern Japan, where the tallest Cryptomeria grow, is similar to northern California, characterized by numerous rainy, foggy days.

The researchers believe, in addition to water transported from roots, the tree-top leaves of both redwood and Cryptomeria absorb moisture directly from rain and fog and that water-storing cells inside each leaf serve as reservoirs for this water. Each tank is tiny, but the trees have millions of leaves, adding up to create a large reservoir high up in the sky. Such a large reservoir would relieve redwoods of the stress of long-distance, vertical water transport.

Their research was funded by Grants in Aid for Scientific Research, JSPS and published in the journal Functional Ecology. A summary of their findings can be found in a news article in Science Magazine (https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2014/05/scienceshot-how-do-redwoods-grow-so-tall). Research on Cryptomeria was published in the journal Trees: Structure and Function (https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00468-015-1283-3).

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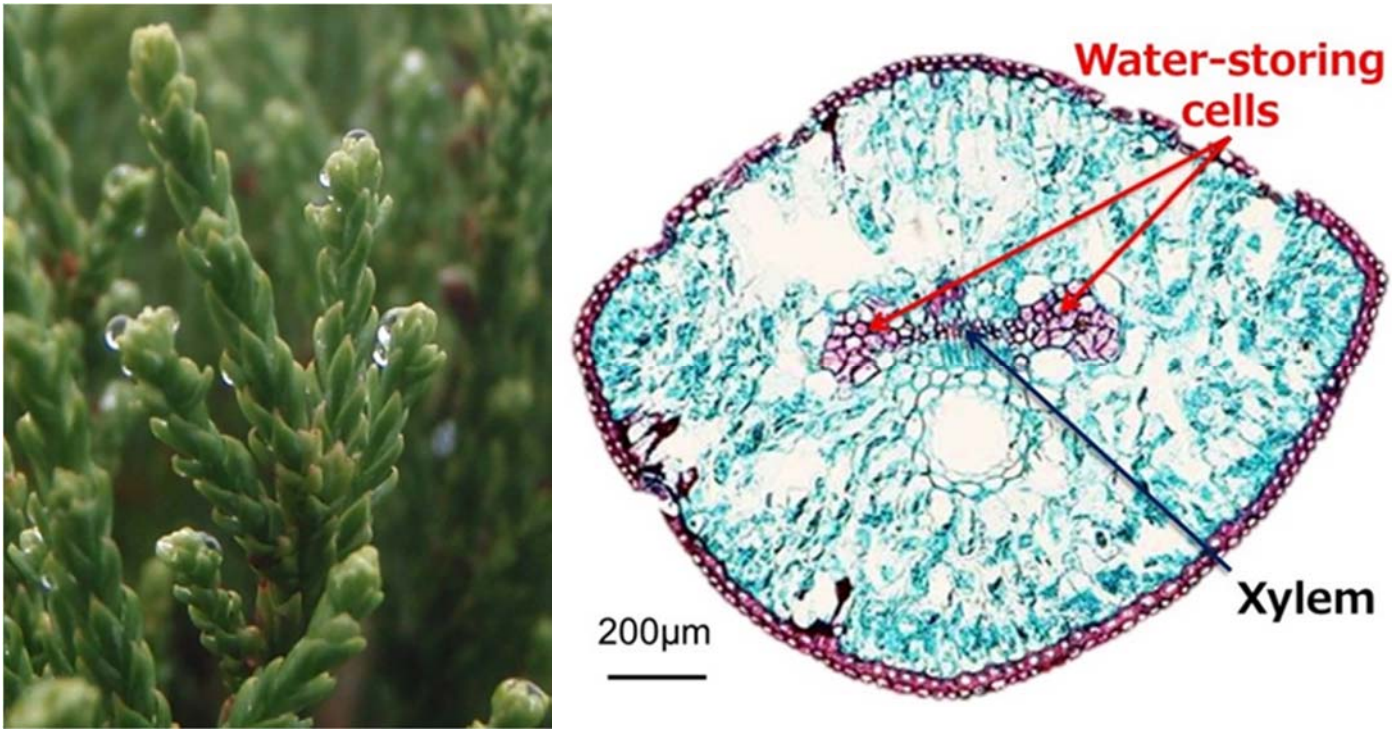


