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Large, comprehensive or small, focused meetings –Pros and cons

Tadaharu Tsumoto, Director, JSPS Stockholm Office

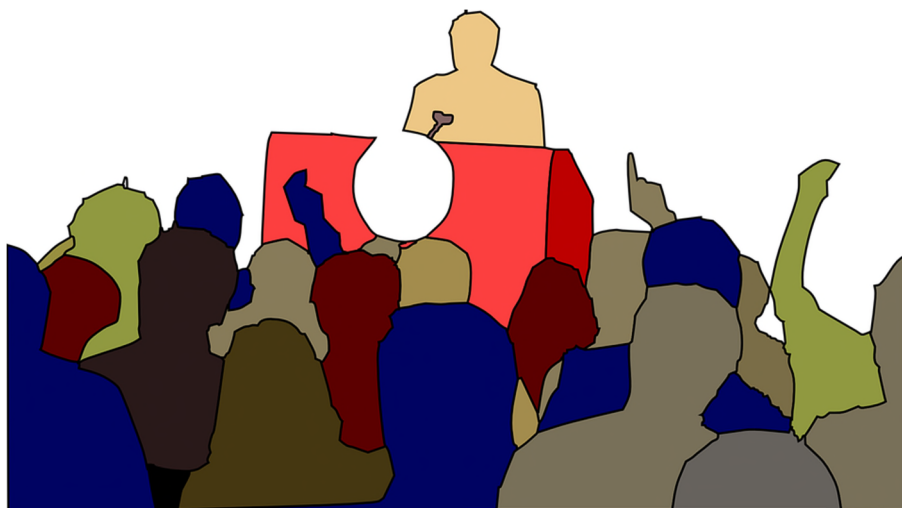
Since I started my career as a researcher nearly 50 years ago, I have attended so many scientific meetings that most of them are beyond my past recall and sink into oblivion now. Nevertheless I remember that some of them were very large or gigantic in terms of the number of attendants whereas most of the others were rather small. I have worked in the field of neuroscience. So my experiences are limited to scientific congresses, symposia, seminars or workshops mostly related to this field of science. An example for the large meeting that I attended was the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in North America that attracts more than 30,000 scientists every year. In Europe the biennial meeting of the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies often attracts more than 7,000 attendants. In these large meetings the topics are widespread and it takes some time for attendants to find seemingly interesting presentations, but also there are chances for attendants to meet good old friends and previous colleagues who otherwise are hard to meet. An unexpected happy meeting with them and enjoying lunch or dinner together are one of the pleasant events in addition to exchanges of useful information about new aspects of the research field. In the large meetings, however, it is often not easy to make a new friendship with other non-acquainted scientists, because meetings with too many new faces in a short time makes it difficult to get into a close conversation with them. Thus often they are a just casual acquaintance.

In small meetings, on the other hand, the topics are well-focused or specialized, and the number of the attendants is mostly less than 100. The small meeting that I attended for the first time was a summer school of developmental neurobiology for graduate students and young researchers in Switzerland in 1974. The number of attendants were less than 50, and I still vividly recall the very friendly and interactive atmosphere. More generally speaking, the participants to the small meetings are mostly specialists in the field and some of them are already acquainted peers. The lectures or talks in such a small meeting often raise intensive discussions which are scientifically very fruitful.

Also a close interaction takes place during coffee break, lunch and reception. Because the number of attendants is so limited and they share the same interests, it often makes such a meeting the beginning of formation of long-lasting, close networks.

Needless to say, one of the main missions of the JSPS Stockholm Office is to build or facilitate research collaboration and exchange of researchers between Japan and Nordic/Baltic countries. For this, our office supports small meetings such as alumni club (AC) activity seminars. As I already mentioned in the previous newsletter ([Vol. 31, 2018](#)), I have attended many AC activity seminars since 2016. As I also mentioned before, I observed that there were not so many attendants in some seminars and empty seats from place to place in the seminar room. The topics of the small meetings might be too specialized to attract a large audience. This is a possible problem in the organization of AC activity seminars, because one of the purposes of seminars is to provide an opportunity to meet new friends so as to provide a chance to collaborate with domestic and Japanese colleagues. At the same time, however, I learned that most of the AC activity seminars were well-focused and scientifically at the high grade, although the number of attendants was limited. In my opinion the scientific quality of the seminar is the priority issue. In well-focused seminars I often observed that questions and comments to lecturers were very sharp and constructive, and lecturer's answers were well interactive and thus the seminar was scientifically fruitful even if the number of audience was small. Of course the large number of audience may extend networks among attendants and thus we should not simply disregard the issue of the size of meetings.

Finally I would like to point out that the issue of the size and attractiveness is not mutually exclusive. In sum we have to compromise these two requirements for organizing good seminars, the quality of science and the number of attendants.



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RADDESS Annual Seminar in Helsinki

On May 15, 2019, the Radiation Detectors for Health, Safety and Security (RADDESS) Annual Seminar was held at Helsinki Congress Paasitorni and it was jointly organized by the Academy of Finland (AKA) and JSPS Stockholm Office. This was the 2nd time our office co-organized a seminar with AKA following last year. From JSPS Stockholm Office, Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi participated.

Welcome words and programme news were presented by Prof. Petriina Paturi, Chair of the RADDESS steering group. Afterward, a presentation about JSPS programs and activities was given by Deputy Director Yoshihara.

The first keynote lecture was given by Prof. Masahiro Yamaguchi, Tokyo Institute of Technology, titled “Spectral and color image analysis technology for quantitative pathology”. Prof. Yamaguchi’s detailed report of the event can be found on [page 7](#). The second keynote lecture titled “Radioactive substances in the food chain” was given by Dr. Kaisa Vaaramaa, Head of Laboratory Measurement and Analyses, Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK).

Thereafter, four researchers gave a presentation respectively, and the seminar was concluded with a reception where participants could enjoy social gathering and the poster exhibition.



During the lecture



During the reception and the poster exhibition

The 4th STS Forum European Workshop in Stockholm

On May 16, 2019, the Science and Technology in Society (STS) held the 4th STS forum European Workshop at Karolinska Institutet (KI) in Stockholm with the support of KI, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and the Embassy of Japan in Sweden. From JSPS Stockholm Office, Director Tsumoto and Deputy Director Yoshihara attended.

Welcome remarks were given by Prof. Ole Petter Ottersen, President of KI, followed by an opening address by Mr. Koji Omi, Founder and Chairman of STS forum.

