



## JSPS US Fellows Alumni Association

4<sup>th</sup> Issue June, 2007 Editor: Blanca Chattin-Kacouris DDS, PhD. Associate Editor: Yoke Khin Yap PhD.

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### Science Policy, Fusion Science and Accelerator Science

*June 15, 2007*

*Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA*

*Agenda, Biographical Notes and Abstracts*

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The "Science in Japan" Fora organized by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Washington Office, which seek to promote Japan-US collaboration by introducing the latest trends in Japanese scientific research, have since 1996 been held with the support of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the US Department of Energy (DOE), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The topic of this year was "Science Policy, Fusion Science and Accelerator Science".



On June 15th, the 12th "Science in Japan" Forum was held at the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington, VA.

The forum opened with remarks by Dr. Akira Masaike, Director of JSPS Washington Office, who explained the importance of the "Science in Japan" Fora and why "Science Policy, Fusion Science and Accelerator Science" were chosen as the forum's themes. Then he introduced the moderators and the chairperson.

The Fusion Science Session was moderated by Dr. Robert Goldston, Director of Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, who gave an introductory talk on the fusion

science. The session proceeded with presentations by Dr. Osamu Motojima, Director General of National Institute for Fusion Science and Dr. Norbert Holtkamp, Principal Deputy Director General of ITER Organization.

Dr. Nicholas Samios, Director of RIKEN BNL Research Center moderated the Accelerator Science Session, who pointed out the importance of development of accelerators and its applications. The session proceeded with talks by Dr. Masakazu Yoshioka, Professor of KEK, Leader for Construction of J?PARC and Dr. Hiromichi Kamitsubo, Vice Chairman of Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute (JASRI) and Special Adviser of RIKEN.

The third session, the Science Policy Session, started with Dr. Machi Dilworth's introduction of speakers, who is the Director of Division of Biological Infrastructure, National Science Foundation. The session proceeded with presentations by Dr. Kaye Husbands, Science Advisor for Science of Science Policy of National Science Foundation, and Ms.Maki Kubo, Director of Administration Department of JSPS. Finally, a panel discussion on the science policy was held chaired by Dr. Dilworth. The panelists were Dr. Goldston; Dr. Husbands; Dr. Kamitsubo; and Ms. Kubo.

All of the speakers were leading experts in their respective fields. As their presentations remained broad in scope while elaborating the latest state of related research, they were of considerable interest to administrators for science policy as well as to specialists in those fields.

The forum assembled some 150 government administrators, university researchers and others, who listened to the presentations with eager attention and exchanged information on research in the subject fields with the speakers and one another with enthusiasm.

***Congratulations to Prof. Akira Masaike and the staff at JSPS WO for the success of the Forum!***



*Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Alumni Association*

**Presents a Conference:**

**Globalization & Japan:  
Challenges from Social Changes  
November 16-17, 2007  
American University, Washington, D.C.**

**Organized by: JSPS US Alumni Association and JSPS Washington Office**

**Sponsored by: Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Washington Office  
American University – School of International Relations  
Michigan State University – Department of Resource  
Development**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The organizers issue a call for papers for a conference to be held at American University in Washington, DC on November 16-17. The theme will be "Globalization & Japan: Challenges from Social Changes". Globalization is a topic that has been studied in much frequency in recent years. It has been the theme of the annual meetings of several of the social science professional organizations. Recent trends in various disciplines have shown that the "global" is an emerging force of study as evidenced by Global Economics and Business, Global Politics, Global Public Health, Global Climatology, Global Sociology, and many other sub-fields. Preference would be given to topics related to Japan, explicitly or implicitly.

Social change is also an important topic of inquiry. The press is always interested in having social scientists comment on recent events related to social change. Public disturbances such as the recent riots in Paris or anti-war protests in the United States or even long-term changes such as public behavior on airplanes have attracted the press to social scientists for explanation of these events.

Though conferences on the study of globalization and on the study of social change are often made, few conferences focus on the intersection of these two important subjects. We invite submissions from a variety of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives, including sociology, political science, economics and business, international relations, and anthropology. We encourage submissions from JSPS Fellows and all social scientists.