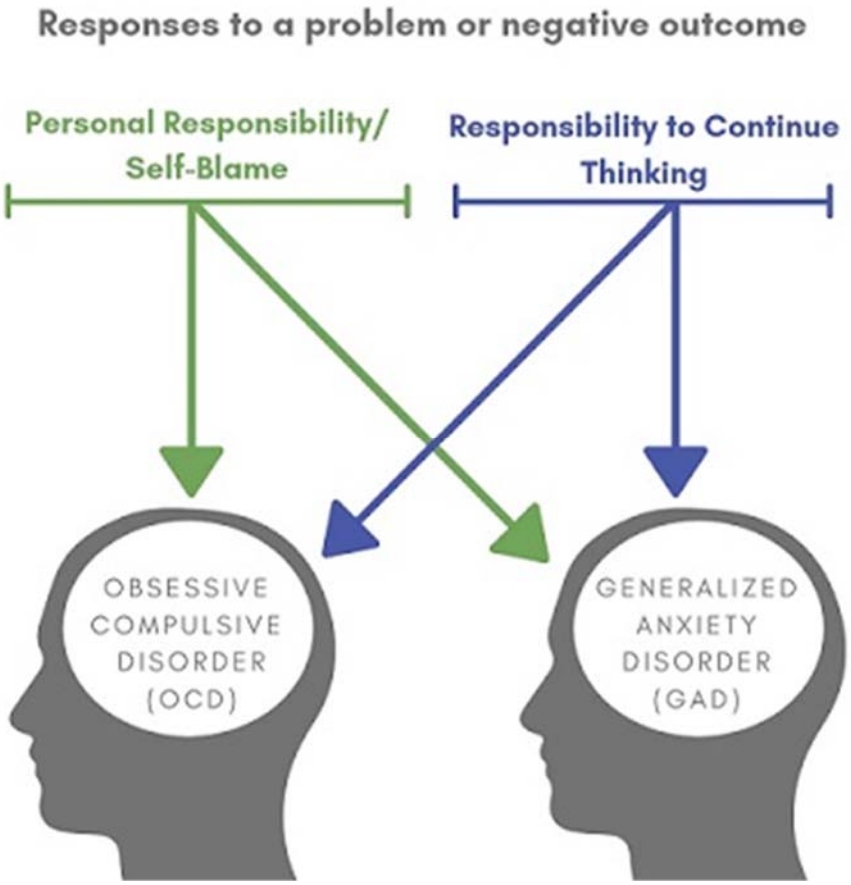
Fig. B. Morning dew on pinnacle leaves of redwood (left). Leaves absorb this water and tiny water-storing cells inside each leaf (right, leaf cross section) create a large reservoir of water high up in the sky.

Being too harsh on yourself could lead to OCD and anxiety

YOSHINORI SUGIURA

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED ARTS AND SCIENCES, HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

A correlation was found between strong feelings of responsibility and likelihood of developing OCD or GAD in American university students



Two types of responsibility are predictors of OCD or GAD (Credit: Emma Buchet and Associate Professor Yoshinori Sugiura/Hiroshima University)

A new study has found that people who reported intense feelings of responsibility were susceptible to developing Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) or Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) was published in the International Journal of Cognitive Therapy.

"People with OCD [are] tortured by repeatedly occurring negative thinking and they take some strategy to prevent it… GAD is a very pervasive type of anxiety.

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[Patients] worry about everything." describes Associate Professor Yoshinori Sugiura of Hiroshima University.

Anxiety and OCD-like behaviors, such as checking if the door is locked, are common in the general population. However, it is the frequency and intensity of these behaviors or feelings that make the difference between a character trait and disorder.

"For example, you're using two recorders instead of one," says Sugiura when interviewed. "It's just in case one fails … having two recorders will enhance your work but if you prepare [too] many recorders … that will interfere with your work."

A problem Sugiura identifies in psychology is that each disorder that sufferers experience has several competing theories regarding their cause. "There are too many theories and therapies for mental disorders for one expert to master them all." elaborates Sugiura.

The goal of this research team (consisting of Sugiura and Associate Professor Brian Fisak (University of Central Florida)) was to find a common cause for these disorders and simplify the theories behind them.

Sugiura and Fisak first identified "inflated responsibility". The team identified 3 types of inflated responsibility: 1) Responsibility to prevent or avoid danger and/or harm, 2) Sense of personal responsibility and blame for negative outcomes and 3) Responsibility to continue thinking about a problem. The research group combined tests used to study OCD and GAD as there had been no previous work that compared these tests in the same study.

