

# **Japan Geoscience Union**

## **Donation Request in Support of Change to Online-Format Meeting**

### **1. Background Information to Donation Request**

As part of our response to the global spread of the coronavirus and after careful consideration of the safety of the participants it was decided there would be no onsite component to the JpGU–AGU Joint Meeting 2020, which was held 12–19 July 2020. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, we decided that our core duties to foster the continuous development of Earth and Planetary Sciences and to provide a forum for young researchers to present their research should not be put on hold and took on the challenge of a new online conference.

However, the need to reconfigure the meeting organization in the short period of time between the decision to go online and the actual event, and the fact that this was one of the first large-scale international conferences to go online anywhere in the world at that time, led to a number of problems due to inadequate preparation. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely apologize to the participants for any inconvenience this may have caused.

It is likely that uncertainty due to the corona pandemic will continue to cause disruption for a long time, but we have found that there are some clear advantages to holding the tournament online holding such as increasing the ease of participation by people from distant places. In the post-corona era, we believe it is necessary to consider a hybrid system for our meetings events with both onsite and online activities.

Unfortunately, the level of satisfaction with the 2020 online conference was lower than for previous onsite conferences, and are keenly aware of the need for improvement. Looking to the future, we plan a comprehensive overhaul of the present online system including a reexamination of the best way to implement presentations, seminars, and exhibitions to meet the different needs and objectives. This will include consideration of live or on-demand formats. We plan to work with an event company and where appropriate we will also seek out the advice of consultants.

The most important goal for us is to provide a conference experience to all participants that more closely matches their expectations. However, as explained in the letter from the President in the September 2020 issue of the JpGU newsletter, pandemic-related problems have left a major hole in the finances of JpGU and at present we regrettably do not have sufficient funds to cover the necessary development costs. To help overcome this financial problem, we have decided to reach out to a wide range of stake holders to ask for a one-time contribution in support of the required improvements to the online system.

### **1. Period for Donations**

As soon as it is ready – January 31, 2022 (ends when the final goal is reached)

## **2. Donation Amount and Final Goal**

Minimum amount 5,000JPY\* (no upper limit) Final Goal 5,000,000 JPY

\*We also welcome donations for other purposes not covered by these guidelines

## **4. Possible Donators**

All individuals, incorporated and non-incorporated organizations who support our cause.

## **5. Use of Donated Funds**

Following Article 5 of the Rules and Regulations of the JpGU, the donated funds will be used solely for the purposes of supporting activities related to holding an online international meeting and presentation of research in the Earth and Planetary Sciences, including administrative costs.

## **6. Method of donating and contact details for enquiries**

### *Methods for making donations*

We accept credit card payments for donations. Please click on the "Click here to make a donation" button, fill out the application form, and send it to us.

Please note that this donation is eligible for tax benefits.

Besides, the name of the donor will be posted on the JpGU's website. If you do not wish to be listed, please let the Secretariat know.

### *Address and Contact Details for Enquiries*

Address: Japan Geoscience Union, Academic Society Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Yayoi 2-4-16,  
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0032

Tel: 03-6914-2080, FAX: 03-6914-2088, e-mail: office@jpgu.org