



JSPS London

NEWSLETTER

No.75
2024 SUMMER



Celebration of the Japanese Empire Hirohito State Visit on the Mall (photo by Yasuko Yamada)

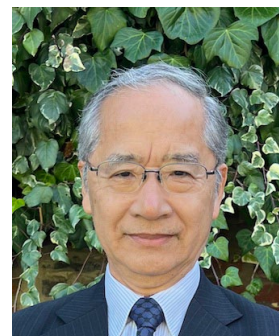
Contents

- 1 センター長の英国観望
第12回「創立30周年を迎えて」
- 5 特集/Feature: JSPS International Fellowships
- 7 Postdoctoral Fellowships Research in Japan
Summer Programme
Voice!: Ms Farrukh Akhtar
- 10 Postdoctoral Fellowships Research in Japan
Short-term
Voice!: Dr Dominic Whittall
- 13 Postdoctoral Fellowships Research in Japan
Standard
Voice!: Dr Gregory J. P. Perry
- 16 Invitational Fellowship
Voice!: Dr Javier Andreu-Perez
- 19 英国の機関紹介
MRCロンドン医科学研究所
(MRC Laboratory of Medical Science: LMS)
- 20 離任および着任者挨拶
- 23 Events organised/supported by JSP London
- 24 JSPS Fellowship Programmes & International
Collaborations Application Schedule

センター長の英国観望

第12回 「創立30周年を迎えて」

ロンドン研究連絡センター・センター長
小林 直人



1. はじめに - 創立30周年と日英研究協力

JSPSロンドン研究連絡センターは、今年で創立30周年を迎えます。当センターはナイロビ、カイロ、ワシントンDC、ボンに次ぐJSPSの5番目の海外連携拠点として1994年にロンドンに創設されました。またJSPSの制度により日本で在外研究を行った方々の同窓会(The JSPS Alumni Association of the UK and the Republic of Ireland)も創設20周年を迎えます。そのため9月4日(水)にオックスフォードのアシュモレアン博物館(図1)で、また12月5日(木)にエディンバラのRSE(ロイヤルソサイエティ・オブ・エディンバラ)で、記念行事開催を予定しています。

この30年間に初代の柳田博明先生から私まで11名のセンター長が、また14名の副センター長、56名の国際協力員、文部省からの18名のアドバイザーが勤務されました。ご貢献に心から感謝いたします。当センターはこの間ロイヤルソサイエティ、ブリテイッシュ・アカデミー、UKRI(UK Research and Innovation)などの研究助成機関や、オックスフォード大学、ケンブリッジ大学を始め、24の研究型大学であるラッセル・グループの大学や、スコットランド、ウェールズ、アイルランドの大学を訪問し、密接な協力関係を築いて来ました。今後はさらにきめ細かく実り多い連携推進に努めたいと考えています。

ところで英国と日本の学術研究に関する連携は、質の高い科学的成果を生み出していることが知られています。日本と英国の2019～2022年の共著論文数(21,276報)は世界で第15位でしたが、それはそれ以前に比べて15.1%増加しています[1]。また表1に、2017年から2021年までの分野別の共著論文数と分野加重引用インパクト(FWCI)を示しますが、全分野のFWCIは3.48で、世界平均(1.00)の3倍以上であり、日英の研究協力は質が高く影響力も大きいことを示しています[2]。

しかも共著論文数が最も多い医学分野での研究成果のFWCIは5.85です。また共著論文数がそれぞれ2番目、3番目に多い物理学・天文学分野、生化学・遺伝学・分子生物学分野においてもFWCIが2.5以上と高い影響力を示しています。これらのことは、これまで日英の研究者同士が相補的に優れた研究協力を行って来たことを意味していると考えられます。

日英間の研究協力は2020～2021年のコロナ禍により一時的に停滞しましたが、昨年度から再び活発になっています。その要点は、多くの出会いの機会と深い議論に基づいたCo-creation であると考えられます。当センターとしては、そのための新たな研究協力開拓や既存の研究協力事業の一層の発展を支援する努力を、今後もしっかり担って行きたいと思えます

研究分野	共著論文数	FWCI
医学	7,117	5.85
物理学・天文学	6,291	2.58
生化学・遺伝学・分子生物学	3,698	3.16
地球惑星科学	3,292	2.86
エンジニアリング	2,895	1.92
材料科学	2,123	1.81
計算科学	1,959	1.98
化学	1,801	1.87
農学・生物科学	1,710	2.29
数学	1,254	1.92

表1. 日英の研究分野別共著論文数とFWCI (2017～2021年)[2].



図1. オックスフォードのアシュモレアン博物館。

センター長の英国観望

2. スコットランド訪問

6月中旬にスタッフ2名とともにスコットランドを訪問しました。昨年3月にはグラスゴー大学とエディンバラ大学を訪問しましたが、今回は前述の本年12月の当センター創立30周年とJSPSロンドン同窓会20周年の記念シンポジウム・記念式典の打ち合わせのためにRSEを訪問して、詳細な打ち合わせを行いました。またそれにご説明を行うと共にご出席の要請を行いました。その後アバディーン大学とセント・アンドリュース大学を訪問しました。

アバディーンはエディンバラの北東約150kmにあり、電車でほぼ2時間半かかります。人口が約20万人でエディンバラ、グラスゴーに続くスコットランド第3の都市で、北海油田の基地として、またニシン・タラなどの漁港として栄えて来ました。同市の建物には従来から地元で採掘された灰色の花崗岩(Granite)が使われていて、“The Granite City”という呼び名があるそうです。私自身は今回初めてアバディーンを訪れたのですが、街全体が銀色に輝き中々魅力的な街だと感じました。

アバディーン大学は1495年に創立され、スコットランドではセント・アンドリュース大学、グラスゴー大学に続く3番目に古い大学(英国内で5番目)です。学部は12あり、全部で42の多様な分野で研究が行われています。将来の主な研究の柱はエネルギー、環境と生物多様性、健康・栄養・幸福、社会的包摂と多様性等の学際的分野の課題に重点的に取り組むことだそうです[3]。

事業説明会には博士課程学生、ポスドク、アカデミック・スタッフなど30名近くの研究者に集まって頂き、色々なテーマについて質疑応答を行いました。特に若い研究者の関心が高いことが印象的でした。また同大学の日本人研究者も7~8名参加されて、大学での研究状況や当市での生活実態等を教えて頂きました。



図2. アバディーン大学での事業説明会後の写真。博士課程学生、ポスドク、アカデミック・スタッフなど全部で30名近くの方が参加。

アバディーン大学訪問の翌日は、エディンバラの北東約50kmに有るセント・アンドリュース大学を訪問しました。実はセント・アンドリュースは、約20年前に私自身が訪れた英国の最初の町です。偶々光デバイス関係の国際ワークショップが同大学で開かれたのを機会に訪れたのですが、今回大変懐かしく感じました。因みにセント・アンドリュースとはイエス・キリストの12人の弟子の一人聖アンデレのことで、4世紀頃にその遺骨が運ばれて来たという言い伝えが町の名前の起源だそうです。

セント・アンドリュース大学は創立が1413年とスコットランドで最も古い大学(英国内で3番目)です。当時はスコットランドとイングランドの関係が悪化して、スコットランドで独自の大学を設立する必要が生じ、スコットランド最大の司教区の所在地であり、学問の中心であった修道院のある当地が選ばれたそうです[4]。そのため市の中心部には、オックスフォード大学やケンブリッジ大学に比べると小規模ながら、中世の面影を残す趣のある大学の建物が並んでいます。大学には3つのカレッジ、4つの学部(芸術、神学、医学、理学)、19の研究科があり、学際的研究も盛んです。また英国の大学の中で、最も国際的な学生の比率が高い大学で、在学生の約40%が海外からの学生とのことです。

私達が訪れた週はちょうど各学部の卒業式の日で、町の中央にある会議室が使えないため北西約10kmの所にあるエデン・キャンパス(イノベーションと再生可能技術の主要拠点)で日本との関係が深いアカデミック・スタッフを中心に事業説明と意見交換の会を行いました。皆様は大変に日本との研究協力を熱心であり、是非次回は多くの博士課程学生、ポスドクの方にもオンラインで事業説明会を行いたいと思っています。

