



POLITICAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Since its creation, JCIE has worked to promote closer relations between Japan's leaders and their overseas counterparts. The Political Exchange Program dates back to 1968, when the first U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange brought eight Congressional members to Tokyo for an unprecedented program of meetings and discussion sessions with leading Japanese political and social figures. In the ensuing years, JCIE broadened its programs, establishing additional exchange programs for young political leaders from Japan and the United States, for senior U.S. Congressional staff, and for young Australian and Japanese political leaders. More than 1,000 political leaders have taken part in one or more of these exchange programs.

While the initial emphasis of these exchange programs was generally on deepening mutual understanding and building bilateral networks of leaders, dramatic changes in the international and domestic environment have encouraged JCIE to increasingly stress dialogue on common challenges. This evolution has been accompanied by a significant expansion in the role of Japanese politicians in policymaking that has made political exchange even more meaningful, and in response, JCIE has expanded its programs to include frequent study meetings for Diet members on issues relating to international affairs, often with the participation of visiting foreign leaders and other experts.

JCIE has also increasingly drawn on the strong network of political leaders it has developed through this program to involve them in study and dialogue projects on key policy issues. For example, members of the Diet who have participated in previous exchanges or dialogues form the core of the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ), Diet Task Force (see page 19), which meets regularly to discuss Japan's response to the spread of communicable diseases. This type of multisectoral strategy is recognized as essential to solving many of the emerging issues facing the world today.

U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program

The U.S.-Japan Parliamentary Exchange Program was initiated in 1968, making it the longest-running exchange of its kind. The annual weeklong exchange visits of Japanese and American parliamentary delegations at the core of this program typically consist of a series of high-level meetings, briefings, and working sessions with leaders from diverse sectors of society. In response to the evolving needs of political leaders, this program has continued to become more substantive in nature, shifting in focus from purely bilateral relations to the regional and global role of the U.S.-Japan partnership. For example, in 1997, JCIE initiated the Joint Parliamentary Study and Dialogue Project on U.S.-Japan Security Relations in Asia Pacific in order to promote a deeper understanding of the bilateral security relationship among members of Congress and the Diet.

In addition to the activities described below, JCIE continues to facilitate visits to the United States by individual Diet members and visits by individual American members of Congress to Japan as the opportunity arises. In December 2005, for example, JCIE assisted with arrangements for a visit to the United States by a delegation led by Seiji Maehara, member of the House of Representatives and then president of the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ).

25th Japanese Diet Delegation to the United States

Due to domestic political developments and the war in Iraq, Congressional and Diet delegations scheduled for FY2004 were postponed. The program resumed in FY2005 with the 25th delegation of Diet members to visit the United States. From January 31

to February 2, 2006, three of the most influential and articulate foreign policy experts in the Diet visited Washington DC for a series of discussions with a wide range of American political leaders and foreign policy experts. Representative Ichiro Aisawa, acting secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Representative Shigeru Ishiba, former defense minister, and Representative Takeshi Iwaya held discussions on U.S.-Japan relations and security relations in East Asia with Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick, and former Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage. A number of Congressional members, including Senator Paul Sarbanes and House Asia and Pacific Subcommittee Chair Jim Leach exchanged views with the Diet members, and several Congressional members organized a roundtable on U.S.-Japan relations.

The delegation members also took part in a small roundtable with American experts on Northeast Asia security at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and a luncheon briefing by senior Congressional staffers on UN issues was arranged in the Senate dining room by the United Nations Foundation. Nearly two dozen U.S. policy experts joined the Diet members for a seminar on China-Japan-U.S. relations, which was hosted by the Brookings Institution's Center for Northeast Asia Policy Studies.

Participants:

ICHIRO AISAWA, *Member, House of Representatives, LDP; Acting Secretary-General, LDP; Okayama*
SHIGERU ISHIBA, *Member, House of Representatives, LDP; Tottori*
TAKESHI IWAYA, *Member, House of Representatives, LDP; Oita*

Observer:

YASUO YOSHIOKA, *Chief of Staff and Senior Policy
Advisor to the Hon. Keizo Takemi*

Study Groups for Members of the Diet

Since 1997, as part of the Joint Parliamentary Study and Dialogue Project on U.S.-Japan Security Relations in Asia Pacific, JCIE has organized multi-party study groups of young, emerging Diet members that meet with leading foreign experts from the

fields of academia, policy, government, business, and media in order to enhance their understanding of international affairs. In FY2004, meetings were held with Ambassador Stephen Bosworth, dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Morton Abramowitz, former U.S. ambassador to Turkey, and Professor Ezra Vogel of Harvard University.

