Monthly Report of Gifu University

December 2016 Vol. 712



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The 48th Gifu University Forum, Environmental University Forum

On November 2, 2016, Gifu University held the 48th Gifu University Forum entitled, "Environmental University Forum" at the General Education Building.

Gifu University designates November as Environmental Month based on the date of its Environmental University declaration, and holds the Environmental University Forum every year as a related event.

On November 2, Mr. Yoshihiro Ueda, President of the Gifu International Academy of Horticulture was invited as a guest speaker and made a presentation. A total of 94 people (72 teaching and administrative staff, 10 students and 12 citizens) attended the forum.

Prior to Mr. Ueda's speech, Mr. Masaki Yokoyama, Executive Director for General Affairs and Finance, Vice President made an opening speech and Dr. Hirokazu Fukui, Dean of the Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences introduced Mr. Ueda.

Mr. Ueda made a presentation titled, "In Pursuit of Rose Genetic Resources: Search for roots of cultured roses and rare species of wild roses." He spoke about his visit to Iran, Laos and China in a quest for rose genetic resources while showing the pictures of beautiful roses and landscapes of foreign countries. He also mentioned destruction of environment, strenuous efforts by the people for nature preservation and the reality of declining genetic resources due to aging of society. Later, he introduced the Gifu Prefecture Flower Festival Commemorative Park in Kani City where about 7,000 spices of roses are planted and are well cared for. Mr. Ueda underscored the importance of preserving rare genetic resources.

After his speech, Mr. Ueda and Dr. Fukui exchange opinions on stage, and took questions from the audience. Many questions were raised from the audience such as "Do all rose species have thorns?" Mr. Ueda later expressed his hope for creating a thornless rose and further research on scent of roses.

After the forum, some of the participants commented, "The contents of the forum were perfectly fit as we have the Flower Festival Commemorative Park, the world-class rose garden in Gifu Prefecture." Gifu University keeps on promoting various environment conservation programs by concentrating the wisdom for years to come.



Mr. Yokoyama giving an opening speech



Dr. Fukui introducing Mr. Ueda



Mr. Ueda making a presentation



Dr. Fukui and Mr. Ueda exchanging opinions

Gifu University Industry-Academia Cooperation Fair 2016

On November 4, 2016, the Head Office for Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration of the Organization for Research and Community Development hosted the Gifu University Industry-Academia Cooperation Fair 2016 at the university Satellite Campus in front of JR Gifu Station. A total of 107 people attended.

During the fair, the following events were held: "Autumn Special Lecture" co-hosted by the Gifu University Regional Exchange Cooperation Association, research work presentations by young researchers, technical explanations and a panel exhibition on research results being awarded prizes from an academic society.

On Professor November 4, first, Wang Zhigang, Vice President for Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration and Mr. Tomohiko Okamoto, Chair of the Gifu University Regional Exchange Cooperation Association delivered opening speeches. Next, in the 1st Section of the "Autumn Special Lecture," Mr. Takashi Inuzuka of Science and Technology Policy Bureau, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) gave a speech entitled, "Towards Promotion of Industry-Government-Academia Partnership," and spoke about the current state of industry-academia cooperation in Japan.

In the 2nd Section, Mr. Tokuji Munetsugu, a founder of Ichibanya Co., Ltd., a curry chain giant, made a speech under the theme, "Real business operation can be translated into a constant success and growth." He talked passionately about his philosophy about business management by citing many of his own experiences.

In the research work presentations, three young researchers gave speeches. The participants were intently listening to their speeches and a lot of questions were raised from the audience.

The Fair 2016 offered people an opportunity to know the university's research activities and achievements. The goal of the fair was to increase the university's contributions to local businesses through matching the needs between the university and businesses by way of communicating its research programs/projects and technology seeds to the public. Gifu University will continue to hold the similar fairs in the years to come.



Mr. Inuzuka making a presentation



Mr. Munetsugu making a presentation



Panel exhibition



Presentation by a researcher (one participant raising a question)

Health Administration Center hosts Faculty Development Seminar titled, "Prevention of Infectious Diseases"

On November 9, 2016, the Health Administration Center hosted the Faculty Development (FD) seminar titled, "Prevention of Infectious Diseases" at the Faculty of Engineering. The main purpose of this seminar is to help both the international students studying at Gifu University and the students studying abroad to maintain their mental and physical health, and spend a meaningful time overseas. This kind of seminar is in high demand today as Gifu University is pushing forward globalization, and the number of international students studying at the university as well as Japanese students studying abroad is on constant rise.

