

Stepping forward, into science's world

International Collaborations

With researchers around the world,
international research initiatives start here.



JSPS

JAPAN SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE

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**JSPS is Japan's core funding agency
supporting the advancement
of scientific research.
Our programs cover all fields
of the humanities,
social sciences, and natural sciences.**



Five major pillars underpin the implementation of JSPS's program: (1) Creating Diverse World-Level Knowledge, (2) Fostering the Next Generations of Talented Researchers Who Will Challenge the Pioneering of New Knowledge, (3) Enhancing the Education and Research Functions of Japan's Universities by Leveraging Their Diverse Strengths, (4) Building Robust International Research Networks and Infrastructures, and (5) Creating an Overarching Platform for the Comprehensive Analysis of Science Information.

This leaflet introduces JSPS programs carried out upon a foundation of partnership built with and among science-promotion organizations throughout the world, with an aim to further advance the globalization of scientific research activities and the international mobilization of researchers. As JSPS programs respond to a variety of needs, we would be happy if you would positively consider applying for a program of your interest.

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Toward Invigorating International Researcher Exchange

Selected Under JSPS International Programs
— Voice of a JSPS Fellow

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr. Diana VARGAS TRUJILLO

Ph.D., University of La Sabana, Colombia



Graduate Training in Japan Led to My Applying

During my PhD studies at La Sabana University in Colombia, I did an internship in the laboratory of Professor KOIBUCHI Noriyuki at Gunma University. It was a wonderful experience that opened my mind to the pursuit of new goals both for my career and my life in Japan. After receiving my degree, I looked for a postdoctoral fellowship that would allow me to participate in a dynamic international research network while providing me with tools for impacting society through science. Driven by my dream to be part of the JSPS community, I applied for a JSPS postdoctoral fellowship with the support of my host researcher, Professor INAGAKI Takeshi.

Want to Link My Experience with the Next Generation

Under the fellowship, my research is focused on finding new mechanisms for regulating adipocyte differentiation through RNA methylation, as such modifications can play

a pivotal role in the regulation of obesity and metabolic diseases. The opportunity to join to Dr. Inagaki's lab, who has vast experience in the fields of epigenetics and metabolic diseases, has allowed me to improve my skills as a scientist thanks to the lab's rich academic environment, critical discussion among its members on research results, and its cutting-edge facilities.

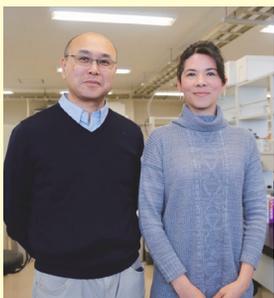
After finishing my fellowship tenure, I will continue my research on developing these methodologies in my country Colombia while working to strengthen cooperative activities between my host institution in Japan and Colombia through various programs available to JSPS alumni. To boost the mobility of new generations of researchers, I would like to motivate them to also apply for JSPS fellowships and experience living in Japan.

Research Topic: Role of RNA methylation during adipocyte differentiation

Host Research Institution:
Institute for Molecular and Cellular Regulation, Gunma University

Fellowship Tenure: November 16, 2018 - November 15, 2020

Please see page 7 for further information of International Fellowships for Research in Japan.



Host Researcher

Dr. INAGAKI Takeshi

Professor, Gunma University

Enriching Our Lab with Diverse Perspectives An Indispensable Team Member

I am very pleased to have Diana as a member of our laboratory, and am thankful to JSPS for its fellowship support. Diana has become well-adjusted to life in Japan while learning various new techniques in our laboratory, where we seek to elucidate the molecular mechanisms governing epigenetic memory of environmental changes in

somatic cells. I'm sure it's been a big challenge for her to start a new project as the first postdoctoral fellow to join our team. As she carries out her research, she also contributes to the development of the internationality of our laboratory. Her efforts have resulted in our supporting two more international postdocs, who are starting new lives as researchers here in Japan. I believe it important for advancing research to have versatile views from a variety of perspectives. In this regard as well, Diana is an indispensable member of our team. I am proud of our members and look forward to us continuing to do good science.