To establish whether inflated responsibility was a predictor of OCD or GAD, Sugiura and Fisak sent an online questionnaire to American university students. Through this survey they found that respondents who scored higher in questions about responsibility were more likely to exhibit behaviors that resemble those of OCD or GAD patients. Personal Responsibility and Blame and the Responsibility to Continue Thinking, had the strongest link to the disorders.

The researchers would like to clarify that this preliminary study is not representative of the general population due to the small scale and skewed population (mostly female university students). However, the promising findings suggest that this format can be applied to a larger population and yield similar results.

Sugiura is currently looking into how to reduce responsibility and the preliminary outcomes are positive. When asked for any tips to reduce anxiety or obsessive behaviors he said:

"[A] very quick or easy way is to realize that responsibility is working behind your worry. I ask [patients] "Why are you worried so much?" so they will answer "I can't help but worry" but they will not spontaneously think "Because I feel responsibility" … just realizing it will make some space between responsibility thinking and your behavior."

By Emma Buchet, originally published on April 26, 2019

Original article:

Sugiura, Y. & Fisak, B. (2019) Inflated Responsibility in Worry and Obsessive Thinking. International Journal of Cognitive Therapy https://doi.org/10.1007/s41811-019-00041-x

HELLOs AND FAREWELLs

EVERY YEAR, WE HAVE PEOPLE COME AND GO AT JSPS SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.

We would like to introduce new staff members of our office as well as those who completed their missions and went back to Japan.

WELCOME: April
Hiroto Watanabe, Fumi Ishimura
Hasumi Miyata

WELCOME: July
Nobutake Niita

GOODBYE: July
Kaori Enoki

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HIROTO WATANABE joined JSPS San Francisco as an advisor from MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology - Japan) on April 1st.

He has been engaged mainly in elementary and secondary education policy since he began his career at MEXT in 2004. And he has experience working as a director of Education Policy Division and Lifelong Learning Division, Kochi Prefectural Board of Education 2015 to 2017.

He also works at Institutional Research and Academic Planning, University of California, Office of the President as a visiting scholar.

He stays in the Bay Area with his wife and his four-year-old boy.

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FUMI ISHIMURA joined our office in April. She is in charge of administrative affairs for Japanese University Network in the Bay Area (JUNBA) and coordinating workshops for administrative staff of Japanese universities in the U.S. She is also in charge of publication and PR, such as maintaining the office website and publication of this newsletter. Last year, she worked at JSPS headquarters in Tokyo, where she coordinated international symposiums for young scholars of different nationalities from diverse academic backgrounds.

She is originally a staff member of the University of Tokyo, and she will work with us for one year under the JSPS Overseas Internship Program. During her stay, she is aiming to learn about the missions and functions of different types of museums in the U.S. and how they contribute to the educational system nationwide, particularly to the elementary education and lifelong learning.

HASUMI MIYATA joined our office in April. She is in charge of coordinating Japanese Researchers gatherings in the U.S. and symposiums with universities in California. She is also in charge of accounting. Last year, she worked in the Overseas Fellowship Division at the JSPS headquarters in Tokyo. There she was in charge of the Summer Program which offers opportunities for young pre- and post- doctoral researchers from North America and Europe to do research under host researchers at Japanese universities along with an orientation on Japanese culture. She was also in charge of the Science Dialogue which provide opportunities for international fellows to give lectures on their research field for Japanese high school students in English.

She is originally an administrative staff of Keio University whose main campus is located near the Tokyo tower. She worked in the office of Student Services for 5 years there. During her year-long stay, she is aiming to learn about outward student mobility in the U.S. and how the administrative staff in U.S. universities work. Also, she is looking forward to broadening her perspective through meeting a lot of people from different backgrounds.

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NOBUTAKE NIITA joined the JSPS San Francisco Office as International Program Intern at the beginning of July 2019 and will stay for two years. Prior to JSPS, he was working for the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK, Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Prefecture) for 12 years. His last position in KEK was in the international affairs division. There, he worked on organizing scientific cooperation agreements with institutes from American and Asian countries, assisting promotion of ILC (future accelerator project proposed by world-wide high energy physics community to be hosted in Japan), and planning visit proposals for government officials from foreign countries.

Nobutake lived in the state of Ohio for eight years during his childhood. He is looking forward to his stay in the U.S. and the experiences he will have here on the West coast.