今回、スコットランドの2大学を訪問したのは大変久しぶりであったので、今後に向けて実り多いものとなりました。



図3. セント・アンドリュース大学での事業説明会後の写真。アカデミック・スタッフ、事務スタッフの皆さんと。

センター長の英国観望

3. 「エンジニアリング・バイオロジー」について

近年、英国ではエンジニアリング・バイオロジーという言葉がよく聞かれますが、ここではその概略をご紹介します。

英国政府は2023年3月に、2030年までに英国を科学技術大国にする方策を定めた「科学技術フレームワーク」を発表しました[5]。その中で重要技術としてAI、次世代電気通信、半導体、量子技術と並んでエンジニアリング・バイオロジーを指定しました。それを受けて、科学・イノベーション・技術省、DSIT (Department for Science, Innovation and Technology) は同年12月に「エンジニアリング・バイオロジーに関する国家ビジョン」という文書を発表しました[6]。ここでは、エンジニアリング・バイオロジーの定義として「さまざまな分野で変革を起したり、既存の製品をより持続可能な方法で生産したりできる、生物学由来の製品やサービスの設計、規模拡大、商業化」であると述べています(図4参照)。

さらに英国最大の研究助成機関であるUKRIは傘下のBBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) とともに、本年2月に1億ポンド(約200億円)を6つのエンジニアリング・バイオロジー・ミッション・ハブと、22件のプロジェクトに研究助成を行いました[7]。その一つのケント大学のハブでは、1400万ポンド(約28億円)の資金援助を得て希少金属のリサイクル促進プロジェクトを、マンチェスター大学、ダラム大学、ユニバーシティ・カレッジ・ロンドンなどと共同で進めています[8]。

このように英国は自国内のエンジニアリング・バイオロジー振興に大きな力を入れています。国際共同研究にも意欲的で、BBSRCは日本のJST(科学技術振興機構)と共同で「エンジニアリング・バイオロジーにおける探索研究および横断的技術開発」

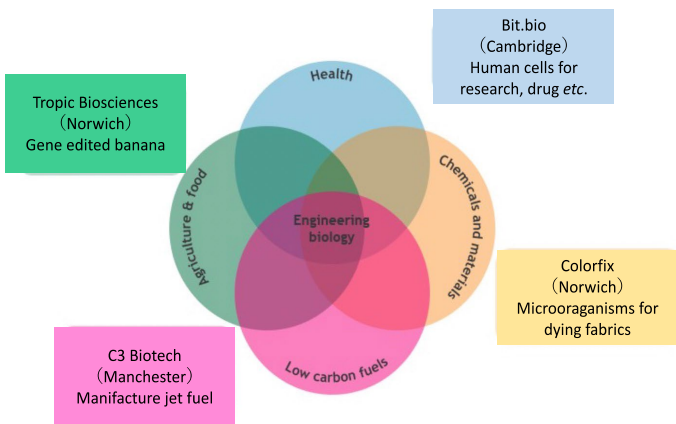


図4. エンジニアリング・バイオロジーの応用分野と、関連する英国企業の例 [6]。

という研究助成事業募集を2024年1月に開始しました(同年4月に募集終了) [9]。ここでは英国側は一件当たり総額100万ポンド(約2億円)、日本側は同総額2億3,400万円を提供します。その成果は数年先に見られると思いますが、今から楽しみです。

さて、先日私たちは以前このニュースレターでインタビューイヤーとして登場頂いたシンセティック・バイオロジーがご専門のマンチェスター大学、高野恵理子先生[10]に、英国におけるエンジニアリング・バイオロジー研究開発の現状と方向性をお伺いしました。高野先生はDSITのEngineering Biology Steering Group (DSITが実施するエンジニアリング・バイオロジーの政策形成をサポートする専門家グループ)のメンバーです。また本年10月からはUKRIのBBSRC Strategy Council の一員として、エンジニアリング・バイオロジー戦略を考える委員にも就かれるとお聞きしています。高野先生による重要なお指摘を以下にまとめます。

- シンセティック・バイオロジーは基礎、エンジニアリング・バイオロジーはその考え方・手法を使った応用で、それにより企業が利益を如何に上げるかが課題である。両者の考え方はかなり重なっているところがあるが、英国では区別をはっきりさせている。
- バイオ・エンジニアリングは生体材料を利用して工学的手法により設計・開発を行う研究分野である。今日のモルキュラー・バイオロジーである。エンジニアリング・バイオロジーは生物を人工的に変えて新たな有用性をもつ生物を作らせる研究分野である。マンチェスター大学ではエンジニアリング・バイオロジーのプラットフォームを立ち上げた。
- 英国がエンジニアリング・バイオロジーに力を入れる理由は、これまでシンセティック・バイオロジーにかなりの投資をしてきて世界をリードする研究開発のポテンシャルがあるとともに、バイオマニファチャリングを自国できちんとやるという戦略があるからだと思う。それは医薬品だけではなく農業・食品・化学物質・環境対応など色々な分野にわたっている。
- エンジニアリング・バイオロジーの特徴は、シンセティック・バイオロジーが元々そうであるように、AI、バイオインフォマティクス、マイクロバイーム、先進材料、化学、アナリティクス、バイオロジー、健康、農業と食品、持続性、社会科学、ビジネス、エコノミクス等、すべての研究分野の考え方を取り入れた学際的な研究開発でなければならないことである。

UKRIでもBBSRC以外にEPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council)、MRC (Medical Research

センター長の英国観望

Council)、ESRC(Economic and Social Research Council)、AHRC(Arts and Humanity Research Council)など、ほぼ全研究カウンスルが関係している。

- そのためエンジニアリング・バイオロジーの研究開発は、色々な分野の研究者が協力して実施しないといけない。従って異分野の研究者の共同研究が絶対必要である。日本での研究は、このような異分野の共同研究があまり進んでいないように見受けられる。日本の研究者は欧米の研究者に比べて、応用に優れているので是非一緒に共同研究ができれば極めて優れた結果を出せると思う。

4.国立物理学研究所(NPL)訪問

半年ほど前になりますが、ロンドン西方テディントンにある1990年創立の国立物理学研究所(National Physical Laboratory, NPL)を訪問して、J. T. Janssen教授(図5下右の左の方)とRobert Gunn博士(同右)等からお話をお聞きました。NPLは英国の国立計量標準研究所(National Metrology Institute, NMI)であり、国内の一次計測標準の開発と維持、および他国のNMIとの協力による国際計測システムの維持に取り組んでいます。

計量標準というのは科学の基準量である時間、長さ、質量、電流、温度、物質質量、光度という7つの基本単位を始めとして特定の物理量の基準値を提供するもので、NPLはこれらを決定する英国最上位の研究機関です。この基準量が二次、三次の計量標準機関に受け渡されて、世の中に使われるようになります。



図5. (上左)伝統的雰囲気のある正門、(上右)研究本館(左)と実験棟。(下左)基本単位決定方法の展示、(下右)案内頂いた2名の方。

主要国にはこのNPLと同様のNMI(*)があり、日本では国立研究開発法人・産業技術総合研究所(産総研)のNMIJ(計量標準センター)がそれに相当します。実は、私は産総研の前身の一つ電子技術総合研究所で中性子量標準を決定する研究をしていたことがあり、NPLは昔から大変親しみを感じていました。今回、訪問して実験室などを見学して大変懐かしく感じました。

ただし、NPLは計量標準を開発・供給するだけでなく、広く産業基盤となる研究開発をしています。例えばNPLの量子計測研究所(QMI)は、量子時計、量子通信、量子コンピューティングなどの分野で、高精度計測科学を基に学术界や産業界に特性評価技術を提供しています。また生命科学分野では、前章で紹介したエンジニアリング・バイオロジーの標準化と産業化を可能にする色々な知識基盤を開発しています。

このようにフランス・クリック研究所やアラン・チューリング研究等に比べると、中々地味な仕事を担う研究所ですが、英国の科学と産業を支えるその役割は大変貴重だと言えましょう。

(*)例えばフランスの国際度量衡局(International Bureau of Weights and Measures, BIPM)、ドイツの連邦物理工学研究所(Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, PTB)、米国の国立標準技術研究所(National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST)などがその例で、お互いの国際比較で基準量の整合性を確保しています。

参考文献

- [1] <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/universities-uk-international/insights-and-publications/uuki-publications/international-facts-and-figures-2023>
- [2] <https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/universities-uk-international/insights-and-publications/uuki-publications/uk-japan-relationship-collaboration>
- [3] “University of Aberdeen”; <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/>
- [4] “University of St. Andrews”; <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/>
- [5] “UK Science and Technology Framework” <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-science-and-technology-framework>
- [6] “National vision for engineering biology” <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-vision-for-engineering-biology/national-vision-for-engineering-biology>
- [7] <https://www.ukri.org/news/new-100m-fund-will-unlock-the-potential-of-engineering-biology/>
- [8] <https://www.kent.ac.uk/news/sustainability-environment-and-natural-resources/34548/14m-for-kent-led-project-to-advance-recycling-of-rare-metals>
- [9] <https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/japan-uk-engineering-biology-for-discovery-research-and-cross-cutting-technologies/>
- [10] https://www.jsps.org/newsletter/JSPSNL_69.pdf#page=2

A Golden Opportunity : Leading the World with Our Research Fellowships

JSPS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS for Research in JAPAN

We would like to introduce you to the JSPS International Fellowships in our summer edition of News Letter No.75. We all hope that this issue will help you find the right one for you!