Supporting International Joint Research and Seminars



Bilateral Programs (Joint Research Projects/Seminars/Researcher Exchanges)

International Research Cooperation Division II, Overseas Fellowship Division

Bilateral Collaborations (Joint Research Projects and Seminars)

Support for carrying out joint research projects and seminars is given for the purpose of creating sustainable networks between bilateral research teams. These collaborations take two forms: (1) Based on MoUs and other cooperative agreements between JSPS and counterpart organizations, and (2) based on an Open Partnership Joint Research and Seminar Program* open to all countries that have diplomatic relations with Japan.



Open Partnership Joint Research Project between Japan and Australia (Prof. TAKAHASHI Keitaro, Kumamoto University)

*From FY2020 call, JSPS launched a new scheme for proposals named "Open Partnership Joint Seminars (Interuniversity Cooperation)." It is meant to strengthen bilateral research cooperation by supporting organizational initiatives carried out via university consortiums and other collaborations among institutions.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-bilat/index.html>

Researcher Exchanges

Funding is given to Japanese researchers to support their visits to researchers in counterpart countries for such purposes as conducting research or engaging in discussions.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-bilat/researcher.html>

JSPS International Joint Research Program

International Research Cooperation Division II

In cooperation with JSPS's overseas counterpart organizations, international joint research is supported with the aim of advancing research carried out between excellent researchers in Japanese universities/research institutions and their overseas colleagues, while providing opportunities for young researchers to hone their skills.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-bottom/index.html>

KAKENHI (Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research)

Research Aid Planning Division

Fostering Joint International Research

(A) Support of joint international research project conducted by a KAKENHI grantee in collaboration with researcher(s) at foreign university or research institution. Over a period of 6 to 12 months. The grant seeks to markedly advance research plans for the root research project and to foster independent researchers who can be internationally competitive.

* "Root research project": first stage of a project in progress under a KAKENHI grant.

(B) Support of joint international research project conducted by multiple domestic researchers and researcher(s) who belongs to overseas research institution. In addition to the development of scientific research, the grant seeks to build out infrastructure of joint international research or further strengthen joint international research and to foster researchers who can be internationally competitive. (Period of support: 3 to 6 years)

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/index.html>

A3 Foresight Program

International Research Cooperation Division I

Along with JSPS, partner funding agencies in China and Korea jointly recruit, select and support trilateral projects to develop top world-class research hubs in East Asia.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-foresight/index.html>



The 3rd A3 Roundtable Meeting on CPRH (Jeju, Korea): Group Shot (Photo by Tohoku University, Graduate School of Science)

Core-to-Core Program

International Research Cooperation Division I

A. Advanced Research Networks

To create top world-class research centers in leading-edge fields, JSPS supports a wide spectrum of activities, including joint research projects and seminars, carried out based on sustainable partnership with research institutions around the world, while providing cutting-edge platforms for fostering young researchers.

B. Asia-Africa Science Platforms

To help solve problems prevailing in developing regions of Asia and Africa, Japanese universities and research institutions take the lead in building research centers in counterpart countries and in fostering young researchers.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-c2c/index.html>



← Seminar by related parties at BIUST: Botswana office of Akita University. (June 2018) (Photo by Akita University)



→ International Joint Symposium at JICA Global Plaza in Tokyo. (November 2018) (Photo by Akita University)

Inviting Researchers from Other Countries to Japan

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan

Overseas Fellowship Division

Standard

Excellent postdoctoral researchers are invited to Japan for 1-2 years to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of host researchers.

Short-term

Pre- and postdoctoral researchers are invited to Japan from Europe and North America to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of host researchers for the relatively short period of 1-12 months.

Summer Program

Young pre- and postdoctoral researchers from the US, UK, France, Germany, Canada and Sweden are invited to Japan for a 2-month research experience during the summer.



