



The Doshisha Student

No. 1

June 2008

International Internships

Nagisa Naota:

A Doshisha Student Reaching Out to the World

By Sayaka Nakabayashi (3rd year, Faculty of Letters)

海外でインターンシップをする本学学生が増えてきています。このたび政策学部の直田なぎささんが半年休学して香港にインターンシップに行く直前に中林さんが直撃インタビュー。世界へ飛躍する直田さんの意気込みを紹介。



Nakabayashi, interviewer

Naota will be going to Hong Kong from March to September for the AIESEC internship. I (Nakabayashi, 3rd year, Doshisha University Faculty of Letters, Study of Japanese language, educational program leader of AIESEC) got to directly interview her about why she decided to take time

off of school just to go on this internship.

Naota: Even if you can speak English, I think it would be pointless if you couldn't use it for something. During the AIESEC training, I wanted to know what I could do with English; I wanted to test myself. With members of

AIESEC involved, exchanges with students appealed to me. I personally want local members to feel and understand Japan and to learn more about it. With small things like that, we can promote mutual understanding.

Nakabayashi: Why did you choose Hong Kong? Also, what are some things that you want to learn from the internship?

Naota: Hong Kong just happened to fit best with the conditions I wanted. I simply liked Asia and always thought it was fascinating how fast China developed. I wanted to see the transition myself. Another reason is because I've been studying about finance in Asia in my seminar. During the internship, I want to see if there is a difference between working with the Japanese and working with foreigners. If there is, I want to learn a way to work smoothly with foreigners.

Nakabayashi: I see. What about the internship are you most excited about?

Naota: Hanging out with the locals. I want to be active as an AIESEC member.

Nakabayashi: I bet! There are already members who are actively working for AIESEC overseas.

Naota: I know! When I go on the internship, I want to see how I can improve the world. I want to make this a reality in the future.

Nakabayashi: AIESEC's goal is peace and the fulfillment of humankind's potential! What are your goals in the future, Nagisa?

Naota: In the field of accounting, I want to start a system that will contribute to the business world.

Nakabayashi: Thank you very much, Naota. Good luck with your training!

Naota: Good luck to you too.

While on overseas exchange as a college student, Naota stated that Japanese people lack the power of changing dreams into goals. Many people have goals for the future. But I wonder



Naota, left, student with the flag of Doshisha University, with the international students at the internship in Hong Kong

how many people actually work at it. Naota has thought a lot on how to achieve her goals. Right now, she's on her way of making her dream into reality. Even to an underclassman like myself, I can see that there is a powerful aura to her.

I felt motivated to work towards my goals and to change the discipline of Japan by interviewing Naota. Maybe everyone should take a step to make a change like Naota.

According to the 2007 Doshisha University Internship Program, internship programs have been held in each school faculty ever since 2001 in order to foster talented people who are capable of coming up with original ideas and realize and solve problems in our changing society. In 2003, a regular curriculum, "Career formation and internship" was formed and included the internship program as part of its possible credits.

In 2001, due to the Career Center holdings business information, students applied to about 2000 companies and 53 students were dispatched to 34 companies. As it became a regular curriculum in 2003, 134 students were dispatched to 81 companies, and as of 2006, 198 students were dispatched to 123 companies.

According to research from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the current internship condition (Ministry of Education 2006 study: published on December 27, 2007; issue 97) is as follows: Number

of participating universities: 482 (65.8%), number of participating students: 50,430 people (first time there have been more than fifty thousand people), Year level, juniors (3rd year): 71.1%, time period: mostly during summer break, generally between one and two weeks.

The future of internships:

The number of universities that have internships has increased since the data from 1996. But based on the current scale numbers, it is hard to state the internship courses that are included as a normal curriculum will be firmly established. Moreover, in recent years, due to industry cooperation to bring in talented people, internships and industry-university relations will become important later on. The Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry are planning to cooperate to promote internships.

I also happened to ask the Stanford-Japan Center, AKP (Associated Kyoto Program), and the Japanese Center for University of Tübingen how the internships went last year. Stanford included the program, with twenty-five out of thirty students taking part in an internship in the summer. AKP and Tübingen have not formally included the program but students have the choice of participating after finishing the training.