In 2005, JCIE also organized a bipartisan study group comprised of eight Diet members from the ruling LDP and the DPJ who met regularly over the course of a year to discuss the future of the U.S.-Japan relationship.

U.S. Congressional Staff Exchange Program

JCIE established the U.S. Congressional Staff Exchange Program in 1982 in recognition of the vital role that staff members play in legislative and policymaking processes. The one-week program provides senior Congressional staffers with the opportunity to meet a wide range of Japanese legislators, policymakers, and experts and thus give them a sense of Japan's policymaking process as well as trends in politics, economics, and foreign policy. Since its inception, 134 staffers serving Congressional members from both parties have visited Japan on this program, bringing their heightened understanding of U.S.-Japan relations and the politics of Japanese policymaking back to their work in the U.S. Congress.

18th U.S. Delegation to Japan

Seven senior Congressional staff traveled to Tokyo, Chiba, and Kyoto during the week of August 8–15, 2004, as part of the program's 18th delegation. During the course of their visit, Katsuya Okada, the new president of the DPJ, Hakubun Shimomura, deputy secretary-general of the LDP, and Isamu Ueda, senior vice-minister for finance, explained their parties' platforms in separate meetings and outlined recent shifts in party dynamics. Other highlights included a discussion of U.S.-Japan cooperation in Iraq and Northeast Asia with Ichiro Aisawa, senior vice minister for foreign affairs; a session with Chiba Governor Akiko Domoto on the growth in

local government autonomy; and a day of site visits in Chiba Prefecture.

The delegates compared notes on the policymaking processes in the United States and Japan in a roundtable session with 12 senior policy staff from the Diet. They also participated as speakers in a public symposium on "U.S. Political Dynamics in an Election Year" and continued the public discussion afterward in a reception with a number of cabinet ministers and prominent Diet members, including Yuriko Koike, minister of the environment, and Toshimitsu Motegi, minister of state for Okinawa and Northern Territories affairs, science and technology policy, and personal information protection.

Participants:

AMY ANGELIER, *Senior Analyst, Senate Budget Committee (Majority Office)*

ROCK CHEUNG, *Junior Analyst, Senate Budget Committee (Minority Office)*

PATRICIA LAWLER, *Legislative Assistant, Rep. Bob Etheridge (D-North Carolina)*

MICHAEL MORAN, *Legislative Assistant, Sen. Craig Thomas (R-Wyoming)*

PAULA NOWAKOWSKI, *Staff Director, House Committee on Education and the Workforce (Majority Office)*

JANET NUZUM, *Senior Policy Advisor, Rep. Cal Dooley (D-California)*

STEVEN PERROTTA, *Senior Legislative Assistant, Rep. Amo Houghton (R-New York)*

U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

Since 1973, JCIE has worked with the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) to carry out the U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program. This intensive two-week study program is designed to expose young leaders from each country to the political, social, and economic conditions of the other country; enhance their understanding and appreciation of U.S.-Japan relations; and create personal networks among the two nations' leaders. In addition to visiting the host nation's capital for meetings with national leaders, participants travel to at least two additional cities to gain a more diverse perspective. During the course of the program, delegates meet with a wide range of senior government officials, political party representatives, industry executives, and community leaders. American delegates typically include state and local elected officials as well as staff members, and equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans are selected each year. The Japanese delegates primarily consist of Diet staffers and prefectural and local elected officials from the ruling and opposition parties.

19th Japanese Delegation to the United States

Seven local elected officials and Diet staffers visited Washington DC, Ohio, and New Mexico from September 25 to October 9, 2004, as part of the 19th Japanese Delegation of the U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program. In Washington, they met with a wide range of political and governmental leaders, including Representative Deborah Pryce, Representative Tom Udall, and White House officials.

The delegation's stay in Ohio was hosted by State Representative Geoff Smith and began with a dinner with Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Bradley. During their five days in Ohio, Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman spoke with the delegates about local-level politics in the United States, Ohio Supreme Court Justice Thomas J. Moyer explained the workings of the judicial system, and the chairs of the state Republican and Democratic parties described their campaign preparations as Ohio was emerging as the key battleground state in the presidential election.