At the first session, which titled “ICT as a Solution for Health and Wellbeing”, six researchers gave a presentation and had a discussion together with Dr. Henry A. McKinnell, Chairman Emeritus of Pfizer who served as the chair. Afterward, the second session was chaired by Prof. Motoko Kotani, Executive Director of RIKEN, with the four speakers on the topic of “Application of AI in the Medical Area: Opportunities and Risks”. Closing remarks were given by Prof. Jerzy Duszyński, President of Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) and Mr. Yasukazu Irino, Executive Vice President of JETRO.



Mr. Omi, Founder and Chairman of STS forum, at the welcome remarks



During the panel discussion



Prof. Ottersen, President of KI, at the welcome remarks

Meeting for Headquarters for International Affairs/ JSPS Overseas Office Directors Meeting

On May 20, 2019, JSPS Overseas Office Directors Meeting together with the Meeting for Headquarters for International Affairs was held in Tokyo, Japan. From JSPS Stockholm Office, Director Tsumoto participated.

The meeting began with opening remarks by Dr. Susumu Satomi, President of JSPS, followed by the update on recent activities of JSPS by each department of its headquarters. Afterward, the directors of JSPS overseas offices presented their activities from the last fiscal year, and discussed the offices' further effective operation.

The 1st KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019 with Prof. Takashi Yoshimura

The 1st KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019 was held on June 10 and 11, 2019 at KI and Uppsala University. This seminar series is jointly organized by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA) and JSPS Stockholm Office. Director Tsumoto, Deputy Director Yoshihara, International Program Associate Izumi and Yoshinaka attended from JSPS Stockholm Office.

For these seminars, Prof. Takashi Yoshimura, Institute of Transformative Bio-Molecules (ITbM), Nagoya University, was invited from Japan. Each seminar began with a presentation on JSPS activities by a JSPS Stockholm Office member, and Prof. Yoshimura gave a presentation titled "Molecular mechanisms of seasonally regulated reproduction and depressive behavior" on June 10, while the presentation on June 11 titled "Evolution of seasonal timer: towards understanding winter depression". Prof. Yoshimura's detailed report of the event can be found on [page 8](#). Each lecture was followed by a Q&A session where many eager participants asked questions about Prof. Yoshimura's presentation and research.

Prof. Yoshimura's institution at the Nagoya University has been accredited as a "World Premier International Research Center Initiative (WPI)" by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan, and JSPS assists in the implementation of this program.



Prof. Yoshimura during his lecture



Participants of the seminar at KI

The 2nd KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019 with Prof. Masataka Fukugita

The 2nd KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019 was held on June 13, 14 and 18, 2019 at AlbaNova University Center (twice) and Uppsala University. Director Tsumoto, Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi and Yoshinaka attended from JSPS Stockholm Office.

The invited speaker from Japan was Prof. Masataka Fukugita, Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe, the University of Tokyo. He gave lectures titled “Physical actions of stars on the evolution of the Universe” on June 13 and 14, and “Circumgalactic Cosmology: focusing on Magnesium II clouds” on June 18. Please find a detailed report by Prof. Fukugita on [page 9](#). The series of seminars was successful with most participants enjoying the lecture and the following vigorous discussions.



Prof. Fukugita during his lecture



Participants of the seminar at Uppsala University

Meeting on RCN-JSPS Joint Seminar

On June 18, 2019, Dr. Anders Øverby and Prof. Bruno Laeng, the board members of ACN, Ms. Mihoko Toyoshima, Deputy Head of the JSPS headquarters, Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi visited the Research Council of Norway (RCN) in Oslo. They met with Ms. Julie Christiansen, Senior Advisor, and discussed the joint seminar to be held in October.

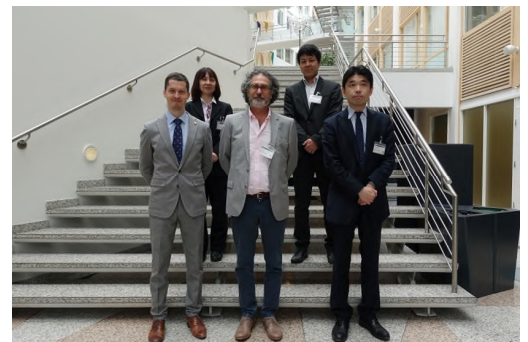


On the left side, left to right: Prof. Laeng, Ms. Christiansen and Deputy Director Yoshihara

On the right side, right to left: Dr. Øverby and Ms. Toyoshima

Meeting between ACN board members and JSPS

On June 19, 2019, the board members of ACN held a meeting with Ms. Toyoshima from the JSPS headquarters. As the ACN was newly established in April, Ms. Toyoshima visited Norway and provided information on the JSPS Alumni Club's operation. Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi participated from JSPS Stockholm Office.



Front row, left to right: Dr. Øverby, Prof. Laeng and Deputy Director Yoshihara

Back row, left to right: Ms. Toyoshima and Mr. Izumi

The 1st ACF Board Meeting FY2019

On June 24, 2019, ACF held the online Board Meeting. Participating in the meeting were Dr. Ville Syrjälä, Prof. Michael Gasik and Dr. Joni Kujansuu. Director Tsumoto, Deputy Director Yoshihara and Liaison Officer Ishii attended from JSPS Stockholm Office.

After the opening remarks by Chair Syrjälä and Director Tsumoto, personnel affairs were discussed. Since Prof. Kiyohiko Igarashi, the University of Tokyo, resigned from the board, Prof. Jyrki Saarinen, University of Eastern Finland, was selected as a candidate for a new board member. He is expected to officially be a member of the board after getting approved at the General Assembly. Then, board members discussed the 10-year anniversary ceremony and All Alumni Meeting to be held in December.



Prof. Saarinen

Photo: <https://www.uef.fi/en/web/photonics/jyrki-saarinen>

Yearly Conference for CAETS 2019

From June 25 to 28, 2019, the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA) hosted the yearly conference for the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS) as part of IVA's 100-year anniversary. It was held at Norra Latin in Stockholm, and Director Tsumoto and Deputy Director Yoshihara were invited and attended from JSPS Stockholm Office.

The CAETS 2019 was themed "Engineering a Better World—the next 100 years", and the first day of the conference focused on scientific and engineering achievements and challenges we are facing today. The second day's themes were creative chaos, digital dawn, effective education and inclusive infrastructure, where the speakers from various backgrounds shared their expertise. Following the two days, policy advices and industry-academy collaborations for the future were discussed as conclusions.



