



THE MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD FOUNDATION

*Promoting Understanding and Cooperation in U.S.-Asia Relations since 1983*

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**MANSFIELD FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH JCAW, JCCI TO CRAFT LONG TERM  
VISION FOR U.S. – JAPAN RELATIONS**  
*New Program Will Focus on “Shared Progress and Prosperity”*

(Washington, D.C.) In commemoration of the 2012 centennial celebration of Japan’s gift of cherry trees to the United States, the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, in partnership with the Japan Commerce Association of Washington (JCAW) and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York (JCCI), has launched the “Mansfield Foundation Task Force on Crafting a Contemporary U.S.-Japan Vision for Shared Progress and Prosperity.” The new program is part of a broader initiative by JCAW and JCCI to commemorate the Cherry Blossom Centennial.

The task force, comprised of American and Japanese experts from the private sector, academia, and government, will meet three times in the U.S. and Japan in 2011 and 2012. These meetings are intended to foster forward-looking proposals for action through which the U.S. and Japan can contribute to mutual economic strength and vitality. The task force, working independently, will develop a vision statement and strategic initiatives that will be presented at public seminars in Washington, D.C. and Tokyo in celebration of next spring’s Cherry Blossom Centennial. The relationship between the U.S. and Japan has played an important role for our nations and the region for more than fifty years. This task force is focused on shaping a successful relationship for the future, recognizing that today’s economic and geopolitical circumstances make this relationship as important now as it has ever been.

This task force will be guided by a Senior Advisory Committee comprised of three prominent senior Japan experts:

**The Honorable Tom Schieffer**, Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan (2005-2009) and Member, Mansfield Foundation Board of Directors

**Alicia Ogawa**, Senior Advisor, Columbia Business School and Member, Mansfield Foundation Board of Directors

**Kent Calder**, Director, Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies and Director, Japan Studies, The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), The Johns Hopkins University

Dialogue will be enriched not only by the guidance of the Senior Advisory Committee and the leadership of Mansfield Foundation Executive Director L. Gordon Flake, but also by the varied experiences of task force members, many of whom are alumni of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program or current participants in the Foundation's U.S.-Japan Network for the Future. Task force members include:

**David Boling**, Deputy Executive Director, The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and Alumni Mansfield Fellow

**Emma Chanlett-Avery**, Specialist, Asian Affairs, Congressional Research Service

**Harrison Cook**, Vice President International Affairs, Eli Lilly

**Nathaniel Graddy**, Director, Operations and Strategy, Boeing Japan

**Keith Krulak**, International Economist, U.S. Department of State and Alumni Mansfield Fellow

**Robert Pekkanen**, Chair, Japan Studies Program, University of Washington and U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Participant

**Jennifer Sklarew**, PhD candidate, George Mason University and Alumni Mansfield Fellow

**Kay Shimizu**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University and U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Participant

**Mireya Solis**, Japan Coordinator, ASEAN Studies Center Fellow, School of International Service, American University and U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Participant

In addition to its vision for the U.S.-Japan relationship, the task force project will benefit long-term U.S.-Japan relations by helping to promote a next generation of talented, dedicated, and impactful individuals who are invested in facilitating effective and thoughtful U.S.-Japan economic cooperation. This group will meet regularly in the future to reassess and republish their original recommendations.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that promotes understanding and cooperation in U.S.-Asia relations. 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 and peoples of Asia.

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. The Foundation has offices in Washington, D.C.; Tokyo, Japan; and Missoula, Montana.

JCAW promotes friendship and communication between the American and Japanese business communities in the Washington, D.C., area through public affairs and social programs. JCCI's mission is to support the business relationships between the Japanese and American communities in New York, and to close the cultural gap that hinders complete economic cooperation. JCCI also mandates that its economic leaders embrace social responsibilities and contribute to the community.

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