

our rather clumsy term “sustainability.” Our eyes remain clearly focused on Japan even with regard to the framework of creating a strategy for resources.

I do know, however, that Japan is also looking toward Germany, particularly with regard to developing a creative culture of fostering mechanisms: environmental taxes, fostering mechanisms for renewable energy and at the moment above all with trading emissions. Concurrent to my visit a high-level delegation made up of experts from government, the economy and the sciences/academia held numerous discussions about the experiences of the European Emissions Trading System (ETS) and its implementation in Germany. And although these developments are closely watched, there is nevertheless a lack of political will for a mandatory introduction of these instruments because the majority of so-called “major producers” of harmful emissions for the climate are still not one hundred percent convinced of the positive effects of emissions trading. On the other hand, people are worried that they will miss out on the decisive development of a global coal market. This is where we must concentrate our efforts for dialog.

This also applies to the field of renewable energy. Japan for example took on the global leadership role in the 1990s in fostering photovoltaics. The success was undeniable: Japan’s photovoltaic industry was the global leader for many years. But in the meantime Japan has drastically decreased its program to promote photovoltaics. The domestic market relies heavily on itself. And the photovoltaic industry in Japan has profited from introducing its programs into markets of other countries, particularly in Germany. But in the long term Germany cannot be expected to shoulder and finance the bulk of the global demand for photovoltaic modules. We need other countries to develop attractive fostering programs to increase the competitiveness of photovoltaics. I have already appealed to Japan to return to an active policy of promoting photovoltaics. If we aren’t successful over the next few years of expanding the photovoltaic global market

to other countries, I see incredible risks for this market – and Japanese companies will be equally affected.

In comparison to Germany, climate protection is seen in Japan – and of which I heard ample evidence in many discussions – as a cost factor and not as a stimulator in a positive sense, for example, using climate protection legislation to create new markets and innovations. Thus, within the framework of the next German-Japanese dialog on climate we would like to discuss the results of the “McKinsey Study” which was contracted by the Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (Federation of German Industry), and indeed reported that approximately two-thirds of imagined climate protection measures are economically viable. At the Hanover Fair ‘Cebit’ on April 24 a German-Japanese photovoltaic workshop will be held. Other fora for discussions include the workshop planned for mid March in Nagoya on the topic of “City partnerships in climate protection,” the panel discussion to be chaired by the Wuppertal Institute about dematerialization and efficiency of resources or the second German-Japanese environmental dialog forum to be held in Japan in 2009. There is so much potential for us to tap into together.



State Secretary Matthias Machnig,
German Federal Ministry for the Environment,
Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Dear “jdzb echo” readers!

The New Year saw the hand-over of the G8 Presidency from Germany to Japan. Both countries have placed climate protection at the top of their agendas. The contribution that municipalities can make toward climate protection is the topic of a conference organized by the JDZB in Nagoya. State Secretary Machnig participates in the event and is also the author of our leading article. Japan is the partner country of this year’s industry Fair “Cebit” in Hanover, and climate change and the environment will also occupy a preeminent position in Japan’s presentation there. A foundation for progress in this field is a successful technology policy which we will introduce together with the Federation of German Industries in Hanover. At both events we hold close to our hearts the connection between policies and practice, without which climate protection remains ineffective.

I would like to finish by making a - seldom - announcement with regard to internal affairs: on March 31 Dr. Kuwabara Setsuko will leave the JDZB to enter into retirement. She has been in charge of the JDZB’s library for almost 18 years. Over the years she has not only helped the JDZB staff with research but has also provided advice and support to many other people from outside. She has made considerable efforts toward contributing toward the exchange of information between Germany and Japan – one of the key tasks of the JDZB. I would like to extend my most heartfelt thanks.

Dr. Friederike Bosse, Secretary General

jdzb echo

Published quarterly in March – June – Sept. – Dec.

