Gifu University concluded an Agreement on Student and Faculty Exchanges between Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, India on June 23, 2015. With this newest agreement, the number of university-to-university agreements has reached 46 universities and one government agency in 16 countries.

New Agreement on Exchanges

Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG)  
([Number of Students] 3,906)  
([Overview]) Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG) is the sole institute of technology in northeast India, serving as a research base for regional development. IITG is the 6th member of the fraternity of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), and has departments of chemistry, humanities and social sciences, mechanical engineering, etc. The institute also offers an industrial design course to the students. IITG currently is one of the top 100 emerging universities in the world.

[History of Exchange with Gifu University] In July 2012, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (USSAS) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Biotechnology Departments and Nanotechnology Center, IITG, and in April 2014, the Faculty of Engineering concluded an Agreement on Faculty and Student Exchanges with IITG. Under these agreements, many active exchanges of students and researchers between the two institutions took place, paving the way for the latest Agreement on Student and Faculty Exchanges coming into effect from June 23, 2015.

The Faculties of Gifu University concluded new exchange agreements with 13 universities and 2 institutions overseas in 2015. A total of 46 universities and institutions in 20 countries (As of February 1, 2016)

[Faculty of Engineering]  
Three universities and two institutions
— National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health (USA)  
— Centre for Solar Energy Hydrogen Research, Baden-Württemberg (Germany)  
— Burg Hatta University (Indonesia)  
— Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, State University of Padang (Indonesia)  
— Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)  

[Faculty of Education]  
Three universities  
— Faculty of Education, Ritsumeikan University (Japan)  
— Karlstad University of Education (Sweden)  
— Shinsaio Normal University (China)  

[Faculty of Regional Studies]  
Two universities  
— University of Arkansas – Fort Smith (USA)  
— Université Sciences Humaines et Sociales – Lille 3 (France)

[Faculty of Environmental Engineering]  
Two universities  
— Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG)  
— National Institutes of Health, USA

[United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (USSAS)]  
Two universities  
— Thulsi University (Vet Nam)  
— School of Life Sciences and Technology, Institut Teknologi Bandung (Indonesia)  

[Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences] One university  
— The College of Basic and Applied Sciences, The University of Ghana (Ghana)

[United Graduate School of Veterinary Sciences (UGSVS)] One university  
— The College of Basic and Applied Sciences, The University of Ghana (Ghana)

[Faculty of Engineering, River Basin Research Center] One university  
— Faculty of Environmental Engineering, Cracow University of Technology (Poland)

The 1st Winter School

The new Winter School program was created to promote the relationship with the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG), one of Gifu University’s overseas partner universities, particularly in the international collaborative educational programs. The Winter School is designed to provide international students with an opportunity to experience research activities at Gifu University, and to encourage them to think about enrolling in Gifu University in the future.

In the 1st Winter School, starting from December 4, 2015, eight students of IITG were selected out of 60 candidates. They took part in research work, studied Japanese and Japanese culture at Gifu University, and joined inspection tours of local industries during this three-week-long program. While they were studying at the University, Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director of IITG, made a courtesy call on President Hisataka Moriwaki and exchanged opinions concerning the international collaborative education programs. Later, Prof. Biswas held a special lecture on his field of research and gave the IITG students encouragement to do their utmost at the Winter School.

The Winter School offers local industry inspection tours to the participants in order to develop ‘global’ human resources who are blessed with global and local insights. The Winter School is scheduled to be held on a regular basis in the hopes that after their enrollment in Gifu University, the participating students will become more positive about building up their careers in Japan based on their experiences of local industry inspection tours.

Completion of “Spring of Friendship,” Gifu University’s New Water Well

The new water well was completed in front of the University Library building thanks to the generous contribution and courtesy of the General Incorporated Foundation International Club for Gifu University. The water well was named “Spring of Friendship” in hopes of making the Spring an ideal spot for get-togethers and mingling between Japanese and international students.

