Dear JSPS ACD members,

this is the first newsletter of the year, and with it I want to wish you a HAPPY 2021, with my very best wishes for a more normal year and re-opening of borders and students/researchers exchanges across the world, and especially between Denmark and Japan.

Leila, chairperson

JARA 2021 - Japan Alumni and Researcher Assembly - 29th January 2021 9-11 on line event

JARA 2021 will be soon, on January 29th from 9-11!!! Given the circumstances JARA is organised as a fully online event, with TUEC/Tokai as main organizer and participation of the Embassy of Japan in Denmark and the JSPS Stockholm and Alumni Club Denmark. If you are new to JARA, it is an extremely important event in the JSPS ACD calendar. JARA stands for Japan Alumni and Researcher Assembly and aims to promote networking within the Japan-related research community in Denmark, and to provide a forum for Danish and Japanese researchers, professionals and students to meet, and promote Japan-related research and student scholarships. There will be short introductions to the participating institutions and scholarship programs, but the main event will be four lectures on the extremely interesting theme of 'Quality of Life'. Please help make the event a success and join by registering at https://sites.google.com/view/jara2021/home!

UPCOMING ALUMNI CLUB GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 5th FEBRUARY 2021 12-13 online

Usually we hold the Alumni Club General Assembly on the same day as JARA 2021 for all regular members of the ACD club. However this year, due to the changed format of JARA 2021 and the current restrictions, we will have this as an online event at lunchtime 12-13 on 5th February 2021. If you are a regular member, you will receive a separate invitation with a link within a few days. Please attend and get more involved!

OTHER NEWS

As a new type of event, we held a BRIDGE fellowship Webinar on 13th of November. Bridge Fellow 2019 Lars Jørn Jensen (University of Copenhagen) and his host in Japan James Pearson (National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center) gave short back to back talks on the BRIDGE experience. It was a small, but - in my opinion - successful event which JSPS and the ACD will consider repeating in the future. Unfortunately it is still uncertain how and when the Bridge Fellow for 2020 will be able to travel to her host. Likewise it is uncertain if the ACD Seminar planned for 2019 and now postponed to 2020 will be possible as live or hybrid event, or will have to be online only.

HOME PAGE AND LINKEDIN PAGE

Please look at our home page if you do not know it https://www.jsps-sto.com/alumni-club-3/alumni-

<u>club-in-denmark/</u> - you need to scroll to the bottom of the page to find details about the board. The JSPS Stockholm office has a (quite) new Linkedin page, which you might want to follow. A lot of nice initiatives between nordic and japanese researchers are announced there. https://www.linkedin.com/company/jsps-sto/

HELP US TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

JSPS ACD needs new members (and this point will stay on the newsletter every time, until the situation is rectified!) Regular members need to be JSPS alumni, that is received a JSPS grant before. However, and interest in research/educational collaboration with Japan is enough to be an associate member and while associate members are not elegible for ACD earmarked grants, they still are welcome at event and recive information about regular, open JSPS grants. If you have someone whom you think could benefit from being a member, please send them a link to the application page here:

https://www.jsps-sto.com/alumni-club-3/application-for-membership-4/