

In Memory of Joseph Nye, Harvard University Distinguished Service Professor, Emeritus

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We are deeply saddened by the loss of Joseph Nye, Harvard University Distinguished Service Professor, Emeritus.

Professor Nye kindly participated in nearly every U.S.-Japan Symposium, which we have had the honor of co-organizing with the Harvard Kennedy School and the Japan Society of Boston since 1993. The most recent occasion of this was last December, when we had the opportunity to once again hear his insightful remarks at the 32nd Annual U.S.-Japan Symposium. We are surprised and heartbroken by the sudden news of his passing.

Professor Nye is well known for originating the concept of “soft power,” which refers to the ability to advance foreign policy by gaining understanding and support from other countries through culture and shared values, rather than through military or economic might. At the 2012 U.S.-Japan Symposium, he gave us these astute words: “By using its economic and soft power as well as its military resources, Japan can contribute to the global public good of stability that undergirds security.”¹ We take this as his message of encouragement and motivation to further demonstrate Kansai’s soft power.

We express our sincere gratitude for his enduring friendship and wisdom, and offer our deepest condolences.

END

¹ Kansai Association of Corporate Executives, *20th Annual U.S.-Japan Symposium Commemorative Project: Challenges and Opportunities for Japan Over the Next Two Decades* (2013), 145.