We welcome proposals for papers and panels on all aspects of globalization and social change in any discipline.

Proposals:

For paper proposals, maximum 500 word abstract and brief vitae. Proposals must include

titles of papers; presenter's name(s) and institutional affiliations(s); mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail addresses.

Deadline for receipt of proposals: August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

We prefer the proposals to be submitted electronically.

Send proposals to: [peng@cas.usf.edu](mailto:peng@cas.usf.edu) .

Or in case you are not comfortable with electronic submission or have no access to e-mail, send proposals by regular mail to:

Dajin Peng  
Department of Government and  
International Affairs  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, FL 33620-8100  
Phone: (813) 974-0789

Conference organizers:       Dajin Peng, University of South Florida  
                                      Quansheng Zhao, American University  
                                      Louis Edgar Esparza, Stony Brook University  
                                      Akira Masaike, JSPS Washington Office

Contact person:               Dajin Peng, [peng@cas.usf.edu](mailto:peng@cas.usf.edu)

Conference committee: Louis Edgar Esparza, Dajin Peng, Gerhardus Shultink,  
Quansheng Zhao, JSPS US Alumni Association Executive Committee and JSPS  
Washington Office

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***Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators - Introduction***

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The Scientific Groups are activity units of the Alumni. Fellows are invited to join the SGs of their preference according to their area of study/research. These groups were created to encourage fellows in close areas of research to know each other, establish collaborations and expand their network.

The categories of the Scientific Groups are: Physics and Mathematics, Social Sciences and Humanities, Engineering, Chemistry and Biology and Medical Sciences

In this issue, the coordinators are presenting their messages to all the fellows. Please, feel welcomed to contact them and join the groups that are suitable for your field of research.

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*Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators – Physics and Mathematics*

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Dear Physics and Mathematics JSPS-USA Alumni members,

**About me and the group:**

I am Anil Patnaik, recently joined as a Research Scientist at Innovative Scientific Solutions, Inc., in Dayton, OH. Until recently (April'07) I was working at Texas A&M University as a visiting Assistant Professor.



As a sub-group of the JSPS-USA AA, we hope to foster one-to-one relation with each other in terms of sharing our experiences and developing common ground for possible collaborations amongst ourselves, and also with other sub-groups. As we have done in the past, we will hold meetings of our subgroup along the sidelines of conferences and meetings.

**Group Membership:**

As a first step towards our goal of knowing each other better, I have created a database for our “Physics and Mathematics group” in the main page of “Yahoo group for JSPS-USA AA”. If you have never accessed the database, I would encourage you to please visit to add/update your information. The web address is:

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/jspsusa/database?method=reportRows&tbl=2>

OR you can also login to Yahoo group for JSPS-USA Alumni and click on “Database” in the links in the left-hand side column. There you will find links for adding or editing the entries. However, if you come across any problem, please e-mail me at [anil\\_patnaik@yahoo.com](mailto:anil_patnaik@yahoo.com).

**Request to members:**

- Undoubtedly, the above list is incomplete. So I will request all those alumni who have not joined in the group to please join us in our effort to keep moving forward.
- Also please send your suggestions or announcements on activities that you feel would be of interest to our group. You are welcome to post it to all members (listed below) or write to me ([anil\\_patnaik@yahoo.com](mailto:anil_patnaik@yahoo.com)).
- Any update on your personal and professional profiles is of interest to everybody else in the group. So I would encourage you to please write to the Newsletter editors or to me.

With your active participation, I hope that our group will continue to build our relationships—both scientifically and personally. Thank you all in advance.

Best wishes and regards,

Anil Patnaik

Physics and Mathematics coordinator, JSPS-USA-AA

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*Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators –Social Sciences and Humanities*

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Coordinator: Louis Esparza  
[lesparza@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:lesparza@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)



Coordinator: Dajin Peng  
[peng@cas.usf.edu](mailto:peng@cas.usf.edu)

Dr. Peng is Associate Professor of Government & International Affairs at the University of South Florida where he does research on Asian business networks. Mr. Esparza is W. Burghardt Turner Fellow at Stony Brook University where he is conducting comparative-historical research for his dissertation on counter-institutions within social movements. Together, they coordinate the Social Science Group, formed during the inaugural JSPS-US alumni conference in Chicago of 2005.