(Continued on Page 4)

The Doshisha Student Revives

By Shigeo Otsubo (Chair, Alumni Association of the Doshisha Student)

このたび学生7人を中心に英字新聞部再興に向け復活創刊号を発行いたしました。OB会長(1971年卒)の大坪先輩からのメッセージです。

HPをご覧ください。

同志社大学学生英字新聞部ホームページ

<http://dsnews.web.fc2.com/>

同志社大学英字新聞部OB会ホームページ

<http://doshishaesin.web.fc2.com/>

部員を募集していますのでお問合せ等は今村真利子まで(政策学部4年 mariko0420@yahoo.co.jp)



★ Why write in English? How do you read the following formula?

① 2 + 3 = 5

: Two plus three equals five (easy to understand for Japanese)

: Two and three is five (easy for native children)

② 2 × 3 = 6

: Two multiplied by three equals six (easy for Japanese)

: Two threes make six (not easy for Japanese)

③ 12 ÷ 4 = 3

: Twelve divided by four equals three (easy)

: Four into twelve is three (not easy)

④ 7 - 5 = 2

: Seven minus five is two (easy)

Now let me ask you a question.

How can you read it differently? The answer is five from seven is two. I think 5 is the main object and 7 is circumstance in their brain. To Westerners, "I" and "my idea" come first. They are usually clear in their opinions of for or against, pro- or anti- and like or dislike.

They would say "today is March 20, 2008 and I live in Karasuma, Imadegawa, Kamigyoku, Kyoto, Japan. They usually start from the place they are and move to

the world around them. Another example would be how they say "I don't think he is a Doshishan", but people would rarely say "I think he is not a Doshishan." By using a foreign language, we are requested to express our opinions clearly. English is a language in which it is difficult to say something ambiguously, especially for us Japanese.

★ Why should it be newspaper-style?

Do you know the technical term "inverted pyramid" for the newspaper writing? "Diminishing importance" is the principle used in writing the news. The most important contents should come first and circumstances or situations should come up later because the reader may stop reading at any time. To make your sentence brief, clear and substantial is not an easy job. Just thinking in your mind is not enough. One must learn how to communicate your opinion to others by public speaking and public writing. Try to seek original points and avoid banality. International goodwill should be at the base of our own opinion.

Fluent and colloquial

conversation with foreigners is popular. But after the daily chat, we sit at a desk. We have time to write. It is good to be slow and steady to make your thinking reliable, as it is good for your health.

Our expectation

We OB's (alumni) are very happy to see the revival of The Doshisha English Newspaper Press Club, which was originally founded in 1959. Becoming independent of ESS, it ended up disappearing in 1999. The temperament of students has naturally changed from the political atmosphere of the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty disputes in the 1970's. Japan EXPO & the bubble economy between the 70s to 90s were followed by the so-called the lost ten years. We OB's (in our 60's), called the baby-boomer-generation, are now retiring from our offices. We still have a dream to associate with the younger generations and students. Yes, we believe we can communicate. And it will be more effective and significant to have mutual understanding over the generations when we make a campus paper with them in English.

AFS and Doshisha

By Satoshi Chikamatsu (fourth year, Faculty of Policy Studies)

AFS という言葉を高校時代、耳にしたことはありませんか。高校生を対象とする海外交流プログラムをおこなう非営利団体です。組織としては世界的な規模ですが、本学ではさほど目立っていません。しかし、AFSと同志社は関係が強いことがわかりました。AFSの京都支部長を経験した政策学部の近松 賢君にまとめてもらいました。

The American Field Service (AFS) is a private, nonprofit international education exchange organization that aims to create a peaceful society. It mainly consists of exchanges by high school students who plan to study abroad. In 1946, hoping for world peace, the American Field Service performed an international exchange which triggered the beginning of AFS. An administrative office in New York was formed with more than fifty joint countries actively performing in the area. The



Taguchi (left), Chikamatsu (right)

Kyoto branch office centralizes students and with the help and support of the working members of society, we aim for intercultural exchanges and mutual understanding. We support international students day by day and have expanded various activities.

Since this is intended for high school students, the university refused to give permission to perform activities at school. However, we ended up getting approved in the fall of 2007, and can now actively perform publicity work at school. Making use of our overseas experience during high school, there are about fifteen students who are active under the Kyoto branch office. Although not very visible, we are steadily performing international exchange activity.