Water supply is possible from the large scale feed-water inlet of the well in the case of a natural disaster.
The Special Lounge is organized once a year as a special version of the English Lounge that is held every month, to provide a venue for a dialogue in multiple languages other than English. Chinese, German, French and Japanese lounge sessions were held this year, but at the request of the participants, the Japanese Lounge became the Thai Lounge, and an international student from Thailand served as a teacher.

Around 40 participants including beginners with great interest in learning new languages and learners wishing to make friends attended the Special Lounge. They interacted with each other while learning basic knowledge and ways of self-introduction guided by the international students and native teaching staff.

Ms. Emi Teshima, Chief Director of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) GIFU was invited to Gifu University as a guest speaker for the lecture titled, “ASEAN Economies.” Around 50 people were in attendance and they earnestly listened to her speech concerning the major differences in ASEAN economies, their unique characteristics, advantages and points to be considered in doing business with ASEAN countries through statistics.

The Potluck Party provides people with an opportunity to learn about unique cuisines and food cultures around the world through English. About 45 people including international and Japanese students, teaching and administrative staff attended this year. They fully enjoyed traditional dishes and desserts of the UK, China, Japan and other countries. The participants were divided into groups and enjoyed a pub quiz. They formed a strong international friendship through the game.

The 4th Network Meeting with Local Companies was held in cooperation with the Gifu Shinkin Bank Ltd. It was joined by 15 companies in and around Gifu City, many of which are in the manufacturing sector. They are strongly motivated to advance into international markets and employ international students in the future. The Meeting was attended by about 70 international and Japanese students who intently listened to the presentations made by the company officials concerning their business operations at home and abroad, as well as their products. Later, the participants visited the booths of the companies set up in the same venue for further information and opinion exchanges.

The 2nd Meeting between International Students, Researchers and Board Members hosted by the President was held to promote mutual friendship between international and Japanese board members, including the President, and international students, researchers and their families. In the Meeting, excellent music and dancing performances were given by a number of international students. A group of Indonesian students, who dressed up in colorful traditional costumes, sang and danced in perfect harmony. The students from the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG) also sang songs while playing the guitar. About 120 participants joined the Meeting, and the 2nd Meeting ended with great success.

The International Student Exchange Forum was held, which was jointly organized with the Juta Bank for the purpose of introducing the unique features and domestic and overseas business operations of local Gifu enterprises to the University students. The invited company representatives made presentations about the advantages in securing jobs in local industries and the ideal images of the prospective employees that the local industries are pursuing to the participants. In the subsequent lively question and answer session, one company representative mentioned some important tips for job hunting in Japan in response to a question from the audience. About 40 participants attended the Forum and they were attentively listening to the speakers.

The Potluck Party (November 27)

The International Student Exchange Forum – Local Businesses Expanding Overseas - (December 9)

Message from an International Student

“Be strong with conviction”

by LI MING, Second Year of Master’s Program, Applied Life Science, Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences

Three years have already passed since I came to Gifu University in 2012; I now strongly believe that an international research student like me must have the conviction to make life more productive and meaningful.

Before coming to Japan, I worked at a private company in China for four years. Based on my four-year-long work experience, I made an objective assessment of myself. After a full review of my weak points and strong points revealed by this assessment, I came to my own conclusion about the necessity and the meaning of my studying in Japan.

If my life is likened to be a “symphony,” studying abroad is the first movement, and the theme of the symphony must be an “Ode to Joy.” Far away from one’s hometown, international students who pursue academic achievements will face enormous difficulties, not only in their studies, but also in their lives overseas.

I was really fortunate. Every time I found myself having trouble, I was supported by countless, warm-hearted people in Japan. My supervisor at Gifu University was kind enough to take the time out of his busy schedule to extend me a lot of assistance and guidance. In addition, when I took part in laboratory work, many of my seniors were willing to answer my questions despite my poor Japanese. Thanks to the great contribution to my research made by the local residents living in the area, and the information about their regions and communities that I collected from them, I successfully conducted my research activities without problems. I came to realize one thing from the many kind people in Japan: if we want to become a person truly respected by others, we should become confident about ourselves, stand firm and confront our own lives. The most effective way to reach this goal is to constantly improve ourselves by studying hard for our growth, regardless of nationality, age, gender or place of birth.