In this issue you will find details of each fellowship programme: duration, number of recipients, success rates and eligibility. In particular, we have simplified the eligibility criteria and if you tick all the boxes, you can apply for the scholarship. (excl. Invitation fellowship)

After the introduction of each fellowships, we provide [the fellows experience stories](#).

It also provides you with the [application schedules](#) and the [time frame for you to start your research](#) in Japan for each fellowship.

Hope you will find the right fellowship for you.

"Make a difference in the world, through research in Japan."



"Research that matters, in Japan"

"Bridge the gap, shape the future."

The introduction of JSPS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP for Research in JAPAN

Those four fellowships are the most popular. There are also different Fellowships at different stages of your research career. Those are :

Summer Programme :

(for researcher candidate or early career researcher)

This fellowship offers the opportunity for pre/ post doctoral researchers from Europe and North America to receive an orientation of Japanese language and culture and research systems as well as to pursue research under the guidance of host researchers at Japanese universities and research institutes over a period of two months during the summer. The orientation will take place at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI)



Short –term

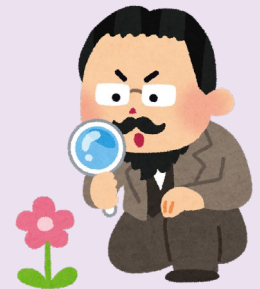
(for researcher candidate or early career researcher)

The program provides pre/post doctoral researchers from Europe and North America with opportunities to conduct collaborative research under the guidance of their hosts in universities and other Japanese institutions for a relatively short period of time. A person who has never engaged in research at universities etc. in Japan would be most preferable.

Standard:

(for early career researcher)

To provide opportunities for excellent postgraduate researchers from other countries to conduct, under the guidance of their hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions.

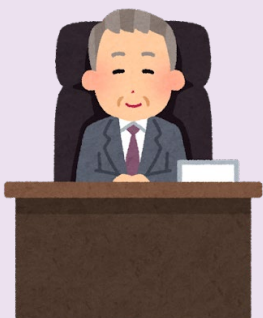


Invitational Fellowship:

(for mid-career /professor)

Long-term : To provide opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to conduct collaborative research with Japanese colleagues through long-term visits.

Short-term: To provide opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to visit Japan for short-term for discussions, opinion exchanges, lectures, and other activities.



From PhD students to
Post-doctoral researchers (within 6 years of graduation)



Summer Programme

Filed of reseach	All fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.
Duration	Fixed period from mid June to mid August
Terms of award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Round-trip tiket ▪ Overseas travel insurance ▪ Maintenance allowance ¥534,400 ▪ Research support allowance of ¥158,500
Number of Awardee	Approximately 100 (10 to 20 from the UK)
Success rate	80 %

London call (an application form send to JSPS London)

Eligibility	<input type="checkbox"/> British AND <input type="checkbox"/> Your institute should be in UK
	<input type="checkbox"/> You are PhD student OR <input type="checkbox"/> Postdoc who have completed a PhD within 6 years of starting the fellowship

* Please go to website if you are citizen or permanent resident of **US, France, Germany, Canada or Sweden** for your eligibility
<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-summer/>

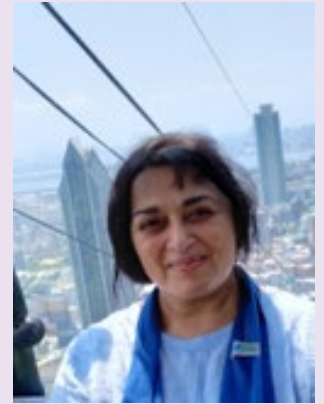
Application schedule (London call)

Programme	Apply to	Recruitments	2024						2025						
			JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	later
Summer	JSPS Lon	FY2025	FY2024			TBA									FY2025 fixed period JUN-AUG

Application deadline date Period for arriving in Japan

Vol.29 Ms Farrukh Akhtar**Associate Professor, Kingston University,
London, UK****Biography**

2018 – current	Associate Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Care, Kingston University
2023	JSPS Summer Programme, Japan
2009 – 2018	Senior Lecturer, School of Social Work, Kingston University
2002 – 2009	Learning and Teach: Organisational Workforce Development Lead for Children's Social Work in two different organisations
1991 – 2002	Team Manager and Senior Social Worker in Fostering Services

**Ms Farrukh Akhtar tells of her time in Japan as a 2023 Summer Programme Fellow**

It's a pleasure to be able to contribute to this newsletter.

My time in Japan was lifechanging and I'm happy to share some of my learning with you.

My doctorate explores the relationship between Focusing and the possible impact it might have on student sense of belonging in higher education. Focusing is a way of connecting to the wisdom held in our bodies and can lead to emotional insights and a better understanding of ourselves.

Focusing is yet to go mainstream in the UK, but as I read around the topic, I realised that a large chunk of research came from Japan, not just small-scale pilot projects but large quantitative studies, many of them based in universities. I had a sense that something unique and special was happening there around Focusing. Frustratingly, much of this was inaccessible to me. I spoke to my doctorate supervisor and asked if there was some kind of grant that would enable me to visit Japan, however briefly, so that I could check out the context in which Focusing was happening in universities, and also have an opportunity to access relevant research papers. He was not aware of any such grant.

You can imagine my delight when a few weeks later, an email popped up in my inbox inviting students to apply for the JSPS Summer Programme to Japan. I spoke to various people including my supervisor and everyone's views were that it was very unlikely that I would actually receive the fellowship. However, I still thought it was worth applying.

I quickly checked the criteria and realised I would need to find someone who would be prepared to act as a host for me at an appropriate university. I had already noticed that a substantial amount of research on Focusing came from Kansai University. Professor Akira Ikemi has acted as a

supervisor to much of this. I contacted him and he kindly agreed to act as a host.

We discussed a possible proposal that would work for both of us and I submitted this. The rest, as they say, is history.

I found the whole process – from applying, arriving in Japan, carrying out the project - extremely organised and well signposted. As with any international opportunity, there are moments when things are lost in translation and minor omissions or misunderstandings. But I always found everyone to be both patient and helpful and keen to resolve the issue.

I felt very at home at Kansai university. It was clear that a great deal of thought had gone into preparing for my visit. I had my own office, and access to all the university facilities. There were weekly check-in meetings, I was supported as needed, but also given a lot of autonomy to get on with what I needed to do.

My research explored the links between Buddhist meditation and Focusing practices in Japan. I was specifically interested in the different understandings and ways in which mental space is experienced in meditation or Focusing.

As part of the research, I visited some of the many temples and shrines in Kyoto, Osaka, Nara, Tokyo and Matsui. I interviewed Buddhist monks, Focusing practitioners, and students about their experiences of Focusing and/ or meditation. The discussions were enriching and life affirming.

It was also powerful for me to 'hang out' with post-graduate students at Kansai university and get a sense of how Focusing is taught there, and how it impacts on the student experience. Focusing is an integral part of the



Getting ready to meditate in the 1500 years old shourin-ji Temple, Kyoto

curriculum. It gave me a vision of what this might look like in UK based universities.

I am grateful for the support, care and attention that I received from everyone at my host institution, from Professor Ikemi to all the academic and support staff, as well as the students I met, including prominent scholars and practitioners. The data collected was rich and, a year later, I am still processing it. I am sure that much of this richness was due to the support I received from Professor Ikemi. He acted as both collaborator and interpreter. His skill and expertise made communication easy and led to some stimulating discussions.

My host university placed me in a hall of residence for international students. This was a couple of train stops away from the university, so very accessible. The accommodation was simple, clean and affordable. There was a communal kitchen, and good access to Wi-Fi.

It was fun getting to know the local areas in different parts of Osaka and the Kansai region. I was fortunate that my research enabled me to travel freely and explore temples and practices in different areas.

I loved the Japanese culture. For me, it was like coming home to a better version of myself. I deeply appreciated the politeness and respect shown to others, the emphasis on doing a task to the best of one's ability because that is just what one does around here. I am sure there were times I disgraced myself with my lack of awareness of something, or my forthright manner, but luckily, people were too polite to say anything!

I did my best to learn Japanese before the visit. I studied

hard for three months and thought I had made good progress. But when I arrived in Japan, there was so much to take in, everything was so different. That was overwhelming for me. All the Japanese I had learnt just disappeared from my brain. Not being able to speak Japanese fluently is my one regret, as it did limit the extent to which I could meaningfully communicate with others.

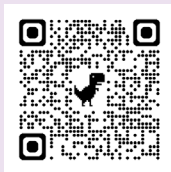
I need to fulfil various obligations, including my doctorate. But I hope to remain connected to everyone I met in Japan. There is so much opportunity for collaboration. And so much to learn from each other.

