Greetings
Welcome to the first JET Streams of what most people in Japan consider to be the new millennium! Yes, most Japanese would say that the first day of the new millennium is January 1st, 2001, and not January 1st, 2000. So just when you thought you had enough of the “New Millennium” it has come back to haunt you again. Thank you very much to everyone who submitted articles and helped in the production of this issue.

JETAA News
JETAA membership currently stands at 11349.

This year saw the addition of another new JETAA chapter, UK2 located in the central UK. Congratulations to Alison Bond and everyone in UK2! This brings the total number of JETAA chapters to 44 spread across 11 countries of the world.

If you would like to become more involved with your local JETAA group, please contact your regional representative. Names and contact details are listed on pages 7 and 8.

Updating Contact Information
If you have access to the Internet, it is possible to send address updates directly to CLAIR, Tokyo by e-mail at: jet-aa@clair.or.jp. If you send contact information updates by e-mail, please include your name, position and years on the Programme, host prefecture, and JET number if possible. Also include what information you would like listed in the JETAA Directory, what chapter you would like to join, and what publications you would like to receive.

Sending complete information will help us keep our database in order and eliminate cases of mistaken identity which arise when dealing with over 20,000 people.

Publications and Mailings
JET Streams and the JETAA Directory are produced by CLAIR in order to help JET alumni to keep in touch with the JET Programme and each other. If you would like to write an article for the JET Streams or if you have any suggestions for future editions, please forward contributions by e-mail, if possible, to the address below. Articles on any subject that may be of interest to other alumni will be considered for publication. The deadline for contributions for the next edition of JET Streams is Friday, May 14, 2001.

Each time publications are mailed out to members of JETAA, a large number of them are returned with notices stating “Address Unknown”. If a member has their mail returned once, they will be filed under “Address Unknown” and will not be sent further publications until we receive an updated address.

Please be sure to send an address update to your local JETAA chapter as well as CLAIR so we can change your contact information and minimize the waste of paper and money that comes with sending materials to outdated addresses.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping the CLAIR JETAA database current and operational.

JETAA Job Guide
Did you resign from a job that you'd recommend to another JET alumnus? Be sure to refer your former company's recruiter to your local JETAA Chapter career coordinator, and also to the JETAA Job Bank, where employers can post company profiles and job openings for free (www.cheno.com/job/jobbank/).

Do you have a post-JET career story that could benefit other JETs? Publish it on the JETAA Job Guide! For inspiration, see Howard Jackson's (ALT, Chiba, 91-94) guide to becoming a Japanese to English translator (www.cheno.com/job/career/). Don't know what the JETAA Job Guide/Job Bank is? Read the review by Daniel McElvay, the incumbent AJET-JETAA Liaison, in last November's AJET Across Japan newsletter (www.geocities.com/aajassoc/2000_11_aaj/page34.html).

Linda Chenoweth Kennedy,
JETAA Job Guide Editor
member, JETAA-Southern California
cheno@cheno.com

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JET Streams is printed on recycled paper
2000 JETAA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, TOKYO

The Eastern Japan regional chapter recently hosted an international conference attended by eighty-eight JET alumni from thirteen countries around the world. JETAA volunteers living in the Tokyo area planned and organized the event, which was held from November 9-11th in Shinjuku Ward, Tokyo, with the sponsorship and support of the three ministries and CLAIR.

Each of the 44 regional JETAA chapters worldwide was invited to send two delegates to the three-day event, which consisted of lectures, workshops, and other activities designed to strengthen cooperation and facilitate exchange between chapters. Observers from Brazil and Russia were also invited as a means of encouraging the establishment of local chapters in countries whose JET participants are primarily CIIRs and SEAs.

On the last day of the event, the AJET National Council joined two brainstorming sessions held to consider strengthening bilateral ties and to discuss improving the JET Program(me) for the 21st century. As a result, more than thirty chapter representatives joined in compiling a list of recommendations for improving recruitment and selection of participants, increasing effectiveness of JETs in the workplace, and improving program morale in general that will be submitted to a government committee contemplating the future of the JET Program(me).

