

## Strengthening Relationships: The Engagement of the Robert Bosch Foundation in German-Japanese Relations

Peter Theiner, Robert Bosch Foundation

During her official visit to Japan on August 30, Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel spoke with 16 German and Japanese young leaders in Tôkyô. The young leaders were nominated by companies, research institutes, universities and government departments to participate in a Summer School held for the second time by the Robert Bosch Foundation in cooperation with the Japanese-German Center Berlin (Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin, JDZB). In 2006 the focus of the Summer School was economic integration in East Asia, and in 2007 participants examined demographic developments in both countries. The Federal

Chancellor revealed that this topic interested her greatly since demographic challenges acutely outline the problems that will confront us in the future. Chancellor Merkel clearly stated that the topic was often dealt with from an emotional perspective, yet political arenas must keep discussions factual. According to Merkel, the worst thing that could happen to a democratic system would be the creation of generation-specific politically motivated parties, which must be hindered by sagacious policies. By introducing different topics each year, the Summer School will develop a network of future decision-makers; a plan wel-

comed wholeheartedly by the Federal Chancellor.

The Robert Bosch Foundation has a long tradition of engagement in promoting international understanding. In the 1970s we concentrated our efforts toward improving relations with France, a task that lay close to the heart of our founder Robert Bosch. This was shortly followed by German-Polish relations and in the 1980s German-US relations. After the fall of the Berlin Wall we expanded our program's focus to include all the countries of central and Eastern Europe. In 2003 the focus shifted to German-Turkish relations.



Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel meeting with Participants of the 2nd Young Leaders Forum on August 30 in Tôkyo (Photo: German Federal Government / Kugler)

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The focus of our activities to promote international understanding includes reports on inter-cultural exchange, coming to terms with the consequences of conflicts, the promotion of authentic and reliable media, and finally promoting the languages of our partner countries and our own native language. The Foundation understands itself as a platform for international understanding that provides opportunities above all to youth, young leaders and journalists to meet with each other and acquire knowledge.

Today, the leading Asian countries of Japan, China and India are influential actors in international relations. The importance of security policy development in the Asia region for foreign and security policies of European nations has increased. The Robert Bosch Foundation is committed to the challenges faced in the coming decades of solidifying these relations and developing new fields of cooperation. For this reason, in 2006 the Foundation's Board of Trustees decided to establish new areas of focus in international understanding: German-Japanese relations, German-Chinese relations and German-Indian relations. Japan is one of Germany's most important trade partners in Asia. Japan and Germany are stabilizing, practical actors without hegemonic aspirations in the international system. German-Japanese relations are all too frequently described as problem-free. This may be the case insofar as we do not need to tackle any conflicts of interest in bilateral or global issues; rather convergences of interests are the determinants. Yet knowledge about the other society is often poor and shaped by stereotypes and misunder-

standing of traditions. Germany's social development is followed only marginally in Japan. We need to implement further initiatives to strengthen our commonalities, to improve mutual understanding, and to create stable personal relations between young leaders from both countries. Almost 100 years ago the Robert Bosch Company opened a subsidiary in Yokohama. Robert Bosch Ltd is the largest German employer in Japan. As a founder, the entrepreneur Robert Bosch was an engaged advocate for the common good. Consequentially, this is why the Robert Bosch Foundation, in the pursuit of its ambition to benefit the public good, actively engages in German-Japanese relations.

*The Robert Bosch Foundation has created a focus on families and demographic change with their program 'Education and Society'. For further information, please contact Günter Gerstberger, Program Director, or refer to [www.bosch-stiftung.de](http://www.bosch-stiftung.de)*



Dr. Peter Theiner is Senior Vice President and Director of the International Relations Department of the Robert Bosch Foundation.

Dear Readers of the jdzb echo!

We received very positive echoes on our recent changes to the jdzb echo. We're pleased because it shows that we're on the right track toward making the JDZB more attractive and its contents more interesting.