In the seminar, Dr. Mayumi Yamamoto, Director of the Health Administration Center explained about the real situations of infectious diseases including tuberculosis and their countermeasures in place at Gifu University by quoting scientific data. The teaching and administrative staff at present were intently listening to her explanation.

Gifu University continues to hold the Faculty Development seminar / workshops in order to take proper measures against infections at each faculty.



Participants listening to Dr. Yamamoto's explanation

Gifu University Fair in Takayama is held

On November 12 and 13, 2016, Gifu University hosted the "Gifu University Fair in Takayama" at the Hida Earth Wisdom Center in northern Hida region, Gifu Prefecture. A total of 700 people attended for two days.

The fair started in 2009 and has been held every year as an event to communicate the university education, research projects and social contributions to the general public. The theme of the fair this year was "Learn, Explore and Contribute: Step up in Hida \times Create a Momentum for Hida," and was convened at Takayama City for the first time in hopes of attracting a large number of senior high school students in the Hida region.

The fair was part of the "Senior High School & University Partnership Program" of COC^{*1} development type COC+^{*2} project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) which started in 2015. Unlike other fairs focusing on research work, Gifu University's activities were extensively introduced to senior high school students and their parents through presentations of university faculties and centers, briefing on student education, extracurricular activities and collaboration between the university and local communities.

At the Hida Earth Wisdom Center, people were invited to see a panel exhibition about university faculties, experience lectures and on-site study sessions. They also had a chance to get a glimpse of university student activities. Later, four mayors of the Hida region and President Hisataka Moriwaki of Gifu University joined a panel discussion under the title, "Ties between the Hida region and Gifu University and Partnership: Message for youngsters responsible for the next generation." In addition, Ms. Teruko Kikumoto (Chair of Save the Children Centre (SCC: NGO) and Director of Matumaini Chidren's Home) gave a speech entitled, "Build a Sense of Hope (Matumaini) in a Destitute Country: Grass-root activities in Kenya." Other programs in the fair include: reporting on "Gifu Future Center" activities at which local residents and the university students share their ideas about ties between Gifu University and local communities, and "Local Community-Oriented Education Project" promoted by Gifu University for solutions of regional challenges and discovering potential problems.

The fair offered many senior high school students and the residents of the Hida region a chance to know more about Gifu University's goals and ongoing activities. Thank you very much for your coming to "Gifu University Fair in Takayama."

*¹ COC (Center of Community) projects: projects of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Their objectives include reinforcing university functions to be a core of local communities where people, information and technology are brought together for problem-solving. To achieve these objectives, universities are expected to promote regional-based education, research and social contribution.

*² COC+ (Center of Community Program for Local Revitalization) projects: projects of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Their objectives include assembling people together to regions for revitalization by:

- offering attractive job opportunities to students in collaboration with universities, local governments and businesses and,
- supporting university's curriculum reform efforts necessary to cultivate personnel sought by regions.



Special lecture by Ms. Teruko Kikumoto



Reporting on research results



Gifu Future Center



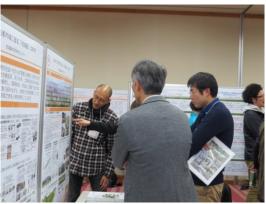
People experiencing a lecture



University admission consultation service



Senior high schools joining a program



Panel exhibition



On-site study session organized by the Faculty of Education students



A cheerleader squad, "Stars" on stage



Yosakoi Circle, "Souya" performance



Dancing and singing by international students

The 33rd Gifu Symposium, "A Panel Discussion by Four Mayors of the Hida Region and President of Gifu University; "Ties between the Hida Region and Gifu University and Partnership – Message for youngsters responsible for the next generation—" is held

On November 13, 2016, the 33rd Gifu Symposium titled, "A Panel Discussion by Four Mayors of the Hida Region and President of Gifu University; "Ties between the Hida Region and Gifu University and Partnership – Message for youngsters responsible for the next generation—" was held at the Hida Earth Wisdom Center, Takayama City in northern Hida region, Gifu Prefecture. This symposium was part of the "Gifu University Fair in Takayama" on November 12 and 13.