Now, I am about to give more concrete meanings and goals to my study and life through my experiences at Gifu University and in Japan. I already have created a “map” in my mind. Although I have not reached my final destination marked on this map yet, I clearly know where I am standing right now and in which direction I should travel. I would like to keep on moving forward one step at a time to reach my final destination in life.
International Months in Fall 2015

Special Lounge (November 9)
The Special Lounge is organized once a year as a special version of the English Lounge that is held every month, to provide a venue for a dialogue in multiple languages other than English. Chinese, German, French and Japanese lounge sessions were held this year, but at the request of the participants, the Japanese Lounge became the Thai Lounge, and an international student from Thailand served as a teacher.

Around 40 participants including beginners with great interest in learning new languages and learners wishing to make friends attended the Special Lounge. They interacted with each other while learning basic knowledge and ways of self-introduction guided by the international students and native teaching staff.

The 4th Network Meeting with Local Companies (November 11)
The 4th Network Meeting with Local Companies was held in cooperation with the Gifu Shinkin Bank Ltd. It was joined by 15 companies in and around Gifu City, many of which are in the manufacturing sector. They are strongly motivated to advance into international markets and employ international students in the future. The Meeting was attended by about 70 international and Japanese students who intently listened to the presentations made by the company officials concerning their business operations at home and abroad, as well as their products. Later, the participants visited the booths of the companies set up in the same venue for further information and opinion exchanges.

The 4th Network Meeting with Local Companies

Potluck Party (November 27)
The Potluck Party provides people with an opportunity to learn about unique cuisines and food cultures around the world through English. About 40 people including international and Japanese students, teaching and administrative staff attended this year. They fully enjoyed traditional dishes and desserts of the UK, China, Japan and other countries. The participants were divided into groups and enjoyed a pub quiz. They formed a strong international friendship through the game.

The 2nd Meeting between International Students, Researchers and Board Members hosted by the President (December 9)
The 2nd Meeting between International Students, Researchers and Board Members hosted by the President was held to promote mutual friendship among international students, board members including the President, and international students, researchers and their families. In the Meeting, excellent music and dancing performances were given by a number of international students. A group of Indonesian students, who dressed up in colorful traditional costumes, sang and danced in perfect harmony. The students from the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG) also sang songs while playing the guitar. About 120 participants joined the Meeting, and the 2nd Meeting ended with great success.

International Student Exchange Forum - Local Businesses Expanding Overseas - (December 9)
The International Student Exchange Forum was held, which was jointly organized with the Juroku Bank for the purpose of introducing the unique features and domestic and overseas business operations of local Gifu enterprises to the University students. The invited company representatives made presentations about the advantages in securing jobs in local industries and the ideal images of the prospective employees that the local industries are pursuing to the participants. In the subsequent lively question and answer session, one company representative mentioned some important tips for job hunting in Japan in response to a question from the audience. About 40 participants attended the Forum and they were attentively listening to the speakers.

Message from an International Student
"Be strong with conviction"
by LI MING, Second Year of Master’s Program, Applied Life Science, Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences

Three years have already passed since I came to Gifu University in 2012. I now strongly believe that an international research student like me must have the conviction to make life more productive and meaningful.

Before coming to Japan, I worked at a private company in China for four years. Based on my four-year-long work experience, I made an objective assessment of myself. After a full review of my weak points and strong points revealed by this assessment, I came to my own conclusion about the necessity and the meaning of my studying in Japan.

If my life is likened to be a “symphony,” studying abroad is the first movement, and the theme of the symphony must be an “Ordeal.” Far away from one’s hometown, international students who pursue academic achievements will face enormous difficulties, not only in their studies, but also in their lives overseas.

