U.S.-Japan Research Institute
(U.S.-registered NPO)
FY2020 Operation Plan

1. Operation Policies ............................................................................................................................................... 2

2. Our Research Activities....................................................................................................................................... 3
   (1) Research Themes ..................................................................................................................................... 3
   (2) Research Projects .................................................................................................................................... 3
   (3) Disseminating Research Findings ........................................................................................................... 3
       1) USJI Week .......................................................................................................................................... 4
       2) USJI Seminars .................................................................................................................................... 4
       3) Symposium in Japan .......................................................................................................................... 4
       4) USJI Voice .......................................................................................................................................... 4
       5) USJI Newsletter ................................................................................................................................. 4
       6) Establishment of Networks and Researcher Database ....................................................................... 5

3. Human Resources Development ......................................................................................................................... 5
   (1) Delegation of Japanese Students to the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC)
       Presidential Fellows Program .................................................................................................................. 5
   (2) Intern Program ......................................................................................................................................... 6
   (3) Lectures with U.S. and Japanese Universities and Student Workshops .................................................. 6
   (4) Use of USJI Washington D.C. Office Facilities by Researchers at USJI-Affiliated Universities and
       Personnel of USJI Sponsors .................................................................................................................... 6

4. Community Building Efforts ............................................................................................................................... 6
   (1) Briefing for U.S. Congress Staff Members and Experts (Japan 101) ...................................................... 6
   (2) Enhancement of USJI Network ............................................................................................................... 7
       1) Annual Reception ................................................................................................................................ 7
       2) Annual General Meeting (Washington D.C.) ..................................................................................... 7
       3) Annual General Meeting (Japan) ........................................................................................................ 7

5. Organization Structure ........................................................................................................................................ 8
   (1) Encouraging Contributions from Corporations and Individuals ............................................................. 8
   (2) Schedule .................................................................................................................................................. 8

U.S.-Japan Research Institute
1. Operation Policies

The U.S.-Japan Research Institute, in our 12th year, will continue with our three missions: “research,” “human resource development,” and “community building efforts.”

In FY2020, we will continue conducting research into our three existing themes of “environment/energy,” “security,” and “regional cooperation/integration” and further begin looking into the theme of “science and technology policies” (including digital science and technology, information security, and AI). We will then disseminate our findings with the aim of providing solutions and policy recommendations for global issues that are centered on the U.S. and Japan. Specifically, we will engage in the following activities:

1) Development of research projects and policy recommendations by researchers at USJI-affiliated universities together with government personnel, industrial circles, and others

2) Offering of timely policy recommendations (USJI Voice)

3) Dissemination of research findings on timely issues in U.S.-Japan relations (through USJI Week and seminars)

4) Active dissemination of information to U.S. Congresspersons and staff (Japan 101 series seminar)

In human resources development, we will contribute to the development of next-generation human resources for U.S.-Japan relations by sending Japanese students to the Presidential Fellows Program hosted by the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC). We will also continue to organize student study workshops and accept interns at the USJI office in Washington D.C.

As for our community building efforts, we will also continue to nurture and increase Japanophiles/pro-Japanese groups by further strengthening the relationships we have built with government agencies, think tanks, corporations, and universities in and around Washington D.C.

In FY2020, we will continue the above activities and hold events that represent the culmination of our previous activities, planning annual activities that will contribute to further developing U.S.-Japan relations.
2. Our Research Activities

(1) Research Themes

The USJI Operating Advisor will agree on annual main theses, and will focus our research on the four issues listed below. We will also disseminate information primarily through seminars that address social circumstances. Relevant topics will include “trade policy,” “higher education,” and “the aging society.”

1) Environment/Energy
2) Security
3) Regional Cooperation/Integration
4) Digital Science and Technology/Information Security/AI

(2) Research Projects

During FY2020, we will start some new research projects with a focus on timely themes of great public concern selected from the above-mentioned research themes. Additional research projects may be organized as required throughout the year.

Continuing Research Projects since Last Fiscal Year

1) Research Theme: Rise of Anti-globalism
   Term: April 2016–March 2021
   Research Leader: Keiji Nakatsuji (Professor, Ritsumeikan University/USJI Operating Advisor)

2) Research Theme: Improving China-Japan Relations and Future of Asian Multilateralism: Implications for the US under President Trump
   Term: April 2019–March 2021
   Research Leader: Takashi Terada (Professor, Doshisha University/USJI Operating Advisor)

3) Research Theme: The Re-emergence of China and the Changing International Order
   Term: April 2019–March 2021
   Research Leader: Rumi Aoyama (Professor, Waseda University)

4) Research Theme: Creating Vision for Social Implementation of Science and Technology using Science Fiction
   Term: October 2019–September 2020
   Research Leader: Kenji Suzuki (Professor, University of Tsukuba)

(3) Disseminating Research Findings

We will construct an effective system for facilitating U.S.-Japan policy recommendations and increasing Japan’s overall presence. Specifically, we plan to disseminate our research findings in cooperation with American think tanks in order to enhance our influence on both the U.S. and Japanese governments.

