



Japan Society for the Promotion of Science San Francisco Office

2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 920 Berkeley, CA 94704 USA

THE OFFICE STAFF SWITCH

JSPS San Francisco Office Welcomes Three New Members

JSPS San Francisco office welcomes new Deputy Director, Akiko Komatsu!

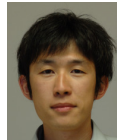
The new Deputy Director for the San Francisco office is Akiko Komatsu who arrived from Japan at the end of July. As Deputy Director, Miss Komatsu manages and organizes the affairs of our office, delegating jobs to the Program Coordinator and Liaison Officer and overseeing the proper use of our budget. She worked for MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) for four years prior to working for JSPS. Working her way up through three different positions at MEXT, her last position was as Unity Chief, where her main duty was editing the MEXT "White Paper" or Annual Report on Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Miss Komatsu has visited America 10 times as a tourist but this is her first time to live and work here. She hopes to become a contact person for researchers interested in exchange between America and Japan. She likes how open-minded the American people are. The biggest challenge she faces now is speaking English and she hopes to learn it well over the two year period that she will be living in San Francisco. This is also the first time



that she has lived away from home so it may be a challenge for her. We are sure she can adjust well to life in the United States and be a great asset to our office.

Introducing our new Program Coordinator, Yuichi Iida!

Yuichi Iida has been with the JSPS San Francisco office as Program Coordinator for four months now. As Program Coordinator, he oversees accounting, promotes JSPS fellowships and is in charge of the newsletter and website. Before he came to work for JSPS, Yuichi worked at JSPS Tokyo headquarters for one year and managed symposiums between Japan and France as well as Germany and the United States. Before that, he was in charge of student affairs at Okayama University. Yuichi is studying English diligently at Berlitz Language Center in San Francisco twice a week. During his time here, Yuichi would like to attend as many live sports events as possible, especially baseball and basketball. He would also like to travel to as many different places in the United States as possible and try the many different cuisines that this country has to offer. He is surprised at how laid-back and



casual everything here in America is. He was shocked when he saw a bus driver open a bottle of juice and drink while driving the bus. Needless to say, he got off the bus! Happy traveling Yuichi!

Welcoming our new Liaison Officer, Julie Beal!

As of this May, Ms. Julie Beal joined the JSPS San Francisco office as Liaison Officer. Julie spent her childhood in Japan and taught English at junior high schools in Saitama ken from 1996 to 1998 through JET Program (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program). For the past 7 years, she had been volunteering in a Tibetan refugee settlement in Dharamsala, India. She is glad to be living back in America again and feels happy to work at a Japanese institution that supports scientists. She has many different duties at our office. Her responsibilities in assisting her colleagues with living in America are just as important as her many other administrative duties. She likes to go shopping, go to the ocean and read Harry Potter books! Her accomplishment is that she can speak three languages: English, Japanese and Tibetan, but her ambition is to be able to speak honorific Japanese or *keigo*. Let's have a beautiful time together at JSPS!



Volume VII

Issue June 2007

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JSPS San Francisco Office Wishes a Heartfelt Farewell to Three Members



Farewell to our Deputy Director, Kazusa Toda!

Kazusa Toda has fulfilled her 2 year contract as Deputy Director for the JSPS San Francisco office. Returning to Japan at the end of June, she immediately began working for MEXT as Unity Chief in the Department of Human Resources. During her short stay here, Miss Toda managed and organized our office meticulously. Here is what she had to say about her experience here in America.

Q. What did you accomplish professionally and personally during

your time here in the U.S. and with JSPS San Francisco? **A.** Professionally, I was able to organize many events and communicate with many people. Personally, I was able to make a lot of friends.

Q. Could you give any advice to your successor? **A.** Enjoy each and every single day and meet as many people as you can.

Q. What will you miss the most about America? **A.** I will miss everything about America...speaking in English, driving a car, the food, weather and nature. I will especially miss my friends and playing soccer.