The group concluded their visit in New Mexico, where they had meetings with Governor Bill Richardson and former Governor Gary E. Johnson. Stewart Paisano, governor of the Pueblo of Sandia reservation, discussed the economic development strategies of the local Native American community with the delegation members, and leading officials in the Bush and Kerry presidential campaign offices briefed the group on their state-level strategies.

Participants:

MASAKI ITO, *Member, Katsushika Ward Assembly, DPJ*

NAOKI KAZAMA, *Legislative Assistant to Akihisa*

Nagashima, Member, House of Representatives, DPJ

RINA OHISHI, *Vice Representative, Federation of Gifu*

Prefecture, DPJ

MASAYOSHI TANIGUCHI, *Deputy Manager, Party Policy*

Research Council, New Komeito Party

YUKA UCHIDA, *Deputy Manager, Policy Research*

Committee, DPJ

HIROYUKI YAMAMOTO, *Professional Staff Member, Party*

Organization Bureau, LDP

MARIKO YAMAMOTO, *Member, Okayama Prefectural*

Assembly, LDP

23rd U.S. Delegation to Japan

From January 15 to 28, 2005, the eight members of the 23rd U.S. Delegation of the U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program traveled to four cities in Japan. They began their stay in Tokyo, where, in separate meetings with five Diet members, they discussed Japan's changing social political dynamics and diplomatic agenda. They also spoke at a panel discussion hosted by the Graduate School of Governance Studies at Meiji University. The delegates were briefed on sociopolitical developments by Toshiaki Miura, editorial writer for the *Asahi Shimbun*, and on Japan's economic and financial outlook by banking analysts and entrepreneurs. In addition, the delegation visited the American Embassy for briefings and took part in a roundtable discussion with eight local government officials who had visited the United States on the Young Political Leaders Exchange Program between 1999 and 2004.

After five days in Tokyo, the delegates traveled to Yamagata City, where they met Yasuo Matsuura, chair of the Yamagata Prefectural Assembly, and Yoshihiro Kanamori, vice-governor of Yamagata Prefecture, and discussed local politics with a multiparty group of eight Yamagata prefectural assemblymen. Before moving on to Osaka, the delegation took part in a homestay program in Sakata City. Upon arriving in

Osaka, the group had a luncheon with the mayor, briefings on urban policy from city officials, and a dinner meeting hosted by Osaka prefectural assembly members. In Kyoto, the final city of their visit, Kenta Izumi, member of the House of Representatives, talked with the delegation about his experiences in the Diet.

Participants:

BRONWYN BEDIENT, *Program Officer, ACYPL*

(Democrat)

CORY BLACK, *Board Member, 9th Assembly District*

Democratic Committee, Sacramento, California

(Democrat)

VALARIE MCCALL, *City Clerk, Cleveland City Council,*

Ohio (Democrat)

MATTHEW AVARA, *Councilman at Large, Pascagoula*

City Council, Mississippi (Republican)

CARLOS CASTILLO, *Junior Election Commissioner,*

Douglas County, Nebraska (Republican)

ROB FAIRBANK, *President, Politically Direct (Republican)*

JEFF M. RASMUSSEN, *Commissioner, Cowlitz County,*

Washington (Republican)

MATTHEW WILBER, *County Attorney, Pottawattamie*

County, Iowa (Republican)

TAMI JACKSON, *Senior Manager, Government Affairs,*

DuPont, Washington DC (Unaffiliated)

Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program

In 1991, JCIE and the Australian Political Exchange Council launched the Australia-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program in order to build a network among the next generation of leaders in both countries and to promote bilateral dialogue. To date, 183 participants have visited their counterparts' countries for briefings and discussions with political, business, nonprofit, and opinion leaders.

14th Australian Delegation to Japan

The 14th Australian Delegation to Japan visited Tokyo, Nagoya, and Kyoto from February 26 to March 5, 2005. In Tokyo, the group met with Diet members and other prominent officials, including Ichiro Aisawa and Yoriko Kawaguchi, special advisor to the prime minister. They also met with leaders from business, the media, and the nonprofit sector and participated in a panel discussion with Diet members on Australia-Japan relations. In Nagoya, the delegates exchanged views with local politicians and visited a local junior high school.

