

## U.S.-JAPAN Council Annual Conference Notes

- *Beyond 2020 Vision: Going Global with the U.S.-Japan Partnership* -

November 9-10, 2015

Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel, Shibuya, Tokyo, Japan

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### **November 9, 2015 (Mon)**

#### 9:30 – 11:00 USJC Council Member Update

Council members provided regional activity updates.

- Boston area: Atsuko Fish, Director of Fish Family Foundation, updated the foundation activities in the area in support of the USJC initiatives.
- Chicago/Mid west: Stacey Uchida spoke about women's initiative (womanomics) in the region.
- Hawaii: Wendy Abe updated the USJC structure in Hawaii.
- California: Atsuko James gave an update of her new book titled "Daughters of the Samurai," a biography of Umeko Tsuda, the founder of Tsuda Juku college.
- Other: several others spoke on topics: "3.11 5<sup>th</sup> year event," women's programs in other areas of the US, activities around social media presence

#### 14:00 – 17:00 Plenary Session: Keynotes and Panel Discussion

Welcome by Dennis Teranishi

Keynote by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

- US Japan alliance is the cornerstone for regional peace and stability and expressed appreciation for what USJC is doing.
- Expressed appreciation for the Tomodachi project in support of 3.11 disaster and continuing efforts through other initiatives.
- Discussed the importance of TPP as the foundation for



economic development in the region.

Anthony Foxx, US Secretary of Transportation

- Complemented USJC for the activities to bring the US and Japan closer
- Stressed the importance of TPP
- Spoke about the need to upgrade the US transportation infrastructure and Japanese rail system can provide reference.
- Spoke about the future of “Smart City” with smart transportation technologies.

Nobuyuki Hirano, President and CEO of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group

(平野信行 : 三菱UFJフィナンシャル・グループ)

- Economic interdependence is crucial in foreign relations and USJC’s focus on business perspective is important.
- US essential strength is in “Innovation” supported by diversity, entrepreneurship and openness.
- Japan’s economy led by Abenomics is changing business sector from defensive to offensive positioning and hope that TPP would accelerate this trend.
- MUFG has been very active in the the US which it considers to be the priority market and are taking actions through mergers and partnerships.
- “FinTech” financial and technology sector focus.
- Finally, MUFG supports the Tomodachi initiative.

Sandra Peterson, Group WW Chairman, Johnson & Johnson

- J&J Foundation launched the Disaster Response Nurse Training Program under the Tomodachi initiative (TOMODACHI J&J 災害看護研修プログラム) and selected 8 members from the 3.11 disaster area for its first program.
- Introduced J&J Tokyo Science Center for promoting high tech medical equipment training in Japan

#### Panel Discussion: Business, Economics and Global Leadership

Moderator: Kathy Matsui, VP of Goldman Sachs

Panelists: Tak Minami, President of Suntory Holdings, Paul Yonamine, President of IBM Japan

- Each panelist discussed his experience in global leadership role, then a question was asked,

Question: If you are the PM of Japan, what would you do?

Minami:

Promote job mobility (good for society)

Promote foreign relations with foreign training programs

Support workers with overseas experience to return to Japan

Yonamine:

Unleash corporate capability to the maximum

Promote Innovation

PM Abe is an “economy minded PM” in a long time and good for the country

Special Guest Speech: Mayor Futoshi Toba, Rikuzen Takada (戸羽太 : 陸前高田市長)

Spoke about his personal experience of losing his wife and many city employees during the 3.11 disaster and how he persevered through the ordeal to bring leadership to the disaster stricken area. Very touching and moving speech. Mentioned Tomodachi initiative and how it helped the area.

17:30 – 19:30 Reception



Special Guest: Hon. Caroline Kennedy, US Ambassador to Japan

Special Guest: Yoji Muto, Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs (武藤容治 : 外務副大臣)

**November 10, 2015 (Tue)**

9:00 – 12:00 Plenary Session: Keynotes and Panel Discussion

Keynotes

Dr. Sadayuki Sakakibara, Chairman of Keidanren

(榊原定征 : 経団連会長)

- Introduced his special US Trade mission in 10 to DC, Virginia and SC
- There are about 3000 Japanese companies operating in the US, contributing to US export and the economy as good corporate citizens.

- Stressed the importance of TPP for US-Japan relations and good for about 1100 US companies operating in Japan.

Dr. Gill Pratt, CEO of Toyota Research Institute (former DARPA robotics challenge official)

- Described how robotics are changing our lives and how it will continue to do so.
- Robots were used in assessing the Fukushima nuclear reactor accident on 3.11.
- Discussed recent DARPA Robotics Challenge results
- Discussed robot future market opportunities in Healthcare, Environmental assessment (future disasters) and Manufacturing.

Dr. Koji Murofushi, Sports Director, Tokyo Organizing Committee for Olympics & Paralympic

(室伏広治 : 東京オリンピック・パラリンピック理事)

- Discussed highlights of the committee's "Agenda 2020" : New approach, more sustainable, New sports and supporting the next generation of athletes.

Panel Discussion:

The Japanese American Experience: From Internment to Leadership, a Seventy-Year Journey



Moderator: Jan Yanehiro, President, Jan Yanehiro, Inc.

Special Speech by Hon. Norman Mineta, Former secretary, US Department of Transportation

- Discussed his personal experience as the first Japanese American to join the President's cabinet
- Spoke about his personal views and decisions he had to face during the 9.11 terrorist attacks using the US airliners.