In the symposium, four mayors of the Hida region (Mr. Michihiro Kunishima, Mayor of Takayama City, Mr. Junya Tsuzuku, Mayor of Hida City, Mr. Hidehiro Hattori, Mayor of Gero City and Mr. Shigeru Narihara, Mayor of Shirakawa Village) and President Hisataka Moriwaki of Gifu University joined a panel discussion. They shared ideas and exchanged opinions about the future roles of Gifu University and what it can do for the residents and senior high school students of the Hida region in this day and age where roles of universities are rapidly changing in local communities. The themes of their discussions were not limited to university affairs. They expanded into much diverse topics such as depopulation, medical issues unique to regions and community-building. From the standpoint of ties between the Hida region and Gifu University, all panelists were engaged in profound discussions while paying due consideration to social situations of today.

At the end of the Symposium, one of the senior high school students in attendance said, "We are expecting more opportunities for exchanges between the Hida region and Gifu University in the days ahead."

The participants of the 33rd Gifu Symposium were given a rare chance to think and hold talks about the given themes. Thank you very much for your participation.



A panel discussion



President Moriwaki and mayors listening to the senior high school students

The 7th Press Conference by the President in 2016

On November 16, 2016, Gifu University held the 7th Press Conference by the President.

First, President Hisataka Moriwaki spoke about "the 10th Anniversary of the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences" in association with the Gifu University's "Future Vision for 2025."

Next, Professor Masayuki Niwa, Dean of the School explained about the anniversary related events in detail.

The United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences was established on April 1, 2007 by integrating and merging parts of the School of Medicine, the Faculty of Engineering of Gifu University, and parts of Gifu Pharmaceutical University (public university run by Gifu City). It became the first united graduate school between national university and public university in Japan.

Since its establishment, the School has been implementing a number of unique educational and research programs/projects centering around drug discovery and medical information sciences. Among others, for the past 10 years, it has been endeavoring to cultivate highly-professional personnel endowed with foresight and flexible frame of mind, and is capable of playing a leading role in pharmaceutical and medical fields in the near future.

Gifu University has the school of medicine, faculties of pharmaceutical and veterinary sciences, engineering and applied biological sciences, the Center for Highly Advanced Integration of Nano and Life Science, the University Hospital and the Animal Medical Center, all of which are located within the same premises. In this respect, the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences is truly blessed with an ideal environment to promote translational research.

With drug discovery, medical information sciences and translational research as keywords, the School remains committed to the university's globalization as a place for education, research and human resource development, and keeps on serving as the university hub in the years to come.



President Moriwaki giving a speech



Professor Niwa explaining the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences

Gifu University joins "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" in Viet Nam

From November 18 through 20, 2016, Gifu University joined "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" held in Viet Nam, which was organized by Gifu Prefectural Government. The aims of the fair include recruitment of Vietnamese students for universities and educational institutions within Gifu Prefecture, and the fair was held in two cities, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

From Gifu University, Mr. Nobuyoshi Sako, Office Manager of the Job-Seeking Support Office, Student Support Division, Student Affairs Department, Ms. Konoe Kamei with the International Planning Division, Academic and International Affairs Department and Ms. Ayuko Miyamoto with the Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences attended the fair. They offered consultation services to students who are interested in studying at Gifu University, and also held meetings with the staff of educational institutions in Viet Nam at the Gifu University booths in respective cities. About 400 people came to the two fair sites indicating people's great interest in studying in Japan.

On November 21 after the fair, the three Gifu University staff visited Hanoi University of Science and Technology. Gifu University and Hanoi University of Science and Technology concluded the Agreement for an Exchange Program in June 1998. After their arrival, the three held talks with Associate Professor Mai Thanh Tung who is responsible for international exchanges, and Dr. Tran Lien Ha of the Department of Applied Microbiology, Biochemistry and Biomolecular, who is a graduate of Gifu University. They talked about educational and research exchanges between the two universities.

Gifu University will fully utilize the information about Viet Nam including the needs of students and the real situations of educational institutions in the country which were gathered through the university staff's latest participation in the fair, for its future international exchange activities.