I, chairman of the Kyoto branch in 2007, who stayed in Malaysia at AFS will introduce the following data Spisophon Posurot, an international exchange student in 2007 from Thammasat University, has been to Japan through Thai AFS during her high school career. The staff was also

able to deepen international exchange with students from Asia at the AFS Kyoto branch office Christmas party in December 2007. The former Secretary General of the Cabinet, Shiozaki and his wife are graduates of AFS and many AFS experienced members have played an active role in Japan.

○ Estimated number of members of AFS who have graduated from Doshisha University in the past 5 years: 15

Conditions of international exchange at high schools—the Ministry of Education, research 2006 (“Ministry of Education 2006 study: published on December 27, 2007, Issue 97) are as follows:

1. School excursions overseas: 1,384 schools (in total). Number of participants: 177,750 people (in total). Most people went to Australia (266 schools, 38,832 people).
2. Acceptance of educational trips from foreign countries involving school visits: High schools: 1,179 schools in

total, visitors: 30,363 people in total. Most visitors were from Korea (9,472 people).

3. Sister school cooperation (as of May 1, 2007): 1,679 schools. Most cooperation with Australia (414 schools).
4. Students studying abroad (more than 3 months): 3,913 students. Most students studied abroad in the United States (1,501 students).
5. High school students who went to foreign countries for training (less than 3 months): 30,626 people (in total). Most students went to Australia (10,204 people).
6. Acceptance of foreign international students (more than 3 months): 1,866 people in total (1,518 as of 2004). Most were from China (371 people).
7. Acceptance of trainee travelers from foreign countries (less than 3 months): 3,986 people in total (4,068 people as of 2004). Most were from Australia (1,021 people).
8. Establishment of foreign language study other than English (as of May 1, 2007) 2,042 schools (in total) with 15 different languages. Chinese is the most popular (21,264 students registered in 819 schools).

We (AFS Doshisha volunteers) actively work by dividing into two campuses: the Kyotanabe and Imadegawa campus. We perform intercultural understanding around the campus area, and have meetings to see if we can offer mutual understanding. We also prepare plans and manage them. We often help international exchange students who come to Kyoto by finding them host families. To help them find a host family, we instruct the students on how to visit them, and we

also put up posters with notices and information around the area. We believe the easiest way to experience intercultural understanding is to actually become part of a family. Intercultural understanding is not only possible with host families but also with the entire community.

Beyond that, we also support international students and host families. We make sure the host schools are capable of overseeing their life smoothly. I think having more opportunities to interact with society is a good experience for us. With all the people who made full use of this experience, I believe we should too even after we graduate from Doshisha.

I would like to introduce one enthusiastic member, Taguchi's experience (2007 Policy Studies Graduate, positioned at a foreign-affiliated firm).

Taguchi's experience

“AFS is mostly consists of working members of society, but in cities like Tokyo and Kyoto, it is mainly made up of college students. I started participating in AFS after I studied abroad in Indonesia for a month during my second year of high school. AFS helped me find my host family and supported me at all times. In order to show my gratitude I told myself I would work as a volunteer when I became a college student.”

“In my second year, I was in charge of finding homes who accepted international students, also known as ‘Family Finding’. I made phone calls in between classes, visited homes after school, and explained the support systems and program contents. Basically, my life

revolved around AFS. I think I learned a lot from these experiences.”

“One thing I learned is to always think from others' points of view. For example, things wouldn't go well for host families if we only conveyed our enthusiasm. We have to put ourselves in their shoes and think about the possible negative situations that could come up. Then we must talk through and understand them. I've learned to think from the point of view of international students, host families, and staff. I want to have some sort of connection with Southeast Asia even after I graduate. One day I would like to host a student myself, and welcome and support international students.”

* Taguchi's articles were partly reproduced from “One Purpose” My Purpose (No. 151: June 2007), Doshisha magazine publication

The 50th Anniversary for the AFS Kyoto branch office was held at the Kyoto City International Foundation Hall on February 10, 2007. Yasuko Araki, Kyoto City International Foundation Advisor, a supporter of fifty years, was given a Gallati Award. A total of more than 150 people including the general public, host families, host schools, the President of AFS International Headquarters, Cazar, everyone who worked under the Kyoto branch office, and alumni volunteers attended.