Publisher:

Japanese-German Center Berlin (JDZB)

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Opening hours of the Library:

Tues, Wed and Thu 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

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In cooperation with the Federation of German Industries (BDI) and the BDI Initiative "Innovation Strategies and Knowledge Management," the JDZB is hosting a symposium on the topic "Technology Roadmaps and Knowledge Transfer" on April 22 at the Cebit fair in Hanover. By way of case studies, successful innovations that have used roadmaps will be presented. Professor Utz Claassen, Chairman of the BDI Initiative, spoke to the JDZB:

What are Roadmaps? How important are they for the economy and policies?

The term "roadmap" is often interchangeably used with a step-by-step implementation of a strategy: it is ultimately a package of measures that can be used to evolve and strategically develop something to a predetermined direction and purpose.

There are many different roadmaps, e.g., product roadmaps, research roadmaps, competency roadmaps, branch roadmaps etc. Here – and at the symposium – we are dealing with "technology roadmaps." It deals with the question: How can I move around the "technology roadmap" in order to reach my goal quickly, intelligently and successfully?

How are technology roadmaps created?

A roadmap develops from an analysis of the potential of various actors/stakeholders, in this case it includes government (e.g., the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research), the sciences/academe (e.g., the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, Fraunhofer Institute, Helmholtz Association etc.), and most importantly the industries involved, as well as the Federation of German Industries as a networking institution.

The Federation of German Industry's initiative "Innovation Strategies and Knowledge Management" was presented at the Hanover Fair in 2006. What was the starting point back then and what was innovative about this initiative?

In my opinion, the starting point back then was constructive and critical discussions between the president of the Federation of German Industries Mr. Thumann, his predecessor Mr. Rogowski and me. We came to the conclusion that the network of innovative efforts and the development toward a knowledge society can not be left to chance.

It was the first time that inter-industry concrete projects were developed and where companies had to be open to other companies and overcome certain thresholds, such as introducing cross-sectional working groups to completely new topics. For the first time knowledge management was understood as tasks relating to individual economic units, business management and national economic policy.

The symposium of the JDZB/ Federation of German Industry is taking place exactly two years after the foundation of the federation's initiative? What sort

of report can you give us?

The intensity and the quality of the participants and the involvement of more than 100 companies is an excellent result – which was not to be expected from the start because the companies had to expose themselves in order to gain actual benefits – there's a lot of idealism involved in the project. Those working groups that deal with topics which are so complex that they would not cope with them alone have been the most successful.

Could you give us some actual examples?

Some concrete examples would be:

- Networking competencies of different companies on promoting research and innovation strategies of the central nervous system
- Approaches to projects in the fields of new materials
- Information technologies for the energy markets of the future
- Urban technologies for regions with increasing and extreme urbanization. The interplay of economics and ecology on climate protection is particularly exciting in urban areas: energy suppliers, power station construction companies, alternative suppliers of energy, telecommunication as well as IT hardware and software are becoming interlinked across various classes of businesses.

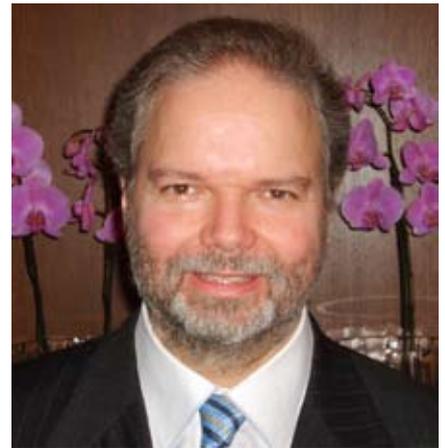
Within the realm of government actions is the "German federal government's high-tech strategy" to update industry policy of future technologies.

How do you assess these strategies?

These high-tech strategies of the German federal government are without doubt an important step in the right direction. Additionally, a research association was established to act as an interface between industry and the sciences, and we are closely interlinked. A further exchange is taking place with the "Council for Innovation and Growth" of the German Federal Chancellor.

