



Japan ICU Foundation

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Dear all,

My name is Machi Dilworth and I am a 1967 graduate (Natural Sciences) of ICU. I pursued graduate studies in the United States, which led to a career supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) research and education in academia at the U.S. National Science Foundation, and an opportunity to serve as a Vice President at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University. Since 2019, I have been on the board of trustees of the Japan ICU Foundation, currently serving as the chair of the grants committee. I am writing to you today to ask for your support for our grants program.

Are you aware that JICUF provides financial support to ICU students, faculty, and alumni for a variety of research, community engagement, and public service projects? Since launching our grants program (<https://www.jicuf.org/grants/>) in 2016, students, faculty, and alumni have had an opportunity to apply for funding from JICUF to support projects they are passionate about and for which there is no other source of funds. We've funded a wide range of projects such as student research travel grants, community service abroad and in Japan, and faculty-led experiential learning trips for students. We believe the program has been successful in bringing out the creativity of the ICU community.

The impact of the grants program on students is particularly meaningful. It gives students the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone, to expand their intellectual horizons, and to develop the skills and knowledge they need to be engaged global citizens. They gain first-hand fieldwork and project-management experience, improve their communication skills, gain greater self-confidence, and learn the concept of responsibility and accountability that come with accepting grant support.

The attached flier showcases student projects that your donations have supported in recent years. You can read reflections from Daichi who did his anthropological fieldwork in rural Argentina and from Erika who explored Okinawa-mainland Japan relations. You'll hear from Ami who is passionate about creating belonging among children with diverse backgrounds and from Miyako who explored ways to create a more inclusive classroom.

JICUF is able to provide the grants program to the ICU community because of the financial support we receive from our dedicated constituents like you. This year is an especially good year to make a donation because of the favorable exchange rate. I hope you will consider joining me in making a donation to JICUF as part of your philanthropic plans in 2023 and beyond. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Machi Fukuyama Dilworth, Ph.D.
Chair, Grants Committee
Japan ICU Foundation