Opening by Dr. Teeri, Chair of CAETS and President of IVA, and Dr. David, Secretary General of CAETS



Welcome remarks by Mr. Baylan, Minister for Enterprise of Sweden



Presentation by Prof. Hatti-Kaul, Lund University

New ACN board member

In July 2019, Dr. Alexander Karl Rothkopf, University of Stavanger, was selected as an additional new board member of the ACN in order to strengthen its activities, accordingly the number of the board has become six in total. ACN is actively preparing for the upcoming events such as the inaugural ceremony and RCN-JSPS joint seminar in October, as well as the Activity Seminar.

Photo: <https://www.uis.no/article.php?articleID=124594&categoryID=11198>



Dr. Karl Rothkopf

AKA-JSPS Annual Seminar FY2019

Masahiro Yamaguchi, Professor, School of Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology

The AKA-JSPS Seminar was held on May 15, 2019, at Helsinki Congress Paasitorni, Finland. The seminar focused on one of the programs implemented by the Academy of Finland (AKA): RADDESS (Radiation Detectors for Health, Safety, and Security). It was also organized as a part of UNESCO International Day of Light (May 16). The RADDESS program aims at the research and development of new radiation sensing technologies for health, safety, and security applications. The budget is about 12M euros, and the period is from 2018 to 2022. In this seminar, there were five oral presentations including two keynotes and some poster presentations with the attendance of 60 participants.

Prof. P. Paturi, Chair of the RADDESS steering group, firstly introduced the purpose of this seminar and the current status of RADDESS program. Next, Mr. Yoshihara, Deputy Director of JSPS Stockholm Office, presented the activities of the office and the academic exchange between Japan and Finland.

Then, as one of two keynotes, I gave a talk entitled "Spectral and Color Image Analysis Technology for Quantitative Pathology". Prior to the main topic, my activity on international collaboration in spectral imaging technology was introduced. My research group has had some exchanges with Finnish researchers, particularly on spectral imaging technology, such as JSPS postdoctoral researchers or visiting students. Moreover, I took over the Chair of a technical committee in the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) on multispectral imaging from the researchers at the University of Eastern Finland (UEF), and published a technical report in 2017. After that, as a new framework at CIE, we established Research Forum on spectral imaging, with some important Finnish members. The topic on the image analysis for digital pathology covered the recent trends, some examples, and future issues on the application of so-called AI (artificial intelligence) technology, which has received particular attention in recent years. In particular, the methods to effectively deal with color information in pathology AI is a vital topic.



Participants at the seminar



Prof. Yamaguchi during his lecture

The next keynote speech was given by Dr. K. Vaaramaa, Head of Laboratory Measurement and Analysis in STUK, entitled "Radioactive Substances in the Food Chain". The detection of radioactive substances in food-related fields, such as in the air, water, forest, fish, livestock, were introduced, and issues in the sensing technology for radioactive substances were indicated. The next talk entitled "Spectral Imaging of Complex Surface Tomographies," from a project underway in RADDESS was personally interesting as it directly relates to my research topic. In their project, a new type of spectral camera using Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS) technology is developed, the application of a convolutional neural network to a spectral image is investigated, and the spectral imaging is applied to a skin cancer diagnosis. In addition, "Universal Electromagnetic Radiation Detector" described a new detector technology in a very wide wavelength range, and "Layered 2D Materials Based THz Spectroscopy and Imaging" showed the terahertz spectral imaging technology; both were also quite impressive as they were recent hot research topics. The poster session was held after the oral lectures; the current status of other projects was also presented. It was highly meaningful for me to know the research on photonics is particularly active in Finland, and RADDESS program is composed of a number of fascinating photonics-related research projects.

On the day before the seminar, Prof. J. Saarinen, Director of the Institute of Photonics at UEF, and Dr. J. Purmonen, CEO of Photonics Finland, arranged the visit to University of Helsinki and PLANMECA which is a major dental equipment manufacturer. The visit was fully valuable to see the attractive imaging research, pathology image analysis research, and the industry-UEF collaboration project. In fact, Dr. Purmonen was a visiting scholar in our project more than ten years ago, and it was also vastly remarkable to know the current activities of other old-friend researchers from Finland. I hope I can promote more international collaboration in the future by maintaining close communication with Finnish researchers.

The 1st KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019

Takashi Yoshimura, Professor, Institute of Transformative Bio-Molecules (WPI-ITbM), Nagoya University

The rhythms of life on earth are shaped by the seasons. Animals and plants adapt to seasonal alterations and show profound yearly changes in morphology, behavior and health. In plants, seasonal rhythms are observed in growth, pollination, pest and pathogen infestation, and flowering. In animals, reproduction, hibernation, migration, and molting are seasonally-regulated. Although these phenomena attract tremendous public interest, their underlying mechanism remains one of the mysteries in biology.

The uniqueness of our research lies in the use of unique organisms that have highly sophisticated seasonal mechanisms. For example, by using a Japanese quail with its highly sophisticated photoperiodic responses, we have revealed that thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) secreted from the pars tuberalis of the pituitary gland in the brain is the key factor or “springtime hormone” regulating seasonal reproduction in birds (Nature 2003; Nature 2008). At the time, the only known function of TSH was stimulation of the thyroid gland and that was for TSH derived from the pars distalis of the pituitary gland. The functional role of the pars tuberalis was also completely unknown. The discovery of the fact that TSH from the pars tuberalis regulates seasonality was unexpected. Importantly, we also discovered similar molecular mechanisms in other vertebrates including mammals and fish (PNAS 2008; Nat Commun 2013; Cell Reports 2014).

Uppsala University is the oldest and most prestigious university in all of the Nordic countries, and Uppsala Biomedical Centre (BMC) is one of the leading life science research institutes in the world. Professor Leif Andersson at Uppsala BMC was my host and is an authority on population genetics. Professor Andersson is using domestic animal models to understand genetic mechanisms underlying phenotypic variation. He has discovered genes underlying phenotypic traits, such as inherited disorders, coat color, muscle development, and fat deposition using various animal models. He also discovered that the thyrotropin receptor gene *TSHR* is involved in the domestication process in chicken (Nature 2010). Since *TSHR* gene encodes the receptor for the “springtime hormone” TSH, we have known each other for several years based on our common research interests. Professor Andersson kindly invited me to Uppsala BMC to give seminars and to discuss a potential collaboration using KVA (Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences) - JSPS seminar program.