Q. What are you looking forward to the most in Japan? **A.** I'm looking forward to seeing my

family and friends again and eating delicious Japanese food.

Q. How has living in America changed you? **A.** It has given me energy to try and expand my horizons to live each day to the fullest.

Q. What farewell message would you like to leave for everyone?

A. These two years in Berkeley have been one of the most wonderful times for me! I'll do my best in Japan and I hope to see you all again!

From the entire staff of JSPS SF office, we will miss you too and we wish you all the best! Thank you for all your hard work Kazusa!



Phone: 510-665-1890

Fax: 510-665-1891

Questions or Feedback?

Email: Julie.Beal@jpsusa-sf.org

JSPS San Francisco office bids farewell to our Advisor, Mr. Ryuji Koyama



Mr. Ryuji Koyama, as Advisor of JSPS San Francisco office, guided the Program Coordinators on top of attending meetings of the University of California Office of the President on a daily basis. During his time here, he was able to visit several different campuses, gathering information for his report on the University of California's governance, administration and academic units. He also gave well-attended lectures at the JSPS San Francisco Office. In June of this year, he gave a three-day lecture on Higher Education at our office. Mr. Koyama returned to Japan at the end of June to become the Director of the Policy Division at MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology). We already miss his positive attitude, energy and wealth of knowledge. Thank you for your expertise and we wish you success and happiness in all your endeavors! Good luck Mr. Koyama!

Farewell to Liaison Officer, Ms. Caroline Chiba Bahr



Ms. Caroline Bahr worked for JSPS San Francisco office from January of 2006 for a year and a half. She always had a warm smile on her face and spoke gently with her fellow colleagues. Having a Japanese mother and living in Iwate prefecture in Japan for two years through JET Program (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program), she had a special understanding for working with her Japanese colleagues. As the link between the two cultures, she maintained balance and understanding in our office from both a Japanese and American perspective. We will miss her gracious heart and cheerful presence in our office! After completing her contract with JSPS San Francisco Office, Ms. Bahr traveled around Europe for two months, mainly in Italy where she had an incredible time. She hopes to open her own café/art gallery in the near future! *Ganbatte* Caroline! You can do it!

EVENTS OF SPRING 2007



JSPS SF Represents at 40th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival of Northern California

For the 4th year in a row the Japan Pavilion (a group of Japanese organizations abridged by the Japan Information Center of the Consulate General of Japan, San Francisco) invited JSPS to participate in this year's exhibit in the Radisson Miyako Hotel, during the first two-day celebration of the 40th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. For the first time the Japan Pavilion prepared a flyer (designed by the anime workshop leader April Wong) and distributed it out to the other members of the Pavilion – we were all given the opportunity to advertise ourselves with the Pavilion, to draw more people down to the Garden Level of the Miyako Hotel. Former liaison officer, Caroline Bahr designed an advertisement for JSPS at the Japan Pavilion, and we all distributed the flyers during our individual breaks to the general public outside. Inside the Imperial Ballroom B, the JSPS staff prepared a booth next to the Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission and the video corner. We displayed a beautiful and informative booth –



featuring JSPS brochures and information packets, fellowship guideline handouts, our newsletter, and the book 'Life in Japan for Foreign Researchers 2006-2007'. The booth was constantly manned by the staff of our office. It was a good opportunity for JSPS to connect with new people, and for the newest member of our office, Yuichi Iida, to speak about JSPS in English. We look forward to this invitation again next year.



