



## JAPANESE RESEARCHERS GATHER IN **BERKELEY!**

Networking and building connections is important for researchers. Through these connections they can learn new things and get valuable feedback from their peers.

[READ MORE ON PG. 2](#)



## BECOMING A **PROFESSIONAL**

Both young and experienced university staff members from Japan gathered at JSPS San Francisco to engage in animated discussion and a whole day networking.

[READ MORE ON PG. 4](#)



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## **MEET US AT INFO SESSION**

Interested in applying for a JSPS Fellowship? Check out our website to get updates on upcoming information sessions where we cover everything from program details to life in Japan. Don't miss out on an opportunity to meet with us and other researchers, and ask loads of questions!

[READ MORE ON PG. 6](#)



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For more than a decade JSPS San Francisco has been hosting biannual gatherings to promote interaction between U.S.-based Japanese researchers from different disciplines, age groups, and positions. The number of attendees has grown steadily over the years.

On August 10th, JSPS' San Francisco Office held its 2019 Summer Researcher Gathering at the David Brower Center in Berkeley. This gathering was attended by researchers (resident and visiting), representatives from research institutes and U.S.-based companies and JSPS research fellows.



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Dr. Toru Tamiya (Director of JSPS San Francisco) gave the opening remarks to an audience of more than 70. This was followed by four research presentations.

Next was a speech from Dr. Junko Habu (professor of the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley). The title of her speech was "Think about sustainability from archaeological and anthropological point of view."

First she introduced her research experience and moved on to her current research topic: Archeology of the Jomon Period. At the end of the session, she touched on some advice for early career Japanese researchers about getting a position in English speaking countries. Her speech was well-received by the audience.

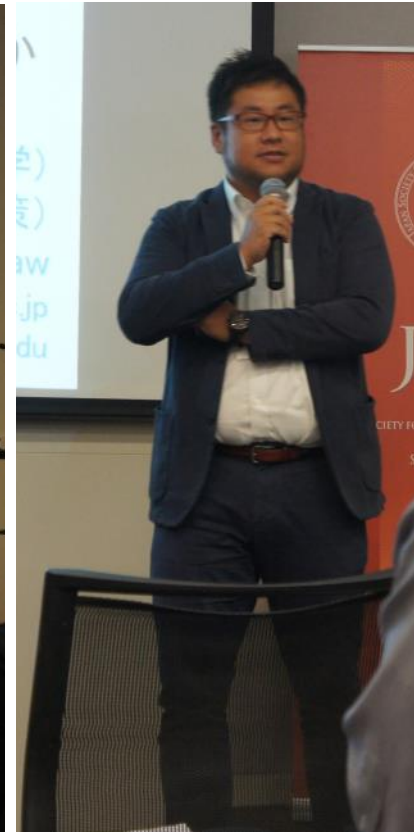
After her speech, participants split up into 10 groups made up of individuals from different backgrounds. During this session participants

exchanged views and shared their experiences concerning several themes such as career advancement and strategies for creating a productive research life.

Afterwards JSPS San Francisco gave a brief presentation on the organization's funding programs available to Japanese researchers.

The day's events concluded with a toast from Dr. Taka'aki Taira (Associate Research Seismologist of the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory at the University of California Berkeley) that kicked off the networking reception. Participants enjoyed chatting in this relaxed setting, meeting new people and reconnecting with old colleagues.

We are pleased to see this event serve as a venue for researchers to expand their networks and make new connections. The next Researcher Gathering will be held in February 8th of 2020 in Berkeley. For more information about future events, please visit our website: [http://www.jspsusa-sf.org/index\\_j.php](http://www.jspsusa-sf.org/index_j.php)





## HOW DO WE MANAGE DIFFERENCES?

JSPS SAN FRANCISCO HELD ITS 20TH ANNUAL WORKSHOP FOR JAPANESE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF WORKING IN THE U.S. ON NOVEMBER 1ST, 2019 IN BERKELEY.

The purpose of this annual workshop is to provide participants with an opportunity for professional development and networking.

