



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
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## Call for Sponsors for the First ETH-Japan Symposium 2012

### **Main Objectives and Motivations for the Symposium**

The first Symposium for the Promotion of Academic Exchanges between Japan and Switzerland will be held at ETH Zurich from March 7 (Wed) to 9 (Friday), 2012. The symposium aims at strengthening the ties between ETH Zurich and leading Japanese universities/institutions by promoting existing student-exchange and research collaboration agreements and by exploring new collaboration opportunities. More generally, our objective is to create an environment where motivated students and researchers from the two countries can benefit from complementary technologies, the diversity in culture and stimulating research environments. Japanese institutions are among the strongest allies of ETH Zurich outside Europe, and the country with its high standards and investments in science and technology is an important trade partner for Switzerland.

After the Bologna Declaration had been signed by Switzerland and 28 European countries in 1999, Swiss universities made large efforts to meet the compatibility requirements of the declaration with their curricula and provide foreign students with increased accessibility to exchange and even entire graduate degrees. At the same time, the opportunities for Swiss students to spend some of their study time abroad have grown, providing them with valuable experiences required in a globalized job market.

On the other hand, the number of Japanese students studying abroad is decreasing with an alarming speed. While many countries are adapting their educational systems to allow for more mobility, Japan may not be doing enough to catch up with the rapid changes in the world. Furthermore, the great earthquake and tsunami in March 2011 and their tragic effects became a significant source for the decline in the numbers of international students in Japan. Therefore, it is essential for Japan to re-strengthen its ties to the world and existing partners.

In the planned symposium, we will gather outstanding researchers from both Japan and Switzerland. They will present exciting topics at the frontiers of research in a way for undergraduate and graduate students to understand and appreciate and thus raise the attractiveness of their institution. In a special session, information and answers are provided to those interested in existing exchange programs directly by the partner schools. Also, there will be booths for sponsors to advertise hiring, internship or scholarship opportunities. Attendance is open and free for students and researchers of Swiss and Japanese institutions who support the idea of the symposium.

### **Call for Sponsorship**

We are looking for sponsors<sup>1</sup> who support the symposium and thus the promotion of academic exchange between Switzerland and Japan. The target amount of total support to be raised is 15,000 CHF. The symposium is mainly supported by ETH Zurich and the other participating institutions.

*Sincerely yours,*  
**Komei Fukuda, Professor, ETH Zurich**

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<sup>1</sup> One unit of support is 500 CHF. We provide a sponsor of two or more units of support with a booth without charge.



## **Additional Information (ETH-Japan Symposium Proposal)**

**Symposium Title: The First ETH-Japan Symposium for the Promotion of Academic Exchanges**

**Date : March 7 (Wed) - 9 (Fri), 2012**

**Place: Aula, ETH Zurich**

**OBJECTIVE:** To promote the existing and future exchange programs between ETH Zurich and leading Japanese universities/institutions, in particular, those which signed a student exchange agreement with ETH, namely, Chiba University, Hokkaido University, Keio University, Kyoto University, RIKEN, Tohoku University, University of Tokyo, Tokyo Institute of Technology (alphabetical order). Other leading Japanese/Swiss universities are also welcome to attend to promote the future academic collaborations between Japan and Switzerland.

**Symposium FORMAT:** One or two 30-40 minutes talks from each partner universities and several talks from ETH Zurich. The talks are supposed to be reaching to general scientific audience including undergraduate students. Most welcome are talks introducing new exiting research activities in their laboratories and inviting students from their partner schools. The subjects are not restricted but must attract a wide range of scientists, engineers and intellectuals. There should be events to introduce the culture, history and arts of the two countries.

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:**

1-2 keynotes from each side, to be decided by their organizers.

### **ORGANIZING CHAIR:**

Prof. Komei Fukuda (ETH), <http://www.ifor.math.ethz.ch/staff/fukuda>

### **COORDINATOR:**

Dr. Rahel Byland (ETH), <http://www.global.ethz.ch/people/bylandr>

### **ORGANIZERS:**

ETH Zurich

Profs. Paul Embrechts, Komei Fukuda, Hans-Jakob Luethi, Manfred Morari, Robert Weismantel, Emo Welzl

Chiba University

Prof. Kenzo Nonami <[nonami@faculty.chiba-u.jp](mailto:nonami@faculty.chiba-u.jp)>, <http://mec2.tm.chiba-u.jp/~nonami/>

Hokkaido University

Prof. Yasuhiro Yamanaka (Graduate School of Environmental Science) <[galapen@ees.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:galapen@ees.hokudai.ac.jp)>

Prof. Ralf Greve (Institute of Low Temperature Science) <[greve@lowtem.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:greve@lowtem.hokudai.ac.jp)>

Prof. Shinichi Kikkawa (Graduate School of Engineering) <[kikkawa@eng.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:kikkawa@eng.hokudai.ac.jp)>

Keio University

Prof. Naohiko Kohtake, <http://www.aishlab.org/en/>

Prof. Akihisa Tamura, <http://www.math.keio.ac.jp/~aki-tamura/>

Kyoto University

Prof. Satoru Fujishige, <http://www.kurims.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~fujishig/>

Prof. Kazuo Iwama, <http://www.lab2.kuis.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~iwama/>

RIKEN

Mr. Motohide Yokota <[yokota@riken.jp](mailto:yokota@riken.jp)>, Global Relations Office, RIKEN, <http://www.riken.jp/>

Dr. Masahiko Hara, <http://www.asi.riken.jp/en/laboratories/divisions/cird/>

Tohoku University

Prof. Takeshi Tokuyama, [http://www.dais.is.tohoku.ac.jp/~tokuyama/profile\\_e.htm](http://www.dais.is.tohoku.ac.jp/~tokuyama/profile_e.htm)

Prof. Sonoko Moriyama, <http://www.dais.is.tohoku.ac.jp/~moriso/>

University of Tokyo

Prof. Hiroshi Imai, <http://www-imai.is.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~imai/>

Prof. Kazuo Murota, <http://www.misojiro.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~murota/index.en.html>

Prof. Kazuhisa Makino, <http://www.misojiro.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~makino/makinoe.html>

Tokyo Institute of Technology

Prof. Masakazu Kojima, <http://www.is.titech.ac.jp/~kojima/>

Prof. Osamu Watanabe, <http://www.is.titech.ac.jp/~watanabe/>

#### **OTHER PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS:**

EMPA (Switzerland), <http://www.empa.ch/>

NIMS (National Institute for Materials Science, Japan), <http://www.nims.go.jp/mana/>

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#### **Tentative Program of ETH-Japan Symposium Program (March 7-9, 2012)**

##### **March 7, Wednesday**

morning (9:00-12:00):

Opening (ETH President Ralph Eichler), Keynote 1 (Japan), Keynote 2 (ETH)

afternoon (13:30-17:00):

Presentations (Switzerland, Japan)

Reports on Existing Exchange Agreements and Funding Opportunities (ETH and others)

evening (17:30-19:30)

Information Booths (participating institutions and sponsors), apero and snacks

##### **March 8, Thursday**

morning (9:30-12:00):

Scientific Presentations (Switzerland, Japan)

afternoon (13:30-16:15):

Scientific Presentations (Switzerland, Japan)

evening (16:30-20:30)

Excursion and Dinner (ETH Science City)

##### **March 9, Friday**

morning (9:30-12:00):

Scientific Presentations (Switzerland, Japan)

afternoon (13:30-17:00):

Scientific Presentations, Discussions (Switzerland, Japan)

evening (18-22)

Cultural Events and Farewell Party