

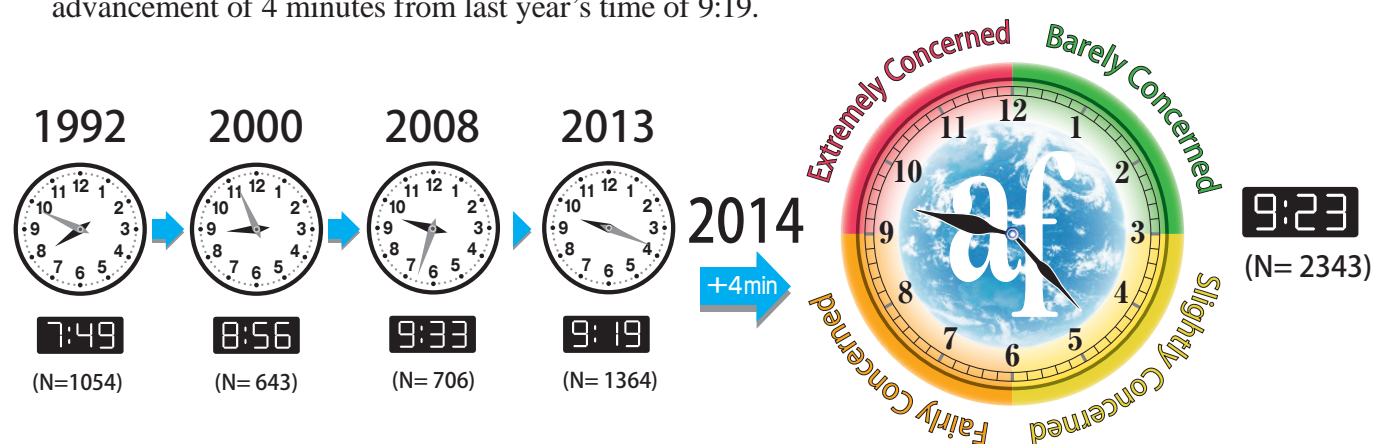
af News

>>> Worldwide Survey of Environmental Practitioners <<< Results of the 23rd Annual Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind

The Asahi Glass Foundation has surveyed experts on environmental issues across the world since 1992, with a questionnaire intended to establish a common understanding and cooperative relationship to solve environmental problems. We report on the Environmental Doomsday Clock from the questionnaire conducted between April and June 2014. Please refer to the results of the questionnaire on the web site (<http://www.af-info.or.jp/>).

❖ Environmental Doomsday Clock (Perception of the Crisis Facing Human Survival) ❖

The average time on the Environmental Doomsday Clock for all respondents was 9:23, an advancement of 4 minutes from last year's time of 9:19.



Enhancement of awareness of Blue Planet Prize and expansion of its supporter base

We strive to promote public awareness of the Asahi Glass Foundation and its commendation program and deepen general awareness of environmental issues while seeking to attract a wider array of nominators for the Blue Planet Prize and respondents to Annual Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind.

In February, we participated in the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAs), which drew more than 2,000 participants from the scientific arena. There we presented an exhibition featuring the Blue Planet Prize, Survey on Environmental Problems and the



At the venue of the AAAs conference

Survival of Humankind, and related publications. There were quite a few questions raised by the audience interested about the Blue Planet Prize and its nomination process. Many participants showed a keen interest in our survey on global environmental issues. In addition, the Environmental Doomsday Clock original character comic books (featuring "Gring and Woodin"), in particular, attracted attention among educators, all of which helped to promote public awareness of the Foundation's activities.

In March, we held a meeting with Dr. Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker (Co-President Club of Rome) asking for his cooperation in promoting global awareness of the Blue Planet Prize.



Dr. Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker

2014 Blue Planet Prize Winners

In 1992, the Asahi Glass Foundation established the Blue Planet Prize, an award presented to individuals or organizations worldwide in recognition of outstanding achievements in contributing toward resolving global environmental issues. The Prize is offered in the hopes of encouraging efforts to bring about the healing of the Earth's fragile environment.