This time, the format was slightly different from previous years'. It was designed to focus more on interaction among participants, rather than listening to lectures given by guest speakers, in order to motivate and provoke participants' problem-solving skills as a professional university staff member.

13 participants from various universities and research institutions joined this year's workshop along with JSPS San Francisco staff.

Two enthusiastic speakers were with us to give keynote addresses and to moderate two discussion groups. The workshop started with Naoko Yoshida Dunnigan, who serves as Lead of Global Corporate and Foundation Programs at the Institute of International Education (IIE), sharing her story and experience working in Japan and in the U.S.

Following Ms. Dunnigan was Koichiro Aoshima, the Assistant Director of International Student Services and Outreach at the Office of International Programs, San Francisco State University. He first briefly explained his career path leading up to his current position at San Francisco State University and then detailed his mission as an administrator.

Both of them spoke about the difficulties and challenges they have faced throughout their careers, which enabled the audience to reflect on their own experiences.

The participants were then divided into two groups to engage in a two-part discussion session. The first part allowed them to verbalize their thoughts and communicate with others about what they have learned in their new workplace in the U.S., including differences on work ethic and productivity management.

Key words were written out on a whiteboard which was soon filled. The lively discussion continued even during lunch time, where the speakers and the participants all sat at a table and enjoyed Thai food.

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The afternoon discussion session continued to motivate the participants even more. Reviewing the outcome of each group's first discussion session, the participants exchanged their constructive ideas on how they plan to implement their experiences and improve the quality of their work and life in the U.S. and back in Japan. Also integrated into the conversation was the advice from two speakers, who provided insightful comments on how to create effective action plans.

At the end of the workshop, all participants including JSPS San Francisco staff were given an opportunity to write down their own goals on a piece of colored paper and present it in front of the group. Their goals were impressively diverse and equally important.

Every participant and speaker expressed high satisfaction with the contents of the event, having benefited from meaningful conversations in a relaxed and casual atmosphere.

JSPS San Francisco will continue to hold this workshop on an annual basis and hopes the participants stay connected.



## FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN JAPAN

INFORMATION SESSIONS & NETWORKING  
AT SIX DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ON THE  
WEST COAST FROM SEPTEMBER  
THROUGH NOVEMBER

Fellowship information and networking sessions were held at six different universities from the beginning of September to early November.

Starting with an event at University of California at San Diego on September 9th, JSPS San Francisco staff members took turns visiting University of California at Berkeley on September 12th, University of California at Merced on September 25th, University of California at Davis on October 17th, University of Washington on November 7th, and University of British Columbia on November 8th.

With generous support from coordinators at each university, the sessions drew a large variety of researchers at different career stages from different fields, including undergraduates, early- and late-term doctoral students, postdocs, faculty, and even university staff members.

At our latest session held at University of British Columbia in Vancouver, we also welcomed a representative from Mitacs to provide the audience with helpful information on applying through this nominating authority. Mitacs is a Canadian non-profit national research organization that partners with JSPS and is responsible for the nomination of research fellows from that country.

Each of the information and networking sessions is about an hour long and usually starts with a brief introduction of JSPS, followed by a detailed lecture on fellowship programs, fellowship alumni talks, a Q/A segment and networking session.

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Alumni talks highlight each event, supplementing fact-based lectures with more relatable insights and wisdom from an alumni's first-hand experience. These sessions are a great opportunity for participants not only to learn about the different types of JSPS fellowship programs but also to ask questions directly to JSPS staff and clear any confusion that they may find from just going through the website. Participants can make the most of the event by connecting with other researchers on campus who share similar interests.

For those who missed these sessions, here are some helpful tips that you can use when applying to JSPS fellowship programs: (1) The more you communicate with your host researcher, the better your chance at being accepted into the program; (2) Make sure to keep track of deadlines set by your host institution, not just those set by JSPS; (3) You can bring your family with you to Japan. Your host institution should be able to help you with your living arrangements, visa procedures, and other matter prior to your arrival in Japan;

(4) There are no official language requirements when applying; (5) Successful proposals and acceptance rates can be found on below website in the left side menu bar: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/>

The following resources are also available online and are useful in collecting up-to-date information on current fellows and alumni;