This year's international conference is widely viewed as a first step toward establishing JETAA as an independent, self-supporting organization that will serve as a resource for past, present, and future JET participants that allows alumni to continue to contribute toward the achievement of the goals of the JET Program(me) long after returning home. As the final session of the conference, the delegates held a parliamentary session to elect international officers, select the venue of next year’s conference, and revise the JETAA International by-laws.

Newly elected JETAA International officers include Paula Kelly (Chair), Megan Kaino (Vice-Chair), Boleyn Reloza (Secretary), and Julian Paisey (Treasurer). In addition, London has been selected as the host for next year’s conference, which is scheduled for November 2001. Please feel free to contact Julian Paisey at <jpaisey@ecgd.gov.uk> for further information.

WEST COAST JETAA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The highlight of 2000 for the JETAA of the Pacific Northwest was our experience hosting the first annual West Coast JETAA Regional Conference. Held in Seattle, Washington, a central location for northwest chapters, the conference provided an opportunity for about 60 JETAA members from San Francisco, Oregon, Seattle and British Columbia to gather, exchange ideas and information and explore post-JET career options.

The conference agenda included a presentation on career development by Ruth Johnston of the University of Washington. Dr. Johnston noted the high level of confidence among JET Alumni and surmised that this would be of assistance for those looking to start their career, or make a career change.

A career panel comprised of former JETs, area business leaders, and university representatives offered participants advice on topics such as working for Japanese companies, finding opportunities with domestic companies internationally, and the development of Japanese language skills and non-Japan related opportunities for former JETs in both education and business.

During the afternoon session, Michael McVey, a member of JETAA Southern California and the webmaster of www.jet.org, gave a presentation regarding the past, present and future of JETAA on the web. Lynn Miyata, a member of the Japanese Consulate provided information about future hopes for the JET Program, and led a session to brainstorm how JETAA can assist in the recruitment of new JETs. Some suggestions from the discussion: posts signs on buses and submit a story to your alma mater's newspaper...often they are looking for articles!

In our final session, we discussed methods for the West Coast JETAA chapters to build a stronger network. Members were encouraged to get to know one another at the reception hosted by the PNWJETAA at Hale's Brewery.

It was an honor for the PNWJETAA Chapter to host the conference in Seattle this year. We are thankful to the Consulate General of Japan - Seattle, as well as to CLAIR New York and to the JETAA membership for their support of this event and hope that it will become an annual event.

In addition to planning the regional conference, we have continued to expand our annual and monthly social programs, as well as provide assistance to the Japanese Consulate Seattle in the recruitment, selection and pre-departure training of future JETs. Other volunteer opportunities and activities abound on our various committees: Education, Community Outreach, Language, Career Development, Hi-Tech and Newsletter.

We encourage and welcome former JETs to get involved with the activities of the Pacific Northwest JETAA Chapter. Most of our members agree that involvement with the PNWJETAA has given them an essential core group of friends. Through the shared experiences of Japan, we try to help make the adjustment to life "at home" much easier. As we develop as an organization it is our goal to not only share our experiences with one another, but to continue developing means by which we can share and promote our experiences in Japan within our own community. Our membership form is located on our website: www.jet.org/pacificnorthwest. Or, contact us via email at: pnwjetaa@hotmail.com.
2000 was a busy year for JETAA of Northern California, full of activity, transition and even revival! Beginning in January, JETAAANC alumni rung in the new millennium at the ever-popular Shinnenkai. In February, JETAs assisted the Consulate in screening and interviewing potential JET Program candidates. JETAs then persevered and weathered sore shoulders together as they helped carry the Kanda Myojin o- mikoshi (straight from Tokyo) through the streets of San Francisco at the annual Cherry Blossom Festival in April. And June saw one of the most successful and well-attended Alumni-Led JET Orientations ever in Northern California.