In Japan the Ministry for Economics, Trade and Industry is attempting to increase the organization of knowledge transfer with roadmaps and to optimize the competitiveness of the country. Can you comment on the success of this project?

In Japan government and industry historically work together much closer than they do in Germany. *Keidanren* sits at the same table with the Japanese Ministry for Economics, Trade and Industry to formulate the long term



goals of research development and to allocate funding. This allows a much more coordinated effort between industry, government and academe – knowledge transfer between stakeholders is exemplary in Japan. Moreover, Japan developed quite early a 'culture of information' from which we could learn much here in Germany. Japanese information management was already aligned with our basic thoughts of "roadmaps" even before we started discussions.

How do you compare the control strategies of both countries?

One obvious difference is the following: in Japanese companies individuals subordinate themselves more strongly to the goals of the company, and in turn the company subordinates itself more strongly to the nation's interests. While this may stifle the promotion of creativity and individuality more than in Germany, the coordination and control of strategies and procedures are often more efficient and quicker.

A further difference: in Germany newly introduced methods (research development, target costing etc) must be justified in the first instance, which can become methodically difficult and messy – in Japan it is simpler, but it is also more coherent and holistic.

How can industry, government and research institutes work now and in the future to best cooperate in the creation and implementation of roadmaps?

The decisive factor is: we live in a world that is no longer governed by "knowledge is power" but rather by "sharing knowledge is powerful!" Everyone must be prepared to share their knowledge because the technological tasks that lie ahead are far too complex to be solved individually. This applies to both industry but also for social units such as governments and the economy, and indeed to whole countries!



The Center for Germany and Europe Studies, Komaba Campus (DESK) of the University of Tôkyô provided the right framework for not only an academic but also highly political topic. The interface between culture and politics became clearly obvious in the opening presentations: Ogura Kazuo, the President of the Japan Foundation, which is a main sponsor of the conference, outlined the changes to Japan's cultural foreign policy; and former State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office and German Ambassador to the UN, Guenter Pleuger, gave a gripping presentation of the dynamics of multilateral policies in the 21st century.

The polarity between “operative policies” and cultural, religious, social backgrounds and undercurrents of world politics remained a distinguishing feature of the entire conference – which was well suited to the event's concept since the goal was not to add a further item to the long list of global conferences on cultural dialog in general, but rather on the one hand to take stock of what has already been achieved, and on the other to clarify the question of which “added value” to a central problem of the modern age Germany and Japan could contribute through ever closer cooperation in international politics. In view of the quite ambitious goal of the conference, it was a conscious decision to avoid setting out concrete political recommendations. Rather it was clear from the start: even if the conference runs perfectly and discussions are fruitful, at the end there will still not be a clearly defined result; there will be no simple “answer” but rather a “work in progress.”

The first part of conference was designated as a “stock-taking session”: what have we learned from the “dialog of cultures” as discussed over past years? And which role can Japan play? Professor Ikeuchi Satoshi from the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in

From the Dialog of Cultures to a Global Culture of Dialogs? Martin Eberts, Head of Political Division, German Embassy in Japan

Under this program heading, a conference was organized by the JDZB in cooperation with the University of Tôkyô and the German Embassy on December 3 and 4, 2007.

Kyoto outlined the foundations of the dialog to date: who are the partners, and which common principles and values do we actually share? Professor Otto Kallscheuer (FU Berlin) offered – starting from a diachronic approach – a fascinating tableau of the exciting relations between religion and politics in European history. The diversity of historical references to the development of the modern age did not pass unnoticed – particularly among Japanese participants.