The day after arriving in Stockholm, I visited the Karolinska Institutet and had a fruitful discussion with 8 researchers in the Department of Neuroscience. I then gave a presentation at the KVA-JSPS seminar entitled “Molecular mechanisms of seasonally regulated reproduction and depressive behavior”. On the following day, I gave another presentation at the KVA-JSPS seminar entitled “Evolution of seasonal timer: towards understanding winter depression” at Uppsala BMC. In my talks, I explained that humans are also seasonal animals. Various physiological processes, such as immune function, metabolism and mood, are seasonally regulated in humans. At high latitudes, about 10% of people



Prof. Yoshimura during his lecture

suffer from winter depression, and high suicide rates have become a serious social issue. Morbidity in humans due to heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, infectious disease, pneumonia, bronchitis, and psychiatric diseases is also seasonal and peaks in winter. However, its underlying molecular mechanism remains unknown. We are now trying to understand this mechanism using animal models, and I introduced these studies, including recent unpublished data at the KVA-JSPS seminar. Because winter depression is an important social issue in the Nordic countries, I received a lot of positive feedback from the audience after the seminar.

In addition to the KVA-JSPS seminar, I presented several of our ongoing research projects at Nagoya University in detail to Professor Andersson's group members, and we discussed collaborative research projects during my stay at Uppsala University. Following these fruitful discussions, we designed new experiments for future collaborative research. It was a great opportunity for us to sit together in person and have thorough discussion about our work, which was not possible by email.

I am grateful to Professor Andersson and his lab members, especially Dr. Junfeng Chen, for their hospitality and generous support during my stay. Professor Andersson took me to Linnaeus botanical garden for a wonderful walk. Carl Linnaeus is a famous physician, botanist, and zoologist, who received most of his higher education at Uppsala University. Linnaeus formalized binomial nomenclature and is known as the “father of modern taxonomy”. Professor Andersson also took me to the Uppsala University Faculty Dinner. I really enjoyed the Swedish scientific atmosphere, which was quite different from the Japanese one and made me reconsider how I think about science.

Finally, I would like to thank Director Tadaharu Tsumoto, Deputy Director Takao Yoshihara and Ms. Mayu Yoshinaka at the JSPS Stockholm Office for all of their kind support.

The 2nd KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019

Masataka Fukugita, Professor, Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe, the University of Tokyo

I have given a lecture in the morning of 13th June at KVA for its Physics Class on "Road to Λ CDM as the standard model of the universe", which is the title for the content I prepared as requested by Professor Gunnar Ingelman. The thesis was to review what were the most important developments that have led to our current understanding of the Universe, Λ CDM, which we believe correct with little room for modifications any longer, in particular after the test with the Planck satellite experiments. My review was with the emphasis how the two important ingredients, cold dark matter and vacuum-like energy (sometimes called dark energy), were introduced, and why they were compelling. I understand this was the request I have been asked to answer. In fact, this talk was preceded by a hearing session of KVA Physics Class two day earlier (11th), where I was to answer many questions raised by the academy members. I had to show there many viewgraphs I prepared for the talk two days later: so the hearing session creamed out what I prepared, which means what I prepared for the talk were exactly what they wanted to listen to. Active discussion took place, as it did so after my presentation on the second day. I guess I satisfied most of their desires except that I could not for their specific questions as to who was the most important player there. This is because the development was not due to a few players, but to more than a dozen of important players, so that it is difficult for me to single out any one particular. This is an inevitable consequence in physical sciences today. A single man cannot fully mature the idea, even if it is originally his own, as many scientists come and intervene if the idea looks promising.

On the 13th of June afternoon I gave a colloquium with the title "Physical actions of stars on the evolution of the Universe" at Stockholm University's Alba Nova Centre. Here I chose to make the talk covering more general aspects so that non-astrophysical physicists may get interested in the subject, and is comprehensible to people who were educated dedicatedly in physics. This is also concordant with the subject on which I have been working almost for two decades under the thesis "Cosmic energy inventory" (together with my long-standing collaborator in Princeton, Jim Peebles, actually over so long time indeed). The project is to enumerate all forms of energy existing in the Universe and to study interplay among the items. Stars in galaxies are the important central players that transfer the energy into many different forms, so are crucial in the development of the Universe. I am afraid that my talk was not organised very well, but nevertheless long and many questions after the seminar seem to indicate their interests and reactions.

My talk on the 14th at Angstrom Laboratory in Uppsala University repeats the talk at Alba Nova with slight modifications I found necessary while I gave a lecture in Stockholm. The questions and the response after the talk were vigorous, continued more to free discussions over the lunch. This seemed to indicate that the talk was well



Prof. Fukugita during his lecture

received here (even more than in Stockholm), with which I was very glad. More than a dozen among the audience came to me to say they liked it.

My seminar on the 18th was on "Circumgalactic Cosmology: focusing on Magnesium II clouds". This seminar assumes the astrophysicist audience (of the Oskar-Klein Centre) and I have gone into somewhat more astronomical subjects. Mg II clouds, which show Mg II absorption features in quasar spectra, themselves may already be perhaps some expertise concept to the OKC audience. This is what I have been working for the last 5 years or so, as an extended subject to be solved within the cosmic energy inventory project. We now consider that they are directly a product of the star formation activity in galaxies, and that clouds are small objects but numerous, like foam.

I have already given by now a number of seminars with similar contents at a number of places, but this was a rare occasion I've ever experienced that I had seen so little response from the audience. I suspect that the subject is still too peculiar to the Swedish audience. Possibly, they are not much exposed to astronomy, as compared with the US, UK, Munich or Paris-Meudon.

I should say that the responses were generally good (except at the seminar in Oskar-Klein-Centre), in particular when I consider the recent trend that there are no strong centres for astrophysics studies and young people are more concentrated to their specified expertise, showing little interests in what is other than their own subjects, especially in Europe. However, I found both Stockholm and Uppsala are scientifically good places for physicists.

I got some impression that astrophysical research is rather weak in Sweden. Today, it is hard to find good problems in particle physics: experimentally significant problems are basically all solved, and what remains are so hard, continue to repel the attack of people for many years. Cosmology is getting similar in its situation, but there are yet many unsolved problems left in astrophysics general. They should attract attention of "frustrated" particle physicists.