Dajin and Louis maintain an active listserv and plan to organize an exciting symposium at American University to coincide with the annual JSPS US Alumni meeting. To join the list, please send them an email! Louis will be at the August meeting of the American Sociological Association in New York. Let him know if you will also be in town and would like to organize an outing. If you will not be in the area but have other ideas for uniting JSPS alumni, please share your ideas. Keep the Social Science group active by sending an update about your recent accomplishments and research to the newsletter! Others want to hear about you and network with possible collaborators.

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*Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators – Engineering*

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Dear JSPS Research Fellows:

My name is Hui Hu. I was a JSPS Research Fellow at the Institute of Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo (1997-1999) with Dr. Toshio Kobayashi as the host professor. I am serving as the Engineering SG coordinator of JSPS-US Alumni Association. The Engineering SG covers a large spectrum of multi-disciplinary research related to engineering science and technology. Now, the Engineering SG has about 30 registered members from universities, national research



Engineering SG has about 30 registered members from universities, national research laboratories and industrials. If you are doing research related to any disciplinary of engineering and technology or you wish to know more about engineering science and technology, you are warmly welcome to join us by simply sending me an email (Email: [huhui@iastate.edu](mailto:huhui@iastate.edu) ).

We are planning to hold workshops and symposiums on emerging research topics in the fields of Engineering and Technology with the support from NSF and JSPS-US offices to prompt information exchange, constructive conversation and potential collaboration among the Engineering SG members as well as with our friends and colleagues in U.S., Japan, and other countries. Please let me know if you have any advice or suggestions about how to make the Engineering SG a better place to enhance interaction and induce potential collaborations among the Engineering SG member fellows.

If you have made any progress on your research, been promoted, or moved to a new location, please do not forget to send an update to the JSPS-US Alumni Association Newsletters to let us share your success and happiness.

Wishing you all the best!

Dr. Hui Hu  
Engineering SG coordinator, JSPS-US Alumni Association  
Assistant Professor, Department of Aerospace Engineering  
Iowa State University  
2271 Howe Hall - Room 1200, Ames, IA 50011-2271  
Tel: 515-294-0094 /Fax: 515-294-3262  
Email: [huhui@iastate.edu](mailto:huhui@iastate.edu)  
<http://www.public.iastate.edu/~huhui/>

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## *Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators – Chemistry*

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Hello. My name is Abhijit Sarkar. I am a Senior Associate Scientist at Michigan Molecular Institute, Midland, Michigan and I am the coordinator of the Chemistry Science Group (SG) of JSPS Alumni Association of USA. The purpose of this SG group is to foster scientific interactions among JSPS alumni who are interested in the field of Chemistry. The other purpose of this SG group is to have meetings, get-togethers and organize meetings/symposia under JSPS sponsorship. I also would like to point out that Chemistry SG is open not only to JSPS alumni in the field of Chemistry, but to all alumni who have interests and want to contribute towards the group's activities.

Some of the future activities may include getting together for tea / lunch /dinner while attending some professional meetings/conferences. For example, a suggested meeting place may be the spring ACS meeting in New Orleans on April 6-10, 2008. This will enhance relationships and induce potential collaborations. I also request suggestions from alumni about activities they might have in mind. I encourage alumni to send updates to the Alumni Newsletters, which is a quarterly publication. Send news about your career, promotions, funding, etc. I invite the interested alumni to join JSPS Alumni Association and the Chemistry SG. The contact information for joining the Chemistry SG group is given below.

Dr. Abhijit Sarkar (sarkar@mimi.org)

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## **Messages from the Scientific Group Coordinators – Biology and Medical Sciences**

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The Biology and Medical Science Group (SG) was established in December 2005 at the JSPS meeting in Chicago, IL. Like other scientific groups, the Biology and Medical SG serves as one of the activity units of the JSPS Alumni Association. The members in this group represent a broad spectrum of academic fields including botany, zoology, molecular biology, pharmacology, biochemistry, physiology ecology, medicine, etc. To become part of this group all that is required is an interest in sharing, collaborating or just wanting to learn about different research activities of fellow JSPS alumni within the biology and medical sciences arena. The goals of Biology and Medical SG are the promotion of science among the fellows, maintaining communication, and supporting members in their desire to create scientific sub-groups according to their field of research. The Biology and Medical SG also provides a platform of information exchange for collaboration, hiring and publications.

