



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION  
*Advancing Understanding and Cooperation in U.S.-Asia Relations*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 14, 2004

CONTACT:  
Mary-Jane Atwater, Director of Communications  
L. Gordon Flake, Executive Director  
(202) 347-1994

## **WESTON S. KONISHI NAMED MANSFIELD FOUNDATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

WASHINGTON, D.C. Weston S. Konishi, former research and program officer at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, has been promoted to program director.

In announcing Konishi's promotion, Mansfield Foundation Executive Director L. Gordon Flake stated, "Wes is deserving of this appointment in light of his outstanding leadership of the Foundation's policy-related programs since he joined us in 1999. Wes' knowledge of Asia issues, his Japan experience, and his commitment to furthering U.S.-Asia relations give him a solid foundation on which to continue to build the Foundation's exchanges, policy dialogues, and research programs."

As program director, Konishi will direct the Foundation's policy dialogues and legislative exchanges, as well as its research programs. He will have primary responsibility for the Foundation's development programs as well as the Foundation's new Corporate Affiliates Program. In addition to his duties at the Foundation, he will continue research and writing on timely Asia policy issues.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Konishi served as an assistant on the campaign for U.S. Congressman Tom Udall of New Mexico. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. from the International Christian University in Mitaka, Tokyo, where he was a Monbusho Scholar.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that promotes understanding and cooperation among the nations and peoples of Asia and the United States. Maureen and Mike Mansfield's values, ideals and vision for U.S.-Asia relations continue through the Foundation's exchanges, dialogues, research and educational programs, which create networks among U.S. and Asian leaders, explore the underlying issues influencing public policies, and increase awareness about the nations

--more--

and peoples of Asia. The Foundation also supports the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana. The Foundation has offices in Washington, D.C.; Tokyo, Japan; and Missoula, Montana.

The Foundation was established in 1983 to honor Mike Mansfield (1903-2001), a revered public servant, statesman and diplomat who played a pivotal role in many of the key domestic and international issues of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as U.S. congressman from Montana, senate majority leader and finally as U.S. ambassador to Japan.

###