TOHOKU UNIVERSITY

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Tohoku University Announces the Opening of its US Office and Holds the First Tohoku University International Innovation Forum

The opening ceremony for the Tohoku University US office was held on April 26th, 2007. The First Tohoku University International Innovation Forum was held on April 27th, 2007 at the San Mateo Marriott at San Francisco International Airport. The US Office is the international promotion center of Tohoku University. The two day event featured over 50 world renowned experts in their fields speaking on a broad spectrum of science and technology issues to include Nobel Laureate Roger Kornberg, Stanford University Professor, speaking on the Gene Reader in Our Cells. The creation of Tohoku's Silicon Valley California office demonstrates the beginning of its intention to create a portal for the facilitation of collaboration with US companies and educational institutions.



Tohoku US Deputy Director Dr. Toshihiko Nishimura said, "June 2007 will mark the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Tohoku University. It is significant to hold the Opening Ceremony and First International Innovation Forum in the centennial year of 2007. Tohoku University has established unique policies and principles that are "Research First," "Open Door" and "Practice-Oriented Research and Education." Our goal for this event is to introduce Tohoku University and showcase its extensive professional and educational achievements, technologies, and intellectual property which are founded on our excellent research and education programs. The goal of the Tohoku University US office is to share and transfer these resources and to contribute to the US industry and society. We want to achieve the position of a world-known university which excels in technology research. We have selected Silicon Valley as the location of our US office, the heartland of technology, from both an academic and commercial perspective.. Our slogan is : Be The Center Of Reference; COR."





A Novel Bottom-up Nanostructuring System at Room Temperature Based on Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

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³ Department de Física Teórica de la Materia Condensada, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

We have been developing a novel bottom-up nanostructuring system at room temperature (RT) based on atomic force microscopy (AFM). Very recently, we have succeeded in development of a novel chemical identification method at RT [1] based on site-specific force spectroscopy that is independent of tip, topography and chemical coordination, but dependent on atom species, with atomic resolution. As a result, we accomplished atom-by-atom identification of silicon (red), tin (blue) and lead (green) atoms as shown in Figure 1. Besides, we also succeeded in development of a novel atom manipulation/assembly method at RT [2]. It enables us to manipulate embedded atom species and to assemble compound nanostructures consisted of more than two atom species such as "Sn" (Figure 2), which is embedded atom letters (atom inlay).

[1] Y.Sugimoto et al.; "Chemical identification of individual surface atoms by atomic force microscopy", *Nature*, **446**, Issue **7131** (2007) pp.64 – 67, *ibid.* Cover Story, *ibid.* News & Views "Atomic fingerprinting" pp.34-35, *Nature Nanotechnology* **2** (2007) p.139

[2] Y.Sugimoto et al.; "Atom inlays performed at room temperature using atomic force microscopy", *Nature Materials*, **4** (2005) pp.156–159

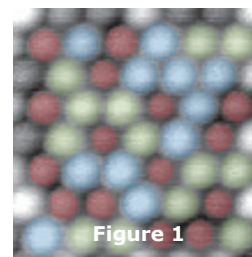


Figure 1

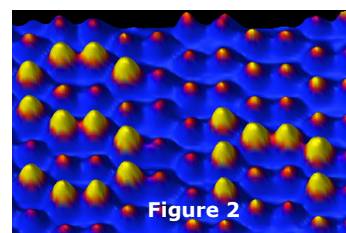


Figure 2



IAP08

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE INTERFACES AGAINST POLLUTION 2008

June 1-4 Kyoto, Japan

Venue Clock Tower Centennial Hall, Kyoto University.

Preface

IAP is a successful series of conferences that was started in Wageningen (The Netherlands, 1997) and was followed up in Miskolc (Hungary, 2002), Jülich (Germany, 2004) and Granada (Spain, 2006). The aim of these conferences is to provide a forum for scientists working on colloids and surfaces in relation to natural environments, environmental protection and remediation. Insight into fundamental aspects is very useful to broaden the interdisciplinary discussion. Such interaction between scientists is becoming more and more important for solving the complex environmental problems. The Kyoto IAP meeting from 1st to 4th of June 2008 will be a new corner stone in this field.