For anyone thinking of applying, I would say 'go for it' – but make sure you do your homework. You need to ensure that your research aligns with that of your host and the host institution. Also check out the region that the institution is located and whether that will meet your specific needs.

Having said that a direct flight to Japan lasts 16 hours – so it's not easy to jump on a plane and come home if there is a family emergency. But if your circumstances allow it, sign up for those Japanese classes now and go for it!



Make sure you fill out your goshuincho ('honorable stamp/seal book') – these pages show the entry visiting The Great Buddha, at Kamakura.



Filed of research	All fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.	
Duration	1 month to 12 months	
Terms of award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Round-trip ticket • Overseas travel insurance • Maintenance allowance of: PhD holder: ¥362,000, Non-PhD holder: ¥200,000 • Setting-in allowance of ¥200,000 (for 3 months or more of tenure) 	
Number of Awardee	60 per year (plus an additional 20 for the UK)	
Success rate :	London 1st :50%(FY2024) 2nd:55%(FY2023)	Tokyo call: 31.1%(FY2023 total)
Eligibility	You must be a PhD student or a Post doctoral	
●London & Tokyo call both	PhD Student: <input type="checkbox"/> I will obtain PhD within 2 years from the point of fellowship start.	
	Post doc : <input type="checkbox"/> I have obtained PhD within 6 years from the point of fellowship start	
●London call only :	<input type="checkbox"/> Your nationality is: UK, US, Canada, EU, Norway or Switzerland AND <input type="checkbox"/> Your institute is in the UK or in Ireland	
●Tokyo call only	<input type="checkbox"/> Your nationality is: UK, US, Canada, EU, Norway, Switzerland or Russia OR <input type="checkbox"/> The person who has been engaged in research continuously for a period of at least three years at the university or research institute in an eligible country. They must be from a country that has diplomatic	
Please be aware of only for Tokyo call	Application: submitted on behalf of the applicant by host researchers in Japan directly to JSPS HQs. Each host institute may have its own application deadlines, which may be more than one month before these set by JSPS. Applicant should check the deadlines with the staff	

Programme	Apply to	Recruitments	2024						2025							
			JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	later	
Short Term	JSPS Lon	1st (FY2025)						TBA								FY2025 APR- MAR
		2nd (FY2026)													TBA	FY2025 NOV-MAR
	JSPS TYO	1st			27th											FY2025 APR - MAR
		2nd							10th							FY2025 APR - MAR
		3rd													7th	FY2025DEC -MAR

Vol.30 Dr Dominic Whittall

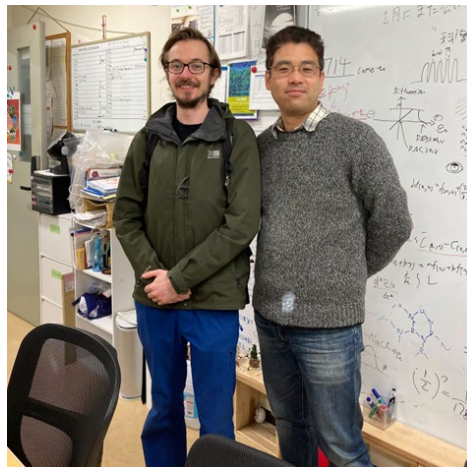
Dr Dominic Whittall

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Manchester, UK

Biography

2015-2019	PhD Biochemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Manchester, UK
2020-2022	Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Manchester, UK
June –DEC 2022	JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow, Hayamizu Group, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan
2023-present	Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Manchester, UK

[Dr Dominic Whittall at the University of Manchester tells his experiences of JSPS Short-term Fellowship in 2022](#)



Dominic and Professor Hayamizu

I am a postdoctoral researcher working at the University of Manchester, where I also completed my PhD in biochemistry in 2019. My PhD focused on the development of novel P450 enzymes for use in a wide array of biotechnology applications. As a postdoctoral research associate, I had the opportunity to work on an interdisciplinary project that linked my professional experience in biochemistry to a long-standing interest of mine – spiders! The project in question focused on the production of synthetic spider silk proteins within a series of bacterial host organisms. It was this project that brought me into contact with Yuhei Hayamizu, Associate Professor of Materials Science at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. Professor Hayamizu and I were introduced to one another by Eriko Takano, Professor of Synthetic Biology at the University of Manchester. Working together, we devised an experimental program that aimed to engineer biocompatible molecular scaffolds using 2-D nanomaterials and synthetic spider silk proteins.

I was keen to expand my expertise into the field of materials science, whilst gaining the invaluable experience of undertaking research in another country. As such, a short-term JSPS Fellowship, in which I would travel to Japan and work within the nanomaterial-focused Hayamizu lab, represented the perfect opportunity.

Following a successful funding application, I was due to arrive into Tokyo in March 2022. However, due to the ongoing coronavirus restrictions in place at the

time, my departure date was postponed. After the relaxing of some travel restrictions, I finally arrived in June 2022. Right from the start, I was made to feel welcome by Professor Hayamizu and all members of his lab group. Living in a foreign country can often be challenging, particularly so if you do not speak the language. Despite this, Professor Hayamizu and his lab group were always willing to assist me in any and all matters where the language barrier may have presented an issue. From simple tasks such as sending a letter or ordering from a menu to more demanding ones, such as translating lecture slides and instrument instruction manuals, Prof Hayamizu and his students always tried their utmost to ensure that communication between us remained open, clear and friendly. This was in no small part due to Professor Hayamizu's extensive professional experience of working as a researcher in the United States earlier in his career.

This solid foundation of communication ensured that the research project I undertook during the fellowship was a success. Prof Hayamizu's lab had an excellent track record regarding the application of silk-based peptides (small proteins) in the functionalisation of 2-D nanomaterial surfaces (such as graphite) to develop highly sensitive biosensors. However, larger silk-based proteins, such as the synthetic spider silk proteins I worked with in Manchester, had yet to be fully investigated. Using a combination of atomic force and fluorescence microscopy, we successfully demonstrated the adsorption and self-assembly of

the synthetic spider silk proteins across a range of nanomaterial surfaces (graphite, molybdenum disulphide and boron nitride). In so doing, we confirmed that synthetic spider silk proteins could serve as viable molecular scaffolds for use in the design of novel biosensing devices.

While working days in the lab could often be long, I found them to be tremendously rewarding. Shared responsibilities, such as lab cleaning or equipment maintenance, along with group meals and other activities, served to foster a strong spirit of community unlike any other I had previously experienced. By the end of the fellowship, many of my colleagues and I had become friends, each offering to me a fresh perspective on research practices and wider aspects of Japanese culture.

In addition to lab work, I was able to attend the Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society of Japan, held in Hakodate, Hokkaido. This provided me with further networking opportunities and the chance to engage with a variety of Japanese researchers.

On weekends, I took to exploring the urban environments of Tokyo, in addition to hiking several of the surrounding mountains. I was also fortunate enough to visit several Japanese cities, including Hiroshima, Osaka and Kyoto; the highlights of each

being too numerous to mention.

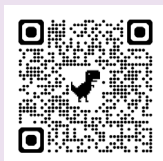
The most important piece of advice that I could give to those embarking upon a JSPS-funded fellowship in Japan is to be, above all things, open minded. Research practices, not to mention several aspects of daily life, will likely be different in Japan compared to what you are accustomed to. That being said, it is important to recognise and embrace these differences for what they are – incomparable opportunities to gain novel insights into how to plan, carry out and discuss your research.

Since returning home to the UK in December 2022, my host researcher, Prof Hayamizu and I, have continued to develop our collaboration. Data I collected during the fellowship has been submitted for publication to a high-impact journal, and is currently awaiting publication. Moreover, through introductions from my host researcher, I have been involved in additional experimental discussions and research planning with academics based at other universities across Japan. This culminated in the preparation of a BRIDGE Fellowship application, which was successfully funded earlier this year. As a result of this, I will soon be returning to Japan to strengthen the ties created during my initial short-term fellowship.



