

international program

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING (ATSE)

AUSTRALIA JAPAN EMERGING RESEARCH LEADERS EXCHANGE PROGRAM 2010

BACKGROUND

The Australia Japan Emerging Research Leaders Exchange Program (ERLEP) is targeted at mid-career researchers of both countries, who are emerging leaders in the Science and Technology community, who undertake two weeks of institutional placements in agreed priority S&T areas.

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) organised a two-week program, 24-26 February 2010, for eight Japanese participants visiting, from the priority S&T fields of Novel Materials and Resource; Energy and Environment; and Biotechnology.

The second element of the exchange took place 25-26 November 2010, where eight Australian participants visited Japan to progress S&T Linkages, and develop new opportunities.

PROCESS

ATSE and the Engineering Academy of Japan (EAJ) worked closely to organise the Exchanges to the most successful level. ATSE organised the Australian programs for the eight visiting Japanese, and EAJ organised the programs for the eight Australians visiting Japan. The program includes three key components in each country: orientation; strategic placements to leading research institutes/universities; and debrief session at the conclusion of the exchange.

OUTCOMES OF EXCHANGE

The Australian researchers visiting Japan focused on developing and strengthening personal research networks; investigating institutional cooperative opportunities; and exploring shared research infrastructure in both countries. This supported the strategic focus of the Japanese visiting Australia in February 2010, noting the need to identify funding sources so the S&T linkages and opportunities can be developed and maximised.

The Japanese researchers who visited Australia in February were involved in the visit program of the Australian delegation, which strengthened networks and created opportunities for workshops and future exchanges.

The particular feature of the exchange was the involvement of the Ambassador scheme – where each Japanese participant had a dedicated senior Australian researcher linked to them, to aid with the organisation of their visits, and assist with any technical queries. This was much appreciated and valued – and aided greatly with the delegates meeting with the best and most relevant researchers in their fields. We valued their attendance at orientation/debrief sessions, providing additional opportunities for deeper and meaningful discussions about future cooperative opportunities.



The Debrief session – eight Australian delegates; six Japanese Alumni; Australian Embassy; ATSE; EAJ; JSPS; hosts

PARTICIPANTS

The Japanese Researchers who visited Australia, and have reported to ATSE on linkages established and the developments that have followed, are:



Dr Yoshitaka Adachi, Senior researcher/Associate Professor, National Institute for Materials Science, Kyushu University



Dr Derek Goto, Assistant Professor (Tenure-track), Creative Research Initiative, Hokkaido University



Dr Hiroshi Hayashi, Researcher, Central Research Institute, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation



Dr Jin Kawakita, Principal Researcher, National Institute for Materials Science, Advanced Photovoltaics Centre



Dr Masanori Koshino, Researcher (AIST), Group Leader (ERATO-JST), National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)



Professor Toshiro Ohashi, Division of Human Mechanical Systems & Design, Graduate School of Engineering, Hokkaido University



Associate Professor Jun Takeuchi, Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences, The University of Tokyo



Professor Jun Tanimoto, Interdisciplinary Graduate School of Engineering Sciences, Kyushu University

The Australian Researchers who visited Japan were:



Associate Professor Wenlong Cheng, Department of Chemical Engineering, Monash University



Associate Professor Gavin Conibeer, ARC Photovoltaics Centre of Excellence, University of New South Wales



Dr Venkata Kambala, Research Fellow, CERAR, University of South Australia



Dr Julie Nigro, Research Scientist, Molecular and Health Technologies, CSIRO



Dr Declan Page, Senior Research Scientist, CSIRO Land and Water



Dr Daniel Roberts, Senior Research Scientist & Research Group Leader, Gasification & Syngas Technologies, CSIRO



Dr Jian Tu, Senior Lecturer, Australian School of Advanced Medicine, Macquarie University



Dr Akshat Tanksale, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, ARC Centre of Excellence for Functional Nanomaterials, University of Queensland

FUNDING

The Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) and the Japanese Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) provided matching funds to support this program.

CONCLUSION

ATSE believes that the contacts made during the Australia Japan Emerging Research Leaders Exchange Program will ensure continuing S&T cooperation between Australia and Japan, enabling joint research and development to maximise potential advances in science and technology.

The exchanges will provide the foundation that will be build upon and progress future S&T collaboration between Japan and Australia.

We wish to acknowledge the important contribution of the Engineering Academy of Japan, JSPS, the Japanese Embassy in Australia, DIISR and the Australian Embassy in Japan for their ongoing support for this program.

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