Aging and Dementia: Cooperation between the U.S. and Japan from research to health care

As two countries that are both facing rapidly aging societies, the U.S. and Japan have much to learn from each other. This symposium will invite three Japanese American leaders to share their experience. They will address 1) the role of quality control mechanisms to detect and prevent cellular damage that leads to dementia, 2) the human side of aging through geriatric treatment, and 3) the effective communication of science and technology to stimulate innovation. The panelists will touch upon the genetics of Japanese supercentenarians to identify mechanisms of stress resilience, and the importance of global efforts through sharing knowledge, promoting technology and stimulating innovation. Those who are interested in the achievement of Japanese Americans, healthy aging and innovation in medical sciences are especially welcome to join us.

Coordinator

Dr. Atsushi Sunami
Advisor to the President; Deputy Director of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Program; Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

 Coordinator

Ms. Irene Hirano Inouye
President, U.S.-Japan Council
Former President and founding CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles

Panelists

Dr. Richard Morimoto
Bill and Gayle Cook Professor of Biology, Northwestern University
Prefecture in Japan of ancestral origins is Hiroshima

Dr. Robin Yasui
Director of Geriatrics
Denver Health

Ms. Linda Taira
Senior Manager, Communications, Boeing Defense, Space & Security

March 9th, 2015
5-7pm *Door opens at 4:30pm

Multimedia Studio, 6th floor of Hiroshima City Plaza for Town Development through Citizen Exchange (6-36, Fukuromachi, Naka-ku, Hiroshima TEL: 082-545-3911)

https://www.jpf.go.jp/cgp/exchange/event/150309.html
**Dr. Richard Morimoto: Panelist**

Dr. Richard I. Morimoto is the Bill and Gayle Cook Professor of Biology, Department of Molecular Biosciences, and Director of the Rice Institute for Biomedical Research at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. Dr. Morimoto has been continuously supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has been a Visiting Professor at several international universities, including Osaka University and Kyoto University. He is a founder of Proteostasis Therapeutics, Inc. in Cambridge, MA, a biotech company developing small molecule therapeutics for age-associated degenerative diseases. As a faculty member, Dr. Morimoto helped found the Asian American Studies program at Northwestern University in 1995. In 2010, he was selected by the Japanese American Citizens League as recipient of its Japanese American of the Biennial Award. He holds a B.S. from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Chicago, and trained at Harvard University. Prefecture in Japan of ancestral origins: Hiroshima.

**Dr. Robin Yasui: Panelist**

Dr. Robin Yasui is Director of Geriatrics at the nationally recognized Denver Health and Hospitals in Denver, Colorado. In this capacity, she developed and directs a program of care for 6,000 of Denver’s senior patients from over 60 countries. Also an Assistant Professor in Medicine at the University of Colorado, she is an award-winning teacher, lecturing on topics in Cultural Medicine to colleagues and students from wide-ranging healthcare disciplines. Dr. Yasui carries her passion for activism beyond the hospital walls, serving on boards in the Latino, Asian, immigrant and refugee communities. She attributes her dedication to serving diverse communities to her family roots. She follows in the footsteps of the Yasui family tree, including her uncle, Minoru Yasui, who spent over 40 years working for the Denver Post. Dr. Yasui holds a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and an M.D. from Indiana University. She completed her internship and residency in Internal Medicine as well as a fellowship in Geriatric Medicine at the University of Colorado Denver. Prefecture in Japan of ancestral origins: Okayama.

**Ms. Irene Hirano Inouye: President and Ceo**

Ms. Irene Hirano Inouye is President of the U.S.-Japan Council, a diverse group of about 100 organizations and 12,000 individuals supporting the arts, business and political exchange between the United States and Japan. She is the former President and founding CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, a position she held for twenty years. A recipient of bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Public Administration from the University of Southern California, Ms. Hirano Inouye has extensive experience in nonprofit administration, community education and public affairs with culturally diverse communities nationwide. Ms. Hirano Inouye’s professional and community activities include serving as Trustee and immediate past chair, Ford Foundation; Trustee, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Trustee, Washington Center; and Trustee, Independent Sector. She was married to the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii. Prefecture in Japan of ancestral origins: paternal side from Fukuoaka, maternal side from Tokyo.

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**About the Japanese American Leadership Delegation Program**

Japanese migration to the U.S. began during the Meiji Era (1868-1912), and there are about 760,000 Japanese Americans in the U.S. (2010, national census). Following intermittent during World War II, the Sansei (third generation) and Yonsei (fourth generation) have contributed enormously both to their respective fields of work and their communities. Co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the U.S.-Japan Council (USJC), a diverse group of about 10 Japanese Americans who are playing leading roles in such fields as business, public organizations, education and the arts are invited to Japan each year. During the 1-week stay in Japan, the group meets and exchanges information with Japanese leaders in government, political, business and non-profit sectors. The group visits regional cities to exchange ideas with experts in various fields and experience traditional Japanese culture. As part of the program, USJC co-hosts a public symposium with USC. In 2015, 10 participants will be invited from March 7 – 14.

Please RSVP with the following information by **Thursday, March 5th, 2015**.

1. Name
2. Title/ Affiliation
3. Contact Information (Tel / E-mail / Fax)

*03-5369-6042* by FAX
*cgpc@jpf.go.jp* by Email

Access Map to Hiroshima City Plaza

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To learn more about the Symposium, contact: The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, Tokyo
TEL: 03-5369-6072  FAX: 03-5369-6042 Email: cgpc@jpf.go.jp