Prof. Herman Daly (USA)

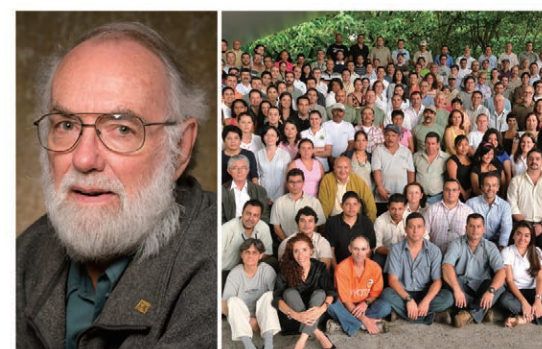
Professor Emeritus,
University of Mary-
land



Prof. Daly redefined "steady state economics" through the concept of sustainability by incorporating such factors as the environment, local communities, quality of life, and ethics into economic theory, which lead to building a foundation of environmental economics. He has been questioning whether economic growth brings happiness to humans and has been issuing warnings to societies, which tends to overemphasize economic growth. As a consequence, he has had a significant international influence.

Prof. Daniel H. Janzen (USA)

Professor, University of Pennsylvania
Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad
(Costa Rica)



Prof. Janzen and the Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad of Costa Rica (INBio) propose measures and policies on sustainable development in harmony with local community and local inhabitants and works on environmental education and the conservation of biodiversity. INBio's activities serve as a valuable role model, from which people both in developed and developing countries around the world should learn.

The Awards Ceremony and the Commemorative Lectures of the 2014 Blue Planet Prize

The awards ceremony will take place on November 12, 2014 (Wednesday), at Palace Hotel Tokyo (Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo). The commemorative lectures will be given by the winners at the United Nations University (Shibuya Ward, Tokyo) on November 13 (Thursday). If you would like to attend the commemorative lectures, please submit your application via the form on the Foundation's website. Successful applicants drawn by lottery will be notified by postcard (to be mailed on October 24).

[Commemorative Lectures]

- 13:20 Opening Remarks
- 13:25 - 14:30 Lecture by Prof. Herman Daly
Questions and Answers coordinated by Ms. Junko Edahiro
- 14:50 - 16:20 Lecture by Prof. Daniel H. Janzen, Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad (INBio)
Questions and Answers coordinated by Prof. Tetsukazu Yahara



Past commemorative lectures

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2014 Research Grant Awarding Ceremony

The Asahi Glass Foundation held the research grant awarding ceremony at Keidanren Hall to present the grant for the year 2014 on June 2. Chairman Tetsuji Tanaka gave the opening remarks, followed by Prof. Terunobu Miyazaki, the chairman of the Selection Committee, delivering the report on this year's selection process. Chairman Tanaka then presented the certificate to each grant recipients.

Mr. Tetsuo Goda, Director for Scientific Research Aid Division of the Research Promotion Bureau of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, then offered words of congratulations.

The Foundation's website lists the new grant-supported projects selected this year ([Research Grant Program > Grantees](#))

Representing the grant recipients, Prof. Yukiko Gotoh of the University of Tokyo responded with appreciation to close the ceremony. A reception followed the ceremony.

The eligibility for the grant was broadened to include technical colleges from last year and this year one project was selected from among technical college applications. The total number of research project to receive the domestic grants this year was 83. Combined with another 24 projects carried over from the previous year, the total grant provided in Japan amounted to 256 million yen.



Chairman Tanaka presents a certificate



Prof. Gotoh of the University of Tokyo



2014 Seminar on Grant-Supported Research Findings in Japan

The Seminar on Grant-Supported Research Findings was held on July 30 at Hotel Grand Hill Ichigaya. Presentations were given on 72 completed projects along with interim report on 14 on-going projects with large grants. The seminar was attended by the presenters, Selection Committee members, guests, researchers who currently hold grants, and numerous other relevant people.

