

STS forum 2025 22nd Annual Meeting
Forum for Unity, Science, and Empowerment (FUSE)

by the Henry Luce Foundation

October 4, 2025 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM JPT

Kyoto International Conference Center, Room SWAN



A New Format for Deeper Dialogue:

FUSE 2025 gathered 128 women leaders participating in the 2025 STS *forum* from around the world to connect through a redesigned, open gathering. This year, participants moved and discussed freely, meeting new mentors and colleagues before and after the panel discussion, while enjoying Japanese tea and sweets in a beautiful venue overlooking a Japanese garden.



The conversation was led by **Dr. Aida Gureghian**, FUSE Chair and Program Director for Leadership at the Henry Luce Foundation, with opening remarks from **Prof. Hiroshi Komiyama**, Chairman of the STS forum.



Panel: Voices that Inspire



The panel featured **Dr. Marcia McNutt**, President, National Academy of Sciences (U.S.A.); **Dr. Motoko Kotani**, Executive Director of Science, RIKEN, and Executive Vice President of Tohoku University (Japan); and **Prof. Frances Arnold**, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, California Institute of Technology (U.S.A.). **Dr. Shu Ying Tan** of MIGHT (Malaysia) moderated the panel, representing 2025 STS *forum* Young Leaders. Their discussion highlighted mentorship, inclusivity, and the importance of building supportive networks for women in science.

Reflections:

FUSE 2025 marked a generational shift — an event where dialogue, diversity, and mentorship intertwined. Participants' voices will continue to shape FUSE's evolving journey toward a more connected and inclusive scientific community.

"I really enjoyed listening to the speakers whom I deeply admire. I made many new connections and was inspired by the thoughtful questions from participants." – CEO, Singapore

"Brilliant idea with corsages for senior and junior women."
– University President, USA

"The speakers' honest reflections on discrimination and work-life balance resonated deeply and gave me strength." – Scientist, Korea

"It was inspiring to have a young leader moderate the panel." – Researcher, Canada