I was really fortunate. Every time I found myself having trouble, I was supported by countless, warm-hearted people in Japan. My supervisor at Gifu University was kind enough to take the time out of his busy schedule to extend me a lot of assistance and guidance. In addition, when I took part in laboratory work, many of my seniors were willing to answer my questions despite my poor Japanese. Thanks to the great contribution to my research made by the local residents living in the area, and the information about their regions and communities that I collected from them, I successfully conducted my research activities without problems.

I came to realize one thing from the many kind people in Japan: if we want to become a person truly respected by others, we should become confident about ourselves, stand firm and confront our own lives. The most effective way to reach this goal is to constantly improve ourselves by studying hard for our growth, regardless of nationality, age, gender or place of birth. Now, I am about to give more concrete meanings and goals to my study and life through my experiences at Gifu University and in Japan. I already have created a “map” in my mind. Although I have not reached my final destination marked on this map yet, I clearly know where I am standing right now and in which direction I should travel. I would like to keep on moving forward one step at a time to reach my final destination in life.

Special Lecture: “ASEAN Economies” (November 18)
Ms. Emi Teshima, Chief Director of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) Gifu was invited to Gifu University as a guest speaker for the lecture titled, “ASEAN Economies.” Around 50 people were in attendance and they earnestly listened to her speech concerning the major differences in ASEAN economies, their unique characteristics, advantages and points to be considered in doing business with ASEAN countries through statistics, data and her own experiences.

Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences
by LI NING, Second Year of Master’s Program, Applied Life Science, Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences
Message from a Student Studying Abroad

“Studying Abroad full of New Discoveries and Growth”

by Ayami Fukui, Third Year, Disaster Reduction Studies Course, Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering

Six months have already passed since I left Japan in July, 2015 to study at the University of Technology, Sydney in Australia. I would like to send a message to my fellow juniors who are thinking about studying abroad in the future.

One or two weeks after I arrived in Sydney, everything was new to me. I still vividly remember these first weeks, even today. Being exposed to a completely new environment, the first month really passed quickly. Not to forget what I did and reflect on things, I started to keep a diary of meaningful times and days.

For the past six months, I studied the culture, nature and arts of Australia. There were some assignments from the University, but no examinations, so I studied for TOEFL and IELTS by myself to take measure of my English proficiency. I sent e-mails to my supervisor at UTS for the proofreading of my papers.

One of the great advantages of UTS is that more than 30,000 students are enrolled from over 120 countries. Students could make many friends by participating in the events and circle activities held at least once a week. International students from other countries are also studying English, and they patiently listened to my imperfect English skills. Because not only international students but also Australian students live in the University dormitories, residents have plenty of opportunities to get acquainted with Australians. Enjoying taking and eating together, as well as other relaxing moments with my friends, made me feel really happy. As there are many events and activities planned exclusively for dormitory residents, I would recommend that students live in a dormitory, even though the fees are a little expensive.

Australia is a multi-cultural society and full of second- and third-generation immigrants. Naturally, they are capable of speaking two or three languages. I felt ashamed of myself because I can barely speak English, despite the many years I have been studying since junior high school. But I realized that I grew a lot since the day I arrived in Sydney. Compliments from my friends, my examination scores; they are all important factors elevating me to the next phase of growth.

To my fellow juniors, please set concrete goals of studying abroad and spend meaningful time to achieve your goals during your time overseas. If studying abroad is your own decision, you can commit yourself to making your goals the most important ones. As I mentioned, it is very important to set goals while studying abroad is indispensable, but making new goals after returning to Japan is much more important.

For the remaining six months in Australia, I will give much thought to my future and future studies and research in medicine, so I would like to tell you that I think my life in Australia will be crucial for my future studies. If you have the opportunity, why not get out of Japan and see the world firsthand?

Message from a Student after Studying Abroad

“Things that I realized while studying abroad”

by Yoshihiro Harano, Fourth Year, Medical Course, School of Medicine

While enrolled at the School of Medicine, Gifu University, I studied at Langara College in Vancouver, Canada for one semester from September 2014 through TOBITATE! Young Ambassador Program of the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO). I also had a chance to work at a volunteer at a small clinic-cum-nursing home for the aged. Studying at the college and doing volunteer work at the clinic mean a lot to me in terms of gaining experience and knowledge. But I would like to write about “the things I realized while studying abroad” rather than focusing on my field of study and research in medicine.