The second half of the year proved to be even more eventful with a JETAA activity planned for nearly every month in addition to monthly dinner clubs. In July, JET Alumni assisted with the Consulate's JET Orientation, making themselves available to answer last minute questions and provide advice. In September, JETAAANC organized a very popular benefit Full Moon Kayak adventure, the proceeds of which went to fund kayaking trips for underprivileged and physically handicapped people. Over three weekends in October, JETAAANC co-sponsored the Neo-Eiga Japanese film festival along with the Consulate General of Japan, the Japan Society, Pulp Magazine, NAATA, and the Pacific Film Archive. JET Alumni also made themselves available throughout October to assist the Consulate with the recruitment of potential JET applicants by attending job fairs at local universities and the Consulate itself. In early November, the Career & Networking Forum and Consul-General's Welcome Back Reception met with great success. JETAAANC also sent two chapter representatives to the International Conference in Tokyo. Finally, JETAAANC wrapped up the year in December with its annual Progressive Dinner, Tuscan style!

Already slated for Winter/Spring 2001 is the annual Shinnenkai, a Winter Clambake followed by a Beach Clean-up Day, a Ski Weekend, a Whale-watching Excursion with the Oceanic Society, a Feed the Needy outreach activity, a Consulate Dance, a White-water Rafting Benefit Trip and monthly Dinner Clubs in San Francisco, the South Bay and now Sacramento! Goals set for the upcoming year also include the creation of a foundation to support future JETs through a scholarship program, the further development of the JETAAANC website and listserve as mediums to reach and maintain contact with JETAs, and the organization of a wide variety of fun and socially-conscious activities. These and other activities will serve to build community among JETAAANC's ten years of alumni, as well as with the greater Northern California community as a whole.

For more information around JETAAANC and our activities, visit our website at: www.jetaanc.org.

As the New Year approaches rapidly (the true millennium but who's really checking?), we in the southeastern part of the United States are looking forward to our 2001 shinnenkai. This will be the first one that we have planned-in the past we have organized traditional holiday celebrations but weekends in December are a tough market to enter so we've decided to try something new. In addition to a new event, we are also planning to invite a new group of people to this event-prospective JET applicants. Using our links to Japanese language and history classes taught at a variety of colleges and universities in the metro-Atlanta area, we are inviting current students (future JET participants!) to join us in ringing in the new year. Our purpose is two-fold: we want to maximize our community outreach potential and while giving JET alumni a new audience for sharing stories of the glory days of the JET experience. I can only recycle my taiko stories with the same people so many times!

This past year our activities revolved a lot around our efforts to support the Consulate in the recruitment, selection and orientation of new JETs. In the fall, we set up our interactive booth at Japanfest while promoting our revitalized Japan Caravan project—since we reorganized and repacked the suitcase, we have had about five former JETs give presentations at local schools and we hope to expand this service to other communities around the Southeast. Our coordinator, Liz Bigler has been instrumental in getting the show back on the road! If you are in our area, we would love to have your talent as part of Japan Caravan. Please get in touch and volunteer.

In October, several alums gathered to put together welcome baskets for the International Rescue Committee, a non-governmental organization that works locally and overseas with refugee populations. In the US, their work is primarily concentrated on refugee resettlement. We created the baskets with a variety of goods to get families started off with basic necessities after having just arrived in the USA-toothpaste, dish soap, garbage bags, etc. Not exciting but all necessary and it went very well with IRC. We plan to do this again in the future as well as organizing a "play day" with some refugee children.

We are still contemplating the formation of satellite chapters and have considered putting out a call for proposals of alums in our surrounding areas to start up some activities. Once we have figured out the details of the alliance, we will determine how our funds can be better spent across states and provide mini-grants for them to get started. Given our seven-state stretch, decentralization of our organization is highly probable and logical.