The highlight of the past few weeks was the meeting of the German Federal Chancellor with participants of the second Young Leaders Forum in Tōkyō. We are proud that our program, organized in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Foundation, is recognized at the highest political level. The first article explains which significance the Robert Bosch Foundation will continue to assign to Japan in the future.

We received recognition of another kind on our Open Day on June 31. The diverse range of offerings of Japanese culture for people to try for themselves, the exhibition opening and the jazz concert were all well received and attracted visitors in large numbers.

This edition's special topic on the back of the journal is dedicated to the JDZB Science Prize. We encourage all those to apply for this important award which promotes the next generation of scientists working in the field of natural sciences in both countries.

We look forward to serving you.

Michael Niemann  
Head of Press and Public Relations

#### jdzb echo

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Editor: Michael Niemann  
Tel.: +49-30-839 07 186, E-Mail: [niemann@jdz.de](mailto:niemann@jdz.de)

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Address of the JDZB:  
Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49-30-839 07 0 Fax: +49-30-839 07 220  
E-Mail: [jdz@jdz.de](mailto:jdz@jdz.de) URL: <http://www.jdz.de>

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Contact to the Society of Friends of the JDZB: [freundeskreis@jdz.de](mailto:freundeskreis@jdz.de)

## Panel Discussion and Ceremony: Talking with and about Japan – 120 Years of Research on Japan at Berlin Universities

The academic institutionalization and establishment of Japan Studies in Germany at the newly established seminar for Oriental languages in Berlin exactly 120 years ago presents us with an occasion not only to critically assess the past but also an opportunity to look into the future. On October 15, 2007, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and the JDZB has co-organized a celebration and a panel discussion with experts from various Japanese fields of studies. Below is an interview with Prof Irmela Hijiya-Kirschner, an internationally renowned Japan expert and Chair of Literature and Cultural Studies at the East Asian Department of the Free University of Berlin.



*Given the fact that over the past few years China and India are playing an increasingly important role on the world stage, how significant is Japan for us today?*

This important question was in fact one of the starting points for the event in October. Various interests exist, depending on the area of study. Japan as an economic and financial power was seen as a competitor right up until the 1990s. Then in the 90s Japan was linked even internally with “reform blockages” or referred to as the “lost 10 years.” As a result, interest for Japan in Germany waned significantly. Curiously, the same trend cannot be confirmed for universities; here interest remains constant or even higher than in the 1990s following the Japan boom, our first-year enrolment figures clearly demonstrate this.

*Berlin is the only city in the German-speaking realm that has two institutes. Could you tell us a bit about their development, cooperation with the Japan Studies Department of the Humboldt University, and what the future holds?*

We have a shared beginning with the SOS of the Friedrich Wilhelm University; and its establishment 120 years ago is the reason why we are organizing this event. A further shared tradition is the Japan Institute that was established in 1927 in the Berlin City Palace. Political circumstance then saw the development of two independent schools at the Humboldt University in East Berlin and the Free University in the West. After German unification we briefly considered uniting the two universities, but this was not followed through. Today different concepts exist, and, thanks to high levels of external competition, we now have greater competition within the universities. To a certain extent our institutes complement each other and we have mutually recognized many of the subjects taught at each institution. But this won't be possible in the future because our universities are adopting BA and MA study programs.

The adoption of the BA and MA programs has led to stronger integration in each university, making it more difficult to remain flexible. Surprisingly, this is a counter-effect of the Bologna Process: there is now less compatibility than before; students will find it more difficult to change universities. And this not only applies to Japan Studies but to other fields of study as well. Of course research is not affected by these changes.

The advantages are clear: students obtain a three-year, incredibly compact and very superior program in modules that includes an integrated language-training component. The application-oriented Japanese language ability builds a very good basis for students to continue with Japan Studies at the MA level and thus continue to further their academic understanding of Japan. And to date we have had very good results: within the Free University, Japan Studies courses together with those offered by the John F. Kennedy Institute are those with the lowest number of drop outs!