JSPS Fellows Plaza: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/index.html>

US JSPS Alumni Association (\*managed primarily by JSPS Washington Office): <http://www.jspsusa-alumni.org/>

JSPS San Francisco will continue to hold regular information and networking sessions at universities around the Bay Area. All interested researchers are welcome to attend. For more information about upcoming sessions, as well as fellowship eligibility and other details, please feel free to contact us: [webmaster@jspsusa-sf.org](mailto:webmaster@jspsusa-sf.org) or visit us at our website: <http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/>

**JUNBAシンポジウム2020**

**大学を変えるファンドレイジング**

～米国から学ぶリーダーシップと  
同窓生を中心としたコミュニティ作り～

**Fundraising Best Practices**

**-Fostering Effective Leadership and  
Building Alumni Relationships-**

**開催日:2020年1月10日(金) 9:00～**

**会場:Marriott San Francisco Airport Waterfront**

近年、大学を取り巻く財政状況が厳しさを増す中、独自財源である寄附の役割に焦点が当たっていると  
ころです。米国大学においては、学長をはじめとした大学幹部のリーダーシップのもと、同窓生を中心とし  
た大学を支える個人、企業等との関係を構築しながら、多額の寄附を集めていることが知られています。  
こうした背景を踏まえて、JUNBA 2020では大学のファンドレイジングに関する米国大学の戦略を学ぶ  
とともに、日本の大学における取組の改善に向けて議論することとしました。

**講演**

Peter Smits



米国内の様々な大学にお  
いてファンドレイジングに係  
る責任者を務めてこられた。  
ファンドレイジングに係る  
大学幹部の役割をはじめ  
として、大学の組織、予算  
を含め、米国大学のファン  
ドレイジングに係る戦略の  
全体像を伺います。

Amy Ambrose



長年ファンドレイジング  
に携わってこられた氏  
に、継続的な同窓生と  
の関係構築を中心とし  
て、大学を支えるステ  
ークホルダーとの関係作  
りについて、その秘訣を  
伺います。

主催 サンフランシスコ・ベイエリア大学間連携ネットワーク (JUNBA)  
共催 独立行政法人日本学術振興会サンフランシスコ研究連絡センター  
後援 文部科学省、在サンフランシスコ日本国総領事館、  
独立行政法人日本貿易振興機構サンフランシスコ事務所



Reduced subsidies for higher education in recent years have put strains on operating budgets at many universities in Japan. In order to continue developing high quality research and education functions, while still meeting the needs of a diverse student body, independent funding sources (such as donations) have increasingly come into focus.

Given an increasing interest on and the necessity of fundraising among many universities in Japan, this symposium is designed to provide university leaders and administrative staff with an opportunity to learn about issues and strategies regarding fundraising through experiences and examples of U.S. universities.

**JUNBA2020**

**TO BE HELD SOON**

Date:

JANUARY 10, 2020

Venue:

SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT MARRIOTT  
WATERFRONT

Speakers:

AMY AMBROSE  
PETER SMITS

**プログラム**

08:30～09:00	受付
09:00～09:10	開会、挨拶 (神山 知久・名古屋大学)
09:10～10:20	講演1:Mr. Peter Smits (Interim Vice President for University Advancement, San José State University)
10:40～11:50	講演2:Ms. Amy Ambrose (Senior Development Director, Simons Institute, University of California Berkeley)
11:50～12:00	記念撮影
14:00～14:20	日米大学調査結果と主旨説明 (渡邊 浩人・JSPS)
14:20～15:40	大学間討論1 (ファンリテーター:松尾 正人・九州大学、會沢 洋一・早稲田大学)
16:00～17:20	大学間討論2 (ファンリテーター:田谷 正仁・大阪大学、丸山 マリ・桜美林大学)
17:20～17:40	全体総括、閉会 (三宅 雅人・奈良先端科学技術大学院大学)
18:00～20:00	懇親会