2019.5.14 Visit to Hokkaido University Europe Office in Helsinki

Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi visited the Hokkaido University Europe Office in Helsinki and met with Mr. Takehiro Okabe, Deputy Director, and Prof. Gasik, Vice-Chair of the ACF. They shared the current progress of our joint event which will be held in December.



Mr. Izumi, Deputy Director Yoshihara, Mr. Okabe and Prof. Gasik

2019.5.14 Visit to the Embassy of Japan in Finland

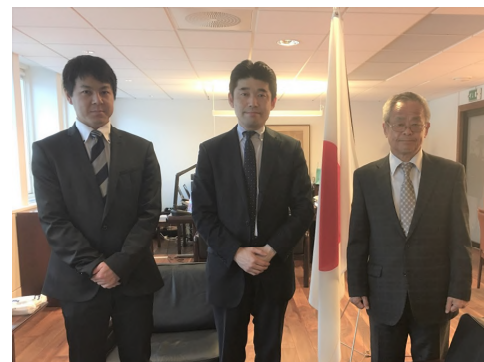
Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi visited the Embassy of Japan in Finland together with Mr. Okabe. They met with Mr. Kenji Ohashi, First Secretary, and requested the embassy's support for our special event, which will be held in December to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the ACF.



Mr. Okabe, Mr. Yoshihara and Mr. Ohashi

2019.6.18 Visit to the Embassy of Japan in Norway

Deputy Director Yoshihara and International Program Associate Izumi visited the Embassy of Japan in Norway. They met with H.E. Ambassador Masahiro Tauchi and requested the embassy's support for our special event, which will be held in October to celebrate the establishment of the ACN.



Mr. Izumi, Mr. Yoshihara and H.E. Ambassador Tauchi

2019.6.20 Visit by Ms. Mihoko Toyoshima from the JSPS Headquarters

Ms. Toyoshima, Deputy Head of the JSPS headquarters, visited us. She visited Norway on the previous day and they shared information about recent activities and discussed the JSPS international programs.



Ms. Toyoshima in the middle of the front row

2019.6.28 Visit by Dr. Kayo Takahashi from RIKEN

Dr. Kayo Takahashi, Senior Scientist at RIKEN Center for Biosystems Dynamics Research visited our office and met with Director Tsumoto and Deputy Director Yoshihara. They exchanged information about upcoming events and confirmed further collaboration.

Sweden: Ranked first globally three years in a row **-Towards the realization of a sustainable society-**

Takao Yoshihara, Deputy Director, JSPS Stockholm Office

When asked “what is Sweden the proudest of internationally?”, how do you respond? Some would say, “IKEA (the world’s biggest furniture group)”, “ABBA (Swedish pop group in the 70s and 80s)”, or “surströmming (sour herring).” I would have answered IKEA about two and a half years ago just before I came to Sweden. Now, however, I would say something totally different: It’s their work towards a sustainable society. As a Japanese who has lived in Sweden for more than two years, here I would like to report some of the features of Sweden.

What are the SDGs?

When it comes to sustainable development, many people would think of the SDGs. What are the SDGs? They are Sustainable Development Goals. In September 2015, the General Assembly of the UN adopted a resolution with 17 global goals for a better world. It is a plan of action for the people, the planet and prosperity. The three dimensions of sustainable development-the economic, social and environmental-are all equally important.



SDGs logo created by Swedish designer Jakob Trollbäck
 Photo: UN (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2015/09/global-goals-projections/>)

Sweden’s ranking on SDG Index FY2019

On June 28, 2019, the SDG Index for FY2019 was released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung, and Sweden was ranked second while Japan was placed 15th. Sweden had been ranked first for three consecutive years from FY2016 to FY2018. For further information, visit the link below:

https://s3.amazonaws.com/sustainabledevelopment.report/2019/2019_sustainable_development_report.pdf (Refer to page 20 of the Sustainable Development Report 2019)

Malmö’s work

Malmö is located in the southern part of Sweden and is the third largest city with a population of about 340,000. It is well known as a sustainable city. Their goal is to become the world’s leading city for sustainable development by 2025. Let me introduce part of their work.

1) 100 percent renewable energy source: In the Western Harbour district of the city, all the energy used is covered by renewable energy such as solar, wind, hydro and

geothermal.

2) Initiatives to achieve an eco-friendly coexistence of cars and bicycles: Malmö is also known as a bike-friendly city, with a 470km bike lane. This distance is the longest in Sweden and bicycle culture is deeply rooted in city life.

3) Public transportation: The city buses run on 100 percent renewable fuel, mainly biogas.

4) Recycling: All household waste in Malmö is collected and 98 percent of the waste is reused or recycled into new material or energy.

5) Solar energy: With low operating costs and no emissions at all, solar energy plays a significant role in city life.

6) Efforts by business: Private sector work is also crucial. For example, the Swedish burger chain MAX has worked hard on reducing the amount of carbon dioxide emissions by making its menu climate-positive through wind-powered energy.



Photos: Malmö Stad (<https://malmo.se/>)

I would like to note that the situation of Malmö is not the exception. According to the Global Destination Sustainability Index for FY2018, Gothenburg, Uppsala and Stockholm as well as Malmö were ranked in the top 20 (<https://www.gds-index.com/top-destinations>).

What makes Sweden special

Government, private sectors and the general public have shared the common goal of transition towards a sustainable society. In addition to the already rooted social system of free education, healthcare system and gender equality, the country has a solid foundation upon which to build and meet the aims of the SDGs successfully.

What is your ideal sustainable society?

Since I have lived in Sweden, my notion of a sustainable society has drastically changed and Sweden has become a perfect model. Some people may think that Sweden’s situation is special. However, no matter where you live, it is important to think and act for yourself in ways you can. Even small things can make a big difference.

The JSPS Alumni Club in Denmark (ACD)

In this section we introduce JSPS Alumni Clubs through an interview with a club member. This time we met Dr. Annette Skovsted Hansen, who is a regular member of ACD.

- * **Name:** Annette Skovsted Hansen
- * **Title/ Position:** Associate Professor
- * **Affiliation:** Aarhus University



Q: Could you briefly introduce yourself and tell us about your relationship with the JSPS Alumni Club in Denmark?

A: As an associate professor of Japan and Global History at Aarhus University, I teach and research various topics and issues of Japanese history, specifically, how Japan links up with its neighbors and the rest of the world. Prior to my academic career, I was an international staff member at Department of Public Information at United Nations headquarters in New York, 1990-1998. In my research after defending my PhD on the institutionalization of a Japanese national language (*kokugo*) in the 19th century Japan, I have focused on global networks inspired and initially financed by Japanese official development assistance (ODA). This topic combines my work experiences at the UN headquarters and those at Aarhus University. I have been a member of the ACD from its inception in 2015 and follow the initiative with great interest.