* The articles were reproduced and modified by the “Doshisha University Staff English Club News “Topics” No3. (dated on May 31, 2007)

○ Accepted AFS international students

	Doshisha High School	Kori High School	International High School
2002	1 (Vietnam)	1 (Sweden)	
2003		1 (Switzerland)	
2004		1 (Germany)	1 (Venezuela)
2005		1 (France)	1 (Thailand)
2006		1 (Thailand)	1 (Argentina)
2007		1 (Korea)	1 (United States)

○ Students sent out through the AFS

	Doshisha High School	Kori High School	International High School	Girls' High School
2000	Short-term 1		Short-term 1	Full-year 1
2001	4, Full-year 1		Short-term 1	Full-year 2
2002	Short-term 3, full-year 2		Short-term 1	
2003	1,	Full-year 1		Short-term 1
2004	3, 3	Short-term 1, Full-year 1	Full-year 1	
2005	4,	Full-year 1		Full-year 1
2006	1, 1			Full-year 2
2007	2, 3	Full-year 2	Full-year 1	Short-term 1, Full-year 2
2008	4,		Full-year 2	

Destination: Unknown

International Students Participate in the Gion Festival

祇園祭は京都が世界に誇る伝統の祭りです。祇園祭の7月17日が近づいてきました。留学生もこの祭りに参加することを楽しみにしています。昨年の様子を紹介いたします。

On July 17, 2007, nine international students from the Doshisha University Center for Japanese Language and Culture participated in the parade of Yamahoko floats in the Gion Festival, which is one of the three major festivals in Kyoto. The students pulled the “Minami Kannon Yama” float, which has the important role of bringing

up the rear of the line of floats every year. This is the fourth year that the International Center and the Center for Japanese Language and Culture have gathered international students to participate in pulling the float, which has had volunteer pullers for ten years. This year we also had three alumni who were fascinated by the

Gion Festival and traveled all the way to Japan for the big day.

Unlike last year the weather was slightly cloudy - a perfect day for the festival. The participants were all excited about their experience, saying “It was really amazing to be able to experience the tradition and culture of Kyoto and Japan” and “I was lucky to

take part in such a traditional Japanese event during my study abroad, I will treasure the memory for the rest of my life”.

*The photos and articles were provided by the “Topics” website of Doshisha University (dated on July 19, 2007)-the articles were partly reproduced.



Frontiers of International Exchange

Minakawa and the Japan-Norway Student Forum

By Soichi Minakawa (3rd year, Faculty of Policy Studies)

皆川壮一君の活動は同志社内外で注目されています。本紙も彼の活動を紹介します。現在3年生ですが、英字新聞部にも所属し、これからの活躍が楽しみです。

What comes to mind when you think of Norway? I'm guessing most people thought of either fjords or salmon. However, it is difficult to grasp a concrete image of Norway.

In 2005, Japan and Norway celebrated the 100th Anniversary for their establishment of diplomatic relations. As an interna-

tional student, I was able to attend the ceremony. I then promised myself that I would take part in both of the countries' exchange.

At the level of national and Imperial household exchange, these two countries maintain a friendly relationship. Sadly, the present situation for the private exchange is not

very active. Norway does not stand out compared to other Northern European countries, such as Sweden and Finland. Norway has been #1 on the United Nations human development index (rank for wealthy countries) for seven years in a row, and has also been #1 for the gender empowerment index (rank for female advancements in society). With its decreasing birthrate, aging society, security problems, and decentralization problems, Norway has been giving helpful hints to Japan, acting as a role model. Appreciation of Japan has been rising within the young generations from the spread of manga, fashion, and music. In Norway's national environment project, HyNor, Japan's bike company, Matsuda, has been centralized offering hydrogen bikes. Hence, the two countries

have been trying to have better cooperation with one another.

With all the problems and rumors in the international society, it is significant to have these exchanges. These influences will not only stop here in Japan and Norway, but will continue to influence the world.