**大学間討論**

<p>討論1:大学幹部等のリーダーシップ</p> <p>午前中の講演を踏まえて、学長、副学長、学部長(トップ)の権限や役割分担、キャンペーンを行う際の趣旨設定や組織体制づくり、ファンドレイジングに関する予算の確保と費用対効果の分析によるパフォーマンス評価について議論します。</p>	<p>討論2:同窓生を中心としたコミュニティ作り</p> <p>卒業生が大学への参画・帰属意識を持つような取り組み、寄付文化(寄付に対する理解)の涵養、現役学生によるファンドレイジングへの参画、大学の活動と連動させた、個別の同窓生へのアプローチについて議論します。</p>
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## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

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### INFORMATION SESSIONS

February 29 - March 1 (TBD)  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
California Institute of Technology

### SYMPOSIUMS AND OTHER EVENTS

February 8  
Winter Gathering of Japanese Researchers in the U.S.  
(日本人研究者交流会・冬) / Bridge Award Ceremony  
David Brower Center

February 14 - 15  
Joint symposium with University of Berkeley,  
Center for Japanese Studies  
\*Details to be announced

February 29 - March 1  
Japan-U.S. symposium  
University of California, Irvine  
\*Details to be announced

## JSPS FELLOW IN AMERICA



# TOMONORI MATSUMOTO

**2017-2019**

Postdoctoral Scholar,  
Oregon Health & Science University

**2017-2019**

JSPS Overseas Research Fellow

**2014-2017**

JSPS Research Fellow (DC1)

**2013-2017**

Graduate School of Medicine,  
Kyoto University (PhD)

**2002-2008**

Faculty of Medicine, Kyoto University (MD)

**Mammalian somatic cells** have typically diploid genome, but some tissues such as the liver, muscle and bone marrow, contain abundant polyploid cells which have more than two sets of chromosomes.

In fact, more than half of hepatocytes, the main parenchymal cells in the liver, are polyploid in human and rodent adult livers. In addition, polyploidization is known to be enhanced under some diseased conditions in various organs. However, the significance of polyploidy and ploidy regulation in the pathophysiology of mammalian organs is largely unknown.

I am now studying whether and how polyploid hepatocytes contribute liver regeneration and cancer development at Markus Grompe lab at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). In my current research, I have established a mouse model in which the fate of polyploid cells can be traced, and gotten some data indicating that the majority of polyploid hepatocytes can proliferate and serve as a source of liver regeneration.

I also found that polyploid hepatocyte can reduce their ploidy via “reductive mitosis” and give rise to diploid cells that are competent to proliferate. I’d like to examine whether polyploidy and ploidy reduction impact on cancer development in the liver as well as various other organs in the future.

**Q1. WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO RESEARCH IN THE U.S.?**

One of the reasons why I decided to do my research in the U.S. is because it is the perfect environment for research. There is abundant research funding offered by the government or private donations.

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Although it may sometimes be difficult to get such funding without continuous achievements, there seems to be many chances for laboratories that are active and have good research ideas to exert their potential to the full extent. In addition, there are some research resource centers in the U.S. that researchers around the world are using, such as the Jackson Laboratory and Addgene. I wanted to work in such an environment for research.

In addition, the subject in Grompe lab really matched my research interest. I wanted to work on polyploidy and ploidy alterations in the liver because I thought they were closely related to pathogenesis of liver injury or cancers. Grompe lab found a novel finding that polyploid hepatocytes can reduce their ploidy during liver regeneration in 2010, and I

wanted to pursue it. Thus, I applied for a postdoctoral position in Grompe lab and started my current research.

## Q2. WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT IN THE U.S.?

Many universities and large institutes in the U.S. have core facilities that offer various kinds of research instruments and professional services. For example, OHSU has a variety of cores such as advanced light microscopy core, flow cytometry core, and massively parallel sequencing core. These core facilities provide many high-end instruments that are too expensive for each lab to buy, and everybody in OHSU can easily utilize them.

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I frequently use flow cytometry machines that have multiple lasers, and confocal microscopies with simultaneous channels of fluorescence spectral information. It is sometimes difficult in Japan to get access to multiple advanced machines like them.

In addition, some professional staff are always available in core facilities, and they give me some professional advice about my research as well as how to use complicated machines whenever needed. As these core services enable efficient and refined research, I hope core facilities that provide extensive instruments and support will be developed more widely in Japan.

