



**Weekly Wire**  
**News from East Asia and Pacific**  
**National Science Foundation**  
**Tokyo Regional Office**  
**May 5, 2015**

**AUSTRALIA: MOU with Mexican Academy**

The Australian Academy of Science signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Mexican Academy of Sciences to promote scientific cooperation between the two countries. The MOU makes both organizations foster mutually beneficial scientific exchange between Mexico and Australia, including workshops and other joint activities.

Source: <https://www.science.org.au/news/academy-signs-mou-mexican-academy>

**JAPAN: Japanese Government Scholarships - 2016**

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) announces scholarships to students overseas to study both in graduate and undergraduate programs in all academic fields at Japanese universities. The scholarship period will be two years for graduate programs and five years for undergraduate programs commencing April 2016. The allowance differs depending on the programs, but will be around 143,000 yen (\$1,200) per month for graduate students and around 117,000 yen (\$975) for undergraduate students. The application will be accepted only at the Japanese Embassies of the applicants' countries. Details are on the website below. The exact application deadline can be obtained by calling the relevant embassies, as it differs depending on the country and is not under MEXT control, but it is around May/June, if applied in the U.S.

Source:

*Graduate programs:*

[http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a\\_menu/education/detail/\\_icsFiles/afieldfile/2015/04/23/1357028\\_02.pdf](http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a_menu/education/detail/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2015/04/23/1357028_02.pdf)

*Undergraduate programs:*

[http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a\\_menu/education/detail/\\_icsFiles/afieldfile/2015/04/23/1357038\\_02.pdf](http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a_menu/education/detail/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2015/04/23/1357038_02.pdf)

**NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand Association of Scientists Annual Conference**

'Going public' was the theme of the New Zealand Association of Scientists annual conference. It was attended by over a hundred people at the Royal Society of New Zealand in Wellington. The speakers varied from scientists to media and government officials. The discussions were about empowering scientists to speak out, ensuring that scientists are perceived to be trusted communicators, and the responsibilities scientists should have when engaged with the public.

Source: <http://www.sciencemediacentre.co.nz/2015/04/16/going-public-at-the-new-zealand-association-of-scientists-annual-conference/>