Icebreaker for exchange with Norway

Since there aren't many private exchanges between the two countries, I started a Norway-Japan Student Forum in the winter of 2005. Ever since the entrance ceremony, I made posters and posted I them up, not only at Doshisha but also at other universities in Kyoto. I can still remember how I gathered new members, while I visited the other universities. As I found more and

more people who had similar opinions, the Norway-Japan Student Forum got started. We were able to present and spread the activity with the support from the Japan-Norway Kingdom, Kyoto Norway Center. With the help of many others, the first Norway-Japan Student Forum was presented last September. Since the media from both countries reported on the news, we had successful results. Now that we have marked the 100th Anniversary for the diplomatic relations establishment, the time for the young generation to step up has come. Looking at the next 100th Anniversary, we are hoping for both countries to maintain their good relationship. Our work may not reach to other countries. However, I think these efforts will eventually pile up and make a difference. We have already

started working on the project to present our second Norway Student Forum. In April 2008, we had a lecture on Ogiwara Kenji and a report and photo exhibition on the first Japan-Norway Student Forum. We hope through-out mutual exchange, Japan and Norway will continue their friendly relationship and strongly develop in the future. We are also looking forward to establishing a Norway secretariat by 2012, have a mutual visit by 2015, and establish a Tokyo secretariat by 2017. We, the Japan-Norway Student Forum, will continue to move forward and develop into a stronger group.

* The articles were reproduced by the "Doshisha University Staff English Club News "Topics" No5. (dated on May 31, 2008)



Minakawa, fourth from the right in the front row, with JNSF (Japan-Norway Student Forum) members and Norwegian universities in Norwegian University Science and Technology

Mike Nakamura and the "Kansai Club"

By Mike Nakamura

「関西クラブ」は関西出身者を中心とした非営利親睦団体で日米の国際交流の橋渡しをされ、同クラブの副会長として中心的に活躍されているマイク中村氏（本学経済学部1966年卒業）を紹介します。

Kansai Club is a non-profit, social group that is mainly consisted of people who live in Los Angeles and are originally come from the Kansai area. In 1967, Hideyuki Takahashi first created the "Naniwa Kai". The group became widely known in the Kansai area, which led them to change the name to Kansai Club in 1983.

(Purpose)

- 1) Cultivate friendship and maintain communications and mutual aid among the members who currently live in US.
- 2) International aid exchange: Support educational training program for encourage the person internationally talented skills and volunteering and fundraising for disaster in the Kansai area
- 3) Support cultural activity in the area

After the Hanshin earthquake in 1995, members of the club collected ten thousand dollars to donate to Kobe City. Since then, they agreed to promote and support international exchange aid. After celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the founding, Kansai Club changed into a nonprofit corporation.

"Naniwa tomo are(We're all friends in Kansai)" and "Waiwai gayagaya tanoshi-

ku yukaini (Let's get together and let's enjoy)" is our motto. We start off with various Seminars, Sunday- brunch, Karaoke, Fishing, Barbecue, Bus trips and etc. We also hold fundraising events such as Golf tournaments and Baseball watching for Student Program inviting the students from Kansai district to Los Angeles in order to learn things in US visiting local city hall and museum and attending the meeting with the business persons in Los Angeles.

Namely starting from the year of 2003, an invitational student training program was held in Los Angeles for students who live in the Kansai area. Two students a year have been accepted by submitting an essay on the theme of "Kansai Activation." and have to pass the final interview.

We are no longer accepting applications for this year since the deadline has already passed. The presentation by the students held in Los Angeles and in Osaka every year, which is often mentioned in the newspapers in Japan. Therefore, "Los Angeles Kansai Activation" is called upon attention.

In 2007, Kansai Club celebrated 40th anniversary and held the special anniversary event with members, and published its commemoration magazines and the original Kansai

Club wines were produced with a picture of Osaka castle on the label.

Kansai Club:

<http://www.kansaiclub.org>

Number of members:

170 (as of 2008)

Registered as a nonprofit organization:

NON-PROFIT CORPORATION I.D. 95-4628169

Nakamura's profile

Vice Chairman of Kansai Club, Mike Nakamura (Graduate of Doshisha University 1966, Economics Major, currently working as adviser of Tateyama Kagaku group and director of U. S. MI Company: lived abroad in Canada and US for twenty six years and now lives in Los Angeles) is the ex-vice chairman of Southern California Japan America Society (presently lifelong honorable director) and dedicate international contribution activities.

As for the Kansai Club student training program in Los Angeles, the following are expected.

