
JSPS ALUMNI CLUB DENMARK – NEWSLETTER NO. 2, December 2021

Dear JSPS ACD members,

it has been another year dominated by Corona, where travel has been difficult. Nonetheless researchers all over the world are trying to keep contact as best as they can. Also in the JSPS ACD we managed a few activities

JARA 2021 - Japan Alumni and Researcher Assembly - 29th January 2021 - on line event. TUEC/Tokai was main organizer with participation of the Embassy of Japan in Denmark and the JSPS Stockholm and Alumni Club Denmark

ALUMNI CLUB GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 5th FEBRUARY 2021 online event. The online format was quite successful, and we plan to repeat this on line in 2022. At the GA 2021 we said goodbye to long standing board member Associate Professor Gunhild Borggreen and welcomed new board member Prof Mette Sandbye from the University of Copenhagen, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies. It became clear that there would be no BRIDGE or ACD seminar call for application for the year.

The board held a board meeting in April, with primary agenda points being the delayed activities from 2020 (BRIDGE fellowship and ACD seminar) as well as upcoming JARA. At this meeting a slight update of ACD articles was proposed and later approved by the ACD members.

In June a board member map was published that you can see here <https://www.jsps-sto.com/ac/map/>

The board had planned a board meeting on 1. July to touch down before the summer holidays, but it had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Instead the board worked by mail to make final decisions towards the delayed ACD seminar from 2020.

ACD ACTIVITY SEMINAR - SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY FROM BIOMASS - 22nd OCTOBER - was held as hybrid event at the University of Copenhagen with Prof Kiyohiko Igarashi as main speakers and a number of additional scandinavian speakers. The event gave a much longed for opportunity for an onsite event including a poster session for younger researchers, and had about 20 physical participants and >30 on line attendees. In addition to specialized topics, the event included participation by JSPS Stockholm and JSPS alumni to promote JSPS fellowships and other activities.

In the Autumn the ACD was featured in the German alumni club newsletter.

In November the ACD chair participated in a Pan Nordic Meeting with the other Nordic Alumni Club Chairs.

The board held a board meeting in December, with main agenda points the upcoming JARA and ACD General assembly. The General Assembly will be carried out on line (more information to come). Clearly the current increase in corona infections in Denmark, again bring many uncertainties for a

physical JARA event, which also needs coordinating with TUEC/Tokai and the Embassy of Japan in Denmark. The board hopes to come with an update early in the New Year.

In the meanwhile I wish you all an excellent holiday break, and a New Year where it again is possible to travel freely between Denmark and Japan. On this note, I want to draw your attention that, with some short notice, the BRIDGE application for alumni to revisit Japan has opened

BRIDGE FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE 26th JANUARY

<https://www.jsps-sto.com/event/bridge-fellowship-program-fy2022/>

We hope some of you will try and take advantage of this great opportunity, despite the uncertainties ahead.

HOME PAGE AND LINKEDIN PAGE

Please look at our home page if you do not know it <https://www.jsps-sto.com/ac/alumni-club-in-denmark/> - you need to scroll to the bottom of the page to find details about the board. The JSPS Stockholm office has a 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 eligible for ACD earmarked grants, they still are welcome at event and receive 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/ac/application-for-membership-4/>

With all the best season greetings

ACD Chair

Leila Lo Leggio