These two years were so precious for me. Through the work in the SF office I experienced and learned a lot. The most impressive event for me was our office's 15th anniversary symposium, "World Premier Research in Japan" held in January this year. 8 speakers from 4 institutes in Japan joined this, it was the opportunity to know the cutting-edge research in various areas. The preparation for this event took much time and sometimes there were some difficulties, but all of that must have strengthened the bonds of our office members.

Now I come back to Japan and continue to work on the affaires related to the US. I will do my best with what I learned in this program.

KAORI ENOKI, International Program Intern from KEK

THE COMING **TECHLASH** IS **HERE**

CHRIS REED

Liaison Officer, JSPS San Francisco Office

A lot can change in three years. Just look at how the American public perceives major technology companies now compared to three years ago.

Back in June of 2016 I attended the Global Entrepreneurs Summit at Stanford University (GES). This State Department-sponsored event gathers entrepreneurs and investors from around the world to address pressing world issues while promoting entrepreneurship. The highlight of the event was a one-on-one interview between then-President Obama and Facebook Founder CEO Mark Zuckerberg. This interview was unusual in that it was the president who asked the questions.

Giving the Facebook boss such a prominent position in relation to the president shows the importance that the Obama administration placed in Zuckerberg and the US technology sector more broadly as representing the potential benefits of innovation. After all, Obama is said to have been the 'first tech president' who emphasized how technology could improve lives and civic engagement[1]. In many ways GES 2016 was an exercise in soft power that relied on the positive public perception that the tech sector enjoyed at that time.

That positive public perception has greatly diminished since then. So much so that it's almost impossible to imagine any politician making a similar appearance today. The Harris Poll uses survey data to rank the reputations of the 100 most visible companies in the US and it found that Facebook dropped from # 51 in 2018 to #94 in 2019. Similarly Google dropped from #28 to #42 (higher numbers indicate worse reputations). Furthermore, 67% of respondents said technology has a negative impact on social values[2]. For comparison's sake, Nintendo, Honda, and Toyota ranked in at #30, #36, and #37, respectively[3].

Similarly, in May of this year the marketing research firm Morning Consult found that 86% of survey respondents would support new laws protecting consumer privacy and 69% said that the government is not doing enough to protect privacy[4].

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This included a majority of registered Republicans and Democrats. It seems one of the few areas of agreement between the two political parties is the need to scrutinize the industry's business practices. Another example of this was when a conservative Republican Senator from Texas (Ted Cruz) publicly agreed with Massachusetts Democratic Senator (and presidential candidate) Elizabeth Warren's criticism of Facebook that the company 'has too much power'[5]. It seems it is simply good politics to criticize tech.

More recently, major media outlets such as The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal have reported that the federal government is now investigating US tech giants to see if they illegally limit competition[6]. This comes on top of news that Facebook was recently fined $5 billion (approximately 530 billion JPY) by the Federal Trade Commission for failing to protect user data. Expect to hear more about stories like these in the coming months and years.

Closer to academia, Professor Emerita (Harvard Business School) Shoshana Zuboff, who the Financial Times called 'the true prophet of the information age', recently published a book titled *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* where she argues that the digital miracle 'has turned into a nightmare' with major tech companies holding power and 'unprecedented concentrations of knowledge-free from democratic oversight and control'[7].

The Economist magazine anticipated this turn in public opinion back in 2017 when they used the term 'techlash' to describe issues that they believed would dominate public discussion in the years ahead. 'techlash' is of course a portmanteau (blend) of the words 'technology' and 'backlash'.

Silicon Valley is an important driver of the American economy. Government officials, business people, and experts from around the world continue to visit and learn from its innovation ecosystem. When looking to apply the lessons of Silicon Valley to other places it may be helpful to recognize that the US tech industry's 'relationship status' with the rest of the country might best be described with the option on the similarly named Facebook feature, 'It's Complicated'.

1 https://www.obama.org/chapter/our-first-tech-president/#launched-data-gov-challenge-gov-businessusa-gov

2 https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2019/03/06/survey-facebook-big-tech-decline-reputation-among-public-2018/3054196002/

3 https://www.axios.com/axios-harris-poll-corporate-reputations-bcc0c03d-0bb5-4eb1-b591-4622bb4b01ed.html

4 https://verizon.morningconsultintelligence.com/

5 https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-12/ted-cruz-retweets-elizabeth-warren-s-criticism-of-facebook-power

6 https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/23/technology/justice-department-tech-antitrust.html

7 https://www.publicaffairsbooks.com/titles/shoshana-zuboff/the-age-of-surveillance-capitalism/9781610395694/