Professor Hayamizu lab members in Tokyo Institute of Technology

Acquisition of Doctoral Degree Standard Fellowship



Duration	12 month to 24 months
Terms of award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round-trip ticket Overseas travel insurance Maintenance allowance of: PhD holder: ¥362,000, Non-PhD holder: ¥200,000 Setting-in allowance of ¥200,000 (for 3 months or more of tenure) Research support allowance of ¥70,000 X the number of months of tenure
Number of Awardee	230 per year (Including 9 from the nominating Authorities in the UK)
Success rate	London call : Royal Society: 27.7% (FY2023) British Academy: 60% Tokyo call: 12.6%(FY2023)
Eligibility London & Tokyo calls	You must have PhD by the time for fellowship start or have obtained PhD within 6 years from the point of fellowship start
London only	Royal Society call <input type="checkbox"/> The research is within the Royal Society's remit of natural sciences, which includes but is not limited to biological research and biomedical sciences, chemistry, engineering, mathematics and physics. <input type="checkbox"/> You are a UK resident and citizen of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. <input type="checkbox"/> Regarding the subject, please see the breakdown of subject groups and areas supported by the Royal Society
	**The scheme is not open to applicants who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme for Research in Japan (excluding the Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short Term) for North American and European Researchers and the Summer Programme).
Tokyo call only	British Academy <input type="checkbox"/> Your subject is Humanities or Social Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Be ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands <input type="checkbox"/> Have arranged in advance a research plan with a Japanese host researcher employed at a Japanese university/research institution.
	Those who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan ([Standard(P)] and [Pathway to University positions in Japan (PU)]). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japanese nationals nor those of dual nationality if one is Japanese. Those who have permanent residency in Japan. Medical doctors without a PhD degree
Please be aware of Tokyo call	Application: <u>submitted on behalf of the applicant by host researchers in Japan directly to JSPS HQs. Each host institute may have its own application deadlines, which may be more than one month before these set by JSPS. Applicant should check the deadlines with the staff of the host institute in advance.</u>

Programme	Apply to	Recruitments	2024						2025						
			JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	later
Standard	JSPS TYO	1st		30th									FY2025 APR- SEP		
		2nd									25th			FY2025 SEP-NOV	
	Royal Society	FY2025									TBA		FY2025 SEP -NOV		
	British Academy	FY2025						TBA					FY2025 APR - NOV		

Voice! from Alumni member

Vol.31 Dr Gregory J. P. Perry

**Dr Gregory J. P. Perry**

Lecturer in Organic Chemistry, University of Southampton

Biography

2023-present	Lecturer, University of Southampton, UK
2021-2023	JSPS Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Standard), Kyoto University, Japan
2018-2020	Lecturer (fixed-term), University of Manchester, UK
2017-2018	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Nagoya University, Japan
2012-2016	PhD in Organic Chemistry, University of Manchester, UK
2008-2012	MChem in Chemistry, University of Liverpool, UK

Dr Gregory Perry of the University of Southampton, recounts his experiences as a JSPS Standard Research Fellow.

As my JSPS postdoctoral research fellowship started a few months after the birth of my first child and my second was born during the fellowship, I will use this space to discuss family life in Japan and the advantages and disadvantages of the JSPS fellowship scheme around that. This will be of most help to those who have children or are planning a family, but I hope anyone considering a stay in Japan will find the insights interesting.

Advantages – public services, activities, nurseries

Compared to the UK, public services in Japan seem set up for having a family. For example, days out are made much easier knowing there will be toilets nearby, often with clean and well-looked-after baby changing facilities. Top tip: remember to take plastic bags for any dirty nappies! Bins aren't common in Japan, and it is expected that all rubbish is taken home with you. This might sound bothersome, but you get used to it and I prefer no bins and clean public spaces (like Japan) than lots of bins and dirty public spaces (like the UK).

There are lots of places to explore with children too, many of which are free or reasonably priced. Find your local *jidoukan* which is a free indoor area that provides a selection of toys and a safe, clean space to play in. Many *jidoukan* also have activities throughout the week, such as storytime, rhymetime and arts and crafts. It's also a great place to build your support network by meeting other families and getting help from the staff who work there.

Nurseries in Japan also have big advantages. In the UK, year-long waiting lists for nursery places are common, whereas in Japan this is rarely seen. UK nurseries are also

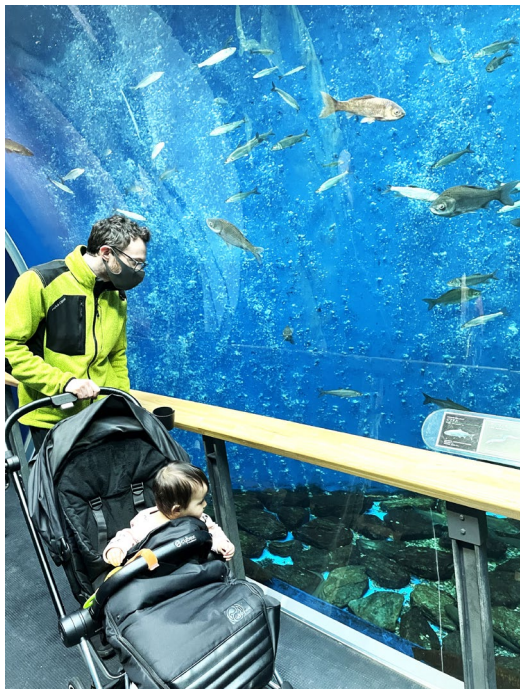
expensive, but in Japan the amount you pay is based on your salary. As the JSPS postdoctoral fellowship provides a maintenance allowance, not a salary, nursery fees can be cheap or even free. This might sound dodgy, but it is for similar reasons that the JSPS maintenance allowance is not taxed. Likewise, JSPS fellows also pay lower health insurance and pension contributions – another big plus.

Meeting friends at the *jidoukan***A bit of both – healthcare**

The healthcare system in Japan has advantages and disadvantages in comparison to the UK. The main disadvantage is that you pay for healthcare in Japan, whereas we are used to free healthcare in the UK. Giving birth and antenatal/postnatal care therefore all costs money and can seem substantial in comparison to the UK. Having said that, the healthcare system in Japan is well

Voice! from Alumni member

organised and runs smoothly. The long waiting times that we encounter in the UK for NHS dentist and some doctor appointments are not seen in Japan. Also, healthcare for children who are resident in Japan is free until the age of 15, so they benefit from the combination of free healthcare and a reliable system.



A day out at the aquarium.

Disadvantages – parental leave, language barrier, work culture

The major concern I have for those family planning whilst on the JSPS program is around maternity and parental leave. Current program guidelines state that parental leave can be taken for a period of 15 months. This is nice, but in taking parental leave you suspend the fellowship, meaning you won't get paid for the time that you are on leave. When my second child was born, I took holiday leave instead of parental leave to maintain an income for our family. JSPS needs to consider this topic and better support those (especially women) who want to start/grow their families whilst on a JSPS fellowship.

The other disadvantages are those you will often hear associated with research in Japan – the language barrier and work culture. The language barrier can make many of the daily tasks that I've labelled as advantages (health insurance, tax, hospital/dentist appointments, nurseries etc.) much more difficult. There is no easy way to get around this, but building a network of friends and useful

contacts can help. International support offices at universities/institutes and international centres in cities/towns can prove useful too. If you are lucky enough to have one, I also found the secretary for our research lab incredibly helpful with any day-to-day issues.

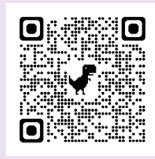
The work culture can be extreme. From my experience as an organic chemist, core hours were 9am–9pm, Monday–Friday (though people would often stay later) and 9am–6pm on Saturdays with group meetings on Saturday mornings. Some groups are changing in Japan, but most organic chemistry labs work these hours. As JSPS fellows and international researchers, you will often be given more flexibility in choosing your working hours. For example, I chose my own working hours and would often (though not always) have a 2-day weekend to spend time with the family. Nonetheless, knowing that others are working longer hours, along with the language barrier issue, can be discouraging and leave you feeling isolated. It isn't easy, but you need to be confident that what you are doing is enough, establish a work-life balance that works for you, find pleasure in your work and try to ignore the pressures that surround you.

Overall, family life in Japan during the JSPS postdoctoral fellowship was a special experience. If you can cope with the language and cultural barriers, then raising children in Japan has some huge benefits. I used the JSPS postdoctoral fellowship as an opportunity to test whether life as an academic in Japan would work for me and my family. Ultimately, we decided that the UK would provide better job security and a nicer work-life balance. Having said that, we have fond memories of our time in Japan and, if the right opportunity were to present itself, we would never say no to returning.

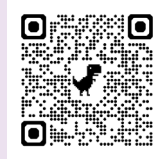


Taking my daughter for a walk along Lake Biwa by our house in Otsu.