"I was able to hear the latest news of Doshisha University from President Hatta when he visited Los Angeles in January, 2006. There were 110 Doshisha graduates in Los Angeles at the time. As Kansai Club, both US and Japan, we hope to become a helping hand of Doshisha

University for the student training program. In the past, there were 15 Doshisha students who applied for it. To my great regret, there are no successful candidates. Throughout Doshisha University campus, everyone who supports the program has been very cooperative. I am hoping for many Doshisha students to challenge and to connect with "Kansai activation"

Kansai Club - Recruitment for student training program in Los Angeles (Deadline passed)

Recruitment qualifications

-must be a University student from the Kansai area: Osaka, Kyoto, Nara, Hyogo
-apply directly, or recommendations by others (nationality, age, distinction of sex does not concerned)
How to apply
-go to the Kansai Club website, www.kansaiclub.org and check the requirements for applications, then email to Okamoto: tokamo.agil24.net a 2000 word paper (Please note that the essay will be on the pamphlets and passed on to relevant people other than the student)
Theme: "For the activation in Kansai" "How to activate Kansai"
Details of training, day/time

-Contents: business visits, tour the school and public institutions, speak with local people.

-period of time: August 31, 2008 (Saturday, leave Osaka) September 10, 2008 (Wednesday, arrive in Osaka) total for 12 days
-Place to stay: as a rule, home-stay at a member's home
-Provide: Roundtrip Airline ticket (Kansai International Airport-Los Angeles International Airport)

-Individual requirements: overseas trip insurance, money for meals

Date to apply

-deadline: May 30, 2008
-essay examination and interview: July 4, 2008

-announcement: a phone call will be made directly on July 7, 2008; it will also say on the website

How it will be selected:

-Los Angeles and Osaka committees will choose 4 students from the essay.

-an interview will be held

and then final 2 people will be chosen.

Recruitment-inquiries
-selectors committee

a) Osaka: 550-0013
Osaka-shi Nishi-ku
Shinmachi 1-8-6 Sanai
Building 6F
SNP work office:
Representative
Okamoto,
Tel. 06-6578-7511
Cell 090-3620-3684
Email:
tokamo@agil24.net

b) Los Angeles: Dr.
Hiroshi Sumiyama,
Tel. 714-669-9067
Email:
sumiyama2@cox.net

c) For more details: go to www.kansaiclub.org

* The articles were reproduced and modified by the "Cross Culture News No1." (dated on Oct. 1, 2007)



Nakamura, far right, meeting Yohei Kono, fourth from the right, Speaker of the House of Representatives, in Los Angeles

The Doshisha Student

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Thoughts on Visting China

By Pat Savage

(2007-2008 Amherst-Doshisha Fellow)

パット・サベジ氏は現在アーモスト・同志社フェローで2007年9月から同志社で1年間英語の授業を教えたり、多様な本学の企画に協力しています。

このたび、2月11～25日中国を初めて旅行した率直な旅行体験記です。同氏はニュージーランド出身で、高校まではニュージーランド、大学はアメリカ（4年間）、日本で1年近く生活しています。

アーモスト大学在学中からアカペラグループ「Zumbies (ズンバイズ)」に所属、2007年6月日本公演を好評・実施（本学では2007年6月6日ハーディーホール）、中心的な役割をしました。

"Yay, I'm a llama again!" says Emperor Kuzco in the Emperor's New Groove after he morphs into a variety of different animals and returns to the familiar llama form he's been trying to escape for the whole movie. Well, after returning to Japan after two weeks in China, I kind of felt like that, relieved to be back in familiar old Kyoto after my trip to China, despite how alien it felt when I arrived here five and half months before.

My trip basically had two very different parts: for the first week I was in Shanghai with my friend Ding (a former member of my a cappella group at Amherst College who graduated in 2006) and Nanjing with my friends Joe and Kris from New Zealand, Joe's wife Yuran and her parents. For the second week I traveled on my own detouring inland to Xi'an and then up to Beijing. They were both really great and I'm really glad I had the chance to challenge myself to travel completely on my own, while also getting to visit friends and see how much more rewarding it is traveling with locals and not just doing all the generic tourist things.