In the course of the event a dual approach to the question of where we should locate future cooperation on the dialog of cultures topic was discussed: First of all we started with East and Southeast Asia, we then moved toward North Africa and the Middle and Far East. The papers given by the former political director of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tanaka Hitoshi and Professor Claudia Derichs (University of Hildesheim) in turn contrasted in a productive manner the political-operative approach (in this case of a very experienced diplomat) and the scientific-analytical approach. Professor Derichs dared in a very impressive presentation to look ahead, toward the future and at the requirements of a successful dialog of cultures which is not exhausted in a declaratory: the search for cultural points of contact in the discussion of values (e.g., for democratic principles in the Islamic tradition as well?), setting focal points on cultural and dialog competencies in education and upbringing (from kindergarten to university, in curricula and teaching materials), and the search for a foundation of a “global ethic.”

Professor Syafî'i Anwar from the International Center for Islam and Pluralism in Jakarta virtually personified the spirit of an honest dialog and openness required to reach these goals. His passionate pleading for tolerance and reconciliation between the cultures was shaped



by many years and often painful experiences. The authenticity of his engagement was further punctuated by the threats he has received from extreme Islamic organizations.

The questions addressed to the speakers were as diverse as the presentations given. Yet how should we respond? What can we – as shown for example in the lively ‘wrap-up session’ at the end – take with us as a result of conference? Is there a specific Japanese, indeed a particularly German, perhaps even a German-Japanese approach and contribution toward the dialog of cultures?

The answer can be either very long or very brief: very long when you assemble the many individual pieces of mosaic tiles from the discussion into the one picture, which to some extent is what should result from a conference report. The answer can also be very brief: the conference itself was already an expression of a so called “Culture of Dialog,” as required in the globalized world of the 21st century. The dialog as such does not deliver programmable goals to a predetermined point set in time: it remains a “process” that has effect through the word and thus in an ideal situation can alter the dialog of the participating interlocutors.

Until now, the topic *Dialog of Cultures* or *Civilizations* has been far less present in public discussions in Japan than it has in Europe or the USA. However if we judge by the engagement of the Japanese speakers and the audience, then we can clearly see that this is a very promising area for further exchange.

Within the framework of the 2007 German-Japanese Studies Program for youth work specialists, the A2 group of experts visited Germany (Berlin, Dresden, Bonn) from December 2 to 15, 2007. The topic was “Fostering life competencies – social competencies.”

Ichinose Hiroyuki, specialist within the team “Children read” and experiential education, from the “lifelong learning” section within the Department for Education and Youth of Nagasaki prefecture gave us his following impressions.

Preliminary Remarks

Before departing I heard from many experts that youth work in Germany is more developed than in Japan and could serve as a role model for us. And in fact, after our visit to Germany this statement proved to be correct. During our stay we clearly noticed the differences to Japan and how certain aspects of Japanese education and upbringing could be improved.

Perceptions of the current situation in Germany

In order to push forward the development of a new Germany, the German government after World War II placed enormous emphasis on youth work. Youth associations are very active and a third of all children and youths are members. In Japan, in comparison, if we look at youth aged between 15 and 17 years in a survey from the year 2000, only 7.4 % are members, membership for those aged between 18-21 years is 14%, and 14.6% for those aged between 22 and 24 years.

The international comparison from the survey in 2000 revealed that more German than Japanese youth have a sense of justice which include social competencies, for example, “reporting mobbing among school students” or “solving disputes among friends.” During our trip to Germany we visited numerous youth welfare organizations and held many discussions. It became clear that through various programs offered by youth associations young people were able to gain key competencies – among others the ability to communicate, social and intercultural competencies, a sense of responsibility and the ability to cooperate. The fact that German youth develop their social competencies through youth organizations and youth work has, in my opinion, three reasons. The first is that volunteer work and self-organization is of central significance to youth work. It is determined by independent thought and voluntary actions; competencies in these areas then develop automatically. Youth workers are largely volunteers and serve as role models for children and youth. Second, there are many associations and organizations that meet the needs of today’s youth. During our trip we visited the children and youth house “Mareicke” where youth work is openly



practiced. Staff were very warm and caring when dealing with children from problematic or less educated backgrounds. We had the impression that many of the youth were kept on the right path thanks to this institution. In my opinion the diversity of youth associations and organizations plays an important role in the mediation of social competencies because it addresses the individuality of children and youth. Third, youth work in Germany is performed at a different depth than it is in Japan. In addition to social competencies, youth associations and organizations in Germany mediate values and education in peace that are taught within schools in Japan.