Currently, the Biology and Medical SG has more than 20 fellows with room to expand. As science group coordinators, we are requesting suggestions from alumni for increased

professional and social activity within the group, such as meeting at professional conferences, sharing ideas about research, seeking insight into a particular field or prospective job, or just simply gathering to share your experiences in Japan, etc. The Biological and Medical SG is a network built to benefit you. We encourage you to be part of our group and make it a success. For more information, please contact the coordinators listed below.

Biology and Medical Sciences Coordinators:



**Amanda S. Persad, Ph.D., DABT** ([dr\\_persad@yahoo.com](mailto:dr_persad@yahoo.com))  
Epidemiologist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Dr. Amanda S. Persad is an epidemiologist with the U.S. EPA's Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). She earned her doctorate from the University of South Florida and was the recipient of both a pre-doctoral research fellowship and a postdoctoral fellowship to conduct research on myeloperoxidase deficiency at the National

Institute of Infectious Diseases

(Tokyo, Japan). After her post-doctoral tenure, Dr. Persad served as an infection control coordinator at Florida Hospital (Orlando, Florida) and a consultant at the Burdock Group (Washington, DC) before joining the U.S. EPA. In addition to her background in epidemiology, Dr. Persad is also board certified by the American Board of Toxicology.



**Dr. Yurong Lai** ([laiyurong@gmail.com](mailto:laiyurong@gmail.com)), Principal Scientist, PGRD  
St. Louis, Pfizer Inc.

Dr. Yurong Lai obtained his MD degree from Fujian Medical University in the Fujian province of China. Through a Research Award from the Sasakawa Medical Research Foundation, Dr. Lai was granted an opportunity to obtain a Ph.D. in toxicology from the Sapporo Medical University in Japan. For his research, he was awarded the prestigious Governmental Research Award from Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, which allowed him to pursue a postdoctoral fellowship in experimental pathology from the Hokkaido University in Japan. Two years later, Dr. Lai accepted a position as a researcher at the University of Washington in pharmaceuticals and worked on nucleoside transporters to elucidate the mechanisms of disposition of nucleoside analog drugs used in the treatment of AIDS and cancer. When an opportunity to become a principal scientist at Pfizer Global Research & Development (St. Louis Laboratories) arose in 2004, he left academia behind for a career in industry. At Pfizer, he works on transporter related pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. Specifically, he focuses on drug absorption, metabolism, elimination and bioavailability.

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## Updates from JSPS Alumni

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### **Gregory W. Haggquist, Ph.D.**

JSPS Alumni, Physical Chemistry

1991-1993 Prof. M. Yamamoto Kyoto University Department of Polymer Sciences

In 2000 I founded TrapTek, LLC based on the development of composite materials with functional properties. In 2005 our product was one of Time magazines "Most Amazing Inventions". The present product to hit the market in both the United States and Japan is COCONA ([www.coconafabrics.com](http://www.coconafabrics.com)). The product is based on using coconut activated carbon doped in to polyester and nylon yarns for use in the apparel industry. The technology is based on a processing technique, which allows us to keep active surface area materials active when doped into a polymer matrix. I am presently living in Longmont, CO and travel regularly to Asia.

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### **Anil Patnaik**

"Anil Patnaik, a Texas cowboy turns into Ohio resident! Anil recently moved from Texas A&M University, College Station, to work for the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base at Dayton, OH as a Research Scientist through a small business company, Innovative Scientific Solutions, Inc. at Dayton. He was a JSPS Post-Doctoral Researcher at University of Electro-Communications (Densudai) in Tokyo working under the supervision of Prof. Kohzo Hakuta from 2001 to 2003. Since then he has been working at Texas A&M University as a Visiting Assistant Professor until recently.

