

October 2009

Via Airmail and E-mail

To: All Sylff Fellows  
CC: Sylff Steering Committee members and other faculties  
From: Akiko Matsunobu  
Executive Director, Scholarship Division  
Re: Sylff connect Open!

Autumn greetings from the Tokyo Foundation!

I trust that you are all well and in good spirits. As I informed you earlier this year, we have been developing a SNS (Social Networking Service) exclusively for the Sylff fellows past and present. I am very excited to announce that this SNS, named "**Sylff connect**," is ready for launch.

### **Objective of Sylff connect**

This enables us to provide you with an exclusive space to interact with each other on the topics of your interest, both academic and otherwise, and to promote collaboration within the global network. I strongly hope to build a home where you can gain a sense of belonging as well as a device to empower your activities.

### **What is Sylff connect?**

It is a Facebook-like structure exclusive to Sylff fellows past and present. There are also a number of unique features:

- Discussion room: to discuss academic topics.
- Bulletin board: to make announcements of events and post news of interest to Sylff fellows.
- Community: to find fellows with the same interests. Apart from pre-set communities (your nationality, Sylff institution, and field of specialization), any fellow can freely start communities of his/her interest.
- JSTOR: to offer interdisciplinary archives of over 1,000 leading academic journals from universities and other sources. Within **Sylff connect**, JSTOR is available to Sylff fellows free of charge.

### **Important!! The Network Database will close!**

With the launch of **Sylff connect**, we will shift fellows' information collection from the Network Database to Sylff connect.

1. After the launch of **Sylff connect**, access to the Network Database will be closed to fellows, Sylff Steering Committees, and other Sylff faculty members.
2. Fellows' information previously provided to the Network Database has already been reflected on the fellows' profile page within Sylff connect. After the launch, each fellow should update his/her profile page in **Sylff connect** whenever such needs arise.

3. After the launch, we would like Sylff institutions to provide information on new Sylff fellows directly to the Scholarship Division at the Tokyo Foundation, instead of accessing the Network Database. The Foundation will be responsible for inputting fellows' information from the institutions into **Sylff connect** and inviting new fellows to it.

	Access to Network Database	Access to Sylff connect	Fellows' personal information input after Sylff connect launch
Sylff Steering Committee and other faculty members	Close at the Sylff connect launch	×	TKFD receives info on new fellows from Sylff institutions, inputs this into Sylff connect, and invites the fellows to it
Sylff fellows	Close at the Sylff connect launch	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fellows input their own info by accessing Sylff connect</li> <li>● TKFD receives info from institutions and input in Sylff connect</li> </ul>

\*Should the above change cause any serious inconvenience to you, please contact us as shown below.

#### How to get started on Sylff connect

We will presently send **Sylff connect** invitation e-mails to Sylff fellows. More detailed information will be provided there.

As you can see, if a fellow's current e-mail address is not registered in our database, that fellow will not be able to access **Sylff connect**. Please take this vital opportunity to provide the Tokyo Foundation with fellows' e-mail address at scholarship[a]tkfd.or.jp. \*([a] must be replaced by @. Please write "Sylff connect" in the title of the e-mail.)

Finally, we would like to say that **Sylff connect** is still a work-in-progress. This is our first attempt to build a social networking service for you. Over the next year, we welcome your opinions and questions regarding the **Sylff connect**. We want to reflect your inputs and steadily improve this digital community as we move forward.

I sincerely hope that **Sylff connect** can assist you in your academic and social missions, and that you will utilize it to the fullest.

Thank you, and with all good wishes and best regards,

