



Japan Partnering Awards

BBSRC support for facilitating international collaboration with Japan

BBSRC's International Relations Unit (IRU) seeks to enhance BBSRC's influence and involvement at the forefront of international science, to exploit international funding opportunities in the interests of BBSRC's scientific community and to capitalise on international links, both at policy and scientific levels.

The Japan Partnering Awards have been implemented by BBSRC to support UK-Japan collaborative activity. The Awards provide resources to leading BBSRC-supported research groups, to embark on forging long-term relationships with Japanese scientists in areas of research that are of direct relevance to BBSRC's current scientific strategy.

The first annual call for the Japan Partnering Awards Scheme was announced by BBSRC in 2000. Typically, awards of up to £50,000 are made over a four-year period, with funding being awarded to a leading UK laboratory that is partnered with one or more Japanese equivalents.

Since 2010, BBSRC has funded 21 Japan Partnering Awards with a financial contribution of more than £800K. Funding is normally used to support exchanges of personnel and to access facilities and workshops, although no prescribed mechanisms have been set as to how the award should be used. However, priority is given to the exchange of young researchers and for visits to access facilities.

A list of awards that have been made by BBSRC since 2010 is shown below.

Contacts

Eligibility queries about the Japan Partnering Awards scheme should be addressed to:

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PREVIOUS AWARDS

2017 Call

High hit-rate, high-throughput serial protein crystallography at SACLA using fixed target silicon nitride chips

£32,360

UK Lead Partner: Dr Richard Strange, University of Sussex

Japanese Partners: Hiroshi Sugimoto, SPring 8

Japan Partnering Award: The Generation of Eye Tissues from Human Induced Pluripotent Stem (iPS) Cells

£47,000

UK Lead Partner: Professor Andrew Quantock, Cardiff University

Japanese Partners: Kohji Nishida, Osaka University

2016 Call

Japan Partnering Award -Engineering novel transgenic zebrafish with CRISPR/Cas9 technology

£42,100

UK Lead Partner: Professor Charles Tyler

Japanese Partners: Atsuo Kawahara, University of Yamanashi; Shinichi Miyagawa, Wakayama Medical University; Taisen Iguchi, Yokohama National University

Integrated approaches to plant sexual reproduction studies to enhance food security

£40,725

UK Lead Partner: Dr Jose Gutierrez-Marcos, University of Warwick

Japanese Partner: Kenichiro Itami, Nagoya University

Japan Partnering Award. Text mining and bioinformatics platforms for metabolic pathway modelling.

£39,000

UK Lead Partner: Professor Sophia Ananiadou, The University of Manchester

Japanese Partner: Junichi Tsujii, AIST; Hiroaki Kitano, Institute for Systems Biology (Global)

Japan Partnering Award: UK/Japan joint space biology mission

£28,350

UK Lead Partner: Dr Nathaniel Szewczyk, University of Nottingham

Japanese Partner: Akira Higashibata, Japanese Space Exploration Agency; Atsushi Higashitani, Tohoku University (Japan).

Japan Partnering Award: Understanding diversity of avian influenza viruses and improvement of vaccines and diagnostics

£49,500

UK Lead Partner: Dr Munir Iqbal, The Pirbright Institute

Japanese Partner: Yoshihiro Kawaoka, University of Wisconsin Madison

BioSharing and the National Bioscience Database Center - joining forces to better serve the research community worldwide

£40,000

UK Lead Partner: Dr Susanna Sansone, University of Oxford

Japanese Partner: Toshihisa Takagi, Japan Science and Technology Agency

2015 Call

Gene regulatory networks in stem cells and primordial germ cells

£46,123

UK lead partner: Ian Chambers, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partners: Satoru Takahashi, University of Tsukuba; Masatsugu Ema, Shiga University of Medical Sciences; Shinya Yamanaka, Kyoto University; Kuniya Abe, RIKEN BioResource Center

Establishment of an Integrative proteomics bioinformatics platform to enable novel analysis approaches

£30,000

UK lead partner: Henning Hermjakob, EMBL – European Bioinformatics Institute
Japanese partner: Yasushi Ishihama, Kyoto University

Wnt signalling in Gene Regulatory Networks: How does feedback regulation affect signalling range in embryonic tissues

£10,480

UK lead partner: Stefan Hoppler, University of Aberdeen
Japanese partner: Masanori Taira, University of Tokyo

Application of MS-Imaging and Metabolomics in Synthetic Biology Based Strain Improvement of Industrially Important Microbes

£49,600

UK lead partner: Eriko Takano, The University of Manchester
Japanese partner: Sastia Prama-Putri, Osaka University