I also think that many researchers in different laboratories frequently collaborate and share their ideas with each other in the U.S. I have actually worked with some people in other laboratories for my project, and discussed it with some principal investigators in other institutes. Developing a community of researchers is encouraged in the U.S. and a network of researcher seems to help the progression of research because each researcher brings his or her own area of expertise.

### Q3. HOW DO YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR EXPERIENCES IN THE U.S. AND APPLY IT TO YOUR RESEARCH OR CAREER?

I hadn't worked on ploidy before I joined Grompe lab, and I could learn and discuss unsolved questions about ploidy a lot in Grompe lab. I also learned from Markus how to manage a laboratory, how to promote research, and what makes for a good research aim.

I believe that these experiences as well as some experimental skills including hepatocyte transplantation, which is unique to Grompe lab, will develop my career as a researcher. In addition, I became able to discuss research with other people in detail in English. I want to keep communication with researchers that I have gotten to know, and work on international collaboration research with them.

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JSPS San Francisco Office invites current Overseas Research Fellows to contribute articles to our Newsletter. Any Interested fellows are welcome to contact us: [webmaster@jspssusa-sf.org](mailto:webmaster@jspssusa-sf.org)



# THE LATEST FROM UNIVERSITIES IN JAPAN

## Hiroshima University Establishes its Mexico Center



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

On September 9th 2019, an opening ceremony was held for the Hiroshima University Mexico Center, the 22nd overseas base of Hiroshima University (HU), in the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

The ceremony was attended by President Mitsuo Ochi and Executive Vice President Toshiyuki Sato from HU, as well as Vice President Ken Oyama and his colleagues from UNAM.

HU and UNAM signed an inter-university exchange agreement in August of 2017. Since then, the two universities have deepened exchange focusing on academia-industry cooperation.

With this new center, we hope that exchange between the two universities as well as the two nations will continue to flourish even further.



Commemorative photo at the opening ceremony



Ribbon cutting ceremony by President Ochi (left) and Vice President Oyama (right)



## HELLOs AND FAREWELLS

EVERY YEAR, WE HAVE PEOPLE COME AND GO AT JSPS SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.

We would like to introduce new staff members of our office as well as those who completed their missions and went back to Japan.

**WELCOME: September**

Masakazu Ito

**GOODBYE: August**

Yumiko Minoura

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**MY NAME IS MASAKAZU ITO** and I joined JSPS San Francisco as deputy director on September 1, 2019. Originally I worked as an administrative staff member at Kyushu University in several different departments. The most memorable of which was my experience working for the School of Engineering's undergraduate programs, which started as a MEXT project. In my five years working for the project, I have traveled to about 20 cities in 15 countries, promoting programs to local high school students. I was surprised and moved to find all of these students with such passion and enthusiasm for studying in Japan.

Here at the San Francisco office, I am enjoying the rich and diverse culture of the Bay Area and working in such a fun and inspiring atmosphere. I am also thankful for the opportunity to work with such a kind and talented staff.



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**AT MANY UNIVERSITIES IN THE U.S.**, the summer break comes to an end in August and the hustle and bustle starts getting in the way. With that, I turn the deputy director position over to Masakazu Ito. Judging from his job experience, I am sure he is ready to make a great contribution to the mission and goals of our office and bring fresh eyes, ideas and even excitement to new initiatives. I am happy to leave my work in his good and capable hands. It has been my pleasure to work for JSPS SF these past two years since September 2017.

Working with these enthusiastic and amazing people has been a treat. It has strengthened my friendships with these people and created new networking opportunities. Likewise, I am proud to have also helped provide U.S. and Japanese researchers with new networking opportunities through the events we had where they shared their knowledge with others and forged their intellect.

Most importantly, JSPS SF has given me the education I need to be organized, committed, and focused on leadership and management. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and encouragement. And thanks for the great memories. I am going to miss the dry and cool summers in Berkeley.

**-YUMIKO MINOURA**



# SHOULD COLLEGE BASKETBALL PLAYERS

BE ABLE TO APPEAR  
IN A NIKE AD?