For the mid-career
Professor



Long



Short

Invitational Fellowship (long term and short term)

Type	Long -term	Short -term
Duration	2 to 10 months	14 to 60 days
Terms of award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round-trip ticket Overseas travel insurance Montly maintenance allowance of ¥387,600 Research support allowance of up to ¥150,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round-trip ticket Overseas travel insurance Daily maintenance allowance of: ¥18,000 Research support allowance of up to ¥150,000
Number of Awardee	approximately 60	1st: 85 2nd : 75 (approximately)
Successful rate :	27.6%(FY2024)	1st : 31.5%(FY2024) 2nd: 32.6%(FY2023)
Eligibility (This is only Tokyo call)	<p>Be citizen or permanent resident of a country which diplomatic relations with Japan (Taiwan and Palestine are treated in this manner.) Persons of Japanese nationality are eligible to apply if they have resided at the time of application in a foregin country for 10 years or longer and are judged by at the host research institution to have played with full-time reseracher status at the university or reseracher institution in the foreign country and have a postion equivalent to a professor, associate professor in Japan (including positions such as professor emeritus). Researchers of other status may apply if it has been six years or longer since they obtained their PhD degree and the host reserach institution judges them to have continuously conducted research at a foreign university or research</p>	
Please pay attention!!	<p>Application: submitted on behalf of the applicant by host researchers in Japan directly t+A6:C11o JSPS HQs. Each host institute may have its own application deadlines, which may be more than one month before these set by JSPS. Applicant should check the deadlines with the staff of the host institute in advance.</p>	

JSPS Electornic Application System will be available approximately two months before the application deadlines set by JSPS *

Programme	Apply to	Recruitments	2024						2025								
			JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	later		
Invitation long	JSPS TYO	FY2025		30th												FY2025 APR - MAR	
Invitation Short		1st		30th													FY2025 APR - MAR
		2nd											25th				FY2025 OCT -MAR

Application deadline date Period for arriving in Japan

Vol.32 Dr Javier Andreu-Perez

Dr Javier Andreu-Perez
Senior Lecturer / Associate Professor
University of Essex

Javier earned his PhD from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom. He currently serves as a Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor and Chair of a research group at the University of Essex in the UK. He is also the associate editor-in-chief of the Neurocomputing journal. His research focuses on human-centred artificial intelligence and soft-computing

[Dr Javier Andreu-Perez at the University of Essex tells his experiences of JSPS Invitational Fellowship \(Long\) in 2023](#)

As a senior researcher and academic at the University of Essex in the United Kingdom, a substantial part of my research work focuses on developing seamless mind control of environments by decoding human thoughts through neurotechnology or behavioural cues. I was introduced to relevant research by Dr Hidenobu Sumioka and Dr David Achancaray, both of whom are affiliated with the Hiroshi Ishiguro Laboratory at ATR Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International in Kyoto. Their research emphasizes the development of humanoid social robot avatars capable of performing various tasks within a work environment, such as serving as receptionists or providing guidance to individuals, mimicking human behaviour.

My research has explored the mind control of humanoid robots and the passive interaction with video games through decoding brain responses. This led me to consider how my work could be integrated into the field of Symbiotic Human-Robot Collaboration. I reached out to Dr Hidenobu Sumioka, expressing my interest in visiting his lab with the JSPS long-term fellowship. Our discussions revealed a compelling common ground where we could combine my expertise in physiology and neuromodulation with their work on social robotic avatars. This collaboration aims to advance supportive robotics and teleoperation, particularly in service tasks such as reception and information dissemination.

During my visit from March to June 2023, we conducted an experiment in Japan involving approximately 32 participants who controlled a full-



Dr Javier Andreu-Perez at ATR labs in Kyoto

body humanoid robotic avatar named 'Erica.' Erica is capable of both verbal and non-verbal communication through hand movements and facial expressions. This experiment integrated neurotechnology and human-computer interaction monitoring to assess the operator's behavioural and cognitive states. The experiment yielded significant results, which are currently under review for publication.

My integration into the Japanese research group was smooth, and I was warmly welcomed as a team member. Additionally, I established connections with researchers from Osaka Metropolitan University and Doshisha University, expanding the network. These connections facilitated a joint workshop on Computational Intelligence for Human Information at the World Congress of Computational Intelligence, held in Yokohama from June 30 to July 5.

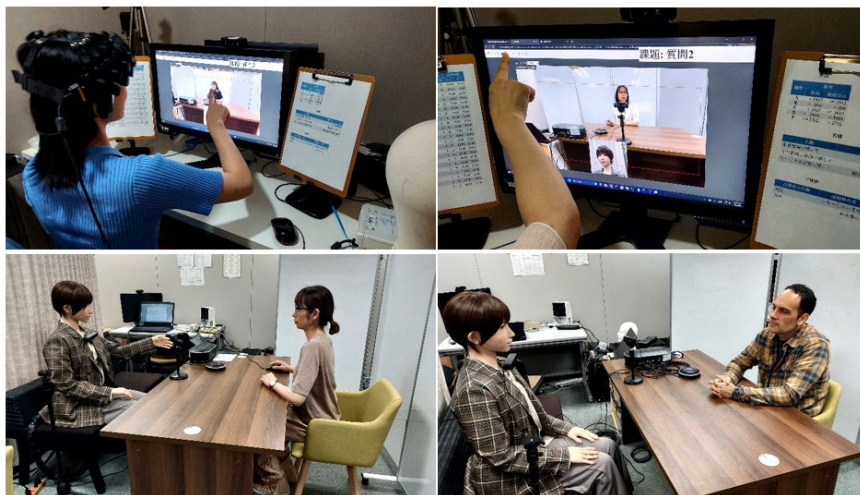
Our research collaboration is uniting the social robotics communities of the UK and Japan. Next year, we will have the opportunity to repeat our workshop in the UK, bringing together the Japan-UK community in symbiotic robotics, disseminating our latest research advancements, and bringing our communities together for long-term cooperation.

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) has been exceptionally supportive and helpful throughout the entire process. They provided comprehensive information and guidance prior to my travel, ensuring that I was well-prepared for my visit. Additionally, they played a crucial role in assisting with

Voice! from Alumni member

the delays and issues related to my visa application, which were complicated by the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and the associated travel restrictions in Japan. Their support was instrumental

in facilitating my visit, allowing me to effectively plan and execute my research activities despite the challenging circumstances.



Experiment conducted in Japan of social robotic avatar operator interaction and biomonitoring during Dr Javier Andreu-Perez JSPS international fellowship.



Dr Javier Andreu-Perez, jointly with Dr Hidenobu Sumioka and Dr David Achancaray at IEEE WCCI'24 in Yokohama ran the workshop as part of their JSPS bilateral project, SUGOI.

JSPS Alumni Association of the UK and the Republic of Ireland (RoI)

Please join the JSPS Alumni Association of the UK and the Republic of Ireland (RoI)!

As a former JSPS Fellow, we would like to ask you to join the JSPS Alumni Association of the UK and the Republic of Ireland (RoI). Our Alumni Association was established in 2003 and carries out a number of activities throughout the UK and RoI with numerous benefits for members. One of them is "The JSPS London Symposium and Seminar Scheme." The aim of this scheme is to provide support for members holding a symposium or seminar and to create high quality collaboration in cutting edge/ internationally competitive areas at institutional or departmental level between research institutions in the UK or RoI and Japan. Under this scheme, JSPS London will partially support the following matters*:

*The detailed support is subject to change.

- 1 Costs for inviting symposium/ seminar speakers from Japan
- 2 Costs for hiring a venue, printing materials, advertising and so on*
- 3 Strategic support to help advertise and organise the event.

The application details of this scheme will automatically be e mailed to registered Alumni members during our next call. For further information please contact JSPS London by email at enquire@jps.org. Again, this is exclusively open to the JSPS Alumni members. So why not join us today?



Joining us

Simply register your membership here https://www.jps.org/alumni_about/
Once registered you will receive an ID number and password to access the Alumni Association web pages and can start networking.

英国の機関紹介

MRCロンドン医科学研究所 (MRC Laboratory of Medical Science: LMS)

2024年1月23日、この日はMRCロンドン医科学研究所 (MRC Laboratory of Medical Science: LMS) の新棟落成式の日である。英国王室からSTEM分野の女性の支援をするアン王女を招き、正式な新棟落成式が開かれた。実はこれはアン王女にとって2回目の新棟落成式となる。LMSは1959年に最初に構想され、1970年に故エリザベス女王陛下によってロンドンの北に位置するハローのNorthwick Park Hospitalにおいて公式な開所式を行った過去がある。その後研究所は、Hammersmith Hospitalの敷地内に移転し、1995年にはアン王女によって最初の新棟落成式が行われた。

そして現在の所在地Hammersmithは、急速な発展をしているImperial White City Innovation Campusと近隣であるため、戦略的提携による科学的発見が医療の画期的な進歩や革新的技術、経済的な影響への関連性にも役立っている。

LMSは、Imperial College Londonに拠点を置き、UKリサーチ・イノベーション(UK Research Innovation: UKRI)の一つである英国医学研究会議(Medical Research Council: MRC)が全額出資した英国に2つのみある研究所の一つとなった。(他はケンブリッジにあるMRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology。Francis Crickと、James Watsonが1953年にDNAの二重らせん構造の発見をするなど数々の功績を持つ。)

建築賞を受賞

2023年12月末にLMSのスタッフは、30年前に建てられた古い建物から21世紀の技術が詰まった建物に引越をした。わずか40メートルしか離れていないが、-80°Cの冷蔵庫の中身を壊さず移動、不要となった研究器具や大量の薬剤の処理など、普通の引っ越しとは全く異なるため、すべてをシャットダウンして行われた。