If you are moving to the Southeast, if you already live in the Southeast-heck, even if you just want to visit, please look us up! We are on the web at www.jet.org/Jetaa-Southeast (case-sensitive) and our webmaster is very diligent about updating the site with current information. If you have specific questions, please send an email to the following address: jetaa.southeast@mindspring.com—again, we are quick to respond to your messages. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to get you involved or see you at some upcoming events!
Over 25,000 people have participated in the JET Programme since it was started in 1987 and the MEF (Monbusho English Fellows) and BETS (British English Teachers Scheme) projects which predate it. Alumni are engaged in activities ranging from engineering to the arts. Listed below are just a few who are doing interesting and extraordinary things today.

  Gary and his business partner started the Heartland International English School in May 1999 after returning home from the JET Programme in the summer of 1998. Heartland English School is now Winnipeg's largest English as a Second Language (ESL) school for international students. The school is currently looking for a larger location to accommodate its overwhelming growth in the past year. Heartland's web page can be found at www.heartlandenglish.com.

- Rich Sako, MOF 1985-1996, Kochi
  Rich Sako is a partner in the Corporate Finance and International Business Law practices groups of Faegre & Benson. Rich concentrates on advising both privately held and publicly held companies in areas such as domestic and overseas joint ventures and strategic alliances, cross-border investment, and administrative law. He is also on the Board of Directors of the Japan America Society of Minnesota.

- Michael McVey, ALT 1991-1992, Saga
  Michael is presently employed at the University of Arizona as a Clinical Assistant Professor charged with preparing pre-service teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom. However, he is better known as the king of JETAA web services. He started the first JET mailing list and has continued to pursue his dream of a "Virtual JETAA". In 1995 he negotiated with the University of Arizona to host the JETAA web site and a year later, with a modest grant from CLAIR New York, it got started. Since then, he has been able to offer assistance and encouragement to all JETAA chapters in their efforts to establish a web presence. Thanks to Michael, people can access most JETAA chapters through http://www.jet.org.

- Jason Hicks, ALT 1991-1993, Osaka Prefecture
  After Jason returned from Japan, he got actively involved with the development of JETAA of British Columbia. In his three years as president, he helped register the organization as a legal society, develop a constitution, and initiated many activities. He is now working as Marketing Director for the International Division of the New Westminster School Board. Jason is also the current Vice President of the Vancouver Mokuyokai Society, a group that fosters relations between local Japanese residents and Canadians who have an interest in Japan.

- Brendan Powell, ALT 1995-1998, Saitama
  Brendan is an international travel guide. "Just got back a few hours ago from the highest point in Central America, volcano Tajamulco where I watched the sunrise... Got to Guatemala about 10 days ago by BUS from Costa Rica through Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador... And the kicker is, I'm being PAID. Guiding for the time being in central America until March. In the last few months I have been working in Japan, Eastern Canada, Algonquin Park, Tunisia, Greek islands... before that in the UAE and Oman. I got the international job after working at Outdoor Bound Canada for a summer after taking the long way home from JET (Taiwan-Vietnam-Cambodia-Thailand). Decided that I was addicted to travel and needed to make a living doing it rather than working to save $5 to do it. After other attempts, I sent everything I had to a company and told them I'd be visiting Vancouver soon... and the rest is history."

- Maria Prymak-Irving, ALT 1991-1993, Hokkaido and Tochigi
  Maria is presently employed as a Probation Officer/ Social Worker at the Justice Department of Manitoba. More remarkably, she gained international fame when her dog, Lewis, reached the finals in the Advantage Search for the North America's Best Singing Pet. Lewis was one of only 5 finalists invited to appear on Regis Philbin's morning show. You can hear Lewis sing on www.nofleas.com.

**JETAA HOMEPAGE**

JETAA Chapters homepage are accessible from the JETAA homepage located at:

http://www.jet.org

**JETAA AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

The inaugural Australia/New Zealand Japan Exchange and Teaching Program Association (JETAA) conference hosted by the Sydney JETAA chapter was held from 13-15 October 2000. The actual conference itself took place in the Dixon Room at the NSW State Library and all inter-State delegates were accommodated at The All Seasons Premier Menzies Hotel, Sydney.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo generously subsidised three JETAA members from the nine chapters region-wide to attend the conference. The Japan Local Government Centre, CLAIR Sydney, also offered financial assistance to make the conference a reality. We are greatly indebted to both organisations. The conference attracted approximately 50 JETAA members including Sydney and Canberra delegates.