The seminar opened with a speech by Chairman Tetsuji Tanaka, and then Prof. Terunobu Miyazaki (Tohoku University), the chairman of the Selection Committee, commenting on the

aim of the seminar. Each presenter described his/her results in a three-minute speech with more in detail in the poster session. Speeches and poster presentations were given in three separate sessions according to their field of research. The event lasted until the early evening.

Researchers from various fields gathered in front of the posters and discussions took place. The broad-ranging discussion often turned into occasions that dealt not only with the results obtained, but also future directions for the research and new academic collaborations.

After the presentations, all attendees attended the social function.



Tetsuji Tanaka, Chairman of the Asahi Glass Foundation



Professor Emeritus, Terunobu Miyazaki, Chairman of the Selection Committee



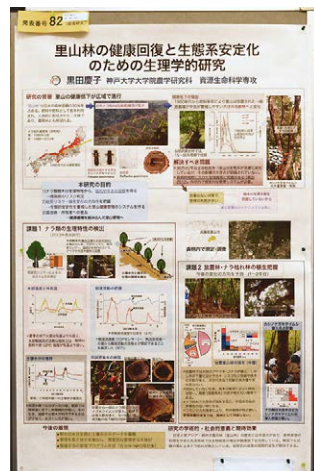
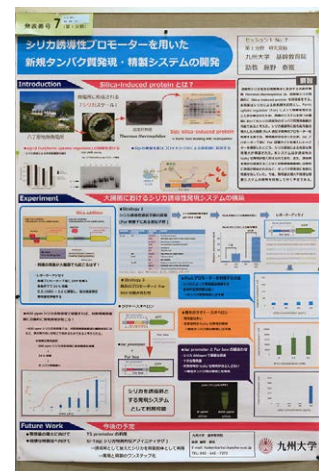
Three-minute presentation session



Professor Takeshi Endo, former Chairman of the Selection Committee, made the opening remarks at the buffet party



Attendees discuss in front of the posters



Posters at the venue

2014 Overseas Research Grant Program: Grant Awarding Ceremonies and Seminars on Research Findings

Chulalongkorn University (CU, Thailand)



Grant recipients and associated people from CU and the Asahi Glass Foundation



Chairman Tanaka presents a certificate



A presentation of research results given at the seminar

The research grant awarding ceremony and the presentation of research results were held in Maha Chulalongkorn Building on June 24. Following a speech by CU Vice President Prof. Mongkol, Chairman Tanaka presented certificates to each of the 10 grant recipients of this year. At the seminar, Professor Tharapong Vitdant gave the memorial lecture on the topic of *Development of New Biodiesel in Thailand*.

The attendees then separated into three rooms to listen to each session. Presentations were given on a total of 14 research projects.

King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT, Thailand)

The grant awarding ceremony and the presentation of research results were held at King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi on June 25. The awarding ceremony started with KMUTT Vice President Budit Fungtammasan explaining the screening process, followed by Chairman Tanaka addressing the audience. This was followed by an exchange of a Memorandum of Understanding on renewing a three-year research grant program starting from 2015. Then the five researchers eligible for the new grants were introduced together with their planned research and were awarded the grant certificate. After that, seven researchers who received the grant last year presented the findings of their research.



Vice President Fungtammasan and Chairman Tanaka exchanging the MOU

Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB, Indonesia)

The grant awarding ceremony and the presentation of research results were held in the auditorium of Institut Teknologi Bandung on August 20. Following speeches by ITB Rector Dr. Akhmaloka and Senior Executive Director Adachi, certificates were presented to 16 grant recipients. In the presentation of research results, 17 grantees adopted in previous years presented their results.



Address by Rector Dr. Akhmaloka

Rector Dr. Akhmaloka, Senior Executive Director Adachi and Grant recipients



Senior Executive Director Adachi presents a certificate



Presentation of research results



Chairman Tanaka presents a certificate



Grant recipients and associated people from KMUTT and the Asahi Glass Foundation