We will also develop research communication among members of industry and academia through efforts
aimed at our supporting corporations and other private enterprises. Experts from both countries will present timely subjects on U.S.-Japan relations and organize roundtables and similar events to deepen discussions with participants.

1) **USJI Week**

In order to present the findings of our research projects and raise recognition of USJI in the U.S., we will host week-long events in Washington D.C. These week-long events will take place between September and November. During the USJI Week, we provide opportunities for Japanese students and researchers residing in the Washington D.C. area and their American counterparts to exchange ideas and opinions. We also link these opportunities to efforts to build a community and develop human resources.

- **Frequency:** Once yearly (between September and November 2020)
- **Place:** Washington D.C.
- **Targets:** Government agencies of the U.S. and Japan, think tanks, businesses, university researchers, concerned personnel, students

2) **USJI Seminars**

We will utilize the networks we have built in Washington D.C. to host seminars by politicians from both the U.S. and Japan, government officials, and researchers of think tanks, corporations and universities. We will also discuss topical themes with participants.

- **Frequency:** Roughly once a month
- **Place:** Washington D.C.
- **Targets:** Government agencies of the U.S. and Japan, think tanks, businesses, university researchers, concerned personnel, students

3) **Symposium in Japan**

We will hold a symposium in Japan.

- **Month/Year:** December 2020 (tentative)
- **Place:** Tokyo (tentative)

4) **USJI Voice**

To raise USJI’s presence within the United States, we will publicize policy recommendations on timely topics that were prepared by researchers at USJI-affiliated universities. We will disseminate our policy recommendations more systematically than before by linking them to the findings of research project activities.

5) **USJI Newsletter**

We will participate in seminars and other events organized by other think tanks in and around Washington D.C. and then provide information that is normally unavailable from media sources to people affiliated with
USJI sponsors and the U.S. and Japanese governments. We will also issue summaries of USJI-led events as well as events that we cosponsor with other agencies. In addition, we will disseminate the latest information on USJI’s activities as necessary.

- Frequency: Two or three times a year
- Targets: USJI sponsors, U.S. and Japanese government personnel

6) Establishment of Networks and Researcher Database

We will publicize our activities and seek to gain a better understanding of them among American universities, businesses, and think tanks, while at the same time networking with those organizations. In addition, we will participate in seminars and other events held in Washington D.C. and strive to build communication with their speakers and participants. Moreover, we will expand our networks in Washington D.C. by taking advantage of opportunities to invite experts from other organizations to speak at USJI events.

And in Japan, we continue building our Researcher Database (which includes researchers, concerned personnel, and others affiliated with USJI-affiliated universities) to facilitate the accumulation and sharing of information.

3. Human Resources Development

(1) Delegation of Japanese Students to the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC) Presidential Fellows Program

The International Presidential Fellows program, an undertaking organized by the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC) is a program that students from top-class universities mainly in the U.S. but also worldwide, gather in Washington D.C. twice a year (fall semester: October, spring semester: March, each about one week), discuss U.S. policy with members from the White House and Congress, and write a paper about their research topics. There are about 70 students attending this program every year from Japan, Brazil, Canada, Hungary, Mexico, Spain and the U.K., in addition to from the U.S.

With the support of Toyota Motor Corporation, we have started screening and dispatching students from 2011 and kept sending great candidates to this highly admired program that contributes to developing leaders for the next generation. Also, thanks to the support for travel fees from All Nippon Airways in the U.S., we have been sending three delegates every year since 2014. For FY2020, we will again send students to the program in Washington D.C.

We will use this opportunity to develop Japanese students possessing the ability to engage in discussions on an equal footing with top American students. We will hold a meeting at which program participants will report on their experience to an audience that will include representatives of Japanese corporations.
(2) **Intern Program**

Our intern program is primarily open to American university students who have an interest in U.S.-Japan relations. This fiscal year we will receive students at our Washington D.C. office. Their main duties will be as follows:

- Supporting the organization of USJI events and preparing summaries
- Proofreading the USJI website and pamphlets in English
- Preparing summaries of events organized by other organizations
- Assisting with administrative tasks for USJI headquarters in Washington D.C.

