



Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (SPF-USA) was incorporated on September 24, 1990, in Washington, D.C., as a not-for-profit foundation under clause 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code with a ¥3 billion endowment from SPF. SPF-USA's initial mission, to promote understanding between the United States and Japan, was carried out by opening an art gallery and a library in December 1992. In response to changing world circumstances, in 1997 SPF-USA decided to broaden its mission and focus on the Asia-Pacific region as well as Japan. The foundation closed the art gallery, expanded the focus of the library to include more works on Asia, and developed projects to increase awareness of the Asia-Pacific region in the United States. In fiscal 2002 SPF-USA began awarding grants to other nonprofit organizations, and in fiscal 2003 it supported three grant projects worth a total of \$126,350 (see p. 77).

The library, which averages 4,600 visits a year, houses approximately 11,000 books and 600 videotapes (as of March 2004) on both Japan and the Asia-Pacific region. It also carries the latest issues of approximately 49 newspapers and periodicals in Japanese and English. The library is an invaluable resource for researchers on Japan and Asia and for Japanese residents in the Washington area.

As SPF developed programs that focused on Asia, it became aware that other nations did not always have a deep understanding of Asia and that Asia had to promote understanding of itself. As a result, SPF decided to increase the dissemination of information on Asia by strengthening cooperation with SPF-USA, which is based in one of the world's most important centers of information.

In fiscal 1999, as part of the Get Across the Voices of Asia Program (see p. 31), SPF commissioned SPF-USA to launch the "Asian Voices" lecture series. SPF and SPF-USA took advantage of their extensive networks to invite speakers from various Asian countries to give talks to government employees, staff members of NGOs, and representatives of think tanks in the Washington area. A total of 51 seminars have been held, including 14 in fiscal 2003. Attendance has been steadily increasing. SPF and SPF-USA are also jointly supporting grant projects, such as *Evolving Approaches to Security in the Asia-Pacific Region* (see p. 63).

As SPF and SPF-USA continue to forge a cooperative relationship, they will utilize their intellectual resources and extensive networks of experts to develop projects and disseminate their

**The Role of Philanthropy in Postwar U.S.-Japan Relations**

Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE/USA), Inc. (U.S.A.)

This project was launched to tell the “untold story” of the critical role played by American and Japanese philanthropy in U.S.-Japan relations during the 1945–75 period, in order to understand fully the evolution of the bilateral relationship and draw contemporary lessons from it.

During the first year a workshop was held in October 2002 in Pocantico Hills, New York, at which Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) researchers, scholars, and foundation experts gathered to share their views regarding the motivations of grantmakers, the influence of the cold war and anticommunist sentiment on Japan-related grantmaking, the relationship between government and foundations, and the impact of American philanthropy on Japan’s intellectual community and the U.S.-Japan relationship.

A second workshop was held in November 2002 at the International House of Japan, Tokyo. Forty participants gathered at the all-day meeting to hear presentations on the role of philanthropy in the development of the U.S.-Japan relationship, on U.S. support for American studies in Japan, and on the prewar roots of Japanese philanthropy.

A third workshop was held in March 2003 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to focus on the role of U.S. philanthropy in promoting Japanese studies in the United States and American studies in Japan.

Most of the work in the project’s second year took the form of research and paper writing. JCIE researchers conducted interviews with former foundation executives in the western United States and New York. They also interviewed former Japanese grantees as well as experts on American studies in Japan. At a two-day workshop in July 2003 in Tokyo the research team and other experts gathered to critique the research outlines and preliminary papers of the project.

The research findings have supported the project’s initial hypothesis that American philanthropy contributed greatly to the development of Japan’s intellectual sector, the creation of networks between Japan and the United States, and the promotion of U.S.-Japan relations in the postwar period.

(Second year of a 3-year project)

**Evolving Approaches to Security in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)  
For FY2003: \$86,350

This project was implemented as a joint undertaking by the Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund and SPF-USA. For project details, see page 63.

(Final year of a 2-year project)

**Trilateral Retreats: Toward New Regional Relations in Northeast Asia and the Mansfield Pacific Retreat**

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation (U.S.A.)

The Trilateral Retreats: Toward New Regional Relations in Northeast Asia are workshops designed to foster understanding and build cooperative relationships among emerging opinion makers and leaders from China, Japan, and Korea.