His work at Texas A&M included: controlling pairing of photons (particles of light) via lasers, quantum mechanical erasure of information, controlling the natural Van der Waals force between neutral atoms and many such interesting phenomena. In fact, to his credit he has written an invited review paper with a Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Roy J. Glauber (Journal of Physics B, vol. 38, pg. S521, 2005). At Dayton, Anil is working with the Laser Diagnostics group whose goal is to invent more efficient and environment friendly jet engines. In addition, he is planning to carry out experiments on slowing down the speed of light, exploring the non-linear optics regime. To put his current research in perspective, one of Anil's earlier projects (Physical Review A, vol. 66, pg. 063808, 2002) as a JSPS fellow was theoretical demonstration of slowing down the light speed to 44m/sec inside an optical fiber using special techniques of coherent control and tapered fiber."

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### **Elena Rozhkova, PhD.**

Dr. Rozhkova's project: "Advanced Bio-inorganic Materials for Targeted Thermal and Photodynamic Glioblastoma multiforme Therapy" received the 2007 Fay/Frank Award from the Brain Research Foundation.

Recently, she accepted an offer from the Argonne National Laboratory, Center for Nanoscaled Materials, (BioNano Interface) and will join the team as an Assistant Scientist in July 2007. At the same time, she will keep an adjunct assistant professor position at the University of Chicago, Biological Science Division.

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## **POSITION OPEN**

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### ***RESEARCH ASSOCIATE POSITION IN PHOTONICS MATERIALS***

A research associate position is available immediately in the Michigan Molecular Institute based in Midland, Michigan. The research will focus on development of polymeric materials for photonics applications. This position requires a PhD in organic or polymer Chemistry, preferably with strong background in the synthesis of aromatics, conjugated systems, dyes/pigments and organic electronic materials; a demonstrated track record of innovation, accuracy and thoroughness; the knowledge of modern analytical techniques (NMR, MS, HPLC, UV, IR, TLC); a strong track record of high productivity in the design and synthesis of organic and/or organometallic compounds; the ability to perform and succeed in a multi-disciplinary, high paced team environment; strong written and verbal communication skills; experience reading and interpreting technical information; the ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing with peers and management; experience in computer software and internet applications related to performing this job; the ability to identify, analyze and resolve problems in an efficient manner; commitment to long hours as necessary to reach goals; taking independent actions and calculated risk and knowledge of modern literature search (Belstein and SciFinder) is preferred. Salary is commensurate with experience, and opportunities for advancement are available. To apply for the position, please send (preferably email) a CV with a list of publications to: Dr. Abhijit Sarkar (sarkar@mimi.org) & a copy to Ms. Cherie Hutter (hutter@mimi.org), Michigan Molecular Institute, 1991 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI 48640, USA. The position will remain open until filled. (Dated: 06/10/07).

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***NEW ARRIVAL***



The Kacouris household got busier last April with the arrival of “Athina del Mar”. Athina was born on April 5, 11:55 p.m. weighing 7 lbs 6 oz and 19 inches long. Athina del Mar, which means “Sea of Wisdom”, is the second daughter of former Chair and current representative of the Midwest region of the JSPS USA AA, Blanca Chattin-Kacouris.

Blanca is also our newsletter editor.

Together with her husband James and four-year old, Olimpia, the Kacouris’ would like to thank everyone for all the messages, cards and presents they have received from their JSPS friends on this joyous occasion.

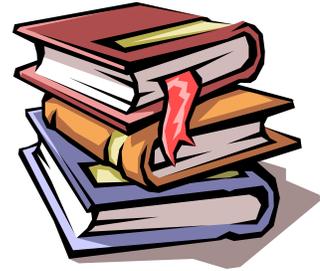
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## Looking for Contributions

Please continue sending your articles/updates

For our upcoming issues

Thank you.



### *JSPS USA AA Newsletter Team*

**Editor:** Blanca Chattin-Kacouris, DDS., PhD.  
gquil66@yahoo.com

**Associate Editor:** Yoke Khin Yap, PhD, Associate Professor of Physics  
ykyap@mtu.edu

All articles in this newsletter are solicited from various JSPS offices and US JSPS Alumni.

The editorial board is not responsible for the contents and accuracy of these articles.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jspssusa>