2014 Call

Japan Partnering Award. Regulatory mechanisms of parental behaviour by neuropeptides and neurosteroids

£40,940

UK lead partner: Simone Meddle, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partner: Kazuyoshi Tsutsui, Waseda University

Integrative structural biology for mechanisms of protein mis-folding and dysregulation: a Japan-UK partnership between Leeds and Osaka

£50,000

UK lead partner: David Westhead, University of Leeds
Japanese partner: Professor Haruki Nakamura, Osaka University

2013 Call

Measuring and understanding auditory salience and distraction

£32,400

UK lead partner: Maria Chait, Ear Institute, University College London
Japanese partner: Makio Kashino, NTT Communication Science Labs, NNT Group (Nippon Teleg Teleph Corp)

Japan Partnering Award: Development of international stem cell biobanks to protect

and promote the genetic diversity of poultry resources

£24,500

UK lead partner: Mike McGrew, The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partner: Takahiro Tagami, NARO National Agriculture & Food Research Organisation

Japan Partnering Award: Neuromodulations and state-dependent neural processing

£38,400

UK lead partner: Shuzo Sakata, Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, University of Strathclyde
Japanese partner: Akihiro Yamanaka, Nagoya University

2011 Call

Japan-Systems Approaches to Addressing Food Security: Novel methodology for pest control using key regulators of insect survival against infection

£40,500

UK lead partner: Shireen Davies, College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences, University of Glasgow
Japanese partner: Shoichiro Kurata, Graduate School of Science, Tohoku University

2010 Call

A complete transcriptional map of the human body: systems biology in toto

UK lead partner: Geoffrey Faulkner, The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partner: Piero Carninci, RIKEN Omics Science Centre, RIKEN Genomic Sciences Research Complex

Prediction of Factors to Induce Cell Differentiation

UK lead partner: Julian Gough, Computer Science Department, University of Bristol
Japanese partner: Carsten Daub, RIKEN Omics Science Centre, RIKEN Genomic Sciences Research Complex

The Systems Biology of Exercise

UK lead partner: Harry Rossiter, Institute of Membrane & Systems Biology, University of Leeds
Japanese partner: Shunsaku Koga, Nari Kondo, Graduate School of Design Research, Kobe Design University; Yoshiyuki Fukuba, School of Health Sciences, Hiroshima Prefectural University; Takeshi Nishiyasu, University of Tsukuba

2009 Call - Joint call with the Japan Science and Technology Agency, focus on Systems Biology

Dynamics and Robustness in Biological Networks

£32,910

UK lead partner: Judith Armitage, Department of Biochemistry and Oxford Centre for Integrative Systems Biology
Japanese partners: Hisao Moriya, Research Core for Interdisciplinary Sciences, Okayama University; Seiji Kojima, Division of Biological Science,

Nagoya University; Tohru Minamino, Protonic NanoMachine Group,
Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences, Osaka University

Systems biology of pluripotent stem cells: meta-analysis and simulation of transcriptional circuitries to understand robust-yet-flexible heterogeneity

£54,764

UK lead partner: Austin Smith, Centre for stem cell research & Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge

Japanese partners: Hiroaki Ueda, Laboratory of Systems Biology, RIKEN CDB, Kobe; Hitoshi Niwa, Laboratory of Pluripotent Cell Studies, RIKEN CDB Kobe; Shinichi Nishikawa, Laboratory of Stem Cell Biology, RIKEN CDB, Kobe

Modelling the transcriptional, proteomic and metabolic redox regulation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Candida glabrata*

£50,000

UK lead partner: Ken Haynes, Division of Investigative Science, Imperial College London

Japanese partners: Masaru Tomita, Director, Douglas Murray, Institute for Advanced Biosciences, Keio University

Dynamic mathematical modelling of diversification of transcriptional regulatory networks underlying the genetic variation of *E. coli* species

£22,600

UK lead partner: Dov Stekel, School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham

Japanese partners: Naotake Ogasawara and Shigehiko Kanaya, Nara Institute of Science and Technology; Toru Tobe, Osaka University

2008 Call - Joint call with the Japan Science and Technology Agency, focus on Systems Biology

From text to pathways: text mining techniques for reconstructing signalling pathways

£32,100

UK lead partner: Sophia Ananiadou, Department of Computer Science, University of Manchester

Japanese partners: Hiroaki Kitano, Systems Biology Institute, Tokyo; Jun'ichi Tsujii, Department of Computer Science, University of Tokyo

Development of a high-throughput quantitative immunofluorescence method and stochastic modelling of signalling networks.

