The board of ACN will publish this newsletter for the purpose of sharing our daily activities with all the ACN members. It will be delivered to your e-mail address.

**JSPS Alumni Club in Norway (ACN) officially established**

On 12th of April, 2019, ACN received the exciting news that the club has been accepted as an official JSPS Alumni Club by JSPS. The message was relayed by Deputy Director Takao Yoshihara at JSPS Stockholm Office to Dr. Anders Øverby, Chair of ACN. The club is official as from fiscal year 2019. The planned activities in fiscal year 2019 include Activity Seminar and the call for applications will open from May 1, 2019 to June 30, 2019. All board and regular members are eligible to apply for it. We are also planning to organize a joint seminar with JSPS Stockholm Office, The Research Council of Norway (RCN) and Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (Diku), and Norway-Japan Academic Network Seminar fiscal year 2019 with RCN and JSPS Stockholm Office. The inauguration ceremony will take place on October 17th at RCN in Oslo, and more details about this will be available later. The news were met with cheer and smiles by the other board members, and Chair Dr. Øverby has the following comment to the decision by JSPS:

"These are great news for our club and the Norway-Japan science community in Norway. This decision allows our club to expand our activities, maintain a high level and contribute to building a meeting arena for researchers in the Norway-Japan-axis. We wish to thank all the members, RCN, Diku, NorAlumni club and JSPS for all the help and participation in our activities so far. We hope to be of value to all of you in the future. これからも宜しくお願いいたします."

Our board members are as follows:

- Chair: Dr. Anders Øverby (Project leader of Centre of Education in Kongsvinger)
- Vice-Chair: Prof. Rasmus Gjedssø Bertelsen (Professor of UiT The Arctic University of Norway)
- Board member: Prof. Bruno Laeng (Professor of University of Oslo)
- Board member: Dr. CJ Beegle-Krause (Senior Research Scientist of SINTEF Ocean)
- Board member: Dr. Yuka Kitayama (Associate Professor of Osaka University)

**Norway-Japan Alumni and Researcher Gathering FY2018**

On 6th February, 2019, ACN (prior to becoming an official club) organized an event for members and non-members at RCN in Oslo on a voluntary basis. The event welcomed three inspiring speakers focusing on their careers and the Norway-Japan link, followed by a match-making session in which the participants were organized into groups aiming to come up with new ideas and research topics based on their common research topics of interests. The three speakers were Dr. Go Yoshizawa (Oslo Metropolitan University), Dr. Naoe Tatara (former Oslo Metropolitan University) and Dr. Kenichi Matsuoka (Norwegian Polar Institute), all Japanese researchers currently residing in Norway. The match-making session was welcomed positively, and the results from the group discussions can be found in a separately attached report. In addition, Deputy Director Takao Yoshihara at JSPS
Stockholm Office made a presentation about JSPS and their grant opportunities, and Chair of ACN Dr. Anders Øverby held the opening and closing speech of the event. 24 people attended the event which was a good opportunity for networking and exchange of scientific ideas and specific project ideas.

For further information about ACN and our activities, visit here: https://www.jsps-sto.com/alumni-club-3/alumni-club-in-norway/