Gifu University booth at "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" in Ho Chi Minh (on November 19)



Consultation service for study abroad at "GIFU Study Abroad Fair in Hanoi (on November 20)



Visit to Hanoi University of Science and Technology (with Associate Professor Mai Thanh Tung) (on November 21)



Visit to Hanoi University of Science and Technology (with Dr. Tran Lien Ha) (on November 21)

The 7th United Graduate School of Agricultural Science Seminar is held

On November 22, 2016, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (UGSAS) held a seminar with the title, "The 7th United Graduate School of Agricultural Science Seminar; From UGSAS to AIST" at Gifu University, and a total of 33 people attended.

After an opening speech by Professor Kohei Nakano, Vice Dean of UGSAS, a representative from the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) introduced the graduate school system of AIST, and talked about acceptance of graduate school students, research instruction and supervision activities, as well as research assistant programs of AIST.

Later, six researchers of AIST, who are currently working at UGSAS as visiting professors, made research presentations and took questions during the subsequent question and answer session. Some of the students in attendance put questions to the speakers about how to maintain their motivation for research, and the speakers gave the students practical pieces of advice based on their own experiences.

AIST is a partner organization of UGSAS, and the latest seminar gave both institutions a good opportunity to deepen the partnership through not only research work but also research supervision for the students.



Mr. Kameyama making a presentation



Mr. Chiba giving an advice about research

"Consumer Education Practical Training Classes that Connect School and Community" are held at Gifu University Faculty of Education Affiliated Junior High School

On November 22, 2016, the "Consumer Education Practical Training Classes that Connect School and Community" were held at Gifu University Faculty of Education Affiliated Junior High School. This event was realized through cooperation from the Iwate Prefectural *Kenmin-seikatsu* (citizen's life) Center.

The practical training class this time was part of the "Survey for Model Elementary and Junior High School in Consumer Education" of the Iwate Prefectural *Kenmin-seikatsu* Center. Teachers at the Junior High School, consumer life advisers, consumer life consultants and Gifu University professors were involved in deciding the contents of the classes. Associate Professor Noboru Tanaka of the Faculty of Education served as a coordinator of the classes.

On November 22, a total of 15 people attended the classes which included consumer education promotion specialists from Iwate Prefecture, members of Iwate Prefecture Board of Education and staff of elementary and junior high schools within Iwate Prefecture. They observed the classes run by Mr. Maeda and Mr. Yajima of the Junior High School and later discussed how to improve quality of training classes for consumer education.

Unlike other training classes at which only school teachers are responsible for their operations, the training classes this time became a highly concentrated session through participation of members with different organizations with a focus on partnership between schools and communities.

The training classes on November 22 presented a significant opportunity to contemplate future school and consumer education to all participants.



Students discussing in class



Class scene

The 10th Anniversary of the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences

On November 25, 2016, Gifu University held the commemorative events to mark the 10th Anniversary of the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences at the university Satellite Campus (near JR Gifu Station).

The United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences was established on April 1, 2007 by integrating and merging parts of the School of Medicine, the Faculty of Engineering of Gifu University, and parts of Gifu Pharmaceutical University (public university run by Gifu City). It became the first united graduate school between national university and public university in Japan. Since its establishment, the school has been implementing a number of unique educational and research programs/projects centering around drug discovery and medical information sciences. Among others, for the past 10 years, it has been endeavoring to cultivate highly-professional personnel endowed with foresight and flexible frame of mind, capable of playing a leading role in pharmaceutical and medical fields in the future.

At a commemorative ceremony, President Hisataka Moriwaki of Gifu University made the following comment: "The mission of the School is being fulfilled thanks to warm advice and guidance from not only the university staff but also everyone concerned. We will continue to strive for carrying out the mission of a graduate school." Then, Mr. Takashi Inagaki, President of Gifu Pharmaceutical University said, "We remain committed to conducting many unique educational/research activities in order to raise our profile in the world."

Next, Professor Masayuki Niwa, Dean of the School presented a school summary and expressed his strong intention as follows: "The biggest advantage of the School is formation of a cross-sectional, diverse partnership for "drug discovery" within the same university premises. We hope that the School will play a much bigger role in the fields of pharmaceutical and medical information sciences by seizing on this milestone 10th anniversary."