*Let's talk about the planned panel discussion that will include academics from many different disciplines. What are your expectations? Will it be an overview or more future oriented? The panelists represent the fields of philosophy, linguistics, politics, economics, literary science and fine arts, but they are all – excepting the Japanese participants – experts in Japanese Studies. We would like to draw a balance and ask the question: where are we now – as compared to 120 years ago? Are we dealing with Japan differently? Have perspectives changed? What contributions have Japan Studies made to other disciplines? We would like to engage in discussions on all of these topics. Since different problems do genuinely exist in other disciplines dealing with Japan.*

*Could you give us a few examples?*

Let's take Political Science. It deals with general questions, and some of those touch on our understanding of democracy: what does democracy mean in Japan? Japan Studies have the task of mediating through political science internal Japanese discussions, as well as participating within the transcultural context in academic discourse regarding these new questions.

Or if we look at linguistics: European linguistics in particular was regarded until now as the measure of all things. By dealing with non-European languages such as Japanese, new impulses have been created which have revolutionized our thoughts, in grammar for example. Thus, there are disciplines that profit in particular from the input of Japanese and Japan Studies. Other fields must become more receptive toward these impulses.

*The event is called “Dialogs on, with and about Japan.” Should we hold more dialogs with Japan rather than just on or about?*

We would like to express here the wish to include Japan in dialogs at various levels - a rapprochement from afar about things close; and to enter into dialog with Japan is an absolute necessity. Japan is not an object that we can only view from the outside. Dialog with decision-makers within the country itself is very important indeed, the object itself engages in dialog with itself as well. The concept of “about” to “with” was mapped by Wolf Lepenies who wanted to suggest that we move away from Eurocentric concepts in thought and discussions, and arouses our curiosity for a dialog that embraces many disciplines. This planned event is an important part of this process.

*Professor Hijiya-Kirschner, thank you very much!*

*(Interview by Michael Niemann)*

## Conference: EU-Japan Cooperation in Science and Innovation, June 15, 2007, in Milan

Jörn Keck

Vice President, Asia Institute Europe, Brussels  
(Fmr. Head of EC-Delegation to Japan)

The Milan Conference on June 15 took place not only amongst the splendid setting of a culturally significant Renaissance Palace that is part of Milan University, but also at a propitious moment.



A few days before, on June 5 at the 16<sup>th</sup> EU-Japan Summit in Berlin, leaders “decided to quickly intensify EU-Japan Science & Technology (S&T) cooperation to ensure mutually sustainable prosperity” and adopted the paper “Promoting Research and Innovation towards Prosperity.” In this paper both partners agree that facts “call for Europe-Japan cooperation in research and development to grow in vigor and stature which in turn would give their relationship a new dimension.” Strengthening overall relations between these two partners, both with global reach and global ambitions by fostering R&D cooperation will certainly invigorate the 2001 EU-Japan Action Plan and add, if swiftly and concretely implemented, substance to many political declarations committing to cooperation.

In their commitment to cooperation Summit Leaders were supported by prominent Japanese and European Businessmen from the ‘EU-Japan Business Dialogue Round Table’ (EJBDRT), which had convened two days earlier in Berlin. They conveyed to summit participants that “throughout the (EJBDRT) meeting, there was shared recognition of the need to strengthen Japan-EU cooperation” and recommended to both governments immediate cooperation in ICT, life sciences and high technology.

The one-day Milan Conference, jointly organized by the European Japan Expert Association (EJEA), the Japanese-German Center Berlin (Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin, JDZB) and the Contemporary Asia Research Center at Milan University, allowed speakers and the audience to share their experiences and views about actual scientific and research cooperation in specific fields, to assess achievements and explore prospects for further cooperation and in which sectors. The presentations and discussions helped to identify constraints and limitations of that cooperation.

The Speakers and discussants at the conference represented the whole spectrum of actors involved in international and more specifically EU-Japan cooperation: academics from universities, institutes, think-tanks and company research, science consultants, government advisors, government officials, and diplomats. This cross-section of representatives, with different views on EU-Japan cooperation issues made the discussions refreshingly ‘multi-layered’ and interesting both inside and – even more so – outside of the Conference hall.