£48,800

UK lead partner: Michael Stumpf, Division of Molecular Biosciences, Imperial College London

Japanese partner: Shinya Kuroda, Department of Biophysics and Biochemistry, University of Tokyo

UK-Japan collaboration on microbial systems biology

£48,760

UK lead partner: Johnjoe McFadden, faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Surrey

Japanese partner: Kazuyuki Shimizu, Kyushu Institute of Technology

Development and analysis of technologies for measurement of protein interactions in living cells

£29,250

UK lead partner: Michael White, School of Biological Sciences, University of Liverpool
Japanese partners: Takeaki Ozawa, Department of Chemistry, University of Tokyo;
Yoshihiro Ohmiya, School of Medicine, University of Hokkaido

2007 Call

Integrated approaches to the study of plant peroxisome transport processes

£36,000

UK lead partner: Alison Baker, Centre for Plant Sciences, University of Leeds
Japanese partners: Makoto Hayashi, National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki;
Motoaki Seki and Minami Matsui, RIKEN Plant Science Centre,
Yokohama

Understanding how the Estrogen (ER) and ErbB receptor pathways influence cell fate

£37,500

UK lead partner: Igor Goryanin, Centre for Systems Biology, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partners: Yoshiyuki Sakaki and Dr Mariko Hatakeyama, RIKEN Genomic
Sciences Centre

Proteins in action: real-time biomolecular imaging using rapid-scan atomic force microscopy

£30,000

UK lead partner: Robert Henderson, Department of Pharmacology, University of
Cambridge
Japanese partner: Kunio Takeyasu, Kyoto University

TSE diseases: defining the role of the mucosal immune system in disease pathogenesis

£35,000

UK lead partner: Neil Mabbott, Roslin Institute
Japanese partner: Hiroshi Ohno, Research Centre for Allergy and Immunology, RIKEN,
Yokohama

Post-genomic analyses on veterinary apicomplexan parasites: genome sequence utilisation

£50,000

UK lead partner: Fiona Tomley, Institute for Animal Health, Compton
Japanese partners: Junichi Watanabe, Institute of medical Science, University of Tokyo;
Chihiro Sugimoto, Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary
Medicine

2006 Call

Cardiac electro-mechanical function: Cell-organ cross-talk revealed via integration of experiments and models

£49,945

UK lead partner: Peter Kohl, Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics,
University of Oxford
Japanese partner: Akinori Noma, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Kyoto
University

Interfacing Standards and Ontologies in Systems Biology

£45,000

UK lead partner: Nicolas Le Novere, Department of Computational Neurobiology, EMBL-EBI
Japanese partners: Hiroaki Kitano, Symbio; Ken Fukuda, Computational Biology Research Centre, AIST

Cell free synthesis of proteins for X-ray crystallographic and NMR analysis

£49,800

UK lead partner: Michael Overduin, Division of Cancer Studies, University of Birmingham
Japanese partner: Motoo Watanabe, Cell Free Sciences Co. Ltd., Yokohama

Japan – UK Collaboration in Bionanotechnology

£35,000

UK lead partner: J. Ryan, Bionanotechnology IRC, University of Oxford
Japanese partner: Masamitsu Futai, Japan Science & Technology Corporation, Tokyo

2005 Call

Resource management and exploitation in Werner's syndrome

£48,000

UK lead partner: Richard Faragher, School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, University of Brighton
Japanese partner: Makoto Goto, School of Bioengineering, Toin University, Yokohama

Systems Neuroscience: From cellular mechanisms of neural circuitry to behaviour

£49,800

UK lead partners: Colin Ingram and Professor Anya Hurlbert, Institute of Neuroscience, University of Newcastle upon Tyne
Japanese partner: Inter-institute partnership with the RIKEN Brain Sciences Institute, Wako

From waste management to bone replacement: Synthesis and functionally-related UK properties of hydroxyapatite

£50,000

UK lead partner: Lynne Macaskie, Unit of Functional Bionanomaterials, School of Biosciences, University of Birmingham
Japanese partner: Kunio Ishikawa, School of Dentistry, Kyushu University

Development of new collaborative approaches in Fermentation Technology and Metabolic Network Modelling

£48,760

UK lead partner: Johnjoe McFadden, Molecular Genetics, School of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences, University of Surrey
Japanese partner: Kazuyuki Shimizu, Metabolic Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology

2004 Call

The amphibian pronephric kidney - a model for regeneration and organogenesis in vertebrates

£30,800

UK lead partner: Elizabeth Jones, Biological Sciences, University of Warwick
Japanese partner: Makoto Asashima, Department of Life Sciences, Tokyo University

Advanced scientific discovery tools for bioinformatics

£39,750

UK lead partner: Ross King, Department of Computer Science, University of Wales, Aberystwyth

Japanese partner: Setsu Arikata, Department of Informatics, Kyushu University

Structural hierarchies in fibrous polymers

£30,000

UK lead partner: Andrew Quantock, School of Optometry and Vision Sciences, Cardiff University

Japanese partner: Naoto Yagi, Life and Environment Division, Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute, SPRING-8

Experimental frontiers in bionanoscience.