Q: How would you evaluate the JSPS program you participated in?

A: In 2008, I spent 30 days at Waseda University thanks to JSPS. The 30-day option for staying at a top academic institution is a very good modality, which full time academic staff can use without having a full semester sabbatical from teaching. The application procedure and administration was smooth and not too time-consuming. While in Japan, my host Professor Abe at the Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies, provided much guidance and time for reflection on not only Japanese public sector (JICA), but also private sector involvement in foreign aid relations. The private sector focus is what distinguishes my research from most research on Japanese ODA.



Lunch following the AOTS executive meeting in 2009

Q: How has the JSPS program contributed to your career and/or research?

A: At Waseda in the Spring of 2008, I shared ideas with my host, built and strengthened my network among Japanese academics, and worked on an article manuscript. The connection to Waseda, the new network beyond Waseda, and the manuscript all contributed to furthering my career and my research about Japanese ODA. My host at Waseda University introduced me to people, who provided much new information and sources that led me to choose a very new and specific perspective on Japanese ODA, i.e. Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan and the Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS).



AOTS success story presenters in 2014 and Grand Prize selection panel including Mrs. Abe Akie, the spouse of the Prime Minister of Japan, Professor Emeritus Muta Hiromitsu, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and Ohno Izumi, Director of JICA research institute

The research and the private sector angle has prepared me to contribute valuable new insights and research, for example, for my annual presentations for the European Japan Advanced Research Network (EJARN), of which I am one of the original 20 members.

Q: How has the Alumni Club membership contributed to your career and/or research?

A: In October of 2018, I, as a regular member of the ACD, organized the ACD Activity Seminar on Japan and African Natural Resources, which again is the key to my academic development by allowing me to build instrumental connections to Japanese academics within a new field, the role of Africa for Japan. The ACD Activity Seminar made it possible to develop new ideas for our new Masters Program in Language-based Global Studies at Aarhus University, where Japan is one of the central countries to understanding global relations today.



Dr. Demachi during her lecture at the ACD Activity Seminar 2018

Q: How would you like the ACD to be in the future, for example in terms of activities?

A: JSPS encourages cross-institutional seminars and activities within Denmark and I think that is a very good idea, however, JSPS may play a more active role in announcing activities and insisting on open calls for various activities and perhaps also hosting annual meetings at different institutions in Denmark and not only the ones in Copenhagen.

Q: Do you have any message for aspiring applicants for the JSPS programs and Alumni Clubs?

A: JSPS offers great opportunities for researchers to participate in various programs including a short stay in Japan at times during the academic year, when they do not have to teach. The grants and the alumni club seminars have potential for bringing new research ideas to fruition and, thereby, affect the research and by extension the teaching related to Japan in Denmark.



Lecturers of the ACD Activity Seminar 2018: "Japan and African Natural Resources"

Reports from Japanese Researchers in the Nordic/Baltic Countries

In this section we ask Japanese researchers to present their experiences and research in their respective countries. For this issue we asked Dr. Mika Yasuoka, a researcher at the Japanordic, to present her research and experiences in Denmark.

Dr. Mika Yasuoka

Title/Position: Representative



Years	Degree	Institute	Location
2010	Ph.D.	IT University of Copenhagen (ITU), Denmark (based on studies at the University of Tokyo and Carnegie Mellon University, USA)	Copenhagen, Denmark
2003	M.S.	Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University	Kyoto, Japan
2001	B.S.	Library and Information Science, Keio University	Tokyo, Japan

Years	Position	Institute	Location
2014 - present	Representative	Japanordic	Copenhagen, Denmark
2016-2018	Research Associates	Technical University of Denmark (DTU)	Copenhagen, Denmark
2012-2018	Guest Researcher, Assistant Professor	IT University of Copenhagen (ITU)	Copenhagen, Denmark
2012-2018	Global CEO Researcher	Graduate school of Informatics, Kyoto University	Kyoto, Japan

Q: What are you currently researching in Denmark?

A: I'm conducting my research about the practice and theorization of Scandinavian stakeholder involvement methods such as Participatory Design (PD) and Living Lab (LL) for IT design in society. The applied fields are large-scale social IT systems such as digital government, the national healthcare system and smart cities. In the last couple of years, I have applied PD and LL to societal challenges for better living through information systems.

Q: How did you get interested in your research subject?

A: My original research subject was the usability of a large-scale IT system, and I got interested in a socially embedded IT system in Scandinavia. When I started my Ph.D. work in Denmark, I realized IT systems had become part of the social infrastructure in Denmark and clearly contributed to citizens' quality of life. I wondered about the key differences in IT system design process between the two countries.



A view from the 5th floor of ITU

Q: Why did you choose your current institution to conduct your research?

A: I established a Scandinavia based think tank, Japanordic, together with other two Japanese researchers in different fields in 2014. Since I was more interested in practice and action research, the university environment was not adequate. In order to get flexible collaboration with other organizations, institutions and citizens, I chose the current research setting.



Workshop for senior citizens on motivation technology with sensors

Q: What has been the most challenging aspects of your research so far?

A: Since my research is deeply connected to real-world problems and society, collaboration between industries, governments, academia and citizens is indispensable and essential. As the stakeholders in each project have different agendas and needs, designing a project framework and managing its process are always challenging. It is also difficult to write and publish a paper in traditional academic journals based on the research projects.

Q: Compared to Japan, what is your impression of the research environment in Denmark?

A: I know it largely depends on research domains, but if I may say, in my field, the individual researcher is more independent and at the same time places value on collaboration. Recently, the Danish research environment changed drastically and applied international standards in both good and bad ways. Research funding has grown, and requires more collaboration across domains and institutions. Universities pay more attention to global research KPIs and demand internationally recognized standards of performance from researchers. International research connections, collaboration and networks are more important than ever. Thus, researchers are requested to collaborate with various stakeholders and make social impacts with their research.



PD research team at ITU

Q: Do you have any advice for young scientists who dream of going to Denmark to do research?