The lectures and interventions were also widely diverse, covering presentations of EU-Japan relevant features of official research programs and institutions; results and experiences with specific cooperation concepts for further joint cooperation and joint research. Listening to the presentations and debates, participants quickly sensed a great potential to increase quality of and activity in EU-Japan S&T cooperation. At the same time frustration and disappointment were voiced by some speakers who commented that these two global players had hitherto failed to unlock this potential and thus failed to contribute to their societies and people through the benefits of such cooperation, be it in the form of a better quality of life, as a contribution toward sustainability or for higher economic growth.

Summing-up the essence of the conference discussions, the three organizers drafted a ‘Recommendation’ with the purpose of providing substance to the content of the above mentioned paper on “Promoting Research and Innovation towards Prosperity” and “Immediate Action Requests” on S&T cooperation of the EU-Japan BDRT. The ‘Milan Recommendation’ singles out specific areas of great potential for cooperation like energy technology, robotics, material sciences, and e-learning. To these, they could add those identified by the Summit’s S&T paper itself, i.e. life

sciences, ICT, nanotechnologies and energy/ climate change as the Recommendation explicitly subscribes to the content of that Paper.

The Milan Recommendation was sent in the first instance to the Government of Japan, the EU Commission, to the German Government in its capacity as EU Presidency which had hosted the Summit, to the Portuguese Government as incoming EU Presidency, and to the Italian Government as the host country of the Conference. Subsequently it was sent to the European Parliament, the EU Committee of the Regions, and to the Ministry of Innovation Science Research and Technology of North-Rhine Westphalia who has a coordinating role in Germany for science issues of the ‘Bundeslaender’. The purpose was to utilize current momentum since there was the follow-up commitment agreed between the EU and Japan to use the next High-Level consultations between the EU Commission and the Japanese Government for a first review of progress.

I would like to commend all those involved for organizing a successful conference, rich in substance and ideas, at a perfect moment and for their decision to move from academic debate to political ‘Willensbildung’ (opinion formation).

The University of Milan proved once again to be a gracious host and received the warm thanks of all participants.

### A retrospective of the 2007 Junior Experts Exchange Program in Germany from June 21 to July 2, 2007

Hitosugi Tarô

The University of Tôkyô, Graduate School of Science,  
Department of Chemistry (on the far left in photo )

It all started with a heavy storm.

On June 21 we landed in Frankfurt am Main. The trains were not running according to schedule because of bad weather, but finally we reached our first stop – Bonn. This is where our 13-day excursion would begin that would take us to ten cities and ten research institutes. Our eight-person delegation consisted of a wide range of experts from universities, companies and research institutions.

The goal of the program was to promote exchange between young experts from Germany, to develop the Japanese participants' understanding of the country and its people, and to establish a foundation from which both countries could contribute toward developing technology. The German experts visited Japan in spring with the same goals.

As of this year, we planned the exchange to focus on fewer fields of research but with a greater depth of discussions. Many young experts from the fields of nanotechnology and material sciences met. And since we had already determined in advance the areas of research, we could lead in-depth discussions and exchanges with the German experts in the institutions we visited. By limiting the fields of research, discussion proved to be very productive indeed.

We were warmly welcomed by all institutes, and our hosts were very informative. Our tour mostly included visits to applied research institutes. In Germany, the chemical, electronic and automobile industries are highly developed, and cooperation between industry and universities is very successful. It is very rewarding for scientists to have a strong industrial sector in their own country, and the same applies to Japan. A strong industry allows scientists the opportunity to repay to society the results of their own research efforts. I think Japan and Germany should set themselves the goal of promoting cooperation between industry and universities further, and at the same time they should place greater emphasis on basic research, which is the driving force behind this cooperation.

The research conditions for nanotechnology and material sciences are of similar standing, both in Japan and Germany. Sufficient capacity exists for the individual development of

first-class products that need to be extensively implemented with extraordinary results.