この新しい8階建の専門施設研究所は、目を奪うようなアルマイト処理された外装で覆われている。モダンなデザインである大きな吹き抜けと中央階段があり、60年以上の歴史を持つこの研究所で働いている研究者にとっては大きな変化であろう。また建物は、2023年のConstruction Excellence Award (South-East)を受賞している。その勝因は、最先端の科学研究施設の導入の成功と40の研究グループを結集して学際的な科学と課題に基づいた医学研究を推進し、協力的で効率的かつ効果的な研究環境の提供が可能となった点とされている。

ここには遺伝子と環境、心臓と代謝性疾患、性別による病気の違いなどを含む研究テーマを持つ400人の研究者がいる。基礎的な生物学的な発見と臨床応用への橋渡しとして、Imperial College Londonの研究者とImperial College Healthcare NHS Trustの臨床医が集うことができる理想的な場所となった。

チームサイエンスのアプローチを促進

2023年1月に任命されたLMS所長のWiebke Arlt教授は、チャレンジ主導のチームサイエンスを擁護し、研究に大胆で新しいやり方を採用している。これまでの個人主義的な「ヒーローサイエンス」とは異なり、チームサイエンスのアプローチは、科学者、臨床医、患者、一般の人々を含むさまざまな関係者と、共同設計された特定の生物医学的課題を中心としたダイナミックなコラボレーションを構築することになる。チームサイエンスは、他の組織によっても提唱されてきたが、中核的な資金提供を受けている英国政府機関の研究戦略にチームサイエンスが盛り込まれたのは今回が初めてであり、従来の研究アプローチを根底から覆すことになる。

画期的な研究を行う施設

今回の訪問でアン王女は、いくつかの主要な研究室も見学された。その一つは「ハエ研究室」で、研究者らは老化と代謝の基礎となる要因と、それらが人間の健康や病気などのように影響するかを研究している。たとえば、ハエの研究室では、人間の生存率を低下させると知られている砂糖による糖尿病が、ハエの寿命に影響を及ぼさないことを研究している。この違いの背後にある科学を解明し、人間がこの発見から恩恵を受けることができるかどうかを確認する競争が行われている。その他アン王女は、人間の目には見えない心臓の老化の兆候を検出できる新しい人工知能ツールを備えた心臓画像施設もご覧になられた。

今後ここからどのような研究が行われるのか楽しみである。



The new MRC Laboratory of Medical Sciences Building

(現地職員 山田泰子)

参考URL

<https://constructingexcellence.org.uk/mrc-london-institute-of-medical-sciences-lms-building/>
<https://www.ukri.org/blog/blueprint-for-a-team-science-dreamhouse/>
<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/news/250937/royal-opening-mrc-laboratory-medical-sciences/#:~:text=Her%20Royal%20Highness%20officially%20opened,its%20researchers%2C%20leadership%20and%20stakeholders.>

| 離任・着任挨拶

離任挨拶

■国際協力員 高橋実希（東京大学）

2023年度の英国も、前年から長引くcost of livingの上昇、ストライキ、チャールズ国王の戴冠式など悲喜こもごも激動の年でした。社会はPost COVIDに完全移行し、対面イベントも多く戻ってきた中で、各大学の国際担当者や研究者と直接お会いし意見交換できたりと、私にとっては学ぶ機会にとっても恵まれた1年でした。世界の研究活動最前線の1つであり、Oxbridgeを始めとした最高峰の大学・研究機関を有する英国にて、「日本の高等教育、学術研究において国際交流は非常に重要な役割を持ち、多様性・流動性は持続的な発展のためには必要不可欠な要素の1つである」と肌で実感し、様々な学びを得ることができたのは大変幸運なことであつたと思っています。今度は学んだことをアウトプットし、少しでも還元できるよう精進してまいりたいと思います。

プライベートでは英国各地を訪れ、色んな人と出会い、英国精神を少しは理解できた気がしています。紅茶は相変わらずあまり飲みませんが、仕事終わりにPubで一杯のビールをしばらく飲めないことは大変残念です。

最後となりますが、英国で出会ったすべての方に感謝を申し上げるとともに、今後ともJSPSロンドンセンターへの変わらぬご支援を賜りますようお願い申し上げます。ありがとうございました。



センター内のクリスマスパーティー：手作りクリスマスツリー

■国際協力員 ナジ アーヤ（岡山大学）

ロンドン研究連絡センターの業務に携わる中で、英国の大学職員や、副学長や理事などの大学経営陣、現地で活躍する研究者のお話を聞く貴重な機会をたくさん与えていただいた1年でした。JSPS事業の広報のため大学を訪問した際、彼らから聞く運営上の課題やそれに対するアプローチは興味深く、また訪問したどの大学においても、戦略的に国際交流を図り、国際共同研究を促進しようとしていることが印象的でした。同時に、英国の大学が、スピーディーな政府の方針変更や情勢の変更に臨機応変に対応している様子は、大学職員として求められる能力を深く考える機会となりました。帰国後も、大学職員として日本の学術界をどのようによりよくサポートできるか考えながら、業務にあたりたいと思います。

この場をお借りし、この研修の機会を与您てくださった方々、研修の間に優しくサポート・助言いただいた方々に心から感謝申し上げます。

今後とも、JSPSロンドン研究連絡センターの運営への変わらぬご理解とご支援を賜れますと幸いです。

■国際協力員 福山 加織（長崎大学）

英国で過ごした日々は私の人生において忘れられないものになりました。まず同世代の仲間が存在が大きかったと思います。ロンドンセンターには若手職員（協力員3名のほかに慶應義塾大学の駐在員1名）が4名いましたが、似たようなバックグラウンド（同世代、同性、大学職員、国際畑等）を持つということもすぐに打ち解け、いつの間にか公私の境なく共に過ごすような間柄になりました。彼女たちの存在は、慣れない環境の中で生き延びていく上で必要不可欠であつたと思います。

業務について、前期は学術情報、後期は総務・広報を担当させていただきました。センター長のご厚意もあり、担当業務以外にも様々なことにチャレンジできる環境でした。その中でも一番やりがいを感じていたのはJSPSの国際事業紹介です。「各大学を訪問し、あるいはイベントに参加してJSPS国際事業に関するプレゼンを行う」という非常にシンプルな業務ですが、仕事を遂行する上で根幹となるPlan（計画）、Do（実行）、Check（測定・評価）、Action（対策・改善）の全要素が詰まった業務でした。英国でプレゼンを行う時は不測の事態が発生することが多いです。先方から「15分

離任・着任挨拶

のプレゼンをしてほしい」とのオーダーを受けて現場に行ったのに、自分の出番10分前に「時間が押しているのでやっぱり5分でプレゼンして」という類の理不尽は頻繁に発生します。個人的にはここで慌てるのではなく、むしろゲーム感覚で対応策を考えることがとても楽しかったです。「聴衆にどういう層が多いからこの説明は削れる、ここは絶対説明しないといけない、これは説明が必要だけど、ここまで深掘したら時間が足りなくなる」という具合に、マニュアルなんか存在せず、「自分で状況を判断し、その瞬間に考える最善策を実行し、そこから得た改善点を次に応用する」という経験は、今後、数十年続くであろう社会人生活の中で大いに役立つものになったと思います。

また、英国滞在中に限らずJSPS本部での研修も含めた2年間のうちに、多種多様なアイデンティティを持つ人々と数えきれない程の出会いがありました。同期研修生をはじめ、この2年間で縁が繋がった多く人とは、帰任後も頻繁に連絡を取り合っており、ここでできたネットワークも何事にも代えがたい財産となったように感じます。

この4月からは、自分のホームである長崎大学には戻らず、人事交流としてJSPS本部の人事企画課で勤務しています。職員採用、研修、インターンシップに係る業務を担当していますが、これまで国際系部署での勤務が多かった私にとって、新鮮な経験をする毎日です。まだ「人事」がどういうものなのかはよくわかりませんが、ふり返ってみると、英語を身に着けようと思った理由も、ひと言で言えば「バックグラウンド(国籍、性別、文化、宗教、言語等)関係なく、興味がある人と話をしてみたかったから」なので、色々な人と関わることができそうな人事の仕事はとても楽しみです。最後になりますが、この2年間の研修でお世話になった皆様、本当にありがとうございました。そして、これから国際学術交流研修に挑戦してみようかな、と思っている方や、実際に研修中の方には最大限のエールをお送りさせていただければと思います。臆せず挑戦すれば得るものも大きいと思いますので、失敗や恥を恐れず、可能な限り色々なことに挑戦してみてください！



事業説明会で訪れた大学の一つのUniversity of Yorkの校舎

着任挨拶

■国際協力員 宮浦 由衣 (東京工業大学)

International Programme Associate : Yui Miyura

(Tokyo Institute of Technology)

Hello! My name is Yui Miyaura. I am an International Program Associate at the Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) London Office. JSPS's International Program Associates are university staff members who spend one year in Japan and the other year at JSPS's overseas offices for international business training, while still enrolled at the university.

