

5:30pm – 8:30pm **Welcome Reception & Dinner**
[Location: Garden Tower Banquet Hall, HŌ]

7:00pm – 9:00pm **Chairman's Dinner (Invitation only)**
[Location: Myojin Kaikan, [Kanda Myoujin](#)]

October 29 (Wednesday)

7:00am – 6:00pm Registration Open (Main Desks)
[Location: The Main Bldg. Arcade Floor, Sho]

7:00am – 8:40am **Joint Networking Buffet Breakfast**
[Location: Garden Tower Banquet Hall, HŌ]

7:45am – 8:30am **Governors/Head of Delegation Leaders Breakfast**
[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, AZALEA]
**Limited to specific members (HODs, Consul-Generals, Co-Chairs)*

8:45am – 10:15am **Opening Ceremony**
[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (West)]

Opening Remarks :

Mr. Masaaki Tsuya, Chairman, Japan – U.S. Southeast Association,
External Advisor / Immediate Past Chairman & Global CEO, Bridgestone
Corporation

Mr. Don Stewart, Chairman, Southeast U.S./Japan Association
Group Vice President, Region 7, Toyota Motor North America
President, Toyota Battery Manufacturing, North Carolina

Guest Remarks : Guest from Ministry of Foreign Affairs (TBA)
Guest from Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (TBA)

Delegation Leader Remarks :

**Final speaking order determined by office rank, then alphabetical by state
(i.e. Governors attending speak first):*

State of North Carolina - **The Honorable Governor Josh Stein**

State of Georgia - **The Honorable Governor Brian Kemp**

State of Tennessee - **The Honorable Governor Bill Lee**

State of Alabama - **Ellen McNair**, Secretary of Commerce

State of Florida - **Cord Byrd**, Secretary of State

State of Mississippi - **Bill Cork**, Executive Director, Mississippi Development
Authority

State of South Carolina - **Harry Lightsey**, Secretary of Commerce

Welcome Remarks :

Mr. Kenichi Matsuda, Consul General of Japan in Atlanta

10:30am – 11:45pm **Panel Session I**
[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (West)]

Theme: "**Strengthening Ties: The Enduring Value of Bilateral
Partnerships in Business**"

Moderator: **Mr. Norihiko Ishiguro**, Chairman of Japan External Trade Organization "JETRO"

Panelists: (J) **Mr. Satoshi Komiya**, Managing Director & Senior Partner, Boston Consulting Group

(J) **Ms. Reiko Kusunose**, Independent Outside Director:Teijin Limited, Bunka Shutter Corporation, NIPPO Corporation

(A) **Ms. Masami Tyson**, Chief of Staff, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson Country / Board Chair, Japan-America Society of Tennessee

(A) **Mr. Virgil Miller**, President of Aflac Incorporated and Aflac U.S.

11:55am – 12:15pm **Keynote Address & Interview Session:**

[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (West)]

The Honorable George Glass, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan

12:30pm – 1:40pm **Lunch & Interview Session:**

[Location: Garden Tower Banquet Hall, HŌ]

Mr. Takeshi Hakamada, Founder & CEO, ispace Inc.

1:55pm – 3:10pm **Panel Session II**

[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (West)]

Theme: “**Next Horizons Together: SEUS–Japan Innovation and Opportunities across Endless Frontiers in the New Space Economy**”

Moderator: **Mr. Joe Casas**, Science, Technology & Exploration Small Missions and DoD Formulation Manager, Partnerships & Formulation Office, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Panelists: (J) **Dr. Mengu Cho**, Professor, Department of Space and Semiconductor Engineering, Chiba Institute of Technology / Professor, Department of Space Systems Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology / Director, Laboratory of Lean Satellite Enterprises and In-Orbit Experiments

(J) **Mr. Masatoshi Nagasaki**, Co-Founder & CEO, Space BD Inc.

(J) **Mr. Chris Blackerby**, Group Chief Operating Officer (COO), Astroscale Holdings

(A) **Ms. Barbie Peek**, Chief Business Development Officer, Port of Huntsville

(A) **Mr. Louis Ross**, CEO, MEI Micro, Inc.

(A) **Mr. Robert Long**, President & CEO, Space Florida

3:25pm – 4:15pm **Closing Ceremony**

[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (West)]

Guest Remarks

Consul General Shinji Watanabe, Consulate General of Japan in Nashville

Consul General Junya Nakano, Consulate General of Japan in Miami

Adoption of Joint Statement

Closing Remarks

Mr. Don Stewart, Chairman, Southeast U.S./Japan Association

Mr. Masaaki Tsuya, Chairman, Japan – U.S. Southeast Association

Exchange of Gifts by Chairmen

Host State Transition Ceremony

Announcement of the 48th Joint Meeting

4:30pm – 6:00pm

Higher Education Session

[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Tsuru (East)]

*Participants expected from universities in the Southeast U.S. and partner universities in Japan

Theme: "**How Higher Education Institutions Help Accelerate Industry Technology and Business Development**"

Session Co-Chairs:

(J) **Dr. Akihiro Sasoh**, Nagoya University Vice President
(Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration and Start-ups)

(A) **Mr. Stephen Sumner**, Director, North Carolina Japan Center

Keynote Speakers:

(A) **Mr. Randy Boyd**, President of The University of Tennessee System

(J) **Mr. Minoru Tomoda**, Professional Associate, Strategy Office,
Technology and Innovation Center, Daikin Industries, Ltd.

Panel Discussion:

Moderator:

Dr. Akihiro Sasoh, Nagoya University Vice President
(Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration and Start-ups)

Panelists:

(J/A) **Dr. Robert Feldman**, Senior Advisor, Morgan Stanley MUFG
Securities Co., Ltd. / Senior Specially Appointed Professor, Tokyo
University of Science / TV commentator on World Business Satellite,
the nightly Japanese business program of TV Tokyo

(J) **Prof. Hiroyuki Takahashi**, Graduate School of Engineering /
Deputy Director General, Division of University Corporate Relations,
The University of Tokyo

(A) **Mr. Don Hobart**, Attorney & Counselor at Law / Retired Associate Vice
Chancellor, Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Reception & Gala Dinner

[Location: The Main Bldg. Banquet Floor, Fuyo]

(End of Annual Joint Meeting Schedule)