



JSPS US Fellows Alumni Association

Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science US Alumni Newsletter

Editor-in-Chief: Blanca Chatten-Kacouris DDS, PhD.
Associate Editors: Prof. Greg Durgin, Georgia Tech
and Dr. Andrea Molle, Baylor University

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Serving the community of the JSPS Alumni Association throughout the United States

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First JSPS-US Multidisciplinary Science Forum in Seattle, WA

SEATTLE, Washington USA (11 March, 2011) The first JSPS-US Multidisciplinary Science Forum (MSF) was held in Seattle, WA and featured invited scientists from Japan as well as many North American JSPS alumni. The meeting was held on the campus of the University of Washington, hosted by Professor and JSPS Alumnus Daniel Moralejo.

Although JSPS-US has hosted regular science and alumni meeting, this was the first MSF that featured seven invited talks from Japanese scientists on diverse topics such as horticulture, plasma physics, astronomy, radio communications, and global social movements. Many JSPS alumni also participated in both oral and poster presentation sections of the forum.

Prof. Denny Liggitt, chair of the

Department of Comparative Medicine at U. of Washington delivered the opening remarks of the MSF, followed by a keynote speech on climate change by JSPS-US Washington director, Dr. Hirotaka Suguwara.

Five sessions were held in the core disciplines of JSPS: Biology and Medical Science, Chemistry, Engineering, Math and Physics, and Science and Humanities. Prof. Brian Iritani, another JSPS fellow at U. of Washington, hosted the attendees at an outstanding dinner reception. The entire event was a great success, with a smoothness that disguised the tremendous organizational efforts of the JSPS Washington DC office staff members.

On a somber note, the MSF began on March 11, shortly after the terrible Tohoku earthquake. All attendees



Prof. Daniel Moralejo (left) hosted the MSF on the U. of Washington campus.

were deeply concerned for their colleagues, friends, and families back in Japan. A highlight of the meeting was the impromptu charitable collection taken at the JSPS-US alumni general assembly. The alumni spontaneously gave \$3500 to the Japan Society for Disaster Nursing for helping quake victims.

For more details on the JSPS-US MSF, see page 3.



Participants of the First JSPS-US Multi-disciplinary Science Forum in Seattle, WA.

Prof. Yury Gogotsi Receives Foreign Invited Researcher Award from Tokyo University of Science

TOKYO, Japan (February, 2011) – Prof. Akira Fujishima, President of Tokyo University of Science (TUS), invited Dr. Yury Gogotsi, Distinguished University Professor and Trustee Chair of Materials Science and Engineering and Director of the A.J. Drexel Nanotechnology Institute at Drexel University, USA (JSPS Fellow 1992/1993) to receive the Foreign Invited Researcher Award.

This award is presented to internationally active researchers aiming to encour-

age global research collaboration, specifically involving Tokyo University of Science. Following a meeting with President Fujishima, Gogotsi gave a well-attended lecture entitled “Carbide-Derived Carbons for Energy Related Applications” at an open seminar to the TUS community on February 21st. Gogotsi also presented a lecture to researchers at the Ichikawa Laboratory of Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd, an industrial collaborator and affiliate of Prof. Dr. Makoto Yuasa, Gogotsi’s host researcher at TUS.

Due to this newly fostered research collaboration between Drexel and TUS, Gogotsi has sponsored Dr. Takeshi Kondo, Assistant Professor of the Tokyo University of Science, to travel to Drexel University as a Visiting Research Professor for a one-year appointment, beginning in April 2010. Such an exchange of researchers and expertise will increase collaborations between the two research groups and strengthen the

international relationship between Drexel and TUS.

Dr. Kondo’s research background involves the exploration of electrochemical applications of conductive diamond thin films. Conductive diamond is known to be a functional electrode material with a wide potential window, low background current and extreme physical/chemical stability and biocompatibility, which is used for highly sensitive electroanalysis and highly efficient electrolysis. If the conductive diamond can be miniaturized to nanoscale, it realizes sensitive electrochemical detection at a local space and high performance electrochemical energy devices including supercapacitors based on the combination of high specific surface area and the conductive surface of modified nanodiamond. Thus, Kondo plans to develop electrochemical applications of nanodiamonds during his tenure with Gogotsi’s research team.