I am an administrative staff member of Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo Tech), and I will work in London till next March. During this time, I will write a report on the support for female researchers and students in UK universities. If you are interested in participating in this report, please contact me on my email address (miyaura-yui@overseas.jps.go.jp).

Tokyo Tech has issued a Diversity and Inclusion Declaration as an effort to pursue diversity at the institute. When I found out that British universities also have strong policies for inclusion and diversity, I realized that both (Tokyo Tech and British Universities) are equally aware of the problems of the world and the need to find solutions for them. I have learned that Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is not someone else's problem, it is our own problem. And I feel that if I am not happy, I cannot make others happy.

| 離任・着任挨拶

Over time, I have realised the importance of change and evolution. Just like I have embraced the change in my life after moving to London, Tokyo Tech also is evolving and merging with Tokyo Medical and Dental University in October 2024. It will now be called the Institute of Science Tokyo (Science Tokyo). Tokyo Tech is already a well-known university in Japan, but it is stepping out of its previous domain and emerging stronger and more equipped. During the JSPS training in Japan, one International Program Department Director said, "Things that do not change cannot survive." It was then that I realised that change can be scary, but it is productive and evolutionary. The space that I thought was comfortable, maybe I was a 井の中の蛙 (I No Naka No Kawazu - a Japanese idiom which means that the frog in the well does not know about the vast ocean).



This year, I hope to communicate with many researchers in the UK and I would like to hear their needs, expectations, and challenges. I hope to make the most of this opportunity for my work at the Institute. I will do my best to support researchers. Please feel free to reach out if you need more information about JSPS and my Institute!



My presentation at the Pre-departure Seminar

■ □ ■ 国際学術交流研修 ■ □ ■

独立行政法人日本学術振興会 (JSPS) では、大学等の職員を対象として、国際交流に関する幅広い見識と高度な実務能力を有する専門的な職員の養成を目的とした国際学術交流研修を行っています。受講者は「国際協力員」として、以下のとおり、2年間の研修を受講します。

- JSPS東京本部における国際学術交流の実務研修(1年間)
- JSPS海外研究連絡センターにおける海外実務研修(1年間)

ご興味のある方は是非ご覧ください。 <https://www.jps.go.jp/j-overseas/kenshu.html>

Events organised/supported by JSPS London from April 2024 to June 2024

- ❑ Pre-Departure Seminar for JSPS Fellows
@JSPS London Lecturer Hall (Ground Floor)
Fri 26 April 2024
- ❑ JSPS London Information Events
University of Aberdeen: 12 June 2024
University of St. Andrews: 13 June 2024
- ❑ JSPS London Symposium and Seminar Scheme
“Frontiers of Structural Biology”
@Life Sciences Building, Lecture Theatre 2, University of Liverpool
:18-19 June 2024

Future events organised/supported by JSPS London

- JSPS London 第6回英国サバイバルセミナー
@JSPS London Lecturer Hall (Ground Floor)
:Tue 4 July 2024
- JSPS London 30th Anniversary Event
@Ashmolean Museum in Oxford :04 September 2024
- JSPS-RSE Symposium Event
@Royal Society of Edinburgh :4 December 2024
- JSPS Event Alumni & JBUK in Scotland
@Royal Society of Edinburgh :5 December 2024

JSPS Fellowship Programmes & International Collaborations

Application Schedule for FY2024/2025

Fellowship Programmes

*The Pre/Postdoctoral Short Term programme is also managed by other JSPS overseas offices in Europe and USA independently. For more information, please check their websites.

Programmes	Suitable Applicants	Apply to	Recruitment	2024						2025-						
				Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Later
Summer Programme (LON call)	Pre/Postdocs	JSPS LON	FY2024	FY2024				TBA							FY2025 Core period: Jun-Aug	
Pre/Postdoctoral Short term (1-12m)		JSPS TYO	1st Call (FY2025)			27th						Apr2025-Mar2026				
			2nd Call (FY2025)						10th						Aug2024-Mar2025	
		JSPS LON	1st Call (FY2025)							TBA			Apr2025-Mar2026			
		JSPS LON	2nd Call (FY2026)										TBA	Nov2024-Mar2025		
Postdoctoral Standard (12-24m)		Postdocs	JSPS TYO	1st Call (FY2025)		30th						Apr2025-Sep2025				
	2nd Call (FY2024)								25th			Sep2025-Nov2025				
	Royal Society		FY2025							TBA			Sep2025-Nov2025			
		British Academy	FY2025						TBA		Apr2025-Nov2025					
Invitational: Long Term (2-10m)	Mid Career to Prof level	JSPS TYO	FY2025		30th						Apr2025-Mar2026					
1st Call (FY2025)				30th						Apr2025-Mar2026						
2nd Call (FY2025)									26th			Oct2025-Mar2026				
BRIDGE Fellowship	Alumni Members	JSPS LON	FY2025							TBA					Jul2025-Mar2026	

Application period or deadline

Fellowship starting time

International Collaborations

*The following schedule is for the researchers on the Japanese side.

Programmes	Suitable Applicants	Apply to	Duration	2024						2025-						
				Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Later
JSPS London Symposium & Seminar	Alumni & JBUK Members	JSPS LON	Symposium: 1-3 days Seminar: 1 day								TBA					Jun2025-Feb2026 (TBA)
Bilateral Programme [A]	Research Groups	JSPS TYO	Joint Project: Max 2 yrs			TBA (TYO) TBA (RS)							Apr2025-Mar2026 (Japan side) until 31Mar2025 (UK side)			
Bilateral Programme [B]		JSPS TYO	Joint Project: Max 2 yrs			TBA (TYO) TBA (RS)							Apr2024-Mar2026 (Max)			
		JSPS TYO	Seminar: Max 1 week			TBA (TYO) TBA (RS)							Apr2024-Mar2026 (Max)			
Core to Core Programme	Institutions/ departments	JSPS TYO	Max 5 yrs				TBA									Apr2024-Mar2029 (Max)
JRP-LEAD with UKRI	Universities and research institutions	JSPS TYO	3 years											TBA		Nov2025-May2029 (Max)

Application period or deadline

Project starting time

*When you apply to JSPS Tokyo, please note that the application periods and deadline above are for the head of the host institution to submit the applications to JSPS Tokyo. The time frames for host researchers to submit their applications to their institution are normally earlier. Therefore, Fellowship candidates must discuss their preparation schedules with their host researchers. Please also check each website for more details.

Programme Contact Information List

Fellowship Programmes

■ Summer Programme
(London call) [JSPS London](#)

■ Postdoctoral Standard
[JSPS Tokyo](#)
[The Royal Society](#)
[The British Academy](#)

■ Invitational Fellowships
[JSPS Tokyo](#)

■ Pre/Postdoctoral Short Term
[JSPS Tokyo](#) [JSPS London](#)

■ BRIDGE Fellowship
[JSPS London](#)

International Collaborations

■ JSPS London Symposium/Seminar Scheme
[JSPS London](#)

■ Bilateral Programme
[JSPS Tokyo](#)

■ Core to Core Programme
[JSPS Tokyo](#)

■ JSPS International Joint Research Programme
[JSPS Tokyo](#)

今号では“在英研究者の者窓から”、“ぼりーさんの玉手箱”および“山田さんの徒然なるままに”はお休みいたします。

Follow us ...

- For Japanese researchers in the UK or Rol/ 在英・アイルランド日本人研究者の皆様、ご希望の方に、JSPS London が開催するイベントのご案内やニュースレター等をお届けしています。対象は、英国・アイルランドの大学・研究機関に所属する研究者（ポストドク大学院生含む）及び在英日系企業研究所の研究者の方々です。下記リンクにてご登録ください。

<https://ssl.jsps.org/members/?page=regist>



- JSPS Tokyo が運営するJSPS Monthly（学振便り）は、JSPS の公募案内や活動報告等を、毎月第1月曜日にお届けするサービスです（日本語のみ／購読無料）。情報提供を希望される方は、下記のリンクにてご登録ください。

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-mailmagazine/index.html>



日本学術振興会 ロンドン研究連絡センター (JSPS London)
14 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD, United Kingdom
Tel : +44 (0)20 7255 4660 | Fax : +44 (0)20 7255 4669
E-mail : lon-info@overseas.jsps.go.jp | <https://www.jsps.org>

JSPS London ニュースレター
監 修 : 小林 直人
編 集 長 : 妙見 由美子
編 集 担 当 : 山田 泰子