## CHRIS REED

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Liaison Officer, JSPS San Francisco  
Office

College sports is big business here in the US. During the 2016-2017 school year the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) brought in \$1.06 Billion of revenue. Ticket sales, NCAA video games, merchandise, and broadcasting rights all contribute to the organization's impressive financial results. Event attendance, televised viewership, and team revenues are at an all time high<sup>1</sup>. The NCAA recently extended a deal with broadcasters worth \$8.8 billion to show the men's basketball championship games<sup>2</sup>.

Despite all this the student athletes key to generating cash for the NCAA are essentially

forbidden from receiving any compensation other than free education and food. However, this may be beginning to change.

On September 30 California Governor Gavin Newsom signed the Fair Pay To Play Act which beginning in 2023 should allow student athletes to receive money from endorsement deals without putting scholarships or NCAA eligibility at risk<sup>3</sup>. Under this law student athletes can start receiving payments for appearing in promotions for large brands such as Nike and smaller businesses like a local car dealership.

The NCAA officially operates under the assumption that student athletes are amateurs who are scholars first and athletes second. They are supposed to be at school primarily to receive an education<sup>4</sup>.

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It's also argued that amateurism in college sports helps smaller schools stay competitive with large elite institutions and that the current system somehow protects student athletes from the corruption associated with professional sports gambling<sup>5</sup>.

While athletes are barred from participating in a free marketplace for their talent, coaches and NCAA executives are not. In 2019, the top paid football coach, Dabo Swinney at Clemson College (in Birmingham, Alabama), received a total of \$9,315,600. Within the University of California system the top four best paid individuals were all sports coaches making between \$3.6 and \$2.7 million a year, more than doctors and the UC President Janet Napolitano (who was paid \$578,916 in 2016<sup>6</sup>). Similarly, the NCAA's president Mark Emmert's total compensation for the 2016 calendar year was more than \$2.4 million<sup>7</sup>.

Public opinion polls suggest that the American public firmly supports student athletes' ability to profit off of their name, image and likeness. Polls also show that this is one of the few issues where Republicans and Democrats are in agreement. Politicians from both political parties throughout the country have introduced legislation similar to the one signed by the governor of California<sup>8</sup>. David Ridpath, professor of Sports Business at Ohio University and interim president of the Drake Group (an organization focused on ending academic corruption in college sports) told USA Today that, "It's a fairness issue. We've jumped the shark. We've got coaches making millions of dollars, you've got a (multi) billion-dollar TV contract with March Madness [the basketball championship games]. With so much money coming in, to tell an individual that they don't have the right to own their own image is flat-out wrong<sup>9</sup>".



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The NCAA seems to recognize that some change is needed. In September, NCAA president Mark Emmert wrote a letter to the Governor Newsom threatening to disqualify 58 California schools from competing in NCAA games<sup>10</sup>. However, after the bill was passed the association took a dramatic reverse course when they announced in October that they would “begin to craft rules that would permit students participating in athletics the opportunity to benefit from the use of their name, image and likeness in a manner consistent with the collegiate model<sup>11</sup>”. Before going into effect any new rules will go through a long multi-year process of gathering input from schools, coaches and other stakeholders.

1. <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.29.1.115>
2. <https://money.cnn.com/2016/04/12/media/ncaa-march-madness-turner->
3. [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=2019202005B206](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=2019202005B206)
4. <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/ncaa-working-group-examine-name-image-and-likeness>
5. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateurism\\_in\\_the\\_NCAA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amateurism_in_the_NCAA)
6. <https://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/news/2017/10/26/all-the-university-of-california-500000-earners.html>
7. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2018/06/21/ncaa-mark-emmert-got-nearly-500-000-raise-2-4-million/722482002/>
8. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/10/24/florida-and-ny-push-bills-to-compete-with-californias-ncaa-pay-to-play-law.html>

9. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/college/2019/10/10/ncaa-amateurism-model-being-pushed-change-legislation/3928243002/>
10. <https://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/ncaa-responds-california-senate-bill-206>
11. <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/media-center/news/board-governors-starts-process-enhance-name-image-and-likeness-opportunities>



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**JSPS** San Francisco Office

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