

GRIPS-Mansfield Foundation Joint Seminar

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2015 Time: 12:00-13:30

Venue: The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) 1st Floor, Room 1AB

“ Womenomics”

Speaker : **Rachel Ianacone** (Mansfield Fellow)
United States Air Force

Moderator: **Masako Kurosawa**
Professor
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

Description: The concept “Womenomics” has gained recognition in Japan in the years since it was coined and introduced as an economic strategy for Japan by Kathy Matsui in a 1999 Goldman Sachs report.

Prime Minister Abe began using this term in about 2012 as part of his “Abenomics” plan, which is an economic plan to revitalize the Japanese economy. “Womenomics” seeks to tap into the untapped resources of the female population and encourage a greater percentage of workforce participation, which will also help offset the shrinking population. This presentation will provide an overview of the current female workplace participation and leadership percentages in various Japanese workplaces, some barriers to staying or returning to the workplace, planned legislative and government changes, and recommendations to reach the 2020 target numbers.

Ms. Ianacone will begin the discussion with a general introduction on the goals of “womenomics,” then discuss the obstacles to achieving these goals. She will provide a brief comparison between opportunities and childcare leave provided by the United States Air Force and Japanese Self Defense Force before delving into her recommendations to improve gender equality in both countries.

Masako Kurosawa, professor of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies will serve as a moderator for the event. She is a labor economist and has received a Ph.D degree in economics from London School of Economics and Political Science. She has joined GRIPS in 2004 as an associate professor. Her current research interests are in evaluation of public and private training programs, and work-life balance policies, etc.

***Language: English**
For registration and inquiries please
contact: a-oshikawa@grips.ac.jp or
03-6439-6037 (Ms. Oshikawa)

***Admission Free.**

***Please bring your own lunch.**

For access to the GRIPS campus:
7-22-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8677
<http://www.grips.ac.jp/about/access.htm>

The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

GRIPS was established in October 1997, superseding the Graduate School of Policy Science (GSPS) at Saitama University, which was the first graduate school for Policy Studies in Japan. GRIPS is a government-sponsored graduate school and research institute which has been restructured into an entirely new and unique entity. GRIPS aims to be an international center of excellence for the education of future leaders in the policy arena, for the advancement of policy research, and for the systematic collection and dissemination of policy-related information. In order to accomplish these aims, a Graduate School, a Policy Research Center and a Policy Information Center have been established. GRIPS is the first graduate school without facilities for undergraduates in Japan in the wider disciplines of social science. GRIPS is located in Roppongi, Tokyo, with easy access to the political and business headquarters of Japan.

The degree programs are designed to attract outstanding students and thoroughly prepare them for distinguished careers in policy setting. After a period of thorough preparation since its foundation in 1997, GRIPS welcomed its first domestic students in April 2000, followed six months later by the first international students. More than half of the student-intake of GRIPS consist of international students coming from nearly forty countries in Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe. Our students normally have three to five years experience working for governments, central banks, custom offices or other relevant organizations. The International Programs at GRIPS are conducted solely in English, while Domestic Programs are taught in Japanese.

GRIPS aims to be the center of a consortium, consisting of industry, government and academia, for the exchange of information, ideas and personnel among graduate schools, government-related institutes and private research institutes in Japan. In addition, through its international faculty, student body and alumni, and by promoting international exchange of policy research and information, GRIPS aims to establish an international network among academics and government officials in the field of policy studies, contributing to the promotion of a better understanding among peoples around the world in an age of globalization.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation was created in 1983 to advance Maureen and Mike Mansfield's life-long efforts to promote understanding and cooperation among the nations and peoples of Asia and the United States. The Foundation sponsors exchanges, dialogues and publications that create networks among U.S. and Asian leaders, explore the underlying issues influencing public policies, and increase awareness about the nations and peoples of Asia. The Mansfield Foundation's geographic focus is Northeast Asia and India as it relates to that region. The Foundation receives support from individuals, corporations and philanthropic organizations. It also provides support to The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at the University of Montana (<http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/default.php>)

The Mansfield Fellowship Program - named after Mike Mansfield, former U.S. ambassador to Japan, U.S. Senate majority leader, and U.S. congressman from Montana - is a first-of-its-kind program for the United States and Japan. The U.S. Congress created the Mansfield Fellowships in 1994 to build a corps of U.S. federal government employees with proficiency in the Japanese language and practical, firsthand knowledge about Japan and its government. During the one-year program in Japan, Fellows develop an in-depth understanding of Japan's government and policymaking process and establish relationships with their counterparts in the government of Japan and the business, professional and academic communities. The Mansfield Fellowships are administered by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, with the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, as grantor.

The Foundation has offices in Washington, D.C., Tokyo, Japan, and Missoula, Montana.