Orientation on Japanese culture (Summer Program)

Strategic Program

Outstanding young researchers with high future potential are strategically invited to Japan from among the major advanced nations and other selected countries.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/index.html>

Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan

Overseas Fellowship Division

Long-term

Mid-career and professor level researchers from other countries are invited for long-term (2-10 months) to collaborate with Japanese colleagues.

Short-term

Mid-career and professor level researchers from other countries are invited for short-term (14-60 days) and provided opportunities for discussions, opinion exchanges, lectures and other activities.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/index.html>

RONPAKU (Dissertation PhD) Program

Overseas Fellowship Division

This program provides tutorial and financial support for promising researchers in Asia and Africa or other specified countries who wish to obtain a PhD degree from a Japanese university through the submission of a dissertation without going through a doctoral course.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-ronpaku/index.html>

Expanding Researcher Networks

Building a JSPS Researcher Community

International Policy Planning Division

As of January 2020, JSPS supports 20 researcher communities (alumni associations) established by former JSPS fellows in countries around the world. Follow-up activities are supported by JSPS to maintain and expand networks among the alumni and with their Japanese colleagues.

https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/20_alumni.html



The 10th General Assembly of JSPS Alumni Association of Thailand (February 2019, Bangkok, Thailand)

BRIDGE Fellowship Program

International Policy Planning Division

Support is provided to former fellows who have participated in JSPS's programs and who are now regular members of officially recognized JSPS alumni associations. They are given an opportunity to revisit Japan for the purpose of creating, sustaining and/or strengthening their collaborative ties with Japanese colleagues and research institutions. (Visit period: from 14 to 30 days)

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/bridge/index.html>

JSPS Researchers Network (JSPS-Net)

International Policy Planning Division

JSPS operates a social networking service called JSPS-Net. It supports networking among researchers and research administrators interested in interconnecting with colleagues and associates around the world. Working to further expand such networks, JSPS-Net supports the flourishing of international exchange and activity among researchers in Japan and other countries.

<https://www.jsps-net.jsps.go.jp/>



Offering Young Researchers Opportunities to Gain International Experience



Frontiers of Science (FoS) Symposium

International Research Cooperation Division I

These bilateral and trilateral symposiums each assemble 20-30 young researchers from each country who lodge together for a period of three days. They are given a unique opportunity to engage each other in cross-disciplinary discussions on the cutting edge of scientific topics. The symposiums are jointly sponsored by JSPS and its overseas counterpart institutions. The program is open to researchers of age up to 45 or who have received their PhDs within the last 15 years.

<https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-fos/index.html>



Cross-disciplinary discussions on leading edge scientific topics, 3rd UK-Japan Frontiers of Science Symposium (Chiba, Japan, November 2019)

HOPE Meetings with Nobel Laureates

International Research Cooperation Division I

HOPE Meetings provide opportunities to excellent doctoral students and young researchers selected from countries/areas of the Asia-Pacific and African regions to engage in interdisciplinary discussions with Nobel laureates and other distinguished scientists, and with peers of their own generation.

<https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-hope/index.html>



The 11th HOPE Meeting, lecture by Dr. Tim HUNT (2001 Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine)

Young Researcher Support for Attending Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

International Research Cooperation Division I

At Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings, Nobel laureates give lectures to and hold discussions with young researchers from around the world. JSPS nominates doctoral students and young researchers as Japanese candidates to the Lindau Council and bears their participation expenses.

<https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-lindau/index.html>



Christian Flemming/Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings

The 69th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting

Participating in Researchers' Outreach Activities



Science Dialogue

Overseas Fellowship Division

Young postdoc fellows from other countries are invited to give lectures in English on their research activities and home countries at Japanese high schools.

<https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-plaza/e-sdialogue/index.html>



Dr. Md Nazim UDDIN from Saitama University (Bangladesh) (Nagano Prefectural Yashiro High School, January 2019)

Nobel Prize Dialogue

International Research Cooperation Division I

JSPS invites world-leading scientists, including Nobel laureates, to carry out a dialogue via an open format of lectures and panel discussions with the general public, including students and young researchers.

https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-nobel_prize_dialogue/index.html



Nobel Laureates Discussion (Nobel Prize Dialogue Tokyo 2019)

International Prize for Biology

International Policy Planning Division

The International Prize for Biology is conferred upon a distinguished researcher in a field selected each year by the Prize Committee from among all the fields of biology. In conjunction with the Prize presentation ceremony, an international symposium is held in which the Prize recipient is invited to give a special lecture.