(3) **Lectures with U.S. and Japanese Universities and Student Workshops**

We will have Japanese researchers give joint lectures with American researchers from universities in and around Washington D.C., such as Georgetown University, George Washington University, and American University. We will also hold student study workshops with researchers from think tanks, employees of the local subsidiaries of Japanese corporations, researchers from USJI-affiliated universities, and so forth as lecturers, thus providing students with opportunities to engage in discussions with top researchers and businesspeople.

(4) **Use of USJI Washington D.C. Office Facilities by Researchers at USJI-Affiliated Universities and Personnel of USJI Sponsors**

We will make the USJI Washington D.C. office openly available to researchers at USJI-affiliated universities and personnel of USJI sponsors. We will support research activities in Washington D.C., particularly those by young researchers, by providing a base for research in Washington D.C.

### 4. Community Building Efforts

To develop young human resources who will lead the future of U.S.-Japan relations and to build a community that will contribute to U.S.-Japan policy recommendations and a stronger Japanese presence, we will do the following activities.

(1) **Briefing for U.S. Congress Staff Members and Experts (Japan 101)**

Cosponsors: Major think tanks, concerned organizations in states near Washington D.C., etc.

Targets: U.S. government officials, representatives of American business, institutions of higher education, etc.

Frequency: Roughly four times a year

Place: Washington D.C.

Outline: In the past, our activities have focused primarily on Congresspersons. However, this year we will add discussion meetings with a wider audience who wish to know more about Japan, and
conduct introductory courses called “Japan 101 Series Seminar” to be led by researchers, professionals, and others on the front lines of various fields in Japan. The courses will explain various Japanese issues to and promote a better understanding of Japan for persons who have only a limited knowledge of Japan, including those affiliated with the U.S. government, American business, and institutions of higher education. These activities will be held in cooperation with major think tanks and concerned organizations in states near Washington D.C.

(2) **Enhancement of USJI Network**

1) **Annual Reception**
   - **Targets:** Researchers, students, U.S. and Japanese government officials, members of U.S. and Japanese corporations
   - **Month/Year:** Between September and November 2020 (tentative)
   - **Place:** Washington D.C.
   - **Outline:** We will hold a reception during USJI Week (to be held between September and November 2020) and provide an opportunity for interaction and discussion among young researchers specializing in U.S.-Japan relations, students interested in U.S.-Japan relations, and employees of local subsidiaries of Japanese companies.

2) **Annual General Meeting (Washington D.C.)**
   - **Targets:** Members of U.S. and Japanese corporations, members of co-hosting institutes, U.S. and Japanese government officials
   - **Month/Year:** Between September and November 2020 (tentative)
   - **Place:** Washington D.C.
   - **Outline:** We will raise awareness of USJI activities by holding the Annual General Meeting in the U.S.

3) **Annual General Meeting (Japan)**
   - **Targets:** Members of U.S. and Japanese corporations, members of co-hosting institutes, U.S. and Japanese government officials, researchers and students
   - **Month/Year:** December 2020 (tentative)
   - **Place:** Japan
   - **Outline:** The meeting will feature reports presented by researchers and students participating in various projects and programs as well as reports on USJI’s activities conducted in the previous fiscal year. In Japan, the meeting will be followed by a reception attended by corporate representatives, researchers, and students to promote interaction among the participants. Researchers and students who have participated in past USJI’s projects and programs will also be invited to the reception with the aim of developing a network of USJI alumni.
5. Organization Structure

USJI-affiliated universities will take the lead in engaging in support research activities, disseminating information, and collecting donations. To help these activities progress more steadily and efficiently, we will review the operations of our offices in Washington D.C. and Japan.

(1) Encouraging Contributions from Corporations and Individuals

We will work to recruit corporations and individuals in Japan and the U.S. who support our activities. We will solicit donations from American enterprises (including the local subsidiaries of Japanese companies) as a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit public-interest corporation of the United States. We will also benefit from tax exemption measures for our donations from Japanese corporations by receiving them through The Japan Foundation.

(2) Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Research Activities/</td>
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<td>USJI Newsletter</td>
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<td>CSPC Presidential Fellows Program</td>
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<td>Advisory Board Meetings</td>
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<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
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Throughout the year
Roughly once a month
Roughly 3 times a year
As needed
Roughly 4 times a year
Roughly once a year
Roughly twice a year
Name: U.S.-Japan Research Institute (USJI)

Organizational status: Tax-exempt nonprofit public-interest corporation 501 (c) (3) (U.S. NPO)

Established: April 14, 2009

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