In August 2003 two workshops were held in Montana. At the first workshop six Chinese and five Japanese participants gathered for three days to discuss ways to improve China-Japan relations. The sessions included the topics “Differing Approaches to History,” “Identifying Common Interests and the Benefits of Reconciliation,” and “Overcoming Domestic Political Obstacles.” The participants advanced diverse views on dealing with the two nations’ sometimes acrimonious relationship.

The second workshop included seven Korean and six Japanese participants, who met for three days to discuss improving Korea-Japan relations. The sessions included the topics “North Korea: Catalyst for Reconciliation,” “The Emergence of China: Geopolitical and Cultural Implications for Korea-Japan Relations,” and “Getting Beyond Historical Legacies: Developing a Road Map for Reconciliation.” The participants’ recommendations for improving bilateral relations included a wide range of cultural and educational activities.

The Mansfield Pacific Retreats provide leaders from China, Japan, Korea, and the United States with the opportunity to address some of the most complex and sensitive issues common to the Asia-Pacific region in an informal setting.

The sixth Mansfield Pacific Retreat was held in August 2003 on Cheju Island, Korea. Forty scholars, business leaders, and government officials from China, Japan, Korea, and the United States met for two days to discuss the application of market-based mechanisms in environmental protection in the Asia-Pacific region. The agenda included discussion of lessons learned in applying market approaches and whether these approaches might be applied to resolve environmental challenges in Northeast Asia.

(A one-year project)



A scene from a workshop held at Cambridge in 2002 as part of the “The Role of Philanthropy in Postwar U.S.-Japan Relations” project.

*Wang Jisi, Director, Institute of American Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences*

Wang Jisi believes that China-U.S. relations are in much better condition than in the pre-9/11 period and that no crises will occur in the near future. He also stated that China's increasing confidence will be beneficial to the bilateral relationship. Wang discussed how the military distrust between the two nations is the most important long-term issue.

*Tamotsu Nakano, Visiting Fellow, The Brookings Institution*

Tamotsu Nakano explained that a grand design for Northeast Asia would create ideal conditions for development. This regional framework would embrace the region's diversity and would allow East Asian officials to begin discussions for their future from a transborder viewpoint. This design would also attempt to foster mutual trust in the region.

*Richard Koo, Chief Economist, Nomura Research Institute*

Richard Koo argues in *Balance Sheet Recession* that Japan is suffering from a temporary but highly unusual economic aberration. A massive shift in corporate behavior is the root cause of Japan's deflation and the nonperforming-loan problem. Because the household sector is saving and the corporate sector is not borrowing money, he recommends a fiscal stimulus policy to encourage economic growth.

*Ezra Vogel, Professor Emeritus, Harvard University*

Professor Ezra Vogel believes that China's rise offers the United States opportunities for cooperation on many global issues. He stated that while the United States has maintained good relations with Asian countries since 9/11, it needs to pay more attention to East Asia to insure the goodwill of its citizens and to protect its own long-term interests.

*Akihiko Tanaka, Director, Institute of Oriental Culture, The University of Tokyo*

Professor Akihiko Tanaka explained that Prime Minister Jun'ichiro Koizumi's policies have not been fundamentally different from those of previous Japanese leaders, but have been consistent with the evolution of the "Yoshida Doctrine Plus." Despite new features in Koizumi's diplomacy, and a different decision-making style from that of previous prime ministers, in terms of substance his foreign policy has not greatly diverged from standard Japanese foreign policy.

*Rohan Gunaratna, Head of International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research Education, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University*

Dr. Rohan Gunaratna discussed how the security environment in Southeast Asia has changed significantly since 9/11. Since U.S. intervention in Afghanistan in 2001, Al Qaeda organizers of attacks, financiers, and other experts have dispersed to lawless zones including Southeast Asia. Dr. Gunaratna discussed the evolving nexus between Al Qaeda and its associated entities and discussed future likely developments in Southeast Asia.

*Ralph Cossa, President, Pacific Forum, Center for Strategic and International Studies*

Ralph Cossa discussed the goals of North Korea for the six-party talks. He recommended a multilateral approach toward North Korea and said South Korea's involvement is essential. Cossa thinks the United States should not reward North Korea with any agreements until it demonstrates a change in behavior, and that North Korea must freeze its current nuclear activities.