After Vancouver hosted the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, people around the world became more familiar with the City. The population is about 2.5 million people, half of which are immigrants and their children. Therefore, people encounter a lot of “unexpected” situations. The following is one of the typical “unexpected” episodes that happened to me in Vancouver. When five people including myself assembled together for lunch, residents had plenty of opportunities to get acquainted with Canadians. Enjoying talking and eating together, as well as other relaxing moments with my friends, made me feel really happy. As there are many events and activities planned exclusively for dormitory residents, I would recommend that students live in a dormitory, even though the fees are a little expensive.

After about six months had passed during my time in Vancouver, I went hiking with a Canadian friend. While hiking, I inadvertently said to him, “Vancouver is an overly multi-cultural society” and felt exhausted from coping with so many “unexpected” situations that happen to me everyday, I had to reply to him. “Many people in Canada are from different countries, have different concepts of common sense and even different morals. Everyone is different. No one can share the same ideas and no one can understand others 100%. At the end of the day, embracing this basic notion will help you to respect others in the truest sense. Differences do not matter here. Every unexpected thing happens “within our anticipation.”

Before going to Vancouver, I used to see others from my own perspective because the people I met were all brought up in Japan under Japanese culture. But that was simply my parochial, tunnel vision. I came to learn that I would be able to understand and respect individual people much more deeply by seeing them on the assumption that they have their own life and ways of thinking.

I am going to become a physician in the near future, and I could see each of my patients with this new frame of mind, I will be more suitable for being trusted by my patients. In addition to my work in the field of medicine, I realized truly “unexpected” truths through my exposure to the diversity of humanity during my time in Vancouver.

Regional Exchange of International Students

Cormorant Fishing Tour (June 12)

International students were invited to a cormorant fishing tour at Nagara River by the Gifu Convention and Visitors Bureau. The purpose of this tour is to introduce the ancient fishing method, a proud legacy of Gifu Prefecture. Gifu is home to many rivers and streams where this method is still practiced. Joining this tour, you will get the opportunity to observe it firsthand. Those who saw the fishing method— which has been handed down for generations—for the first time, were amazed and very impressed.

The international students were able to deepen their understanding about the fishing method through an explanation given by a master fisherman. One student said, “I was deeply moved when I observed Gifu’s traditional culture so closely.”

Persimmon Fruit Harvesting Experience (October 28)

International students were invited to join an “Exchange Meeting with Persimmon Growers” by the Otono Town Persimmon Producing Council (made up of the Gifu Prefecture Ibi Agriculture and Forestry Office, Otono Town, JA Ibigawa and the Otono Town Persimmon Promotion Association). The participating international students first observed the persimmon selection process, and then joined in persimmon harvesting in the fields. Later, they made persimmon pound cakes in a group, and took part in a persimmon quiz game. While enjoying the cakes they made, the students and the persimmon growers actively exchanged opinions.

The students learned that there are a variety of types of persimmons, and rediscovered the valuable qualities of persimmons in this Exchange Meeting.

Mino Washi, Japanese Paper Making and “Food Sample” Making Workshops (November 3)

About 20 international students were invited to experience traditional Japanese culture by the Gifu Minami Lions Club. They went to the Mino-Washi Museum in Mino City, Gifu Prefecture and experienced mino washi paper making. They made their own pieces of paper and decorated them with maple leaves. They later visited a food sample craftshop shop in Gifu City, also in Gifu Prefecture where they made fake, plastic fruit tart food samples. They spent a wonderful time enjoying lively conversations on the bus, at lunch and all through the workshops.

