

Monthly Report of Gifu University

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Signing of ‘Initiative for the Implementation of the Diversity Research Environment’

Gifu University signed the Agreement for Joint Execution of the ‘Initiative for the Implementation of the Diversity Research Environment (Collaboration Type)’ with Gifu Pharmaceutical University, Gifu Women’s University and a honey manufacturing company, API Co. Ltd. at Gifu University on August 5, 2015.

‘The Initiative for the Implementation of the Diversity Research Environment’ is subsidized by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) whose major objective is to support universities committed to achieving the following goals of cross-sectional collaboration:

- to improve research environment for female researchers by giving due considerations to their life events and work-life balance, and raise people’s awareness about this goal within each organization
- to increase number of female researchers and enhance their research skills
- to appoint female researchers to higher positions

Under the Agreement, Gifu University and the three organizations are going to execute the ‘Support Program for Cultivation of Community-based Female Researchers’ and its main purposes include:

- to create a company internship system
- employment support for female researchers and engineers in local industries through a shared use of human resource agency
- to create an ideal environment for female researchers to be promoted and for degree seeking
- continued support for female researchers during their period of absence, support for skill improvement and securing employment

- to create and implement programs to foster community-based female researchers, which may provide them an opportunity to exchange with other researchers in the same research fields or advance into different fields

The ultimate goal of the ‘Support Program for Cultivation of Community-based Female Researchers’ lies in forming local communities where female researchers can play an active role as a ‘regional revitalization leader’ of Gifu Prefecture. This goal can be achieved through the development of human resources needed by local enterprises and assisting female researchers in their pursuit of professional career paths.

In addition, the four organizations will jointly implement the ‘Collaboration Type Joint Research Project Support,’ which can become one of the pillars of female researcher support system. Under the system, the four organizations aim to promote collaboration among education, research and business bodies in communities, reinforce research capabilities in collaborative research projects, and secure places for work while boosting ‘mobility’ of female researchers within the communities.

At the press conference held after the signing ceremony, President Hisataka Moriwaki of Gifu University remarked on his resolve to reach the final goal of the Agreement, namely, female researchers’ active roles in society and their contribution to local revitalization.



Group Photo after the Signing Ceremony

(from left) President Tadahiko Goto of the Gifu Women’s University President Moriwaki President Takashi Inagaki of Gifu Pharmaceutical University Mr. Takahiko Nonogaki, President of API Co. Ltd.

Open Campus 2015

Gifu University Open Campus 2015 was a huge success full of excitements.

Gifu University held Open Campus 2015 on August 7, 10 and 11. Around 5,900 people came with excitement to Gifu University over the three days.

For this event, each faculty prepared many programs such as introduction of the courses, lecture experiences, hands-on workshops, facility tours, and explanation of entrance examination, to introduce their unique characterization and features. The visitors enthusiastically participated in the programs to learn front-line research works and student life in the University.

Many university-wide programs including campus tour by the University student staff (titled, “Travel to Every Corner of Gifu University”) and talk session with the University students (“Gidai Talk”) were also open to communicate appealing work of Gifu University to the public.

At counseling corner organized by the teaching staff and the University students, many senior high school students actively raised questions to them about the faculties and courses they are interested in.

Thank you for your coming to Gifu University Open Campus 2015!





Chamomile Children's University Program

Gifu University's Gender Equality Promotion Office held the Chamomile Children's University Program on August 18 and 19, inviting children of teaching and administrative staff of the university.

The Gender Equality Promotion Office offers this program with the objectives of providing teaching and administrative members who have elementary school-age children with a nurturing environment during the children's long summer vacation, and also encouraging children to develop a better understanding of their parents' work environment. This year marked the third year of the Children's University.

Twenty elementary school children participated in the program, aided by staff members from both the Gender Equality Promotion Office and the Staff Development & Training Division, Human Resources Development Department. Students from the Faculty of Education also helped as assistants. A variety of hands-on programs were offered, including a workshop titled "Let's Get Familiar with the Arts" and another titled "Let's Play by Using Our Bodies." The two workshops were taught by two teachers from the Faculty of Education. A teacher from the Faculty of Engineering offered a class on Korean games and culture, while an experiential class on harvesting at a farm and making mayonnaise and pizza was made possible with help of the Gifu Field Science Center, which is affiliated with the Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences. Children were also offered a chance to tour a heliport with help from the University Hospital.

The participating children happily completed the hands-on program over a two day period while working together with their group members and the staff. At the conclusion of the Children's University, they were handed a certificate of completion by Professor Masako Hayashi, Vice President for the Promotion of Gender Equality and Diversity, who served as the President of Children's University. Responses to a questionnaire sent to the children who participated in the Children's University and their parents indicate that many enjoyed the experience tremendously. The staff of the Children's University was pleased that they were able to offer Gifu University teaching and administrative staff these special two days during their children's long summer vacation while feeling at ease at work, knowing that their children were well cared for.

In addition, the staff was able to confirm that teaching and administrative members who have school-age children have a strong interest and hope for the continuation and expansion of this program.



The 5th President Press Conference

Gifu University held the 5th President Press Conference on August 19.

At the beginning of the conference, President Hisataka Moriwaki introduced of the next presentation about “Project Kickoff for Pet Dog Cancer Prevention” in association with the “Gifu University’s Future Visions for the Year 2025.” Then, Dr. Koji Maruo, Director of Comparative Cancer Center, Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences explained about the Project.

In the following question and answer session, a lively back-and-forth took place between the University officials and the reporters.

The 5th President Press Conference became another opportunity for the University to disseminate campus information extensively to the public.