The main topics to be covered are

- 1) Interfaces of clay minerals, soils, charcoal, humic substances, microorganisms and model soft matter.
- 2) Transport and adsorption in porous materials.
- 3) Control and dynamics of interfaces modified by surfactants and polymers.
- 4) Modelling of adsorption at complex interfaces.
- 5) Measurement of environmental pollution and remediation techniques.

Whatever your field of interest may be, we will welcome your participation in this interdisciplinary world of colloids, interfaces and the environment. Don't hesitate to join us at IAP 2008 to interact with scientists from all over the world.



Visit our Homepage of IAP2008

<http://www.rs.noda.tus.ac.jp/iap2008/>

Plenary Lectures

- Luuk Koopal, University of Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Michal Borkovec, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Katsumi Kaneko, Chiba University, Japan
- Masao Doi, University of Tokyo, Japan

Auspices

IACIS (The International Association of Colloid and Interface Scientists)



Look out for research plan recruitment for the 2008 fiscal year for the Japan-US Brain Research Cooperation Program [BRCP2008]



The National Institute for Physiological Sciences (NIPS) (Japan) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), a sub-organ of the NIH (U.S.), support the cooperative projects of researchers of both countries as the responsible agencies.

More information is available at the following URLs:
NIPS...

<http://www.nips.ac.jp/jusnou/english>

NIH...

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-NS-07-009.html>

Tokyo University of Science (TUS) San Francisco Office was Established on May 21st



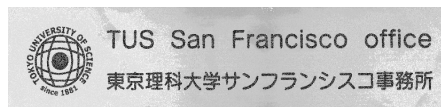
Tokyo University of Science continues to promote international collaboration in education and research with academic institutions that include three University of California campuses (UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, and UC

Santa Barbara) and Ohio State University. In order to more actively pursue international moves that include international cooperation among industry, academia, and government, TUS opened its first San Francisco Office in Berkeley, California, USA. The new office was established in collaboration

with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) within the JSPS San Francisco Center. One full-time staff member (Teruhisa Niwa) from TUS was dispatched from the university and stationed within the office from May 21st.

The TUS San Francisco Office will provide risk management and overseas-study management for TUS overseas students who are participating in one-year study programs in University of California campuses as well as for TUS students who have been sent to UC Santa Cruz or Portland State University under the summer short-term English study program. Moreover, the office will take charge of efforts to actively develop international education and research collaboration programs with

major research-oriented universities in North America through communication and data collection within North America. The office will also engage in active communication and data collection in Silicon Valley, which is the center of industry-academia-government collaboration in the United States. In this way, the office will participate in joint international research between industry and academia as well as in the global development of technical transfer.



TUS Brief History

The Tokyo Academy of Physics, the predecessor of the Tokyo University of Science, was founded in 1881 by 21 graduates of the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo (then the Imperial University). Classes were offered only at night, in rented classrooms at an elementary school with equipment and materials borrowed from the founders' alma mater and returned immediately after use. Despite these initial hardships, these young scientists (average age of 25 years) found the wherewithal to instruct students for no pay while working additional jobs, driven by their desire to serve as "a foundation for the development of the nation through the advancement of science."

In 1883, the Tokyo Academy of Physics was renamed the Tokyo College of Science, and one of its founders, Hitoshi Terao, was appointed the first dean. Although the school was beginning to take shape as a university, it was beset by financial difficulties and was only saved by an association formed in 1885 by 16 of the 21 founders. The association's rules included required donations of 30 yen per person, free lectures twice a week, and a 25-sen penalty for failing to show up for a lecture, regardless of the reason.