After completing the study program I felt that the success of extra-curricular youth work and youth associations in Germany is approaching a critical junction. The main reason for this is the current introduction of all-day schools. The goal of this model is to improve the performance of students by introducing all-day classes at schools – a concept opposed to youth work. The role of teachers is considerably different in Germany and Japan. Teachers in Germany are principally responsible for teaching in their area of expertise; in contrast, teachers in Japan, in addition to teaching subjects, are responsible for counseling and fostering students in their behavior and everyday routine. Thus, I think the introduction of all-day schools in Germany will have a negative effect on the benefits of youth work and youth associations.

Implementing experiences in Japan

After the study program we established three fundamental points to implement in Japan. First point: the job of a teacher as a vocation. In Germany mediating key competencies makes up the greater share of youth work and youth associations. In Japan in contrast it is part of school education and, as mentioned above, the teacher’s role is different. Because the latter is much more diverse in Japan, the teacher decisively influences the development of social competencies. Since I work in the field of education, I can see the vocation of a teacher in a new light. Second point: mobilization of Japanese youth work associations. Irrespective of whether education lies in the

responsibilities of individual states, it is the German Federal Ministry for Families, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth who is responsible for youth work in Germany through the Child and Youth Services Act. This proves that youth work is seen as a national responsibility. In Japan we also see the necessity for a re-evaluation of youth work as well as renewed reflection of the extra curricular acquisition of social competencies. At the same time, youth associations should compare their activities with other countries and rework them. I think that the acquisition of social competencies should be achieved through intensifying youth association activities outside of school hours based on the German model. Third point: cooperation of schools and after-school care clubs. In the German state of Saxony all-day schools and after-school care clubs shoulder the responsibility of the children’s activities after school in close cooperation by using the same school buildings. Children are given the opportunity to participate in the courses offered by the youth association while they are in the after-school care clubs, thus they voluntarily spend the afternoon there engaging in activities that interest them. This financial year in Japan the Ministry for Culture, Sport, Science and Technology as well as the Ministry for Health, Labor and Welfare are together starting an initiative to secure locations that can be used for after-school care. In the prefecture of Nagasaki there are 19 cities and municipalities that offer open meeting places, however the implementation of the initiative in all the recommended elementary school areas is still in the distant future. The ideal situation would be when all the children, irrespective of whether they are members of after-school care clubs, could join in some of the activities offered by these meeting places in their immediate neighborhood. Similar to where youth association and organizations in Germany have become locations for children and youth to meet, and play an important role in children’s development, as a person in charge of youth work I would like to contribute with the initiative mentioned above and create spaces of experience, exchange, play, daily life and learning for the children.



Exhibition "Somewhere between Walking and Dreaming"
Photographs by Satô Akiko and Mireille Schellhorn
Duration: until April 4, 2008 (Photo: Eßer)
Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Friday 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.



Key-Note-speaker Dr. Eckart Stratenschulte (European Academy)
at the conference "Aspects of Democracy", Nov. 28-29, 2007.



New Years Concert on January 18, 2008, at the JDZB with the Sakura Vocal Quartett (from left): Tôgi Kana'e (Piano), Kinoshita Miho (Alt), Rosana Barrena (Soprano), Eric Viser (Bass) and Kinoshita Motoki (Tenor).



Panel at the German-Japanese Symposiums "Perspectives of Developments of Academic Libraries in Germany and Japan" on February 28, 2008, at the JDZB.



Report by Yanagawa Noriyuki (Tôkyô University) at the symposium "Path Dependency and Path Plasticity: Innovation Processes in the Software Sector" on January 28, 2008, at the JDZB.