Wadaiko Japanese Drum and Koto Stringed Japanese Zither Experience (December 5)

About 30 international students were invited to Gifu Gakuen High School to experience wadaiko Japanese drum and koto stringed Japanese zither by Soroptimist at Gifu Gakuen High School, and the participants enjoyed listening to the powerful beating of drums and the beautiful tunes of koto performed by the high school students. Later, the international students experienced drum beating and koto playing. They were all impressed by the skills of the performers who could create beautiful sounds and realize how difficult it is to beat a drum or play the koto. Because most of the international students can play drums and koto for the first time, they enjoyed this rare opportunity to the fullest. Later, the international students formed a circle and had lunch with the high school students, and took part in games and dancing.

Rice-Cake Making (December 13)

International students took part in the 21st Rice-Cake Making Event hosted by the Kukusai Koryu no WA Kuruono (local international exchange body). Some students saw or made rice cakes for the first time, but everyone enjoyed making cakes wholeheartedly at this annual event. Later, the students relished the rice cakes coated by roasted soybean flour, sweetened red bean soup with rice cakes, tempura of rice cakes and vegetables. They all commented that the freshly made rice cakes were soft and really tasty. The students also made rice cake decorations called “hanamochi,” and joined a competition to choose the best decoration. Many unique hanamochi decorations were created by the international students.
Cormorant Fishing Tour (June 12)

International students were invited to a cormorant fishing tour at Nagara River by the Gifu Convention and Visitors Bureau. The purpose of this tour is to introduce the ancient fishing method, a proud legacy of Gifu Prefecture. This method is still practiced in the home countries of the international students. What makes this tour unique is that it is one of the last ancient occupations of Japan, and it is a unique opportunity to observe it firsthand. Those who saw the fishing method—which has been handed down for generations—for the first time, were amazed and very impressed.

The international students were able to deepen their understanding about the fishing method through an explanation given by a master fisherman. One student said, “I was deeply moved when I observed Gifu’s traditional culture so closely.”

Regional Exchange of International Students

Persimmon Fruit Harvesting Experience (October 28)

About 20 international students were invited to participate in the persimmon-picking experience at the Fukuoka Prefecture Mino City, Gifu Prefecture. Each student got their own piece of paper and decorated them with maple leaves. They later visited a food sample craft shop in Gifu City, also in Gifu Prefecture. They made their own persimmon cakes, decorated them, and took part in a persimmon quiz game. While enjoying the cakes they made, the students and the persimmon growers actively exchanged opinions.

The students learned that there are a variety of types of persimmons, and rediscovered the beauty and charm of persimmons in this Exchange Meeting.

Mino Washi, Japanese Paper Making and “Food Sample” Making Workshops (November 3)

About 20 international students were invited to experience traditional Japanese culture by the Mino Minami Lions Club. They went to the Mino Washi Museum in Mino City, Gifu Prefecture and experienced mino washi paper making. They made their own persimmon cakes and decorated them with maple leaves. They later visited a food sample craft shop in Gifu City, also in Gifu Prefecture where they made persimmon cakes and fruit tart food samples. They spent a wonderful time enjoying lively conversations on the bus, at lunch and all through the workshops.

Wadaiko Japanese Drum and Koto Stringed Japanese Zither Experience (December 5)

About 30 international students were invited to Gifu Sogo Gakuen High School to experience wadaiko Japanese drums and koto stringed Japanese zithers. By Soroptimist International of Gifu, this was the second workshop organized by Soroptimist at Gifu Sogo Gakuen High School, and the participants enjoyed listening to the powerful beating of drums and the beautiul tunes of koto performed by the high school students. Later, the international students experienced drum beating and koto playing. They were all impressed by the skills of the performers and the students’ ability to realize how difficult it is to beat a drum or play the koto. Because most of the international students had never played drums and koto for the first time, they enjoyed this rare opportunity to the fullest. Later, the international students formed a circle and had lunch with the high school students, and enjoyed conversations and dancing.