President Fujishima with Prof. Gogotsi and Prof. Kondo at Tokyo University of Science, Japan

Organization Profile: Japan Society of Disaster Nursing

On the heels of the terrible March 11, 2011 Tohoku earthquake in Northern Japan, the JSPS-US Alumni members collected an impromptu donation for a relief organization called the Japan Society of Disaster Nursing (JSDN). The editorial staff thought it would be appropriate to write a few words about the great works, past and present, by this organization people in need.

JSDN began after the Great Hanshin earthquake of 1995 in Kobe. At that time, a great nurse leader, Dr. Hiroko Minami, was Dean of Hyogo College of Nursing Arts and Science. She and others helped organize the nurses and nursing students in the area to inter-

vene and begin triage and care for the Kobe wounded.

After the Kobe quake, the Hyogo college decided to focus a masters program on preparedness and on training masters nurses to be ready for disasters. Dr. Minami was a classmate of Dr. Miriam Hirschfield at University of California-San Francisco (UCSF), who also served as a head nurse at the World Health Organization (WHO). Eventually, Hyogo Prefectural College of Nursing arts and science became a Collaborative Community for WHO in the area of nurse disaster planning. The college exported this information throughout the international world of nursing.

One of the big supporters of JSDN, Dr. Anne Davis was a teacher at UCSF at the time Miriam Hirschfield and Hiroko Minami were there. Dr. Davis worked in Japan for many years, where she mentored Dawn Doutrich, a JSPS-US alumni member who, along with Blanca Kacouris, coordinated our group’s donation to this great organization. (Thanks for your efforts. Blanca and Dawn!)

For more information about Japan Disaster Nursing, visit their webpage at <http://www.jsdn.gr.jp/english.html>

For the special donation request toward work for the Great Tohoku quake, see the solicitation at http://www.jsdn.gr.jp/doc/donation_touhoku_11.03.17_eng.pdf

Japan Society
of Disaster Nursing



2011 JSPS-US Alumni MSF in Seattle, WA at a Glance...

List of Invited Speakers

Thomas G. Spiro, University of Washington, Dept. of Chemistry, Seattle, WA.

Shigeko Izumi, Washington State University, College of Nursing, Spokane, WA.

Shinsuke Morisawa, Kyoto University, Graduate School of Engineering, Kyoto, Japan.

Hideo Yamasaki, University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan. Yasushi Koyama, Kwansei Gakuin University, Faculty of Science and Technology, Sanda, Japan.

Masaaki Yamanaka, Hiroshima International University, Department of Information and Communication Technology, Kure, Japan.

Daishiro Nomiya, Sophia University, Social Sciences, Tokyo, Japan.

Paul Foppe, Ship for World Youth US Alumni Association, Chicago, IL.

Takao Terano, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Dept of Computational Intelligence and Systems Science, Yokohama, Japan.



JSPS-US Alumni Executive Committee (Ying Hu, Blanca Kacouris, Dawn Doutrich, Shamim Mirza) with MSF host Daniel Moralejo.



A group of JSPS alumni gather around the banner after the close of the technical sessions.



Prof. Yasushi Koyama and Prof. Tom Spiro reunite at the MSF after many years. Both professors were Ying Hu's supervisors in Japan and US, respectively.



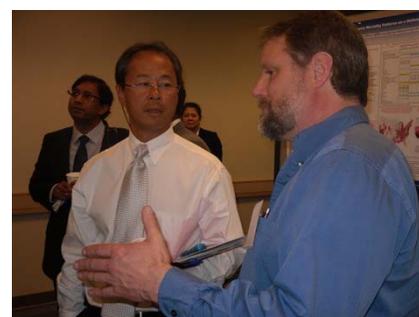
Anthony and Junaid win the icebreaking activity during the General Assembly, but struggle with jan-ken-po.



Shamim Mirza gives a technical presentation on the plasma effects on computer hard drives.



Prof. Koyama and Dawn Doutrich discuss results from a poster.



