



Japan-U.S. Science
Communication & Policy
Fellowship Network

PROGRAM HANDBOOK

The OIST Foundation is pleased to announce the Call for Applications for the inaugural Japan-U.S. Science Communication & Policy Fellowship Network Program, supported by The Japan Foundation.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Japan-U.S. Science Communication & Policy Fellowship Network Program (Program) will promote meaningful cooperation between the two countries on global challenges by bridging a critical gap between science and policy.

The Program brings together early-career scientists from Japan and the U.S. to engage in bilateral training and exchange for effective communication towards strategic collaboration with policymakers. Selected Fellows will participate in a year-long cohort experience and receive training to communicate science-informed policy to a wide audience.

Content & Tentative Program Schedule

The Program has three main components.

1. Virtual training workshop

Fellows will participate in monthly workshop sessions between July and December 2022.

Leading the first half of the workshop is [Dr. Kathy Takayama](#), Senior Consultant for Professional Development and Inclusive Excellence at OIST, and [The Wilbury Theatre](#)

[Group](#). Fellows will learn how to expand their ability to reach and transform non-scientific audiences through empathy, embodied persuasion, and the development of a compelling narrative to frame their research.

In the second half of the workshop, Fellows will work with [Dr. Susan Hackwood](#), Senior Policy Fellow at the University of California, Riverside's School of Public Policy and Director of the Science to Policy Certificate Program. Participants will learn how to effectively communicate with policymakers, with a focus on op-ed writing, public speaking, and document preparation. They will also have an opportunity to learn about the policymaking process in Japan and the U.S. at the local and national level.

TRAINING SESSION SCHEDULE		
*Dates for training session 3-5 are TBA		
Training session 1A & 1B	Mycah, Jessie, and Kathy	US: July 18 & 19, 7:00-9:30 PM EDT Japan: July 19 & 20, 8:00-10:30 AM JST
Training session 2A & 2B	Mycah, Jessie, and Kathy	US: August 29 & 30, 7:00-9:30 PM EDT Japan: August 30 & 31, 8:00-10:30 AM JST
Training session 3	Kathy	US: September 12, 5-6:30 PM PDT Japan: September 13, 9-10:30 AM JST
Training session 4	Susan, Julianne, Yaqiong	US: September 13, 5:00-6:30 PM PDT Japan: September 14, 9:00-10:30 AM JST
Training session 5	Susan, Julianne, Yaqiong	October 2022

2. Virtual policy roundtables

The Program will also include four virtual roundtables with leaders in policy and media as well as public intellectuals. Fellows will have opportunities to network with major figures at the intersection of science and policy while learning how to model discussions and presentations from the speakers.

Policy Roundtable Schedule (TBA)	
Policy roundtable 1	October 2022
Policy roundtable 2	November 2022
Policy roundtable 3	December 2022

3. Public symposium in Tokyo or Washington, DC (January 2023)

The Program will conclude with a three-day symposium where Fellows will have an opportunity to share lessons learned with each other, meet with policymakers, and participate in networking events.

Prior to the symposium, Fellows are required to develop a paper or other product (i.e. op-ed, speech, report, etc.) that highlights the public and policy implications of their scientific research. At the event, participants will present on these outputs, which will also be published in a collection and circulated to policy leaders at a later date.

4. February 2023 and onwards

Fellows will be invited to attend a virtual event in February launching the alumni network for the program. Other events and activities will be scheduled after the official end of the program to help the cohort stay connected with each other. However, these events and activities are not mandatory.

ELIGIBILITY

Please check the following eligibility criteria before submitting your application.

- Applicants must be early-career scientists based in Japan or the U.S.
- Applicants must be within 10 years of having completed their PhD. Advanced PhD students and postdocs may apply.
- Applicants' field of study or area of research must relate to global issues of climate change, energy, health/biotech, transportation, artificial intelligence, engineering, and quantum computing.
- Applicants must demonstrate sufficient proficiency in English to actively participate in the program and complete the writing assignment. Please note that the training sessions will be conducted in English without interpretation.
- Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to the program's aims and desire to contribute as members of a long-term network.

EXPECTATIONS

If selected, Fellows are expected to:

- Attend all training sessions and policy roundtables in this program;
- Attend a three-day symposium in either Tokyo or Washington, DC that is scheduled tentatively for January 2023; and
- Produce an output (i.e. paper, speech, op-ed, etc.) highlighting an aspect of their scientific research that has public and policy implications. The paper will be published in a collection and circulated to policy leaders.

HOW TO APPLY

To participate in the Program, candidates must complete the following:

- Submit application form here: <https://form.jotform.com/221004656214141>.
- Submit a short video in preparation for the modules run by The Wilbury Theatre Group, which are designed to help participants increase their confidence, authenticity, and enthusiasm when speaking publicly. (Instructions for the video are included in the Jotform application form.)

FUNDING & SUPPORT

The Program will cover the following expenses for participants:

- Airfare for participants traveling overseas to attend the symposium in January 2023.
- Domestic transportation for participants to attend the symposium in January 2023.
- Participants' accommodations and meals during the three-day symposium in Tokyo.

Fellows are responsible for covering any other expenses incurred as a result of participating in the program.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

In line with the OIST Graduate University's mission and vision, the OIST Foundation is committed to promoting and engendering the cultivation of a diverse, inclusive, equitable environment where everyone can reach their full potential regardless of their backgrounds and intersectional identities, including but not limited to gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, mental or physical ability or attributes, race, ethnicity, ancestry, culture, national origin, religion, political beliefs, family/marital status, or socioeconomic background. Our

inclusive stance fosters scientific excellence in recognizing the valuable contributions of all members of the community.

Accessibility

We are committed to the full inclusion of all participants. If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program please reach out to us to discuss the active components of the workshops. We welcome the participation and contributions of scientists of all backgrounds and physical abilities. Please let us know as soon as possible so that we can work together to develop strategies for adapting program components to meet both your needs and the requirements of the program. Please contact OIST Foundation at info@oistfoundation.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Community

We seek to construct an environment in this program where the diversity of the humans in the space (online or physical) is seen as a strength. Our strength as a community of scientists emerges from our attentive engagement with one another and our ability to listen to and respect one another. During this program we will receive and give feedback in a process of inquiry and exploration. Feedback is a gift, and its thoughtful exchange engenders discovery, courage, and generosity.

ABSENCE POLICY

Please note that we are allowing Fellows to miss one training session if there are urgent scheduling conflicts. If you need to miss a session, please notify Chisato Sakamoto (chisato@oistfoundation.org) immediately as we will be tracking attendance for all program events and activities.