



## CULCON Working Group Accomplishments 1991-2008

### Educational Exchange Working Group

Program/Activity	Brief Description
<i>Japan-US Exchanges: Trends, Opportunities and Barriers</i>	A comprehensive report on US-Japan educational and cultural exchanges, called for by CULCON XV (1991) and issued in 1992 by the Alliance for International Cultural and Educational Exchange. This report led directly to the establishment of the Educational Exchange Working Group in 1993.
“CULCON Programs” at Japanese National Universities	Beginning in 1995, new, short-term English-language curricula at approximately 21 Japanese national universities, inspired by the work of the Educational Exchange Working Group but open to all international and Japanese students with sufficient English, in addition to the new CULCON-initiated Bridging Scholars.
Bridging Project Clearinghouse	A CULCON-inspired, Japan-US Friendship Commission supported clearinghouse established in 1997 by the Association of Teachers of Japanese to promote study abroad in Japan and to recruit and select students for the new Bridging Scholarships. The Clearinghouse is increasingly self-supported.
Faculty and Curriculum Development Seminar on Japan	A seminar for faculty groups from colleges and universities that do not have Japanese studies programs, for a year-long, in-depth study of Japan that eventually leads to development of new curricula and teaching unites on Japan. First organized in 1997 by the AAC&U (American Association of Colleges & Universities), the project was subsequently taken over by the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.. The seminar’s purpose is to promote greater attention to Japan in the American undergraduate curriculum, to provide greater teaching on Japan for those students returning from study abroad experiences in Japan, and to produce faculty “champions” who will promote the study of and study abroad in Japan.
US-Japan Bridging Foundation	Created in 1998. A CULCON-inspired, JUSFC-supported 501(c)(3) whose purpose is to raise scholarship funds for US undergraduates who want to study in Japan. Since 1998, it has raised nearly \$3 million dollars and sent approximately 700 students to Japan.

## Media Working Group

<b>Program/Activity</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
<i>On The Record</i>	A Media Working Group compilation of over 400 experts in Japan and the United States prepared to speak to journalists on a wide range of topics. First issued by the US CULCON panel in hard copy in 1992, it was later transferred to the management of the Japan-America societies of the United States and posted on their website <a href="http://www.us-japan.org">www.us-japan.org</a> .
<i>Nichibei komyunikeeshon: Enkatsu no kooryuu no tame ni/ US-Japan Communications: Striving for Better Understanding</i>	A film produced by Sumiko Iwao Kenkyuukai of Keio University for the Media Working Group – a guide in both English and Japanese versions to improve cross-cultural communications between Americans and Japanese in Japan.
US-Japan Cooperation in Public Affairs Broadcasting	A seminar held by the Media Working Group at Columbia University in 1995 to explore difference in content and production in news and public affairs broadcasting in the two countries.
<i>A Guide to US-Japan Documentary Production</i>	A booklet issued by the US CULCON Panel in 1995 as a result of the above seminar to help guide US and Japanese TV production teams working on a collaborative film.

## Information Access Working Group

<b>Program/Activity</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
North American Coordinating Council for Japanese Library Resources (NCC) – National Center for Information Sciences (NACSIS) Memorandum of Understanding	Signed in 1998, the two organizations pledged to help expand access to Japanese information for researchers in the United States.
The GIF (Global Interlibrary Loan) Project	A network of over 170 libraries in Japan and the United States have built a seamless bibliographic database of their research collections and cooperate by lending non-returnable items such as tables of contents and journal articles at no cost, and books sent by express courier in accordance with lending policies of participating libraries. The GIF Project is a cooperative venture of the NCC and the GIF Working Group, a consortium of national and private Japanese universities.
Digital Resources Committee	A committee established by the NCC to help implement an initiative of the Information Access Working Group to provide better access to digitized Japanese information resources such as the Nikkei archives, through more equitable terms in licensing agreements between libraries in the United States and digitized information vendors in Japan.

## Digital Culture Working Group

<b>Program/Activity</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
<i>Cross Currents</i>	A bi-nationally designed and created website introducing the history of educational and cultural relations between Japan and the United States of the past 50 years, and in particular, their mutual influences on the other's society and culture. Designed for use by high school and undergraduate students, the web site includes teaching resources and a scrapbook feature. Houses at the University of Hawai'i under Pat Steinhoff's oversight.

## Other CULCON Accomplishments 1991-2008

<b>Program/Activity</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
<i>Cultural and Educational Factors Influencing US and Japanese Attitudes Toward Current and Future International Security Issues</i>	A CULCON-organized seminar held at the International House of Japan in May, 1992 to explore cultural and educational factors in differences of perception of security issues between Japan and the United States.
<i>Alliance of Associations of Teachers of Japanese</i>	An initiative launched in 1998 to provide coordination among the several associations of Japanese language teachers in the United States in response to recommendations set forth by CULCON.
<i>National Identity and Cultural Interchange in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</i>	A CULCON-organized seminar held at the Okinawan Convention Center in February, 1999 to explore cultural and educational factors in differences of perception of national identity between Japan and the United States.
<i>Notable Americans and American Heroism</i>	Two exhibitions of American arts organized by and exhibited at the National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo, with assistance of CULCON, in 2001.
<i>Celebrating the Japan-US Friendship Commission Creative Artist Fellowship Program</i>	An exhibition of selected Fellows of the US-Japan Creative Artists Exchange Fellowship Program curated by and exhibited at the Japanese American National Museum in 2001-2002 to commemorate CULCON XX, held at that venue.
<i>The Role of Citizens in Dialogue among Civilizations</i>	A CULCON-organized seminar held at the Sendai International Center in November, 2003 to explore the role of citizens and citizen exchanges in promoting better cross-cultural communication in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century.