Of course there are cultural differences between Japan and Germany, but from a practical perspective they face similar problems. As technological nations, they both need to make up for falling birth rates and a lack of resources, or to dutifully take on a leading role in environmental protection. Both countries rapidly evolved into highly developed industrial societies, which is why they must be confronted with these problems before others. Yet it also means that they have the task of addressing these problems before others, and then inspiring the world to follow.

According to all that I've heard, a slow but steady increase in interest in science is noticeable. The outlook looks promising. Germany has found ideal partners in other EU member countries. Japan is fighting alone. Both countries are developing in different directions.

Our scientific exchange was very productive, but this did not stop participants from enjoying other elements of the visit. Practically each day took us to a new place, and not only did we get to taste a variety of beers (20 different sorts), we also experienced five cities of world cultural and heritage significance. Every town has its own specialty and beer; and with due diligence we studied the wealth of local offerings. Asparagus and Leberkaese (liver loaf) were unparalleled. And even I, usually very conservative in culinary tastes, enjoyed the food immensely.

Not only was our sense of taste stimulated, but there was something for our sense of sight as well. The night views of the peaceful old city center of Dresden made up for the hectic days; and the Roman ruins we visited in Cologne emanated a distinct harmony, it was



as if they were gently embracing the history of the ruins itself. We had the opportunity to become better acquainted with German culture: we listened to music, viewed galleries and experienced other forms of European art.

Let's examine the results of the visit. I personally feel that a sojourn in Germany would be a real option. Until now I regarded the USA as the first preference for joint research, but Germany offers great opportunities for research and is a viable choice.

Moreover we were given extensive opportunities to hold discussions with other academics. These discussions build trust and deepen understanding between our German and Japanese experts. We received information about how the research systems operate of the Fraunhofer and Max Planck Institutes as well as their funding methods, whereby discussions were not limited to research, but included everything up to and including policies on technology. Of course discussions were always very lively when they touched on German cities and cuisine. But we also laid foundations for the establishment of an alumni association. I hope this network continues to develop and further expand cooperative relations.

Perhaps we only saw the positive side of Germany during our travels, yet it most certainly encouraged us to reflect on Japan. I would like to finish by thanking all of those at the JDZB who helped organize our tour, the governments of both our countries as well as the representatives of the research institutes who welcomed us so warmly.



Left photo: Introductory course for learning Japanese at the Open Day, June 23, 2007. Similar to previous Open Days, the JDZB welcomed many people and gave them a chance to experience Japanese culture first hand, e.g., origami (paper folding), shiatsu (acu- pressure), shūji (calligraphy), or ikebana (flower arranging). Our younger visitors in particular were excited to learn how to draw Japanese Manga comic figures. We gave presentations, opened the photo exhibition "Streets and People in Berlin and Tôkyô" with the works of Uchimura Kôsuke (closes Sept 28), and a jazz concert by "Kyôto Motel" from Leipzig provided the musical highlight.

Right photo: "Boxville, a mobile cardboard home in a tea culture and homelessness context." This unusual art installation by Jan Klop- fleisch (Berlin) was part of the eighth Ger- man-Japanese Grantee Seminar that was co- organized by the German Academic Exchan- ge Service and held at the JDZB from July 12-13, 2007.

Japanese students currently on scholarships in Germany and German students who have returned from sojourns in Japan were given the opportunity to meet each other and build networks; this year was the first time that we also invited to attend South Korean scholar- ship students.



On July 9, Minister of State Gernot Erler participated in the Seminar „The New Central Asia Strategy of the EU – Perspectives for EU-Japan Co- operation“ that was organized by the JDZB in Tôkyô. In his keynote address he outlined the EU’s new Central Asia strategies. This was then followed by a paper given by Viktor Richter (Political Advisor of the EU Special Representative for Central Asia) who further expanded the topic. The panelists of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Senior Vice Minister Iwaya and Departmental Head Uyama) underlined the commonalities of approaches shared by the EU and Japan, and confirmed Japan’s commitment to cooperation with the EU, above all in areas of importance to regional cooperation such as water management and border control. The President of Shell Gas & Power Japan Ltd. Takeda Minoru, expounded his company’s activities in Central Asia and the risks involved (e.g., nationalism of resources in the region). Mr Tsunehara Tsuyoshi (Marubeni Chamber of Commerce) saw the region as an interesting market for energy-saving technologies, infrastructure activities and to some degree consumer goods as well.