(from left)

Dr. Toshiharu Ishiguro, President of the Gifu Veterinary Medical Association

Dr. Fumiaki Suzuki, Executive Director for International and Public Relations

President Moriwaki

Dr. Maruo

Dr. Hirokazu Fukui, Dean of the Applied Biological Sciences



President Moriwaki speaking to the reporters



Dr. Maruo explains about the project

Closing Ceremony for Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course and Japanese Society and Culture Program

The International Student Center and Gifu City Chuo Library jointly organized and held the Student Presentation on Japanese Culture Studies at the Multipurpose Room of Gifu University Satellite Campus on August 2. Presentations were made by the students who are studying at the Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course at International Student Center.

Students at the Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course study at Gifu University from October to August every year as state-funded international students recommended by the embassies, their home universities or as exchange students from Gifu University's partner universities overseas. They write theses to wrap up their studies at Gifu University. They themselves choose the topics and write the papers under the instructions of their teachers.

Gifu University welcomed eight students from Azerbaijan, Australia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, China and Viet Nam as the 14th students enrolled in the Course this year.

On August 2, the University staff, Japanese and international students as well as many citizens came to see the presentations of their theses despite the sweltering heat. Every student made an excellent presentation in PowerPoint about Japanese culture and cultural comparison between Japan and their home countries. They spoke to the audience in fluent Japanese and some students gave their speeches in their ethnic costumes. The audience kept on giving encouragement and a big applause to every speaker. A lot of answers given to the questionnaire papers distributed to the audience showed that they were given a valuable opportunity to encounter quite unique, different views and a varying ways of presentations by the international students.

The students will attend the Course Closing Ceremony on August 20 and return home. After returning, they will keep on studying at their home universities. Many students, however, came back to Gifu University to continue their study at the graduate schools or advanced to the graduate schools of other universities, or came back to Japan to study or seek jobs. Gifu University is really looking forward to meeting these students again to see their growth in the near future.

The followings are the speakers and the topic of their theses (in the order of making presentations)

- Mr. Borden Alexander William John (Australia)
“Future of Wagyu (Japanese Cattle) and WAGYU – why WAGYU is not on the Japanese market”
- Ms. Prasomsri Hataichanok (Thailand)
“Special Needs Education in Japan and Thailand – focus on education for elementary school pupils with special needs”
- Ms. Bui Thi Bich Dung (Viet Nam)
“Current Status of Vietnamese Students in Japan”
- Ms. Le Thi Thuy Tram (Viet Nam)
“Elucidate Japanese Culture through Japanese Sake”
- Mr. Kim Yangseon (South Korea)
“Relationship between Korean Artists and the Pro-Japanese in the Colonial Era – life of dancer, Choe Seung-hui”
- Ms. Aydayeva Zarifa Kamran (Azerbaijan)
“Develop Culture of Hospitality together with Communities”
- Ms. Zhong Peirong (China)
“Handkerchief – different ways of using handkerchief in China and Japan”
- Ms. Jayasekara Kavindra Gayangi (Sri Lanka)
“English Education for Elementary School Pupils – comparison between Sri Lanka and Japan”



Dr. Suzuki gives a speech



Group Photo

The 4th UGSAS-GU Roundtable & Symposium 2015

From August 25 to 27, the 4th UGSAS-GU Roundtable & Symposium 2015 was held in Gifu City, co-sponsored by the Gifu University United Graduate School of Agricultural Science (UGSAS), Gifu University Graduate School of Applied Biological Sciences, and Shizuoka University Department of Agriculture of Graduate School of Integrated Science and Technology. This symposium was attended by representatives from 17 universities: 14 member universities of the International Consortium of Universities in South and Southeast Asian Region for the Doctoral Education on the Agricultural Science and Biotechnology (IC-GU12) (from seven countries in South and Southeast Asia) and three observer universities.

On August 25, the first day, a total of 91 people including vice presidents and young researchers (mainly the alumni of UGSAS) from the 14 member universities gathered at the Gifu Miyako Hotel to report on the current state and promotional activities of the Dual PhD Degree Program and Sandwich Program, which are part of the “International Collaboration to Improve the Guarantee System of the Quality of Doctoral Education in Agricultural Science and Biotechnology, and to Make a Social Contribution.” Then, they vigorously discussed and exchanged opinions concerning how to advance the Consortium in the future.

They also approved the acceptance of the three observer universities of this symposium as members of the Consortium.

On August 26, the second day, the 4th UGSAS-GU International Symposium on Agricultural Production, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences 2015 was held, in which young researchers, such as those who graduated from UGSAS and who are working at international academic institutions, gave lectures. In the morning, the plenary session was held in the Joint Seminar Room in the UGSAS building, where three lecturers gave keynote lectures as the representatives of each research field (Food & Natural Product Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Microbiology & Biochemistry). In the afternoon, six young researchers from each of the three research fields gave presentations on their research efforts. The presentations were followed by deep discussions among the participants.

After the symposium, the Poster Session was held with the attendance of master’s and doctoral students. Among the 33 posters presented, four students who created outstanding posters were awarded the Best Poster Award.

On the morning of August 27, the last day of the Roundtable & Symposium, a campus tour took place for the participants, which provided them with the opportunity to inspect the educational, research and living environment of international students at

Gifu University. They inspected the University Hospital, General Research Buildings, University Library, Health Administration Center and International House. In the afternoon, they visited the Gifu R&D Center of Amano Enzyme Inc., one of the Industry Subcommittee companies (which cooperate with UGSAS in cultivating highly-skilled professionals). The participants inspected the spacious laboratories and learned that the Center emphasizes environmental safety and sanitation. The participants expressed strong interest in this company and some of the international students requested that the company actively recruit doctoral degree students as well as carry out international marketing.



Group photo