Brian Iritani and Christopher Palmer at the poster session.

Report on the March 2011 US-JSPS General Assembly Meeting

Dear fellow members,

After attending the last Multidisciplinary Science Forum in Seattle, Gregory Durgin and I have been appointed as Editors of the newsletter. One of the key aspects of this innovation is that we will be able to plan at least two numbers of the newsletter yearly. I will say that Greg and I possess different backgrounds, but we both share an interest in editing and writing as well as an enthusiasm for being a JSPS Alumni. We also share a strong desire to keep the newsletter responsive to your needs and reflective of your interests. We want to encourage you to submit articles, ideas for articles that you would like the editorial board to pursue, reports of conferences that you have attended, as well as any professional or personal news that is of interest to our Association.

After the above "service alert" I would like to spend few more words on our last General Assembly.

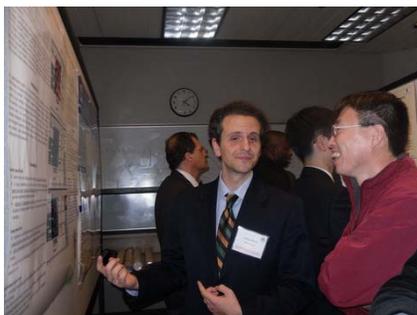
I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend for the first time the JSPS Alumni General Assembly and 1st MSF held at Washington University in March 2011.

The extraordinary event provided our Alumni Association with a great Forum to present and discuss our ongoing research projects. While many conferences mainly focus on a particular discipline, this Forum invited fellows and our guest speakers to think about science differently from our own focus. Topics presented ranged from natural to social sciences and engaged all the participants in discussions of questions in different areas of the scientific endeavor. After being able to listen to and appreciate the quality of the papers presented during the Forum, I understood fully that the spirit which aimed us during our Japanese experience is not going to come to

an end soon, but instead keep developing back in our home countries.

Moreover, what really set apart this Forum from similar events was the opportunity to consult with outstanding scholars in any relevant field who acted as a sort of advisors for the duration of the Forum. In my case, I was able to receive constructive academic feedback as well as advice regarding further career planning.

This meeting made also clear for me



Dr. Andrea Molle presents his poster at the 2011 JSPS-US MSF in Seattle, WA

a sense of belonging. I was very glad to meet Alumni from different disciplines, Universities, and various countries, gathered together at Washington in order to share the common pride to be a member of the same Association. The most important impression left with me after the event was over, is that all of those, whom I could meet and hear during the Forum, should be undoubtedly considered as belonging to a "family."

Until there are enough former fellows ready to carry out intensive support to our Association, there will be always a need to organize events such as this one, in order to pass the experience of generations of Alumni of the JSPS through to those are just starting along this exciting path.

I am most grateful to the JSPS Office in Washington DC and to the University of Washington for sponsoring this Forum. I do not want to speak a lot about the circumstances of the Forum, since it was simply perfect in all aspects, but I hope that the JSPS/Alumni meetings will become even more independent. And after the discussions that I had with the Forum participants, I realized that sooner or later this is bound to happen.

Many thanks also to Blanca, Ying, Dawn, Shamim, Ranil, Daijin, Daniel Moralejo, and Dr Brian Iritani who were tireless in organizing the event and ensuring that it was a success.

Andrea Molle

Associate Editor

Baylor University, Waco, TX

Reminder:

Your Two JSPS Offices in the USA

JSPS Washington Office

2001 L Street N.W. Suite 1050

Washington, DC 20036, U.S.A.

<http://www.jspsususa.org/>

JSPS San Francisco Office

2001 Addison Street Suite 260

Berkeley, CA 94704, U.S.A.