*The discussion moderated by Dr. Fukushima Akiko (Japan Foundation) looked at further regional cooperation that would include Afghanistan. Departmental Head Uyama stressed that in the long-term we must develop the „southern route“ of Central Asia through Afghanistan to India via Pakistan in order to give economic perspectives to the region. Minister of State Erler spoke out in favor of transparent policies that would include Russia and China. The EU, he said, is not playing a ‘great game’; transparency would build trust in the entire region.*

## EU/G8 PRESIDENCY, GLOBAL QUESTIONS

**VSJF Annual Meeting: Security in Japan – New Dimensions and Understandings**

C: German Association for Social Science Research on Japan (VSJF)

Date: November 22–25, 2007

**Symposium: Aspects of Democracy – Towards Solutions for 21st Century Developments**

C: The Japan Foundation, Tôkyô

Date: November 27–28, 2007

**Symposium: An Evolving Partnership: The EU and Japan**

C: Keio University, Tôkyô; EU – Delegation of the European Commission to Japan, Tôkyô; EU Council Presidency

Date: December 10, 2007, in Tôkyô

## RESOURCES AND ENERGY SECURITY

**Conference: Resource Efficiency and Factor X: Japan and Germany at the Forefront**

C: Wuppertal Institute for Climate, the Environment, Energy; Federal Agency for Environment, Dessau

Date: November 6, 2007

## CITIES AND THEIR ENVIRONMENTS

**Symposium: Biodiversity and Sustainable Development in Japan and Europe**

C: 21st Century of Excellence Program "Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration", Tôkyô University

Date: October 2–6, 2007, in Japan

**The Future of the Periphery – A European-Japanese Symposium on Forgotten Territories in Japan and Europe**

C: University of Dortmund; Institute for Behavioral Studies, Tôkyô

Date: September 19–21, 2007

## AGING SOCIETY

**Lecture Series: In the Autumn of Life**

November 29, 2007:

Prof. Dr. Alfons Deeken, S.J.  
Sophia University, Tôkyô

## STRUCTURAL REFORM AND INNOVATION

**Symposium: Risks and Chances of Decentralization in Comparison**

C: University of Halle-Wittenberg; Waseda University, Tôkyô

Date: September 27–28, 2007, in Tôkyô

## GERMAN AND JAPANESE COMPANIES IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

**Symposium: How to achieve "Better Regulation" Win-win Strategies by EU and Japanese Companies**

C: Munich University; EU-Japan Center for Industrial Cooperation, Brussels

Date: November 19, in Brussels

**Conference: Asia – Partner or Competitor? Strategies for Asia of Japanese and German Companies**

C: Economic Promotions Bureau Düsseldorf; Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Düsseldorf

Date: December 13, 2007, in Düsseldorf

## DIALOG OF CULTURES

**Panel Discussion and Ceremony: Talking with and about Japan – 120 Years of Research on Japan at Berlin Universities**

C: Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW)

Date: October 15, 2007, at the BBAW

**Workshop: "Cool Japan" – Picture Exports, Globalization, Intercultural Encounters**

C: Leipzig University; Yokohama National University

Date: October 31, 2007

**Symposium: From Dialogue of Cultures to a Global Culture of Dialogue? – Different Cultures as Factors of Conflict and Regional Cooperation**

C: German Embassy, Tôkyô; DESK, Tôkyô University; EU Council Presidency; Embassy of Spain to Japan, Tôkyô

Date: December 3–4, 2007, in Tôkyô

## DAHLEM MUSIC EVENINGS

(7.30 p.m.)