Participants:

KIM BAKER, *Council Representative, Australian Political Exchange Council*

STEVEN GIOBO MP, *Federal Member for Moncrieff, Liberal Party*

ROBERT CLANCY, *Director of Communications and Media, Office of the Leader of the Opposition, Victorian Parliament, Liberal Party*

KATE ELLIS MP (Delegation Leader), *Federal Member for Adelaide, Australian Labor Party (ALP)*

LUKE HARTSUYKER MP, *Federal Member for Cowper, National Party*

ANDREW MCNAMARA MP, *State Member for Hervey Bay, Queensland Legislative Assembly, ALP*

15th Australian Delegation to Japan

The 15th Australian Delegation to Japan visited Tokyo, Nagoya, and Kyoto from February 18 to 24, 2006. In Tokyo, the delegation took part in meetings with government leaders and other prominent officials, including Ichiro Aisawa. They also met with leaders from business, the media, and the nonprofit sector to speak about Japanese politics, economy, and foreign policy. In Nagoya, the delegates exchanged views with the Nagoya City assembly members and received a briefing on environmental issues from city officials.

Participants:

MATT BROWN MLA, *New South Wales Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Minister for Roads and the Minister for Transport; Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Kiama, ALP*

MICHAEL KEENAN MP (Delegation Leader), *Federal Member of the House of Representatives for Stirling, Liberal Party*

HELEN KROGER, *Federal Vice President and State President, Liberal Party (Victorian Division)*

PANDORA LIVANES, *Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council*

TONY ROBINSON MLA, *Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Mitcham, ALP*

FIONA SIMPSON MLA, *Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Maroochydore, National Party*

CARMEL TEBBUTT MLA, *New South Wales State Minister for Education and Training; Member, New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Marrickville, ALP*

Other Political Exchanges and Dialogues

ASEAN-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program, Tokyo Roundtable

With funding from the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia, began operating an ASEAN-Japan Young Political Leaders Retreat in 2002 with the goal of promoting cooperation between Japan and the ASEAN member countries by building mutual understanding and personal networks between emerging political leaders. On April 19–20, 2004, eight delegates from ASEAN member countries took part in a workshop in Tokyo that was organized by JCIE. The event included a series of briefings and seminars, as well as a roundtable with 23 Japanese researchers, Diet members, and local legislators on the theme of “ASEAN-Japan Cooperation in East Asian Community Building.” The meetings also included a session with young Diet leaders, including Isamu Ueda (Komeito), Yoshimasa Hayashi (LDP), and Nobuhide Minorikawa (Independent).

Participants:

Cambodia: KHEK RAVY, *Ministry of Commerce*

Indonesia: CLARA JOEWONO, *CSIS, Indonesia*

LANDRY SUBIANTO, *CSIS, Indonesia*

RIZAL SUKMA, *CSIS, Indonesia*

Laos: SITTIPHONE BOUPHAVANH, *City Council Member, Vientiane*

Philippines: ROWENA LAYADOR, *Institute for Strategic and Development Studies*

Singapore: REUBEN WONG YIK PERN, *Singapore National University*

Vietnam: DANG CAM TU, *Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Institute of International Relations; Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Washington Seminar: Efficiency and Fairness in the Competitive Economy

In cooperation with the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and the Tokyo America Center, JCIE brought a delegation of 10 emerging Japanese leaders in the field of economics to Washington DC for a weeklong program on May 17–21, 2004. The delegates took part in meetings and seminars with a wide range of policymakers and analysts from the Bush administration, the U.S. Congress, and key think tanks.

Participants:

AKIRA ABE, *NTT DoCoMo*

MOTOMI HIRATSUKA, *BNP Paribas Securities (Japan)*

YOSUKE KAGABAYASHI, *Development Bank of Japan*

TAKESHI MANABE, *Office of Kenji Manabe, Member, House of Councillors*

KUNITAKE NAKAMURA, *Mizuho Research Institute*

KAORI NIKAMI, *Japan Center for Economic Research*

TETSUYA NOJIMA, *DPJ Staff*

KENICHI OKI, *Economic Exchange Section, Kanagawa Prefectural Government*

HIROYUKI OKUYAMA, *National Diet Library*

TAKASHI YOSHIMURA, *Nippon Keidanren*