A: Although academia is an international domain in itself, no place exists without the influence of the global society. Honestly speaking, I believe it is of critical importance for Asians to have unique skills and values that can contribute to the European research environment. In my field, the Japanese presence is not very high, nor is that of other Asian countries. I hardly ever meet Asian researchers in the Nordic region and if I did, they tend to be Chinese or Korean. Needless to say, language and cultural differences are bigger for Japanese than for other EU researchers, and strategic efforts to get exposure for research performance can be limited due to language and cultural barriers. If you dare to do research in Denmark, it is essential to be highly skilled in your field, and you should strategically look for a place where your cultural and research background will be recognized.



KI, KTH and SU form the University alliance Stockholm trio

On May 27, 2019, KI, KTH Royal Institute of Technology and Stockholm University signed an agreement to establish an international type model of a university alliance. The agreement aims to strengthen the development of the Stockholm region and to highlight the internationally distinguished research and education environment that the three universities create together. The Stockholm trio have recently acted as a common player and concluded a cooperative agreement with the University of Tokyo.

Sources: <https://news.ki.se/karolinska-institutet-kth-and-stockholm-university-form-the-university-alliance-stockholm-trio>

<https://intra.kth.se/aktuellt/nyheter/karolinska-institutet-kth-och-stockholms-universitet-bildar-universitetsalliansen-stockholm-trio-1.906634>



Photo: <https://www.su.se/om-oss/organisation/karolinska-institutet-kth-och-stockholms-universitet-bildar-universitetsalliansen->



Largest investment by a university in gender equality



Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg has launched a strategic plan called Gender Initiative for Excellence (GENIE) from January 1, 2019 and it will be running until 2028. It aims to increase the proportion of women in the faculty, including proportion of women professors from 17% today to 40% in 2029, through concrete changes of academic cultures, systems and processes with an investment of SEK300 million.

Sources: <https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20190410073042444>

Photo: geralt (<https://pixabay.com/sv/photos/chans-j%C3%A4mst%C3%A4lldhet-lika-m%C3%B6jligheter-3335805/>)

<https://www.chalmers.se/en/about-chalmers/Chalmers-for-a-sustainable-future/initiatives-for-gender-equality/gender-initiative-for-excellence/Pages/default.aspx>



AKA reaffirms its sustainable development policy

AKA decided to renew the Academy's commitment to promoting sustainable development, which aims to generate more visibility for the principles of sustainable development by asking applicants to describe how their project supports sustainable development. The first sustainable development commitment was announced by the Academy in 2015, and it was targeted at the preparation, implementation and monitoring of Academy programmes.

Source: <https://www.aka.fi/en/about-us/media/whats-new/2018/academy-of-finland-reaffirms-its-sustainable-development-policy/>



Photo: annca (<https://pixabay.com/sv/photos/natur-jorden-h%C3%A5llbarhet-blad-3289812/>)



New government strategy emphasizes education and culture, revitalization and opportunities for a meaningful life

The Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland introduced a new strategy which will be the outlook review of the Ministry until 2030. The key message of the strategy is that the Ministry and its agencies will take responsibility for securing the foundations of culture and education in society, and the goals are to enable better skills, knowledge and competence for all, to take creative, inquiry-based and responsible action that renews society, and to ensure equal opportunities for a meaningful life.



Sources: https://minedu.fi/en/article/-/asset_publisher/opetus-ja-kulttuuriministerion-strategia-korostaa-sivistysta-uudistumista-ja-merkityksellisyden-edellytyksia

Ministry of Education and Culture Strategy 2030

<http://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/161562/OKM14.pdf>



Danish government launches national AI strategy



The Danish government's new National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (NSAI) aims to capitalize on investment in AI technologies to enhance societal advancement and deliver a competitive edge to business and industry. The NSAI includes 20 initiatives that are divided into four focus areas: the need for a responsible foundation for AI; access to more and better data; the development of strong digital-AI competences coupled with new knowledge; and the scaled-up flow of capital investments into AI.

Sources: <https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252464063/Danish-government-launches-national-AI-strategy>

National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence

https://eng.em.dk/media/13081/305755-gb-version_4k.pdf

Photo: https://eng.em.dk/media/13081/305755-gb-version_4k.pdf



What does Brexit mean for Norwegian Horizon 2020 participants?

The Research Council of Norway recommends that Norwegian actors give careful thought before taking part in Horizon 2020 coordinated by British institutions or companies in case of a hard Brexit, in which the UK would become a Third Country in the context of Horizon 2020, other EU programmes as well as in terms of EEA law.

Source: <https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252464063/Danish-government-launches-national-AI-strategy>



Photo: TheDigitalArtist (<https://pixabay.com/sv/photos/brexit-europa-britain-eu-politik-3707228/>)



Prof. Yoshio Okamoto and Prof. Rattan Lal awarded the 2019 Japan Prize

On April 8, 2019, Japan Prize Presentation Ceremony was held at the National theatre of Japan in the presence of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

For the 2019 Japan Prize, Prof. Yoshio Okamoto, Nagoya University, and Prof. Rattan Lal, Ohio State University, were awarded. Prof. Okamoto received the prize for his “leading contributions to precision synthesis of helical polymers and development of practical chiral materials for separating chiral drugs”, and Prof. Lal for his significant achievement in “sustainable soil management for global food security and mitigation of climate change”.

The Japan Prize is an international prize awarded to scientists and engineers who have made significant contributions to the advancement of science and technology, and served to promote peace and prosperity of humankind. Each year two fields are honored, and the laureates receive a certificate of merit, a prize medal, and an award of 50 million yen for each prize field. The prize was first awarded in 1985.

Source: <https://www.japanprize.jp/en/laureates.html>



Prof. Okamoto

Photo: https://www.japanprize.jp/en/press_kits_20190408_03.html



Prof. Lal

Photo: https://www.japanprize.jp/en/press_kits_20190408_03.html



White paper on Science and Technology FY2019 emphasizes the importance of basic research

The white paper on Science and Technology FY2019 was released by the MEXT of Japan and it stresses the importance of basic research in science. Together with the words of the Japanese Nobel laureates, the white paper emphasizes the essence and importance of basic research. The current research environment in Japan is also analyzed with various statistical data such as the number of published research papers, the presence in scientific research, and research funds.

Source: <https://www.asahi.com/articles/ASM5S462HM5SULBJ006.html> (in Japanese)



Photo: http://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/hakusho/html/hpaa201901/1411294.htm

Call for Applications

JSPS Alumni Club Activity Seminar FY2020

Application period: August 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019

Eligibility: Board members and regular members of JSPS Alumni Club in Sweden (SAC), Finland (ACF), Denmark (ACD), and Norway (ACN).