The 21 founders of Tokyo University of Science (mural in the Oshamambe Campus)

1881	Tokyo Butsurigaku Koshujo (Tokyo Academy of Physics) established.
1883	School name is changed to Tokyo Butsuri Gakko (Tokyo College of Science).
1906	School building constructed in Kagurazaka.
1917	Tokyo Butsuri Gakko becomes a professional school.
1949	Tokyo Butsuri Gakko becomes a university; name changed to Tokyo Rika Daigaku (Tokyo University of Science)
1960	Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences established.
1962	Faculty of Engineering established.
1967	Faculty of Science and Technology established in Noda, Chiba Prefecture.
1981	Research Institute for Science and Technology established.
1987	Faculty of Industrial Science and Technology established. Yamaguchi College established.
1989	Research Institute for Biological Sciences established.
1990	Suwa College established.
1993	School of Management established in Kuki, Saitama Prefecture.
1995	Tokyo University of Science, Yamaguchi established.
1996	Graduate Schools Cooperation Program introduced.
2002	Tokyo University of Science, Suwa established.
2004	Graduate School of Management of Science and Technology established.

Column

Who Should Pay? - The Fundamental Question Still Remains.

The 2000 United States Presidential election between the Republican candidate George W. Bush and the Democratic nominee Al Gore was one of the closest presidential elections in the history of the United States. It had the notable distinction of education having been discussed as one of the main issues. While Bill Clinton was President in the late 1990s, the Democratic Party and the Republican Party drew together in Education Policy. Their middle-of-the-road educational reform plans, advocating as campaign pledges to get swing votes, had a lot of similar basic ideas such as making much of the role of the federal government in education, increasing federal funding, school reforms to progress achievement, supporting charter schools, achievement tests to find out actualities of each schools, etc. The difference between them was that Gore insisted on more fund injection while Bush made much of the comprehensive systems to secure accountability. In the end, Bush, who had put up a good fight for the Republicans, won by a hair. Some people treat it as a historically important turning point of educational policy since the establishment of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act in 1965 that the Republican Party could profess enlargement of the role of the federal government despite the fact that there was incorrigible objection in the conservative brackets. In fact, No Children Left Behind, (NCLB) which included ideas of his platform, was introduced by President Bush shortly after his inauguration in January 2001. After many twists and turns, and under political compromise and exploitation between both parties, it passed the House of Representatives and was signed on January 8, 2002. It gave a premonition that the new framework of federal education policy making was established to the people.

The formation of a Commission on the Future of Higher Education, also known as the Spellings Commission, was announced on September 19, 2005, by U.S. Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, in the beginning of the second Bush administration. It is mentioned as one of the big movements that made a great impact on higher education policy. The committee that was set up by co-support from both the Republicans and the Democrats released the report "A Test of Leadership--Charting the Future of U.S. Higher Education" on September 26, 2006, after discussion for about a year. A week after the report, Spellings also released "Action Plan for Higher Education: Improving Accessibility, Affordability, and Accountability" adopting suggestions of the report.

The report proudly describes higher education in the United States as one of their greatest success stories. But after yearlong examination, the committee found that the past attainments have led their nation to



Ryuji Koyama
JSPS San Francisco office
Advisor
Visiting Scholar of UC,
Office of the President

unwarranted complacency about the future of higher education. The report begins with a declaration of a rather serious sense of crisis that they may have more than their share of the world's best universities, but a lot of other countries are now educating more of the citizens to more advanced levels than they are. Worse, those countries are passing them by at a time when education is more important to their collective prosperity than ever. It is time to be frank, the report points out. And it contends that U.S. higher education needs to improve in dramatic ways from a system based mainly on reputation to the one based on its performance.

The Action plan suggested creating a seamless pathway between high school and college by applying the basic idea of NCLB to high school education in order to improve Accessibility, consolidate programs and streamline processes by linking taxation data with FAFSA (the Free Application for Federal Student Aid), notify high school students of their qualification/non-qualification for Federal Student Aid before the spring of their senior year, establish a new need-based financial aid working with Congress for advancement of Affordability, exploit a new incentive for states and colleges to aggregate data on students achievement, and encourage organizations for accreditation to have their assessment standards focus not on the process but on the outcome of student fees and student achievements for enhancement of Accountability, etc.