Rice-Cake Making (December 13)

International students took part in the 21st Rice-Cake Making Event hosted by the Kokusa Koryu no WA Kurono (local international exchange body). Some students saw or made rice cakes for the first time, but everyone enjoyed making cakes wholeheartedly at this annual event. Later, the students relished the rice cakes coated by roasted soybean flour, sweetened rape bean soup with rice cakes, persimmon paste rice cake and vegetables. They all commented that the freshly made rice cakes were soft and delicious. The students also made rice cake decorations called “hanamochi,” and joined a competition to choose the best decoration. Many unique hanamochi decorations were created by the international students.
### Number of International Students

**As of May 1, 2015**

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<td>Europe</td>
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<td>Oceania</td>
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#### Asia

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#### North America

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#### South America

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#### Oceania

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### Number of International Students By Funding Source

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<td>2015</td>
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<td>39</td>
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Gifu University concluded an Agreement on Student and Faculty Exchanges between Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, India on June 23, 2015. With this newest agreement, the number of university-to-university agreements has reached 46 universities and one government agency in 16 countries.

**New Agreement on Exchanges**

- **Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG)**
  - **Number of Students**: 5,006
  - **Overview**: Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG) is the sole institute of technology in northeast India, serving as a research base for regional development. IITG is the 6th member of the fraternity of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), and has departments of chemistry, humanities and social sciences, mechanical engineering, etc. The Institute also offers an industrial design course to the students. IITG currently is one of the top 100 emerging universities in the world.

**[History of Exchange with Gifu University]**

- In July 2012, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (UGSAS) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Biotechnology Departments and Nanotechnology Center, IITG, and in April 2014, the Faculty of Engineering concluded an Agreement on Faculty and Student Exchanges with IITG. Under these agreements, many active exchanges of students and researchers between the two institutions took place, paving the way for the latest Agreement on Student and Faculty Exchanges coming into effect from June 23, 2015.

**The Faculties of Gifu University concluded new exchange agreements with 13 universities and 2 institutions overseas in 2015.**

- **Faculty of Engineering**
  - **Three universities and two institutions**
    - National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health (USA)
    - Centre for Solar Energy Hydrogen Research, Baden-Württemberg (Germany)
    - Burg Hatt University (Indonesia)
    - Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, State University of Padang (Indonesia)
    - Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)

- **Faculty of Education**
  - **Three universities**
    - Faculty of Education, Kyushu University (Japan)
    - Karlstun University of Education (Germany)
    - Shijiazhuang University (China)

- **Faculty of Regional Studies**
  - **Two universities**
    - University of Arkansas – Fort Smith (USA)
    - Université Sciences Humaines et Sociales – Lille 3 (France)

**The 1st Winter School**

The new Winter School program was created to promote the relationship with the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati (IITG), one of Gifu University’s overseas partner universities, particularly in the international collaborative educational programs. The Winter School is designed to provide international students with an opportunity to experience research activities at Gifu University, and to encourage them to think about enrolling in Gifu University in the future.

In the 1st Winter School started from December 4, 2015, eight students of IITG were selected out of 60 candidates. They took part in research work, studied Japanese and Japanese culture at Gifu University, and joined inspection tours of local industries during this three-week-long program. While they were studying at the University, Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director of IITG, made a courtesy call on President Hisataka Moriwaki and exchanged opinions concerning the international collaborative education programs. Later, Prof. Biswas held a special lecture on his field of research and gave the IITG students encouragement to do their utmost at the Winter School.

The Winter School offers local industry inspection tours to the participants in order to develop ‘global’ human resources who are blessed with global and local insights. The Winter School is scheduled to be held on a regular basis in the hopes that after their enrollment in Gifu University, the participating students will become more positive about building up their careers in Japan based on their experiences of local industry inspection tours.

**Completion of “Spring of Friendship,” Gifu University’s New Water Well**

The new water well was completed in front of the University Library building thanks to the generous contribution and courtesy of the General Incorporated Foundation International Club for Gifu University. The water well was named “Spring of Friendship” in hopes of making the Spring an ideal spot for get-togethers and mingling between Japanese and international students.

Water supply is possible from the large scale feed-water inlet of the well in the case of a natural disaster.