



*Messrs. Andreas van Agt and Olivier Giscard d'Estaing*

**Dr. Van Agt, you have been Honorary Chairman of the Board of the Canon Foundation in Europe since 1999. It is time we asked you some questions about yourself and your findings with the Foundation.**

*You have been very active in politics. You were Dutch Minister of Justice and Prime Minister and later European Union Ambassador in Tokyo and Washington. Are you still politically active now? What activities are you involved in at the moment?*

"Unlike quite a few other retired politicians, I am still running at a high speed. Dutch politics is no longer my playing field. Since I quit my ambassadorial life, I am almost exclusively focussed on international issues. Japan remains a favourite subject to me. With the emerging colossus China it has a delicate relationship, with the USA an ambiguous understanding. It keeps grappling with neighbouring Russia: the few islands issue and Russia's potential to become a supplier of energy and

minerals. Japan's uphill fight for a permanent seat at the UN Security Council is fascinating. Another gripping issue is Taiwan, a country in a dilemma. Declaring independence would be too tricky, submission to the incumbent rulers in Beijing too humiliating (culturally a yawning gap with China has opened up). Is a federation of sorts in the offing? Furthermore, I've gotten involved in the Israel/Palestine question. Here deep concerns arise regarding the observance and enforcement of international law and the erosion of the world order and the United Nations."

*Do you have any hobbies?*

"I do have hobbies but time is scarce in my jostling life to occupy myself

with them. I love reading history books, playing chess, making long biking trips. But all these things are almost submerged in the floods of activities, many speaking engagements, among other things, at conferences and seminars related to the dossiers I just identified."

*When the Foundation approached you to become Honorary Chairman, what was your reason for saying yes?*

"Affection for Japan and a keen interest in that country prompted me to accept the invitation to take up that task. Moreover, I set a high value on this project. Enabling bright young academics to study abroad, Europeans in Japan and vice versa, is a noble cause. Canon made a very generous gesture establishing the Canon Foundation and providing it with a substantial endowment."

*Can you tell us something about your experiences with the Foundation?*

"Over the years I've been watching, and evaluating the process, how the Canon Foundation operates through its Board and its Committees. I was impressed both by the conscientious fulfilment of their task by the members of these institutions and by the academic standing of the recipients of Fellowships. My decision to engage with the Canon Foundation has been fully vindicated."

## INTRODUCING 2005 RESEARCH FELLOWS

**Ms. Wakako ARAKI** from the Tokyo Institute of Technology will go to the Faculty of Engineering at Imperial College, London, UK hosted by Prof. Anthony J. Kinloch. Mechanical Engineering: to create effective models to predict mechanical properties of organic/inorganic hybrid nanocomposites via sol-gel process.

**Ms. Maria Joao BARROS** at Porto University, Portugal will go to Nagoya Institute of Technology. Her host will be Prof. Keiichi Tokuda at the Tokuda & Kitamura Laboratory. Computer Sciences: to work on Prof. Tokuda's speech synthesis technique based on HMM modeling of speech signals for the European Portuguese.

**Mr. Fabian DRIXLER** from Germany, presently at Harvard University, USA will go to the Faculty of Business Administration at Tezukayama University in Nara, hosted by Prof. Hiroshi Kawaguchi. History: Infanticide, population policy and the end of Japan's low-fertility regimes.

**Dr. Shinji HIGA** from Osaka University will do research at Southampton University. His host will be Prof. Stephen T. Holgate. Medicine: Asthma. Research on epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) which regulates many aspects of epithelial function, including controlling the maintenance and repair of this important barrier to the external environment.

**Dr. Akira KOBAYASHI** from Shinshu University plans to do research at Beaujon Hospital, Clichy, France at the Department of Hepatobiliary & Digestive Surgery under the guidance

of Dr. Jacques Belghiti. Medicine: clinical research to know the way of donor management during the perioperative period and acquire their surgical skills in both the cadaveric liver transplantation and the LDLT (living donor liver transplantation).