Spellings, who engaged in the launch of NCLB and had been working for Bush from when he was Texas Governor, seems to extend its idea and means of NCLB on elementary and secondary education towards higher education. In fact, there is no end to find criticism such as "A one-size-fit-all solution is grossly impractical, given the variety of American colleges.", "No one wants standardized No Child Left Behind-style testing in colleges." "The danger is that the soul of education will be crushed in the rush to quantify the unquantifiable." etc. On the other hand, the former President of Harvard University, Prof. Derek Bok, (interim President until June 2007) though wary of a federally imposed solution, commented, "Those who say it's impossible to quantify a college education are not being honest or they are dissembling. All the things you learn can't be counted, but some can. We need more schools interested in examining their own successes and shortcomings."

In the phase of implementation of the recommendation, Sara Martinez Tucker was appointed U.S. Under Secretary of Education in December 2006. The meeting for people related Accreditation in November 2006 and the Summit for Higher Education Reform in March 2007 were held in Washington D.C. Having caused various arguments, the report and the Action Plan deserve to be watched carefully, though there is little time left for the Bush Administration as the next

U.S. Presidential election is coming up shortly in 2008.

Under the wave of the growing scale of higher education along with enlarging political pressure, the financial aid policy of the federal government has been shifted since 1980's towards one which depends more on loans rather than grants and which puts more emphasis on middle and upper-income students/families. It can be considered as one of the desperate measures taken by the federal government within the limitation of role sharing between the federal government and state governments that has been made traditionally. But it cannot be said that the severe situation concerning accessibility (especially for minorities) and the rise of college expenses and student debts have been overcome. The difficulty has resulted not only in argument on an affordability crisis but also in skepticism about the significance and values of colleges/universities and higher education, hence the problem of Accountability. People (tax payers and voters) won't be satisfied anymore with notional words like "fostering cultivated citizens (or gentlemen)". What they want is an explanation that is simple and visible. In this context, the Spellings Commission's Report is to be thought of as a typical reaction of a political society in the 21st century, though it has been accepted in amazement and perplexity by the United States Higher Education Society.

It may be almost impossible to prove a causal relation strictly, but their seems to be such an endless flow as continuous budget cuts by state governments → financial difficulties in colleges/universities → further steep rises in student fees → pressures on the federal government to support students and its limitations of its ability → compliments by state governments and/or campus-based grants.

In addition, it is said that more than half of the United States population will be African American and Hispanic no later than 2050. What will happen if the new bipartisan framework of educational policy making in the federal government take root and a wide range of political stresses from lower income classes and minorities grow larger and larger? Is it an exaggeration to say that the federal government might fall into a dead end and colleges/universities might be thoroughly flirited by impetuous "reform" challenges?

Of course, I hope the society of the United States will show their diversity and flexibility and somehow be able to land softly, but I anticipate that the United States might be forced to grope in the dark for some time, since it has been getting difficult to find a perfect solution for the entire situation more than ever.

The fundamental and profound question "Who should pay?" still remains here.

Seminar Held by JSPS Fellow, Ms. Yuka Mizutani

Topics:

Rethinking "Yaqui Problem" in the period of Mexican Revolution

Date & Time:

June 21st 15:00-17:00

Place:

JSPS San Francisco Office

Outline:

This seminar aims to present a part of the result gained through my research at the University of California, Berkeley. Yaqui people are indigenous to North-

western Mexico. Due to persecution by the Mexican government from late 19th century to early 20th century, they migrated to the Southwestern United States. Through my research, the possibility of new analysis about the uprisings of Yaqui people toward the Mexican government, which caused persecution, is shown. It would contribute to a new interpretation of Yaqui ethnography and Mexican history.