For more information, please visit the link below:

<https://www.jsps-sto.com/event/call-for-alumni-club-activity-seminar-applications-fy2019-for-acn/>

International Fellowships for Research in Japan

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan (Short-term) FY2020

The program provides opportunities for pre-/ post-doctoral researchers to conduct cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions with the duration of 1 to 12 months.

Recruitment	Application deadline (from host institution to JSPS)	Periods for arrival in Japan
1st (FY2020)	Oct 4, 2019	Apr 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2021
2nd (FY2020)	Jan 17, 2020	Aug 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2021
3rd (FY2020)	Jun 5, 2020	Jan 1, 2021 - Mar 31, 2021

For more information, please visit the link below:

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-oubei-s/index.html>

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan (Standard) FY2020

The program provides opportunities for postdoctoral researchers to conduct cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions with the duration of 12 to 24 months.

Recruitment	Application deadline (from host institution to JSPS)	Periods for arrival in Japan
1st	Sep 6, 2019	Apr 1, 2020 - Sep 30, 2020
2nd	May 8, 2020	Sep 1, 2020 - Nov 30, 2020

For more information, please visit the link below:

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-ippan/index.html>

Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan FY2020

The program provides overseas researchers who have an excellent record of research achievements with an opportunity to conduct collaborative research, discussions, and opinion exchanges with researchers in Japan.

This program consists of three options of Long-term, Short-term, and Short-term S.

Recruitment	Program	Application deadline (from host institution to JSPS)	Periods for arrival in Japan
1st	Long-term Short-term	Sep 6, 2019	Apr 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2021
2nd	Short-term	May 8, 2020	Oct 1, 2020 - Mar 31, 2021

For more information, please visit the link below:

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/index.html>

Upcoming Seminars and Symposia

The 1st SAC Activity Seminar FY2019

Theme: "Cogito Ergo Sum?" AI in Japan and Sweden

Date: September 24 (Tue) & 25 (Wed), 2019

Venue: Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

Speakers: Dr. Atsuto Maki (KTH Royal Institute of Technology) , Dr. Fredrik Heintz (Linköping University), etc.

Organizers: SAC, JSPS Stockholm Office

URL: <https://www.jsps-sto.com/event/the-sac-activity-seminar-2019-1/>

* Please register in advance by September 17.

ETAg-JSPS Seminar

Date: September 26 (Thu), 2019

Venue: Centennial Hotel Tallinn, Tallinn, Estonia

Speakers: Prof. Hiroshi Kageyama (Department of Energy & Hydrocarbon Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto University)
Prof. Mikk Lippmaa (Department of Advanced Materials Science, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, the University of Tokyo), etc.

Organizers: Estonian Research Council (ETAg), JSPS Stockholm Office

The 3rd KVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019

Date / Venue: October 1 (Tue), 2019 at Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden
October 3 (Thu), 2019 at AlbaNova University Center, Stockholm, Sweden

Speaker: Prof. Yasunobu Nakamura (Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo/ Center for Emergent Matter Science, RIKEN)

Organizers: KVA, JSPS Stockholm Office

The ACD Activity Seminar FY2019

Theme: Lesson Study between Didactical Research and the Teaching Profession

Date: October 8 (Tue), 2019

Venue: Hummeltofteskolen & University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Speakers: Dr. Koji Otaki (Hokkaido University of Education), etc.

Organizers: ACD, JSPS Stockholm Office

URL: <https://www.jsps-sto.com/event/acd-activity-seminar-2019/>

* Please register in advance by September 1.

Inaugural Ceremony of the Establishment of ACN

Date: October 17 (Thu), 2019

Venue: RCN, Oslo, Norway

Organizers: RCN, ACN, Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (Diku), JSPS Stockholm Office

Upcoming Seminars and Symposia

RCN-JSPS Seminar FY2019

Theme: The Ocean Brings Us Together!

Date: October 17 (Thu), 2019

Venue: RCN, Oslo, Norway

Speakers: Dr. Takashi Kikuchi (Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)/ Institute of Arctic Climate and Environment Research (IACE)), etc.

Organizers: RCN, ACN, Diku, JSPS Stockholm Office

Support: the Embassy of Japan in Norway

Turku Biomaterials Days and ACF Activity Seminar FY2019

Theme: Biomaterials in cellular and tissue microenvironments

Date: October 24 (Thu) & 25 (Fri), 2019

Venue: Turku University, Turku, Finland

Speakers: Prof. Takao Hanawa (Tokyo Medical and Dental University), Prof. Michael Gasik (Aalto University and Vice-Chair of ACF), etc.

Organizers: BioCity Turku Biomaterials and Medical Device Research Program, Turku Science Park Ltd, ACF, JSPS Stockholm Office

URL: <https://turkubusinessregion.com/tapahtuma/turku-biomaterials-days-and-jsp-s-acf-seminar-2019-2/>

* Please register in advance by October 15.

The 2nd SAC Activity Seminar FY2019

Theme: Orthopedic Musculoskeletal Regeneration

Date: October 28 (Mon), 2019

Venue: KI Campus Flemingsberg, Huddinge, Sweden

Speakers: Dr. Mitsuo Ochi (President of Hiroshima University), Prof. Christer Rolf (Clintec/ KI), etc.

Organizers: SAC, JSPS Stockholm Office

IVA-JSPS Seminar FY2019

Date: November 28 (Thu), 2019

Venue: IVA

Organizers: IVA, JSPS Stockholm Office

10-year Anniversary Ceremony of ACF

Date: December 12 (Thu), 2019

Venue: Academy of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Organizers: ACF, Hokkaido University Europe Office in Helsinki, JSPS Stockholm Office

All Alumni Meeting in Finland FY2019

Date: December 12 (Thu), 2019

Venue: Academy of Finland, Helsinki, Finland

Organizers: ACF, Hokkaido University Europe Office in Helsinki, JSPS Stockholm Office

JSPS Stockholm Office's New Brochure

We have undated our office's brochure.

Please visit the link below:

<https://www.jsp-s-to.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019brochure.pdf>



JSPS Stockholm Office E-mail Magazine

We began issuing an e-mail magazine in April 2019, which includes information about our seminars, symposia, alumni activities and international fellowship programs.

To sign up for our e-mail magazine, please register from here:

<https://www.jsp-s-to.com/newsletter-2/emailmagazine/>

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Cover Photo: Hibiscus flowers in Shikoku, Japan



Photo by Tomoko Svedlund Ishii