<http://www.jspsususa-sf.org/>

Alumni Spotlight: Prof. Anthony Halog, University of Maine



Dr. Anthony Halog, a JSPS alum and an Assistant Professor of Industrial Ecology and Systems Sustainability, has started the Research Group for Industrial Ecology, LCA and Systems Sustainability (IELCASS) at the University of Maine. The research mission of IELCASS is to provide cutting-edge research and training in the field of industrial ecology, systems sustainability and resilience through cross-disciplinary, life cycle thinking, integrative, and quantitative analyses. IELCASS has been undertaking transdisciplinary, integrative, innovative research to develop practical tools for quantifying and improving the sustainability and resilience of products and processes which maximize resource and energy efficiency and minimize ecological life cycle impacts. The group focuses on understanding the dynamic interactions fundamentally and holistically, drawing on elements of systems analysis & engineering, operations research, management science, ecological economics and engineering, process simulation and optimization, network and complexity science and methods.

He has also recently held a successful Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Event at the University of Maine, Orono, April 15, 2011.

Recent Travel Grants:

1. Dr. Anthony Halog, Dr. Xinfeng Xie, Mr. Mason Earles, and Ms. Najet Bichraoui have received an NSF-supported travel grant to present their life cycle sustainability assessment research projects at the Engineering Sustainability 2011 Conference in April 10-12, 2011 in Pittsburgh, PA

2. Dr. Anthony Halog and Mr. Yosef Manik received NSF-supported travel

grant to present their life cycle sustainability assessment research projects at the 2nd International Congress on Sustainability Science and Engineering (ICOSSE), Jan 9 -12, 2011, Tucson, Arizona.

3. Yosef Manik, an incoming (Fall 2010) Fulbright PhD student/scholar from Indonesia, has been awarded recently a European Union (EU)/Marie-Curie grant to support participation in the EASY-ECO 2010 Conference in Evaluation of Sustainable Development, 17-19 Nov 2010, Brussels, Belgium.

4. Najet Bichraoui, a 2nd-semester PhD student from France, has been awarded a European Union (EU)/ Marie-Curie grant to support participation for EASY-ECO Sustainability Evaluation Training in Prague, Czech Republic, 27 Sept – 1 Oct 2010. She also received support for her participation in the Summer Symposium on Sustainable System, Sanas, Finland, June 14-17, 2010.

5. Binod Neupane, a graduating Master's student from Nepal, has been awarded a grant to support his participation in the Summer School in Assessing and Communicating the Loss of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, October 11 to 15, 2010, Thurnau, Germany. This is relevant to his research project on incorporating biodiversity impacts on LCA methodology. He has also received an award for his registration and partial contribution for travel expenses in the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) 31st Conference in Portland, USA, 7-11 Nov 2010.

6. Mason Earles, a 3rd semester Master's student from the US, has received grants to support his participation in the the Gordon-Kenan Research Seminar (GRS) on Industrial Ecology, and an award to cover his registration to participate in the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) X Meeting on 2 – 4 November 2010 in Portland, Oregon. He also has received support from US Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) for training expenses in Forest Products Module (FPM)/Global Forest Products (GFP) model, and data gathering for his re-

search project, August 18- 31, 2010, Madison, Wisconsin.

Recent Publications:

Halog, A., Manik, Y. (2011). Advancing Integrated Systems Modeling Framework for Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment, *Sustainability*, 3(2):

Halog, A. (2011). Sustainable Development of Bioenergy Sector: An Integrated Methodological Framework, *International Journal of Multicriteria Decision Making* (in press).

Neupane, B., Halog, A. & Dhungel, S. (2010). Attributional Life Cycle Assessment of Wood Chips for Bioethanol Production. *Journal of Cleaner Production* (in press).

Halog, A., Mao, H. (2010). Hemicellulose Extraction Technology for Ethanol Production in the Emerging Bioeconomy, *International Journal of Renewable Energy Technology* (in press).

Halog, A. (2009). Models for Evaluating Energy, Environmental and Sustainability Performance of Biofuels Value Chain, *International Journal of Global Energy Issues*, Vol. 32, Nos. 1/2, pp. 83 - 101.

Liliehalm, R., Benjamin, J., Gardner, D., van Walsum, P., Halog, A., MacKay, D. (2009). Forest-Based Biofuels and Bioproducts, *Forests and Forestry in the Americas: An Encyclopedia*. Available at http://www.encyclopediaofforestry.org/index.php/Forest-Based_Biofuels_and_Bioproducts

Course Offerings:

Since fall 2009, Dr. Anthony Halog has been offering a Course in Industrial Ecology and Life Cycle Assessment which is open to graduate and senior undergraduate students in all disciplines.