CONFERENCES BY FOCAL AREAS

GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Symposium: Perspectives for the Development of Africa

C: Mission of Japan to the EU, Brussels; European Commission, Brussels; European Policy Council, Brussels
Date: March 3, 2008, in Brussels

Conference: Managing the Medusa: Global Governance Issues – Japan, US, UK, Germany: Approaches in Comparison

C: Free University Berlin; Tôkyô University
Date: December 11-12, 2008

Conference: Global Responsibility in Development Cooperation – Common Interests and Initiatives of Japan and Germany

C: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Berlin / Bonn
Date: to be determined

RAW MATERIALS, ENERGY, CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT

Workshop: Germany – Japan – USA: Climate Partnership of Municipalities

C: Federal Environment Agency, Dessau; Climate Alliance (European cities), Frankfurt; Nagoya University
Date: March 14-15, 2008, in Nagoya

Conference: Energy Policy

C: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Berlin / Bonn; Fujitsu Research Institute, Tôkyô
Date: June 2008, in Tôkyô

DEMOGRAPHICS

Workshop: Bilateral Exchanges on the Further Development of Care Insurance

C: Federal Ministry for Health, Berlin; Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Tôkyô
Date: October 2008 in Tôkyô

Symposium: Family Policies in Japan and Germany

C: Tsukuba University; Max-Planck-Institute for Foreign and International Social Law, Munich
Date: November 13-15, 2008 in Tôkyô and Tsukuba

PROGRESS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Symposium: Technology Roadmaps and Transfer of Knowledge

C: Federation of German Industries (BDI), Berlin
Date: April 22, 2008, in Hannover
(see also Interview page 3)

Workshop: Creating Sustainability in the Field of Social Sciences in Japan and Germany

C: Association of German School Geographers, Berlin; Japanese Society for Geographical Sciences, Hiroshima; Hiroshima University of Economics
Date: August 20-22, 2008

STATE, ENTERPRISES, CIVIL SOCIETY

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

C: Economic Promotions Bureau Düsseldorf; Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Düsseldorf
Date: March 4, 2008, in Düsseldorf

Roundtable: Current State and Prospects of Japan's Foreign Economic Policy (keizai gaikô) and Japan's Relations with its Neighbours

C: Contemporary Asia Research Centre, Mailand; Bocconi University, Milano
Date: March 31, 2008, in Milano

Symposium: Civil Society in Europe and Asia – Perspectives of Transnational Communication

C: Halle-Wittenberg University
Date: October 9-10, 2008, in Halle

Workshop: Eco-Design

C: International Design Center Berlin; International Design Center Nagoya; German Chamber for Industry and Commerce in Japan, Tôkyô
Date: October 2008, in Tôkyô and Nagoya

Symposium: Internationalization of Labor – Academia meets Economics.

25 Years of DAAD-Program Language & Practice
Z: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Tôkyô
Termin: October 16, 2008, in Tôkyô

DIALOG OF CULTURES

Symposium: Science between Cultures – How Japan and Germany can learn from each other

C: Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
Date: March 13, 2008

Ninth German-Japanese Grantee Seminar

C: German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn
Date: July 10, 2008

Symposium: Popular Culture from Japan

C: Japan Foundation, Tôkyô
Date: Second half of October 2008

Conference: German Soft Power in East Asia: Past and Future

C: Ôsaka University
Date: November 21-22, 2008 in Kyôto or Ôsaka

SPECIAL PROJECT

17th Meeting of the German-Japanese Forum

Date: November 25-26, 2008

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Junior Experts Exchange Program

C: German Federal Ministry for Education and Research, Berlin; German Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology, Berlin; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Tôkyô
Date: March 2008 in Japan, June 2008 in Germany

Young Leaders Forum 2008

C: Robert Bosch Foundation, Stuttgart
Date: July 20-30, 2008

For following programs please refer to <http://www.jdzb.de> --> Exchange Programs:
- Youth Group Leaders Exchange Program
- Study Program for Youth Work Specialists
- Exchange Program for Young Employees
- Takenoko Fund

CULTURE

DAHLEM MUSIC EVENINGS

(start 7.30 p.m.)