**Ms. Elena KOMLEVA** from Murmansk Technical University, Russia will go to the United Nations University, Yokohama with Prof. Darryl Macer as her host. Philosophy and Religion: interdisciplinary study of the Japanese nuclear mentality and its comparison to the Russian and Western one.

**Mr. Federico MARCON** from Italy, presently at Columbia University, USA will go to the Graduate School of Literature at Waseda University. His host will be Prof. Katsumi Fukaya. History: the origins of the modern intellectual in Tokugawa Japan.

**Dr. Giovanna PACI** from Ancona University, Italy, will visit the Department of Architecture at Chiba University with Prof. Akiko Okabe as her host. Architecture and Area Planning: urban sprawl: a comparison between Italian and Japanese territorial habitat.

**Dr. Satoru SAITO** from the Graduate School of Education at Kyoto University, will do research at two British universities — Bristol University with Dr. Christopher Jarrold as host and York University with Prof. Alan Baddeley. Psychology: Speech processing systems and working memory. Working memory span tests.

**Mr. Angelo STURIALE** from Catania University, Italy, will go to the Faculty

of Music at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music with Prof. Teruyuki Noda as his host. Art and Musicology: history, genres and musical instruments of traditional Japanese music and performing arts; the relationships between Japanese traditional music and classical contemporary composition in Japan; performance techniques of Japanese traditional musical instruments for contemporary compositional purposes.

**Dr. Tomoko WAKABAYASHI** from the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Tokyo University, will visit the Catholic University Leuven, Belgium with Prof. Dr. Bart De Strooper as her host. Neurosciences: analysis of the structure-function relationship of the gamma-secretase complex using camelid heavy-chain antibody

## 2005 AWARD WINNER

**Dr. Hisanori SUZUKI**, Professor of Biochemistry at Verona University, Italy, will go to the National Cancer Center Research Institute, Tokyo to teach in the field of Biosciences. Nominated by Prof. Hitoshi Nakagama at the National Cancer Center, Dr. Suzuki's work will focus on experimental results indicating the possible functional interplay between constitutive and inducible nitric oxide synthase (cNOS and iNOS respectively) in human astrocytes.

## REGIONAL FELLOW MEETINGS



Board member Willem van Gulik, Alumni Chairman Denés Petz and Director Corrie Siahaya-Van Nierop



Fellow Urru from Italy with Executive Committee members Adriana Boscaro and Seigo Shima



Two Hungarian Fellows:  
Prof. Dékány and Zrinyi

The photographs on these pages were taken at our **Regional Fellow Meeting** in Munich, November 2004. Alumni Fellows from Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary and the Slovak Republic were present, as well as the Foundations Board, Executive Committee and staff members. The key-note speech was taken care of by Prof. Dr. Paul Cliteur from Leiden University who gave attendees his view on Cultural Relativism and Multicultural Society. Fellows who had

recently finished their overseas research **presented their work and personal experiences** during the Fellowship period and were bestowed with a certificate and a Canon Foundation lapel pin or brooch. At the meeting 1997 Research Fellow **Dénés Petz** from Hungary took over as **Chairman of the Alumni Association for Canon Fellows**. We would like to thank **Dr. Isabelle Charrier** from France

for her period as Chairwoman and efforts to organise contacts between Alumni Fellows. **2005 Regional Fellow Meetings** will be organised in **Tokyo** for our (Alumni) Fellows living in Japan, and in **Florence** for our (Alumni) Fellows living in Italy, France, Portugal, Spain, Greece and Turkey. **Please note the date of November 26 for Italy.** The date for Tokyo will be announced later to the fellows.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Kazuhiko Togo** (2004 Awardee) from Japan was appointed at Princeton University autumn 2004 to do research and teach.

**Alexander Shluger** (1992 Research Fellow) from Russia was appointed Professor of Physics at the University College London in 2004.

**Kazuhiko Kondo** (1994 Research Fellow) from Japan was appointed **Head of the Dept.** of European History, University of Tokyo.

**Hisashi Ozawa** (1992 Research Fellow) from Japan was appointed Associate Professor of Natural Environmental Sciences at Hiroshima University in October 2004.