*Wang Gungwu, Director, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore*

Professor Wang Gungwu discussed the history and development of the United States' grand strategy in Asia. The United States based its strategy on an anticolonial message, which transformed into an anti-communist and interventionist strategy, and focused on defending U.S. interests after 9/11. The United States continues to make its interests the main platform of its grand strategy.

*Nobukatsu Kanehara, Counselor, Embassy of Japan / James Przystup, Senior Research Fellow, National Defense University*

The speakers discussed how the U.S.-Japan security alliance has developed in the face of challenges presented by a changing international security environment, including the cold war, the Gulf War, and 9/11. They analyzed the possibility of Japan's becoming more of an equal partner in the alliance and discussed its strengths and benefits for regional stability.

*Rizal Sukma, Director of Studies, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia*

Dr. Rizal Sukma discussed the distrust that has existed between Indonesia and the United States since 9/11. He feels that the United States should avoid giving the impression that terrorism is the only factor in its foreign policy toward the Association of Southeast Asian Nations by encouraging economic growth and by helping to improve Indonesia's educational system.

*Makoto Iokibe, Professor of Political and Diplomatic History, Kobe University*

Professor Makoto Iokibe analyzed the relationship between Japan and China since 1979. He discussed the importance of Japanese reparations to China, which allowed it to be a responsible member of the world system. Professor Iokibe believes Japan should develop noneconomic strategies to lead East Asia, and stressed that the East Asia framework must be open to other nations.

***Between Bilateralism and Community: U.S.-Japan Security Relations in a Changing East Asia***

February 27–28, 2004  
Co-hosted by East-West Center

*Thomas Berger, Associate Professor of International Relations, Boston University / Victor Cha, D. S. Song–Korea Foundation Chair, Georgetown University / Akiko Fukushima, Director of Policy Studies, National Institute for Research Advancement / G. John Ikenberry, Peter F. Krogh Professor of Geopolitics and Global Justice, Georgetown University / Takashi Inoguchi, Professor of Political Science, University of Tokyo / Tsuyoshi Kawasaki, Associate Professor of Political Science, Simon Fraser University / Mike Mastanduno, Nelson A. Rockefeller Professor of Government, Dartmouth College / Koji Murata, Associate Professor of Diplomatic History, Doshisha University*

***Day One: Japanese Approaches to International Institutions: Beyond Bilateralism?***

The panelists discussed Japan's preference for bilateral or multilateral relationships and how those relationships have affected its national interests. They generally agreed that Japan prefers bilateral relations. They stated that the U.S.-Japan alliance remains strong, but challenges will arise when Japan wants to pursue a more independent foreign policy. The panelists also noted that more multilateral elements have entered Japan's foreign policy.

***Day Two: U.S. Approaches to International Institutions: Back to Hub-and-Spokes Bilateralism?***

The panelists discussed two paths the United States could take toward international institutions; a multilateral system of governance or hub-and-spokes bilateralism. The United States pragmatically uses both approaches in its dealings with other nations and institutions. The panelists debated which approach the United States would be likely to pursue in the

*Kishore Mahbubani, Permanent Representative of Singapore to the United Nations*

Ambassador Kishore Mahbubani's three main points were that the world is experiencing great change, the rise of Asia is inevitable, and many international institutions are antiques and must change to accommodate the interests of Asian nations. He remarked that Asia is quietly adjusting to changes in the world and that an Asian renaissance would occur in 10–15 years.

***Reconciling Burma/Myanmar: Reexamining U.S. Relations with Burma***

March 25, 2004  
Co-hosted by School of Advanced International Studies,  
Johns Hopkins University,

*John Badgely, Professor, Cornell University (retired) / Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Assistant Professor of Politics, National University of Singapore / Morten Pederson, Senior Analyst, International Crisis Group / David Steinberg, Director of Asian Studies, Georgetown University / Robert Taylor, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies*

The panelists agreed that sanctions against the Burma/Myanmar government are not working and hurt the local population. They believe Aung San Suu Kyi should not be the only opposition leader that the rest of the world looks to for negotiations with the government, and that working with the military regime is important to enact reforms or bring about any change.

Note: Details of each seminar are available at [www.spfusa.org/Program/index.htm](http://www.spfusa.org/Program/index.htm)