More Info:

Anyone who is interested to collaborate with Dr. Halog can visit the IELCASS website at <http://ielcass.tripod.com/ilss/> or his faculty website at <http://forest.umaine.edu/faculty-staff/directory/anthony-halog/> for further information.

To be announced soon...

Dates and Location for the 2nd

Multidisciplinary Science Forum

Check back in this space later.

Academic Job Postings

Assistant Academic Professional Extension Educator, Horticulture.

The Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Wyoming invites applications for an 11-month academic professional extension educator position with expertise in horticulture. The position will be filled at the assistant level. A 6 year probationary period will be followed by eligibility for recurring 5 year reappointments. Responsibilities of the position are 85% extension, 10% professional development, and 5% professional service. The successful applicant will coordinate the state-wide Master Gardener program, actively respond to plant health inquiries from the public, and support general horticulture outreach and extension activities of the UW Plant Sciences department.

Applicants must possess an earned MS or PhD in Horticulture or a related field at the time of appointment. Candidates with excellent written and oral communication skills and the ability to use distance education methods for teaching and training will be preferred. The ability to travel for direct contact with extension clients is also important.

To apply, please submit the following documents as PDF files attached to an e-mail message: a cover letter, curriculum vitae, the names and contact information of three

references, and a three page statement of professional goals and philosophy. Submit these materials to tpham1@uwyo.edu in care of Ms. Thoa Pham. Questions may be directed to Dr. Steve Herbert at 307 766-3103 or sherbert@uwyo.edu.

Review of applications will begin on May 24, 2011 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Salary and benefits will be competitive and commensurate with experience. The University of Wyoming is committed to diversity and endorses principles of affirmative action. We acknowledge that diversity enriches and sustains our scholarship and promotes equal access to our educational mission. We seek and welcome applications from individuals of all backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives.

Assistant Professor, Horticulture, Turfgrass Science, or Specialty Crops

The Department of Plant Sciences invites applications for a 9-month, tenure-track position at the rank of assistant professor. The position is based at the University of Wyoming Research and Extension Center in Sheridan, WY. Responsibilities of the position include 45% research, 45% teaching, 5% student advising, and 5% university service. The successful applicant will develop an externally funded research program in horticulture, turfgrass science, or specialty crops

research and will teach classes leading to a horticulture degree at the University of Wyoming.

Some of these classes must be taught by distance education methods. Publication of research in peer-reviewed journals, effective teaching, and training of graduate students will be required for advancement. Applicants must have an earned Ph. D. in horticulture or a related field at the time of hire. Relevant post-doctoral experience is desirable.

To apply, please submit the following documents as PDF files attached to an e-mail message: a cover letter, curriculum vitae, the names and contact information of three references, and a three page statement of professional goals and philosophy. Submit these materials to tpham@uwyo.edu addressed to Ms. Thoa Pham. Questions may be directed to Dr. Steve Herbert at 307 766-3103 or sherbert@uwyo.edu.

Review of applications will begin on May 16, 2011 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Salary and benefits will be competitive and commensurate with experience. The University of Wyoming is committed to diversity and endorses principles of affirmative action. We acknowledge that diversity enriches and sustains our scholarship and promotes equal access to our educational mission. We seek and welcome applications from individuals of all backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives.

Briefly Noted...

Collaborations

Prof. Greg Durgin at Georgia Tech (JSPS Fellow 2001-02, Osaka University) hosted Prof. Masaaki Yamanaka and his student Kunihiro Ishida from Hiroshima International University. The two Japanese researchers spent September 2010 taking radio measurements at Prof. Durgin's laboratory to support Prof. Yamanaka's continuing studies in the use of antenna arrays for physical security of wireless information signals. The professors met at Morinaga Laboratory ten years ago while Prof. Yamanaka was working on his graduate degree and Prof. Durgin was studying as a JSPS fellow. They have had a fruitful research collaboration with several student exchanges ever since.