The conference commenced on Friday, 13 October with a welcome reception/dinner hosted by the Consul-General, Consulate General of Japan, Sydney, Mr. Nobutake Odano at his residence in Rose Bay. it was opened by the Federal Minister for Sport, Tourism and the Olympics, The Hon. Jackie Kelly MP, the local Member for Wentworth, The Hon. Andrew Thomson MP and Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly, The Hon. John Murray MP. All speakers praised the contribution that the JET Program and its members has, and continues to make, to the Japanese educational system and the positive influence that it has had on the Japanese people. They also outlined the special skills set that former JET participants are able to offer to both Australia and New Zealand.
JETAA Survey 2000 Results

Every year CLAIR sends out a survey to JETAA members who have left the JET Programme two years previously. This year 478 alumni responded and a selection of the results are given below. Thank you very much to all of those who took the time to complete the survey.

### Reverse Culture Shock
**Did you experience reverse culture shock after leaving Japan?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm not sure</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I'm still in Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Interest in Japan
**Apart from keeping in touch with people that you met on the JET Programme, how have you sustained your interest in Japan?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Through Japanese study</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Through the study of a Japanese art or martial art</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*By meeting the local Japanese community</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*By working in a Japanese company</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Through JETAA events</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Not applicable</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Other</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Has your perception of Japan changed as a result of you being on the JET Programme?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, positively</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, negatively</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, both positively and negatively</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I do not know</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Employment
**How long did it take to find satisfying employment?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*I had it arranged already</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Within a month of starting looking</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Up to six months</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Six months to one year</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Up to two years</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Interim employment until something better comes along</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How does the salary compare with that as a JET participant?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*It is much higher</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*It is slightly higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*It is roughly the same</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*It is slightly lower</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*It is much lower</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### JETAA
**Are you active in local JETAA?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, I am a member of the committee</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, as a member</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I am a member but am not involved</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No, but I'd like to be</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No, I'm not interested</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Japanese Language Ability
**Are you studying Japanese now?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Yes</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Did you pass any recognised Japanese Language Test whilst on the JET Programme?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Japanese Language Proficiency Test</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Level One</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Level Two</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Level Three</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Level Four</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Other</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### After the JET Programme
**Has participation on the JET Programme contributed anything to your life?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, a more open mind/international outlook</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, a wider circle of friends, increased social skills</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, better personal qualities</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yes a hobby for life</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Other</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Would you recommend the JET Programme to a friend?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Yes, absolutely</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Probably</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Unlikely</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*No, definitely not</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pension and Tax
**Did you receive the lump-sum withdrawal payment for the pension scheme?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*I applied and received the payment</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I applied but my application was refused</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I applied and am still waiting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I did not apply</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I do not know to what you are referring</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Did you apply for a refund on the tax that was deducted from the lump-sum withdrawal payment?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2000(%)</th>
<th>1999(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*I applied and received the refund</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I applied but my application was refused</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I did not receive the lump-sum withdrawal payment and so was ineligible to apply</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I did not apply</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I do not know to what you are referring</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Pension and Tax

A 20% tax is levied on the Lump-Sum Withdrawal Payment (dattai ichijikin). Once you have received the Lump Sum Withdrawal Payment you can apply to reclaim the tax. Applications must be made within 5 years of leaving Japan.

If you have not already claimed your tax back and you would like to do so, please contact your previous host institution. Your supervisor or the person in charge of the JET Programme at present should be able to assist you.

If you have difficulty making yourself understood, ask the person to refer to pages 159-161 of the Host Institution Manual (Ukeire dantai yo manual). You will need to fill out a declaration form naming a tax representative (Nozai Kannin no Todokedesho) and provide your tax representative with the Notice of the Lump-Sum Withdrawal Payment (Dattai Ichijikin Shikyu Kettei Tsuchisho).