Yuka Mizutani

Doctoral Candidate,
Area Studies in
Graduate Program of
Foreign Studies,
Sophia University,
Tokyo, Japan
JSPS Research Fellow
(DC1)

Interview with Visiting Scholar, Ms. Shiho Fujiwara



Shiho Fujiwara

Visiting Scholar,
Environmental
Science Policy and
Management
University of Cali-
fornia, Berkeley

Ms. Shiho Fujiwara was sent by MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) to the University of California at Berkeley in March of this year as a visiting scholar of environmental science, policy and management to research advanced technology of the Earth observation satellites in the U.S. Previously, she was working for MEXT as Deputy Director in the Knowledge Infrastructure division where she promoted education in science and technology for the Japanese children. This was her fifth position with MEXT over an eight-year period. Her first position at MEXT was in the Space Policy division which kindled her interest in the research she pursues now: observations of the Earth from space.

JSPS SF interviewed Ms. Fujiwara about her experiences thus far in her research abroad:

Q. *What was your main interest to research abroad in the United States?*

A. I wanted to gain knowledge about space development policy and on the advanced technology of the Earth observation satellite in the US.

Q. *What is your impression of the re-*

search environment in the United States? How is it different from Japan?

A. The atmosphere at UC Berkeley is similar to the university atmosphere in Japan. However, it seems that the researchers in America are not quite as busy as the researchers in Japan. With regard to my research, the technology of the satellites that observes the Earth is more advanced in the U.S. than in Japan. And the data collected from the satellite is easier to access here than in Japan. Here, we can get satellite data anytime and anywhere and the data is used by more people than in Japan. In Japan, mainly geologists and oceanographers use satellite data, but here in America, a wide range of people view this data, such as geographers and researchers in the social studies.

Q. *What have been your greatest difficulties?*

A. That would have to be the language barrier, especially in California where there seems to be a local dialect mixed with Chinese English and Mexican English.

Q. *What has been your most embarrassing moment?*

A. When I visited Yosemite National Park, I wanted to go to the waterfalls so I asked for directions at the Information Desk. The person at the desk could not understand what I was asking and responded, "Do you want to go to the pool? Do you want to swim?" I had to get out my map in the end and point to the waterfall in the map in order for her to understand where I wanted to go.

Q. *Have you started any new hobbies or*

interests since your stay in the U.S.?

A. I started practicing golf and taking yoga classes.

Q. *Did you experience any degree of culture shock when you arrived in the U.S.?*

A. I was shocked by how big everything in America is - the people, the buildings, and the food!

Q. *What has been the most memorable event or moment during your stay in the US?*

A. The most memorable event for me has been visiting Yosemite National Park three times so far and going camping with my American friends in Sonoma.

Q. *What do you miss the most about Japan?*

A. Japanese sweets!

Q. *What do you like about America?*

A. I like the American mentality. They're very open-minded and they don't think really hard about small issues.

Q. *What advice would you give to young researchers doing research abroad?*

A. Don't ever be ashamed or afraid to speak English! Even though I don't speak English well, most Americans that I've spoken with here have been kind and understanding and have made an effort to understand my English. Also, don't hesitate to ask questions if you don't understand something. Americans are never too shy to ask questions about anything.

Thank you Ms. Fujiwara, we wish you the best of luck in your research endeavors!

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUMMER 2007

The 7th Gathering of Japanese Fellows July 27th 17:00-19:00

JSPS San Francisco Office will hold the 7th Gathering of JSPS Fellows on July 27th. 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 SF-building among these researchers. We have had six gatherings in the past, and this time, we will hold the gathering in Berkeley, California. It is a free buffet style party. We are looking forward to a lot of researchers' participation.

JSPS San Francisco Office 2150 Shattuck Ave., #920 Berkeley, CA

Check out our website !

www.jspusa-sf.org

Upcoming JSPS Fellowship Deadlines

To prospective applicants for JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (Short-term) for North American and European Researchers through JSPS San Francisco Office:

Please be advised that the next upcoming application deadline is:

October 26th, 2007