**Tomoaki Shimada** (2003 Research Fellow) from Japan was appointed **Assistant Professor of Management** in the Graduate School of International Management at the International University of Japan in January 2005.

2004 Research Fellow **Erica Baffelli** from Italy obtained her **doctoral degree** in February 2005 with her thesis: Selling Happiness. Media,

Marketing and New Japanese Religions. The case of Kofuku no kagaku.

**Caroline Aggestam** (2002 Research Fellow) from Denmark, received her **Ph.D.** degree at the Copenhagen Business School, Dept. of Accounting and Auditing in March 2005.

**Dr. Masafumi Ito** (1991 Research Fellow) from Japan was appointed **Director and Head** of Dept. of Pathology, Nagoya first Red Cross Hospital in 2005.

Relatively short time Fellowships can lead to long-term contacts between Japan and Europe. In March 2005, Canon Foundation **Visiting Professor in 1999, Kim Economides** from the UK revisited Japan. He was invited by Kwansei Gakuin University in Nishinomiya city to be a guest speaker at an international conference in Osaka on moral development and legal education from a cross-cultural perspective.

## PROGRAMMES

The aim of the Foundation is to contribute to international understanding, in particular between Europe and Japan, through self-development.

1. The Canon Foundation in Europe offers **Research Fellowships** to young, highly qualified European and Japanese researchers, not older than 40 years, and holding a doctorate or at least a Master's degree. The European Fellowship holders pursue a period of research in Japan whereas the Japanese Fellows do their research at host institutions in Europe. The Fellowships are awarded for periods of minimum three months and maximum one year.

2. **Canon Foundation Awards** are granted to outstanding European and Japanese scholars or leading members of commercial, industrial, governmental and professional organisations. They can be nominated by representatives of academia or public or private organisations to teach and/or work on collaborative research. The Awardees spend usually between 4 weeks and 3 months in Europe, provided they come from Japan or in Japan if they are European. There is no age limit. For the year 2006 we particularly invite nominations in the theme of Foreign Policy vis-à-vis the United States of America. Similarities and differences between EU and Japan.

**DEADLINE FOR THE YEAR 2006  
IS 15 SEPTEMBER 2005.**



**Lai-Yoke van der Wal-Chow**

One of our office staff members, Ms. Lai-Yoke van der Wal-Chow, left the Foundation when she swapped the Netherlands for Finland as residency. Thank you Lai-Yoke for all you have done to keep the Foundation going!



**Patrick Masterson**

In March 2005 Professor Patrick Masterson from Ireland took over from Olivier Giscard d'Estaing (see photo front page) as Chairman of the Executive Committee. New Vice-Chairman is José Rodrigo Fernandez from Spain.



Fellow Klug from Austria with Olivier Giscard d'Estaing and José Rodrigo Fernandez



Executive Committee member Adriana Boscaro (third from left) visited 2004 Research Fellow Yoshiyuki Asai (left, with a colleague) and his host professor Alessandro Villa (right) in Turin, Italy.

For application forms and further information please visit our internet site or contact below address until June 23, 2005: Canon Foundation in Europe, Rijnsburgerweg 3, 2334 BA Leiden, The Netherlands, Tel.: +31 71 515 65 55, Fax: +31 71 515 70 27, e-mail: [foundation@canon-europe.com](mailto:foundation@canon-europe.com)

### **The Canon Foundation relocates its office on 23 June 2005!**

#### **New address details from June 24, 2005:**

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Postal address: P.O.Box 2262

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E-mail: [foundation@canon-europe.com](mailto:foundation@canon-europe.com), [www.canonfoundation.org](http://www.canonfoundation.org)

Visiting address:

Bovenkerkerweg 59-61

1185 XB Amstelveen, The Netherlands

**Canon Foundation in Europe Website:** Please visit our internet site and read the full information on Research Fellowships and Awards. Application/nomination forms can also be downloaded from: [www.canonfoundation.org](http://www.canonfoundation.org)