Conference for Returning JETs

On March 7-9 2001, CLAIR will be holding the 2001 Conference for Returning JETs in Tokyo. The conference is open to 400 third-year JET Programme participants who are planning to return home in the summer of 2001. Through this conference CLAIR is hoping to provide participants with information and strategies for coping with future employment, "life-path" decisions and reverse culture shock. One representative from each of Australia/New Zealand, Canada, U.K. and U.S.A. will be attending to pass on current information from the home countries. If you have information you would like to provide to conference participants, CLAIR offices in Sydney, London and New York can forward materials to the selected representatives. Alternatively, please contact Dean Smith (d-smith@clair.or.jp) at CLAIR in Tokyo.

JAIMS Scholarship

Earn an AACSB-accredited MBA in just over a year through the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Business Administration and JAAMS (Japan-America Institute of Management Science). The Japan-focused MBA (JEMBA) program features 12 months of intensive MBA study in management in Hawaii followed by a challenging 3-month internship in Japan. Japanese language ability is not a prerequisite.

Generous scholarship packages are available to JET Programme alumni to attend the JEMBA program. Several special U.S. $10,000 JET Alumni Scholarships are offered to qualified JET alumni, regardless of nationality. In addition, one 500,000-yen scholarship sponsored by the Foundation for International Information Processing Education (FINIPED) is designed for JET Programme alumni.

The program application deadline is July 1 of each year. However, applications received before March 1 may have an advantage when considered for scholarships and financial aid. For more information, please visit the JAIMS website at www.jaims.org, send an inquiry to info@jaims.org, or contact Julie Chen at JAIMS by email at icchen@jaims.org for an information packet.

Huron University Scholarship

£1000 JETAA Scholarship

Obtain an American degree in the heart of London! Huron University USA in London is delighted to offer JET Alumni the opportunity to have a scholarship on either the MBA or MA in International Relations.

- 12 month core programs
- Multicultural classroom
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- Experienced faculty
- Sept, Jan & May intakes

Knowledge provides you with the competitive edge so take advantage of this unique opportunity. Feel free to contact the admissions office: enquiry@huron.ac.uk or pay us a virtual visit: www.huron.ac.uk

JET Mentor Network, by Daniel McKelvey

As I stated in the last edition of JET Streams, when I chose to accept the JETAA Liaison position for National AJET, I had one major goal for the year. I wanted to explore ways in which connections between past and present JETs could be strengthened, a relationship that always struck me as focusing too much on the final month of a JET participant's tenure.

After bouncing my ideas off a few people, I eventually landed at the doorstep of former Gifu JET Linda Chenoweth Kennedy, and together we created the JET Mentor Network. JMN, located on the Internet at http://cheno.com/mentor, is a network of present and past JET Programme participants interested in professional networking to gather career information, find a foothold for future employment, or simply seek a "senpai" for some advice. Free to all JETs, JMN offers registered users the opportunity to search a database of JET mentors - JET alumni who are users themselves - in order to network with people working in a preferred job function, industry, etc. Users can browse an entire list of mentors, or they can limit their search based on their personal preferences.

A list of mentor matches is displayed after each search, and the user can send a message to any mentor through the web site. The benefit of the JMN to alumni is that they can introduce their company to a field of potential applicants that they feel, by inclusion in the JET Programme, have desirable qualifications for work. Also, through contact with current participants, they'll be able to hear first hand what's happening on the program and perhaps relive some memorable experiences of their own. The benefit to the current participant is that they are provided with a contact in a company and won't have to send a "To Whom it May Concern" letter to a human resources department. They'll also be able to hear the advice of someone who went before them while developing a senpai/kohai relationship. Obviously both sides can gain by using this site.

The JET Mentor Network, officially launched on January 1, 2001, has the potential to unite many JETs and create a stronger global network. Yet its effectiveness is limited to the number and activity of its participants. Therefore I urge everyone to use this site and tell other JETs about it. We need everyone's help to make it a success.
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