As a commemorative lecture, Mr. Toshio Kuroki, former president of Gifu University and professor emeritus, gave a speech under the title, "The gaps among universities are subject of a power law." At the end of the anniversary events, a celebration gathering was held and the following guests of honor delivered congratulatory speeches:

Mr. Hideki Mori, former president of Gifu University and professor emeritus Mr. Hiroichi Nagai, former president of Gifu Pharmaceutical University, and Mr. Toichi Takenaka, former president and CEO of Astellas Pharma Inc.

With drug discovery, medical information sciences and translational research as keywords, the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences will further pursue the university's globalization as a place for education, research and human resource development, and serve as the university hub in the years to come.



President Moriwaki of Gifu University giving a speech



President Inagaki of Gifu Pharmaceutical University giving a speech



Professor Niwa explaining about the United Graduate School of Drug Discovery and Medical Information Sciences



Mr. Kuroki, former president of Gifu University delivering a commemorative speech

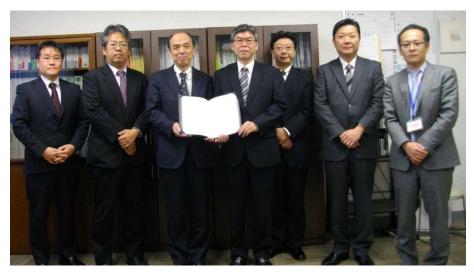
Industry-Academia Partnership Agreement between Japan Finance Corporation and Gifu University

On November 25, the Organization for Research and Community Development (Director-General: Hideto Fukushi, Executive Director for Academic Research and Information, Vice President) concluded a "Industry-Academia Partnership Agreement" with the Japan Finance Corporation Gifu Office Branch (Branch Manager: Mr. Masaaki Kimura).

The purposes of the agreement are to promote cooperation between the university and local industry, foster entrepreneurship and contribute to growth of local communities. Specifically, Gifu University and the Japan Finance Corporation regularly share information and use their respective knowledge and expertise to meet the following objectives: 1. Financial assistance for business founders^{*1} who make the use of research results of Gifu University, 2. Opening seminars^{*2} on nurturing entrepreneurs and a core of professionals in local communities. It is hoped that the partnership agreement will give a great momentum to both institutions to make further contributions to local society.

*1 Business founders, venture companies, small-and-medium size companies and people engaged in agriculture, forestry and fisheries

*² Lectures on business start-ups and finances will start at the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology starting from 2017.



Group photo after the signing ceremony (third from left: Mr. Fukushi, fourth from left: Mr. Kimura)

The 3rd UGSAS-GU & KU International Workshop is held

On November 28 and 29, 2016, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (UGSAS) held "The 3rd UGSAS-GU & International Workshop" in Thailand in cooperation with Kasetsart University. The workshop started from 2014 for the purpose of globalization of Gifu University and promotion of exchanges with local businesses and industries. The management of the 3rd Workshop was supported by the OGAWA Science and Technology Foundation.

On November 28, under the theme of "Recent Microbiological Research for Food, Energy and Health," the workshop opened at Kasetsart University. The followings were the workshop program;

- 1. Dr. Masateru Senge, Dean of UGSAS gave opening remarks,
- Professor. Dr. Supa Hannongbua, Dean of Faculty of Science, Kasetsart University and Dr. Fumiaki Suzuki, Executive Director for International Affairs and Public Relations, Gifu University delivered keynote speeches,
- 3. Professor Tohru Mitsunaga, Vice Dean of UGSAS introduced IC-GU 12* activities,
- 4. Three professors of UGSAS, Professor Hitoshi Iwahashi, Professor Shingo Kawai and Associate Professor Shinji Tokuyama made scientific presentations,
- 5. Four professors including Assoc. Prof. Vichien Kitpreechavanich of Kasetsart University made scientific presentations,
- 6. One student of UGSAS and three students of the Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences reported their participation in the research internship program, and
- 7. Four Thai local company representatives introduced their business operations.