October 12: Contemporary Music

November 16: Tango Evening (Cantango)

December 14: Christmas Concert

## SPECIAL EVENT

**Concert with Taiko Drums**

C: German-Japanese Society Berlin

Date: September 18, 2007, Berlin City Hall

## SPECIAL PROJECT

**16th Meeting of the German-Japanese Forum**

Date: October 2–3, 2007, in Tôkyô

## EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

**Young Leaders Forum "Demographic Change"**

C: Robert Bosch Foundation, Stuttgart

Date: August 26–September 5, 2007, in Japan

**Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program:**

Japanese Delegation in Germany:

October 23–November 5, 2007

(German Delegation was in Japan from August 8–22, 2007)

**Study Program for Youth Work Specialists:**

Japanese Delegation in Germany:

December 2–15, 2007

(German Delegation was in Japan from May 19–June 2, 2007)

**Exchange Program for Young Employees:**

(German Delegation was in Japan from June 13–27, 2007)

Japanese Delegation was in Germany from

August 7–20, 2007)

**German-Japanese High School Student Exchange – Takenoko-Fonds**

C: DaimlerChrysler AG, Stuttgart

C: = in cooperation with

Venue: JDZB, if not stated otherwise.

For **more information** please refer to:  
<http://www.jdzb.de> --> Activities

Information on all JDZB language courses and other Japanese language courses in the brochure "Nihongo – Learning Japanese in Berlin", which is published every September by the JDZB.

### JDZB Science Award presented to Assistant Prof. Anke Krüger and Dr. Noguchi Hiroshi

Berlin, June 29, 2007. "Strengthening scientific exchange with Japan is a central concern of the Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin," said Prof. Günter Stock, President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Chair of the JDZB's Society of Friends at the presentation of the 2006 JDZB Science Award on June 29, 2007, at the Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB).

The award, worth 5,000 Euro each, was presented to *Junior Prof. Anke Krüger* (University of Kiel) and *Dr. Noguchi Hiroshi* (Jülich Research Center). Dr. Anke Krüger received the award for her work and publications in the field of new carbon materials; Dr. Noguchi Hiroshi was awarded the prize for his work and publications in the field of biophysics and the soft materials theory.

Laudations were given by Prof. Christian Thomsen (TU Berlin, *far right in the photo*) and Prof. Matthias Bräutigam (FU Berlin/Bayer Schering Pharma).



The **JDZB Science Award** was established by the JDZB Society of Friends in the year 2005 and serves to promote young scientists working in the field of natural sciences in Germany and Japan. Each year the prize is awarded for work in a special field that changes every year.

The search for the next candidates to win the JDZB Science Prize 2007 continues:

#### JDZB-Science Award 2007

##### Research area

In 2007 only nominations for work in the field of **climate and energy research** is eligible.

##### Eligibility

The award will be presented each year to a Japanese scientist in Germany and a German scientist in Japan (not older than 40) for excellent work in science that, as a rule, is post-doctoral.

##### Nominations

will be accepted in Spring/Summer each year by the board of the JDZB's Society of Friends. Nominations must be accompanied by a detailed report outlining the reasons for the nomination. The report should document whether the nominee's publications reflect the current state of scientific developments, what contribution he/she made, and which fundamental developments have been achieved. Publications must not be older than two years. When publications have been co-written by several authors, we require a detailed report outlining the nominee's main contribution. Up to five publications can be used to support the nomination. These must be submitted with the report and a CV (five publication samples each). Nominees can be re-nominated. We do not accept self-nominations.

Please send your nominations **until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007**, to: Tatjana Wonneberg  
Japanese-German Center Berlin  
Japanisch-Deutsches Zentrum Berlin  
Saargemünder Str. 2, 14195 Berlin, Germany  
E-Mail: twonneberg@jdz.de

##### References

Together with the nomination we require the names of two colleagues, who can be contacted as referees and who are prepared to write a reference.

##### Selection

The winners of the award will be recommended by the Team Natural Sciences of the JDZB's Society of Friends and named by the Board of the JDZB's Society of Friends.

##### Award

The award will presumably be presented in the first half of the following year. The winners will be presented with a check worth 5,000 Euro at a celebratory colloquium.