£38,000

UK lead partner: D. Alistair Smith, Institute of Molecular Biophysics, University of Leeds

Japanese partner: Atsushi Ikai, Graduate School of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Yokohama

Exploiting emerging bovine genome information for improving quality in cattle production

£21,300

UK lead partner: Alan Archibald, Genomics and Genetics, Roslin Institute

Japanese partner: Yoshikazu Sugimoto, Shirakawa Institute of Animal Genetics, Odakura

From gene to function during development

£45,000

UK lead partner: Stephen Wilson, Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, University College London

Japanese partner: Hitoshi Okamoto, Neural Growth and Regeneration Research Group, RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Tokyo

2003 Call

Dynein motor proteins: Molecular structures and mechanisms

£49,000

UK lead partner: Peter Knight, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Leeds

Japanese partner: Ritsu Kamiya, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Tokyo

Applying gene transfer technologies to study dendritic neuropeptide release mechanisms and functions

£46,000

UK lead partner: Mike Ludwig, Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Edinburgh

Japanese partner: Yoichi Ueta, Department of Physiology, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Kitakyushu

Stem cell engineering: Knowledge, understanding, control

£25,000

UK lead partner: Austin Smith, Institute for Stem Cell Research, University of Edinburgh
Japanese partner: Shin-ichi Nishikawa, RIKEN Centre for Developmental Biology, Kobe

Biological biomaterials – from concept to clinic

£50,000

UK lead partner: Jennifer Southgate, Department of Biology, University of York
Japanese partner: Junzo Tanaka, Biomaterials Center of the National Institute for Materials Science, Tsukuba

2002 Call

Towards a Predictive Biology of *Escherichia Coli*

£47,000

UK lead partner: Stephen Busby, Department of Biochemistry, University of Birmingham
Japanese partner: Hirotada Mori, Research and Education Centre for Genetic Information, Nara Institute of Science and Technology

IFR/JIC joint functional genomics programme on plant metabolism, stress response and development

£49,500

UK lead partner: Tony Michael, Division of Food Safety Science, Institute of Food Research
Japanese partner: Kazuo Shinozaki, Laboratory of Plant Molecular Biology, RIKEN Tsukuba Institute

UK-Japan Bio-Nanotechnology collaboration

£50,000

UK lead partner: John Ryan, Bionanotechnology IRC, Oxford University
Japanese partner: Toshio Yanagida, Laboratories for Nanobiology, Osaka University

2001 Call

Construction of nano-devices based on bacterial light-harvesting complexes

£48,000

UK lead partner: Richard Cogdell, IBLS Division of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Glasgow
Japanese partner: Hideki Hashimoto, Faculty of Engineering, University of Shizouka

X-ray crystallography and single molecule observation of membrane proteins

£25,000

UK lead partner: So Iwata, Department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Imperial College London
Japanese partner: Masasuke Yoshida, Chemical Resources Laboratory, Tokyo Institute of Technology

Development and characterisation of heat stable biocatalysts

£20,000

UK lead partner: Jennifer Littlechild, Department of Chemistry and Biological Sciences, University of Exeter
Japanese partner: Tairo Oshima, Department of Molecular Biology, Tokyo University of

2000 Call

Protein-protein interactions; neurobiology of circadian rhythms; macromolecular assemblies

£49,547

UK lead partner: Caroline Bowsher, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Manchester

Japanese partner: Toshihara Hase, Institute for Protein Research, University of Osaka

Sub-piconewton force spectroscopy at solid and cell surfaces

£30,000

UK lead partner: Alastair Smith, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Leeds

Japanese partner: Toshio Yanagida, Department of Physiology, University of Osaka

Stem cell engineering: Knowledge, understanding, control

£49,400

UK lead partner: Austin Smith, Centre for Genome Research, University of Edinburgh

Japanese partner: Masatoshi Takeichi, RIKEN Centre for Developmental Biology, Kobe

Development of technology for solving solution structures of difficult proteins

£14,940

UK lead partner: M. Williamson, Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, University of Sheffield

Japanese partner: RIKEN Genomic Sciences Centre