A total of 92 people were intently listening to the speeches and presentations and active opinion exchanges took place between the speakers and the audience. Information sharing in the field of microbiology and research discussions among master's degree students, researchers and local company representatives continued for some time. The first day of the workshop ended with a great success by offering people a venue for exchange for further globalization.

On November 29, the Gifu University delegation visited Kamphaeng Saen Campus of Kasetsart University in the suburb of Bangkok, and they were briefed on rice genetic resource, research on high-value-added new rice variety production at the Rice Gene Discovery and Rice Science Center. They were also invited to observe research equipment such as high throughput genetic analysis machine that the center owns. In the afternoon, they visited Thai Foods International Co., Ltd. There, Mr. Kotaro Nakajima, Factory Director of the company gave the delegation a company's overview and later, the delegation watched the video clip introducing the process of nucleic acid-based additive production. Lastly, the delegation joined a factory tour.

At Kamphaeng Saen Campus, the Gifu University delegation saw that the student dormitories and various facilities necessary for the students to stay are all situated within the campus. They observed that the ideal study environment is being created for the students first hand. At the factory inspection, the delegation was very impressed with the smart use of resources available in the neighborhood to achieve vigorous cost reduction.

*IC-GU12: "International Consortium of Universities in South and Southeast Asia for the Doctoral Education in Agricultural Science and Biotechnology", which was created at the initiative of Gifu University.



Dr. Suzuki giving a keynote speech



Professor Dr. Supa Hannongbua making a welcome speech



Professor Iwahashi making a scientific presentation



Question and answer session



Master's degree student reporting the internship program



Completion certificate ceremony for "ISO 14001 Internal Environmental Auditor Training Course" is held

On November 30, 2016, a completion certificate ceremony for "ISO 14001 Internal Environmental Auditor Training Course" was held at the Office of President. The ceremony was joined by President Hisataka Moriwaki, Mr. Masaki Yokoyama, Executive Director for General Affairs and Finance, and Mr. Osamu Sakurada with the Environmental Affairs Office.

All facilities of Gifu University excluding the University Hospital have already obtained ISO 14001 Certification, the international standard for environmental management systems, and volunteer university staff and students carry out ISO 14001 internal environmental auditing every year. In internal auditing, they check whether the university's environmental management system is operated in compliance with ISO 14001 standard or not.

In the training course, the participating students were first given a briefing on ISO 14001 standard, and received training about the internal auditing. They later joined actual internal auditing with the university staff. Lastly, they expressed their opinions from their own perspectives about environmental protection.

At the ceremony, President Moriwaki congratulated the six students on their completion of the course, and handed out a completion certificate to each student.

In the meeting between President and the students, one of the students said, "I studied a lot about the university's environmental strategies." "The university's environmental activities are not always known to the students, and should be widely publicized." In response, President Moriwaki inspired them to further efforts by saying, "I expect you to encourage many of your juniors to take over your activities."

It is hoped that these students will make bigger contributions to the environment conservation based on their experiences of attending the ISO 14001 Internal Environmental Auditor Training Course.



Group photo



At the Office of the President

Clean Campus Campaign in Fall 2016 is held

On November 30, 2016, Gifu University carried out a campus-wide "Clean Campus Campaign in Fall 2016."

Gifu University declared itself "Environmental University" in November 2009, and has been working hard to create an environmentally-friendly university. After the declaration, the university designated November as "Gifu University Environment Month" and carries out a number of environment-related events and activities. The Clean Campus Campaign in Fall is part of these events and activities and is held every year.

On November 30, 715 teaching and administrative staff and students joined the campaign and spent about an hour picking up trash and fallen leaves. Some of them planted flower seedlings and bulbs on the flowerbeds. Staff from Gifu Pharmaceutical University, part of its facilities is within the Gifu University premises, also took part in the campaign after their participation in spring.

In addition to the cleaning within the campus, people walked along Shinbori River near the university picking up cans, bottles and weeded the riverside. A total of 34 people from each faculty gathered and after greeting by Mr. Masaki Yokoyama, Executive Director for General Affairs and Finance, they spread out and started to clean up the riverside areas.



Students collecting fallen leaves



People picking up trash at the riverside

The Gifu University Head Office for Glocalization (GHOGL) designates November as "International Month in Fall" to promote internationalization of students, teaching and administrative staff of Gifu University. The followings are brief summaries of the events held during the International Month in Fall 2016.