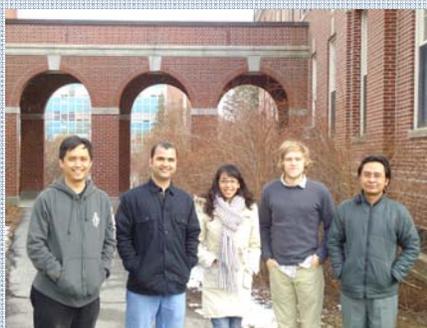
Prof. Masaaki Yamanaka and Gregory D. Durgin at the JSPS 2011 MSF in Seattle, WA



Namira Mirza and her older siblings, Nora and Noreen.

New Projects

Dr. Anthony Halog, JSPS alum 2004, has recently published an open-access article in Sustainability with title *Advancing Integrated Systems Modelling Framework for Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment*. A copy of this article can be freely downloaded at <http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/3/2/469/>.



Members of the Research Group on Industrial Ecology, LCA and Systems Sustainability (IELCASS) at the University of Maine.

He has also recently held a successful Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Event at the University of Maine, Orono, April 15, 2011.

He is looking for PhD students who are interested to work in this newly supported USDA/NIFA sponsored project.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Shana Fruehan Sandberg (Alumni, JSPS Summer Program 2005) and her husband on the arrival of baby Julian Nicholas in September 2010.

Congratulations to Shamim Mirza (Alumni, JSPS Fellow 2002-04) and his wife on the arrival of their new daughter, Namira Mirza (born 2 November 2010, weighing 7 lbs.)

Request for Submissions

We are soliciting articles and postings from our alumni members for the next newsletter. Please send me (durgin@gatech.edu) any contributions for the next newsletter.

Articles or news postings, large or small, may include any of the following:

- 1) Research -- Were you recently awarded a new grant or scientific project. Do you have a reference for a recent publication you're particularly proud of.
- 2) Honors -- Did you get a promotion? Did you receive an award for teaching or research? We want to know.
- 3) Collaborations -- Did you visit Japan this past year? Host any Japanese researchers at your US institution? Tell us about it.
- 4) Employment -- Looking for a post-doc for your lab? Know of a job at your institution that might interest alumni?
- 5) Personal -- Getting married? A new baby? A move to a different job/city? Let your friends at JSPS USA alumni chapter know about it.

Check past postings of our newsletter for ideas:

http://www.jspsusa.org/Alumni_association/newsletter.htm

Thanks,

Greg Durgin

Associate Editor

JSPS Fellowship for Japanese Biomedical and Behavioral Researchers at NIH KAITOKU-NIH

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), in cooperation with the NIH's Fogarty International Center (FIC), Division of International Training and Research, and the NIH Office of Intramural Research, offers fellowship awards to support meritorious biomedical and behavioral research projects undertaken in NIH laboratories by young Japanese postdoctoral researchers. These researchers must presently be, or have a commitment to be, funded by NIH to conduct research at an NIH Institute.



Number of Fellowships awarded annually:

Approximately 15



Duration and commencement of Fellowship:

2 years (Fellowships must begin ON January 1, February 1, or March 1)



Financial terms of the Fellowship:

A monthly stipend of ¥379,000



Contact Information:

Fogarty International Center
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Tina Chung, MPH, Program Officer (tina.chung@nih.gov)

Mili Ferreira, Staff Assistant (mili.ferreira@nih.gov)

Washington Office

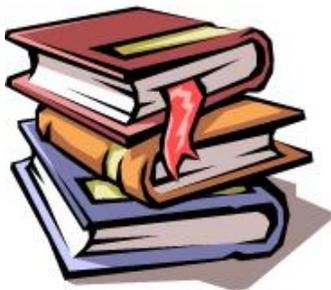
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)

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JSPS 日本学術振興会
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

<http://www.jpsps.go.jp/english> (English) <http://www.jpsps.go.jp/> (Japanese)



Looking for Contributions

Your Input is Important!
Please continue sending your articles for our next issue. Thank you!

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www.jpspsusa.org/Alumni_association/newsletter.htm