March 14: Ensemble Saitenblicke

(New and traditional music)

EXHIBITIONS

"Somewhere between Walking and Dreaming"

Photographs by Satô Akiko and Mireille Schellhorn
Duration: until April 4, 2008

Exhibition „Modern Japanese Woodcuts“

Opening: May 9, 2008, 7 p.m.

Photo Exhibition „Japanese Bath Culture“

Opening: June 21, 2008, 7 p.m.

READING

Scenic Reading „The Day with Father“

Date: April 10, 2008, 7.30 p.m.

OPEN DAY ON JUNE 21, 2008

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.

Weltwärts – Celebrating 30 Years of the German Academic Exchange Service Office in Tôkyô – Japan and Germany. Studying and researching together!

Under this heading the office of the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD) will celebrate a very fertile era of bilateral cooperation this year with its more than 2000 Japanese alumni. The highlight of the event series will be the alumni meeting of DAAD and Humboldt grant recipients, with the keynote address by the Nobel Prize winner Professor Peter Grünberg, a DAAD grantee who not only won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 2007 but also the Japan Award. The renowned and well-organized alumni network of “former grant recipients” is one of strongest building blocks for all areas

of German-Japanese cooperation in science and economics.

When we look at involving the next generation in German-Japanese relations, it is always those Japanese who have studied in Germany, or those Germans who have lived in Japan and gathered Japan-experience as students or young scientists who are active as mediators and referees, or who offer work placements or mentoring services within the program “Language and Practice in Japan.”

This grant program of the DAAD, which is less directed at future academics and more toward economic experts, was established in 1984, a time when people in Germany understood very little about the rapidly growing economic giant, Japan. Since then the program has fostered more than 300 young Germans

who today work in international companies as Japan-specialists in the fields of science and economics, law and architecture, with approximately 50 former grantees currently living in Japan. We could describe the international focus of the program with its ambitious learning goal as “managing across cultures.” Together with the JDZB, the DAAD will commemorate its 25th anniversary in October 2008 when the 25th cohort of young grantees commence their course with a symposium entitled “Internationalization of employment – academia meets economics.”

Dr. Irene Jansen

Head of Tôkyô Bureau of the German Academic Exchange Service



The JDZB congratulates the DAAD Tôkyô Bureau on its anniversary. The JDZB has enjoyed many years of cooperation and friendship with the DAAD and its Tôkyô office. Both institutes work toward strengthening intellectual exchange with Japan wherever possible. In the first half of the 1990s when the JDZB was in the position to offer scholarships within the framework of a special exchange program, the DAAD office in Tôkyô offered its assistance to help look after these scholars. There were many opportunities for cooperation during conferences. For example, for the opening of the event “Year of Germany in Japan 2005/2006” both institutes in cooperation with the German Association for Research held the symposium “the Environment and Science – concepts and strategic goals for the future.” The DAAD and the JDZB had already collaborated in 2001 to organize the conference “International Exchange in the Field of Higher Education in Japan and Germany.” One part of the cooperation network is the DAAD-funded Center of German and Europe Studies at the University of Tôkyô.

In Germany the cooperation has a proven counterweight: since 1997 the JDZB together with DAAD organizes an annual seminar to

bring together the Japanese DAAD scholars currently working in Germany with the German scholars who have returned from Japan. This is a unique opportunity for the alumni to meet and discuss their experiences of the other country, to put forward recommendations, and to present the results of their research on which they have focused during their stay abroad. There is a wide spectrum

of research areas ranging from science to cultural-historical or ethnological contributions that are then published by the JDZB in an in-house series, which in turn reflect the intention of the cooperation: “Interdisciplinary par excellence.”

The JDZB looks forward to the joint anniversary symposium and to further fruitful cooperation with the DAAD.