1. The 3rd Meeting between International Students, Researchers and Board Members hosted by the President (November 8)

The 3rd Meeting between International Students, Researchers and Board Members hosted by the President was held at the Dining Hall No.2 to promote mutual friendship between board members including President Hisataka Moriwaki, and international students, researchers and their families. As a new program of the 3rd Meeting, a total of 7 international and Japanese student teams and individuals showed their performances on stage. The international student teams are made up of the students coming from the same countries. The audience had a wonderful time listening to and watching their singing, dancing and Japanese martial art performances. Around 180 people attended and they both enjoyed buffet-style meal and casual conversations with one another. The 3rd Meeting turned to be a very meaningful and fruitful moment of exchange for every participant.



Group photo





President Moriwaki talking with students Students' performance

2. The 5th Network Meeting with the Local Companies (November 9)

The Network Meeting with the Local Companies has been co-hosted by Gifu Shinkin Bank Ltd. every year since 2012 in order to make the business operations within Gifu Prefecture well known to the students. The target audience is the international students looking for a job in Japan, and the Japanese students intending to work abroad in the future. In the 5th Meeting, 15 local companies whose lines of business rage from manufacturing to international trades, made presentations about their operations. About 60 participants including international and Japanese students joined the meeting.



Presentation by company representative



Meeting between company representatives and the students

3. English Lounge (November 7 and 21)

As a special program of International Month in Fall 2016, two sessions of English Lounge were held under the title "Invitation to Summer School Program at Northern Kentucky University." Northern Kentucky University and Gifu University signed a university-level agreement for exchange on September 26, 1990. In these two sessions, a total of eight 1st year-students made presentations about their participation in the Summer School Program of Northern Kentucky University. During these two sessions, the speakers underscored the importance of studying abroad with specific purposes in mind and proactive studying. The audiences seemed to be very impressed with the speakers who tried their best to survive with their English abroad. The two sessions of English Lounge turned out to be the "real" special sessions for both the speakers and their audiences.



A student making a presentation

4. GIFU Study Abroad Fair (organized by Gifu Prefecture) (November 18 to 20) Gifu University joined "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" held in Viet Nam, which was organized by Gifu Prefectural Government. The aims of the fair include recruitment of Vietnamese students for universities and educational institutions within Gifu Prefecture, and the fair was held in two cities, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Gifu University staff offered consultation services to students who are interested in studying at Gifu University and held meetings with staff of educational institutions in Viet Nam at Gifu University booths in respective cities. About 400 people came to the two fair sites indicating people's great interest in studying in Japan.



Gifu University booth at "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" in Ho Chi Minh



Consultation service for study abroad at "GIFU Study Abroad Fair" in Hanoi

5. Potluck Party (November 25)

A potluck party was held at *Shukai* Hall, *Yanagido Kaikan* building. A potluck party is an informal gathering where people bring their own dishes and share them with other participants. At the beginning of the party, the participants made self-introduction and explained dishes and snacks they brought in in English. Later, they formed small groups and competed with one another in a game. As a part of the International Month, the party is held every year with the participation of international and Japanese students, teaching and administrative staff and their families. This informal gathering gives people a chance to meet persons from different countries and come to understand different food cultures in the world in English. On November 25, about 20 people joined the party, and enjoyed traditional dishes and dessert of China, India, Indonesia, etc. as well as home-cooked dishes by Japanese participants.





Group photo

People enjoying the game

6. The 15th Japanese Speech Competition by International Students Residing in Gifu Prefecture (November 26)

The 15th Japanese Speech Competition by International Students Residing in Gifu Prefecture was held at Gifu University Satellite Campus (near JR Gifu Station). The competition is organized by the Gifu Regional Council for the Promotion of International Exchange to raise interests in Japanese and enhance Japanese skills of international students. Gifu University serves as an administrative office of the council. A total of 9 students from universities and junior colleges within Gifu Prefecture gave their speeches and around 40 people were intently listening to their speeches.