<https://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-biol/index.html>



Presentation Ceremony for the 35th International Prize for Biology (Recipient: Dr. Naomi E. Pierce)

Sending Young Researchers Overseas



Overseas Research Fellowships

Overseas Training Program Division

To foster highly capable researchers with wide international perspectives, this fellowship gives excellent young Japanese researchers an opportunity to carry out long-term research at an overseas university or research institution.

Overseas Research Fellowships – Restart Research Abroad (RRA) program gives young Japanese researchers who have suspended their research activities due to a life event (e. g. childbirth, child raising, caregiving) eligibility to apply for an RRA fellowship.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-ab/index.html>



Dr. KAGAWA Kotaro, Overseas Research Fellow (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, Switzerland)

Overseas Challenge Program for Young Researchers

Overseas Training Program Division

This program gives doctoral students an opportunity to go overseas to challenge a new research environment, one in which they engage in joint research with researchers in the host country over a period of three months to one year. Hence, the program contributes to the fostering of young researchers who possess abundant international experience and can be expected to play leading roles in the wider scientific arena.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-abc/index.html>

Using Overseas Experience to Advance Research



KAKENHI (Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research)

Research Aid Planning Division

Home-Returning Researcher Development Research

Support of research to be conducted by a Japanese researcher with current affiliation abroad who is to be newly appointed at university or research institution in Japan. (Period of support: up to 3 years)

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/index.html>

Supporting Internationalization of Universities



Supporting the Overseas Activities of Japanese Universities

International Policy Planning Division

Some of JSPS's overseas offices have a joint usage policy to support the overseas program initiatives of Japanese universities. Faculty and administrators of these universities are allowed to use their offices as a base during long-term overseas stays.

https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/about_us/overseas_office.html

Examples of Joint Use of JSPS Overseas Offices

Keio University

Keio University occupies an office within the facilities of JSPS London as its European base for international information exchange activities. As part of these activities, Keio has been organizing the Experience Japan Exhibition, a study in Japan fair that provides information on programs at Japanese universities and language schools to high school students, university students, and researchers in the UK, annually since 2011. Other activities include supporting Keio students studying in the UK and collecting the latest information on universities and other institutions in the UK and Europe to further Keio's educational and research pursuits.

Ritsumeikan University

Given joint use of the JSPS Beijing Office, Ritsumeikan University holds briefings for exchange students along with various kinds of public relations events. Participating in activities stemming from the networks formed via these events, the University obtains opportunities to introduce its wide-ranging programs. Also participating in "Kihei-kai (Association for Higher Education Exchange between Japan and China)", whose secretariat is the JSPS Beijing Office, we exchange information on education and research carried out between China and Japan with other institutions. In a program to celebrate the Ritsumeikan University Beijing Office's first anniversary, we teamed up with Tsinghua University to hold a joint academic symposium, which initiated continued academic exchange between the two institutions.

Providing Practical Overseas Training for University Administrative Staffs

International Policy Planning Division

JSPS's Tokyo Head Office and its overseas offices provide practical work experience related to international scientific exchange, along with foreign language training and overseas internships, for administrative staffs of Japanese universities.

Portal Site for Overseas Scientific Trends

International Policy Planning Division

This portal site is established for the purpose of disseminating information on the international activities of universities and other institutions. JSPS's overseas offices gather information on the higher educational and scientific trends in their host countries and regions, which is given wide access through this portal site (only in Japanese).

<http://www-overseas-news.jsps.go.jp>

Contact Information

If you have questions about our programs or their application procedures, please visit JSPS's website or feel free to contact our staff in charge of each program. All information regarding the open recruitments for these programs is posted on JSPS's webpage.



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