Panelists:

Hon. Norman Mineta, Former secretary, US Department of Transportation  
Donna Fujimoto Cole, President & CEO, Cole Chemical & Distributing  
Ernie Higa, Chairman & CEO, Higa Industries  
Masi Oka, Hollywood actor, Producer and Entertainer

- Each panelist shared his/her story and experience as an American of Japanese descent and how success was achieved in his/her business career.

### 12:30 – 14:00 Luncheon Keynote and Panel Discussion

#### Keynotes

Hon. Hiroyasu Ando, President, Japan Foundation  
(安藤裕康 : 国際交流基金)

Hon. Masaharu Kohno, Former Ambassador of Japan to Italy, Special representative of Japan for Middle East and Europe, Special Envoy for Middle East Peace  
(河野雅治 : 日本国政府代表 : 中東地域及び欧州地域関連)、中東和平担当特使)

Hon. Taro Kono, Head of National Public Safety Commission, Minister for Administrative Reform  
(河野太郎 : 国家公安委員会委員長)

#### Panel Discussion: Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD) Celebration

Moderator: Aiko Doden, Senior Commentator for International Affairs, NHK  
(導傳愛子、NHKワールド国際情勢担当解説委員 チーフプロデューサー)

Panelists:



Terry Hara, Former Deputy Chief, LAPD  
Emily Murase, Ex. Director, San Francisco  
Dept. of Status of Women  
Dr. William Tsutsui, President, Hendrix  
College

- Panelists spoke about his/her experience in the participation of JALD program sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

14:30 – 16:00 Breakout session: Strengthening Regional Economies: A Dialogue among governors



Moderator: Dennis Teranishi, USJC Board Chairman

Governors:

Shuichi Abe, Nagano

David Ige, Hawaii

Heita Kawakatsu, Shizuoka

Hidehiko Yuzaki, Hiroshima

Question: What are you doing to develop regional economy in light of the aging population?

Nagano (Gov Abe):

- Developing program to encourage working population by providing government programs to support birth, child nursery, education initiatives.
- Promoting Nagano as a good place to live. With internet based working environment, there is no need to be in Tokyo for many professions.
- Industry in Nagano: Precision machinery is the focus. Aerospace industry is one target industry.
- Tourism: Encouraging more tourism in the prefecture.

Hiroshima (Gov. Yuzaki)

- Hiroshima has diverse industries: Auto, shipping, steel, chemical, machinery and electronics, but facing tough competition from Asian countries.
- Promoting “family friendliness” of living in Hiroshima.

Hawaii (Gov. Ige)

- Continue to stress hospitality industry.
- Partnership with airlines and tourism partners, focus on sister-state/prefecture programs

- Commitment to Renewable energy sources. 23% in 2014, but 100% is goal. (PV, Wind and hydro)
- Hitachi is conducting smart grid and analytics POC in Maui.

#### Shizuoka (Gov. Kawakatsu)

- The fear of potential future Nankai Earthquake has triggered people to leave the area
- Prefecture is investing in programs to stop younger generation from leaving (internship and partnership with local universities etc)
- The prefecture boasts more than 200k SMB enterprises and many are globally known.
  - West Hamamatsu area: Honda, Photonics, Yamaha
  - East Hakone Valley area: Cancer Center and many medical facilities and pharmaceutical companies.
  - Mid area: agricultural and sea products – food industry
- More than 437 companies are expanding overseas and 80 are operating in the US.

Question: What are you doing to enhance overseas expansion of SMB enterprises?

#### Shizuoka

- SMB representatives, government departments, financial enterprise and academia are cooperating to identify prospective companies and are taking actions to focus investments.
- Constantly on lookout for prospective companies.

#### Nagano

- It is difficult, but the government is supporting expo/exhibits.
- Programs/initiatives in place for cooperation of industry and academia by each region in the prefecture.

#### Hiroshima

- Government support for talent development.
- USJC is one way to identify opportunities.

#### Hawaii

- Grants to SMB

Question: Talent development initiatives?

#### Nagano

- Planning to open a new public university in 2018, specifically targeted at developing Global competency. All students will be given opportunities to study abroad to broaden perspective.

#### Shizuoka

- Mt Fuji is a great tourist attraction, so service industry is encouraged to have global perspective and service competency.
- Shizuoka airport will continue to add more international visitors to the area and local service sector must enhance competencies.

14:30 – 16:00 Successful Model for Political Leadership in U.S.-Japan Relations



Moderator: Colbert Matsumoto, Exec. Chairman, Island Insurance

Panelists:

Michael Hancock, Mayor of Denver Colorado

Yasuhide Nakayama, Former State Minister for Foreign affairs, Member of House of Representative, Japan

Mark Takai, U.S. House of Representative, Hawaii

16:30 – 18:00 Panel Discussion: Silicon Valley and Japan: Building a “Kakehashi” Bridge



Moderator: James Higa, Exec. Director, Philanthropic Venture Foundation

Panelists:

Hon. John Ross, Former ambassador to Japan

Liz Wezzel, CEO, Way-up

Tadashi Yanai, Chairman, President and CEO, Fast Retailing

J. Higa: Initiatives of Philanthropic Venture Foundation

- Raising awareness
- Making academic connections – Designing conferences



- Accelerator program – Identify and bring innovative business & put them through accelerated program

T. Yanai's comments of Japanese business innovation

- Believes that it may take less effort for Japan regional businesses to directly expand overseas than to attain business success in Tokyo
- Japanese companies manifest tendency of self restraint, so such customs should be abandoned, more openness
- Japanese companies should take more risks: He believes in "Failure is a Learning Opportunity"

*Please direct any questions, comments about this document to Yoichi "Yo" Usui of Cross Cultural Business, Inc. at [yusui3@cc-biz.com](mailto:yusui3@cc-biz.com).*