7. The 2nd International Student Exchange Forum with Juroku Bank (co-hosted by Juroku Bank) (November 30)

The 2nd International Student Exchange Forum with Juroku Bank was held to help the university students to know more about the local enterprises of Gifu Prefecture whose operations are expanding overseas as well as their advantages and growth potentials. Around 20 international and Japanese students attended. Firstly, President Shogo Hida of Techno Preknead HIDA and Mr. Toshihiro Kita of MUTO SEIKO CO. introduced their companies. In the subsequent panel discussion, panelists discussed ideal images of personnel that companies seek to hire, the important factors for companies in selecting students for employment. Lastly, the students and the company representatives were divided into two groups and engaged in informal talks.



During the International Month in Fall 2016, the "World Cuisine Faire" was held at the Dining Hall No.1 and No.2. Students and staff relished the taste of food in India, South Korea, etc. Many of the answers to the survey for each program were very positive, and are expressing their high expectations on the International Month 2017. Gifu

University continues to hold the International Month as a campus-wide event for further internationalization of Gifu University from 2017 onward.

Cooperation Agreement between Gifu University and Yaotsu Town is signed

On December 1, 2016, Gifu University and Yaotsu Town, Gifu Prefecture signed a Cooperation Agreement.

The purposes of the agreement are as follows:

- Build a comprehensive, close partnership in diverse fields
- · Deepen the partnership in a sustainable and expansive fashion

• By doing the two above, contribute to the establishment and growth of a lively community, to the development of human resources for the future, and to the promotion of educational and cultural activities for the citizens.

By the latest signing between Gifu University and Yaotsu Town, Gifu University now has cooperation agreements with 20 municipal governments.

At the signing ceremony, Mr. Masanori Kaneko, Mayor of Yaotsu Town made the following comment; "Gifu University and Yaotsu Town have already been forming a strong relationship over Chiune Sugihara* promotion activities, and creation of next-generation energy business. With the conclusion of the agreement as a great momentum, we truly look forward to building a robust partnership with Gifu University in much more wider fields in the future." In response, President Hisataka Moriwaki of Gifu University said, "Yaotsu Town kindly allows Gifu University to use plots of lands for next-generation energy research, one of Gifu University's pioneering research projects. Today, Gifu University has reached the landmark number of 20th cooperation agreement with Yaotsu Town, thus, I feel a strong connection with Yaotsu. Gifu University is more than happy to bolster ties with the town for years to come."

Gifu University and Yaotsu Town will continue to hold talks for joint implementation of various programs/projects. They are: promotion of humanitarian education focusing on Chiune Sugihara, realization of low-carbon society, creation of next-generation energy business, addressing low birthrate and depopulation problems, prevention of natural disasters, development of human resources, branding of agricultural products, promotion of tourism and regional culture, and revitalization of community activities.

*Chiune Sugihara (1 January 1900 – 31 July 1986, born in Yaotsu):

A Japanese diplomat who served as Vice-Consul for the Empire of Japan in Lithuania. During World War II. He helped between 10,000 and 40,000 Jews leave the country by issuing transit visas so that they could travel to Japanese territory, risking his career and his family's lives.



After the signing, President Moriwaki (right) and Mr. Kaneko shaking hands

Degree Awarding

Degree	Diploma Number	Name	Date of Degree Awarding	Dissertation Title	
Ph.D. in Medical Sciences	Ko ^{*-} No. 1029	Hideyuki Ogiso	November 16,2016	The deficiency of Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase aggravates the CCl4-induced liver fibrosis in mice.	
Ph.D. in Regeneration and Advanced Medical Sciences	Ko [*] -No. 1030	Minoru Yuriguchi	November 16,2016	Pigmentation of regenerated hairs after wounding.	

* Completed the study of the course

Foreign Researchers Accepted by Gifu University in November

Faculty	Name (Country)	Title, University	Period	Research Title
Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences	Abdel-Rahman Abdelsatar Elsayed Abou-Rawash (Egypt)	Professor, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Damanhour University	2016/11/1~ 2017/2/28	Egyptian field screening for Marek's disease
Faculty of	DONG Wenzheng	Lecturer, Xiangtan University	2016/11/15~	Multi-scales analysis on galling mechanism in
Engineering	(China)		2018/11/14	sheet metal forming
Faculty of	Shaikh Yunnus Budan	Research Associate, National	2016/11/19~	Preparation of biological active compounds
Engineering	(India)	Chemical Laboratory	2017/4/29	