



*Sasakawa USA-Japan Alumni Program*

## **Alumni Roundtable Dinner**

“Japanese Technology, Economics and Society: Implications for Climate Change and Clean Energy”

6:00pm – 8:30pm | Monday, November 6, 2017  
Meiwah Restaurant (1200 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036)

Sasakawa USA is pleased to invite you to join a private dinner discussion exclusively for our alumni on Monday, November 6 featuring Mr. Umair Irfan (Staff Writer, *Vox*), with comments from Jane Nakano (Senior Fellow, Energy and National Security Program, Center for Strategic & International Studies [CSIS]). Mr. Irfan will discuss his views on Japan's place in the energy world focusing on technology, economics, and society as they relate to climate change and clean energy. He will draw on his reporting in Tokyo, Fukushima, Kanazawa, Kyoto, and Nagoya as the first recipient of Sasakawa USA's Journalism Fellowship in December 2016 where he held multiple interviews with professors, government officials, researchers, and industry.

This event will allow our attending alumni to further their knowledge of U.S.-Japan relations by hearing from renowned experts and to reunite and engage with fellow Sasakawa USA alumni in the form of an informal networking dinner and discussion.

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| 6:00pm – 6:30pm | Registration & Networking<br><i>*Dinner buffet and drinks will be provided</i>  |
| 6:30pm – 6:45pm | Welcome & Introductions   |
| 6:45pm – 7:30pm | “Japanese Technology, Economics and Society: Implications for Climate Change and Clean Energy”<br><br>Presenter: <b>Umair Irfan</b><br>Staff Writer, <i>Vox</i><br>Commentator: <b>Jane Nakano</b><br>Senior Fellow, Energy and National Security Program, CSIS |
| 7:30pm – 7:45pm | Participant Q&A   |
| 7:45pm – 8:30pm | Free Discussion   |
| 8:30pm          | Adjourn   |

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### **About Sasakawa USA – Japan Alumni Program**

Sasakawa USA's alumni program offers opportunities for “Sasakawa USA – Japan Alumni” to continue to cultivate their interest in U.S.-Japan relations and to reunite and engage with other Sasakawa USA alumni. The “Sasakawa USA - Japan Alumni” includes individuals who have participated in a Sasakawa or Sasakawa USA-led delegation trip to Japan or have worked with Sasakawa USA on joint projects. We also regularly extend our invitation to significant players in the U.S.-Japan community such as the JET program alumni.

## About the Speakers



**Mr. Umair Irfan** is a staff writer at Vox and previously covered the Department of Energy, technology, research and health for ClimateWire. He has written about the rise and fall of tech companies, infectious disease outbreaks and grid-level energy storage. He completed his bachelor's degree in biochemistry in 2008 and his master's degree in journalism in 2011.

Umair was the first recipient of Sasakawa USA's Journalism Fellowship. On his trip to Japan in December 2016, he reported on the country's role in the global energy market, looking at how Japan is dealing with nuclear power, how manufacturers like Toyota and Mitsubishi are bringing clean technology to market, and the lessons the United States can learn. To achieve this, he held multiple interviews in Tokyo, Fukushima, Kanazawa, Kyoto, and Nagoya with professors, government officials, researchers, and industry.



**Jane Nakano** is a senior fellow in the Energy and National Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Her areas of expertise include U.S. energy policy, global liquefied natural gas (LNG) markets, global nuclear energy trends, and energy security issues in Asia. She frequently writes and speaks on these issues at conferences in the United States, Asia, and Europe and to the media around the world. She has also testified before Congress on U.S. LNG exports. Prior to joining CSIS in 2010, Nakano worked in the Office of Policy and International Affairs in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), where she

covered a host of energy, economic, and political issues in Asia. Among others, she was responsible for coordinating DOE engagement in the U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue. From 2001 to 2002, she served at the U.S. embassy in Tokyo as special assistant to the energy attaché. Nakano graduated from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and holds a master's degree from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



## **Participants List**

*(In alphabetical order by last name)*

**Sharon Burke**, Senior Advisor, Resource Security, New America  
**Joy Champaloux**, Associate Program Officer, Education, Sasakawa USA  
**Greg Cooper**, Senior Consultant, Federal Practice, Deloitte Consulting  
**Christopher Dockrey**, Congressional Affairs Manager, Congressional Outreach, Sasakawa USA  
**Juliane Doscher**, Executive Assistant to the CEO & Program Assistant, Education, Sasakawa USA  
**Koki Fukasaku**, Associate, Matsushita Institute of Government and Management  
**Clara Gillispie**, Senior Director, National Bureau of Asian Research  
**Ariqa Herrera**, Executive Assistant to the Chairman & Administrative Assistant, Sasakawa USA  
**Alexander Hoare**, Diplomatic Assistant, Political Section, Embassy of Japan  
**Kat Jordan**, Administrative and Accounting Assistant, Sasakawa USA  
**Kazuyo Kato**, Director of Education and Finance, Sasakawa USA  
**Grace Ruch Clegg**, Projects and Outreach Coordinator, East-West Center in Washington  
**Tarak Shah**, Consultant  
**Rieko Suzuki**, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan  
**Ryoji Uchida**, Counsellor, Embassy of Japan  
**Brittney Washington**, Program Assistant, Education, Sasakawa USA  
**Michael Wu**, Principal, Converge Strategies, LLC



## Notes