Lesson 1: Experiencing China

The cheapness of everything here would become one of the major lessons of my trip, as I got my first chance visiting a developing country and also got to experience for the first time what it's like to have way more money than the local people and be able to afford to throw it around. I also learned how such a system infallibly means that the locals will harass you endlessly for the money that they know they can get from you and people who look like you, and realized how easy it is to get fed up with it and resent the harassment, and how easy it could be to form racist attitudes like my Noh teacher, who warned me about the "sneaky crafty" Chinese. In a way, she was right, because they did act really craftily towards me, but it's an obvious result of the economic inequality between the relatively poor locals and the relatively rich foreign tourists.

I think it was here I achieved the best perspective on my trip, as can be seen in my enigmatic expression. I think this trip was just what I needed, a great success, despite being

a failure in many ways. Or rather, it was a success BECAUSE it was a failure in many ways, because I think you can learn the most from failures, and I wanted to go on this trip to learn, to be challenged, and to put myself outside of my comfort zone, all of which I definitely did.

First off, you can see from my scruffy beard and messy hair that I haven't shaved throughout the whole trip, and only got to shower a few times, mostly at the beginning. Although you can't smell the photo, you can rest assured that this is a good thing. I smelled awful. I also had no cell phone for the whole trip, minimal internet access, didn't speak a word of Chinese when I arrived and was using an old guide book left in my possession from a previous Amherst-Doshisha Fellow 5 or 6 years back, and was trying to use this to navigate around, among other places, the most rapidly changing city (Beijing, in its pre-Olympic frenzy) in the most rapidly changing country in the world. But I made it through all of that with only a few problems, and I'm very glad I got the chance to do that, if only to prove to myself that I can do that in this age

where we're constantly connected to up-to-date information and can't go a few hours without checking our email or cell phones or Wikipedia or Facebook. That being said, it was so nice to come back and have all those things again!

Lesson 2: The realities of being a tourist

Basically, that was the best thing about my trip: I proved a point to myself and got it out of my system. I'd been thinking a lot lately about how I wanted to go traveling around the world and have all these crazy adventures and meet locals and see wonderful sights, but now that I've tried it a little I realize some of my ideas were unrealistic or just not as grand as I'd thought. Most of all, I realize that it's all well and good to visit foreign countries, but if I don't speak the language and / or have friends or connections living there to show me around, I'm never going to actually get to engage with the people living there and have a meaningful interactive experience beyond the shallow, typical tourist experience of going to the famous sights and checking them off on my list of "places

to casually mention in conversations to impress others with my worldliness and life of leisure".

For the first part of the trip I did get a little taste of the local life and culture, but without the language I still felt removed from the reality of the city. For the second part I got a taste of the life of the many travelers who travel all over the world and yet remain an outsider in the places they visit, creating community only with the other travelers or just being alone. Although there's a certain charm to that, that's not what I want to get out of these kinds of trips. So, in the future, I want to try to travel as

much as possible to places where I have friends and absolutely make at least a half-decent effort to learn some basics of the language before I go.

All in all, though, it was a wonderful experience and I hope to use what I learned from this trip to broaden my perspective on the world and its people, and to plan how to make the most out of my future travels to new and exciting places.

* The articles were reproduced by the "Doshisha University Staff English Club News "Topics" No5. (dated on May 31, 2008)



Me on the Great Wall the day before I returned

Information Corner

○ World Student Environmental Summit in Kyoto- Opinions of the Students from Kyoto, the possibility for the future: June 20-22 sponsored by Doshisha University

Participating Universities and College from overseas: (U.S.A) Stanford University, Oberlin College, (U.K.) University of Cambridge, (Germany) University of Tübingen (Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen) (Korea) Yonsei University, (Canada) University of Victoria, University of Winnipeg, (Italy) Università degli Studi di Firenze, (Russia) Saint-Petersburg State University, (India) Periyar University

and others
Please see
st-summit.doshisha.ac.jp

○ Participants of Beijing Olympics in 2008 (Doshisha University)

Yuuki Hayashi
(2007 Commerce) (Archery)
Tetsuya Matsunaga (2003 Commerce) & Taro Ueno
(2003 Commerce) (Boat Sailing)
Yuuki Ota
(2008 Commerce) (Fencing)

○ Dr. Donald Dore received an Honorary Degree on March 27, 2008 from Doshisha University. He is a world-renowned scholar of sociology in the field of Japan studies.

(Continued from Page 1)

International Internships

Once again, I interviewed Naota about AIESEC.

Nakabayashi: Can you introduce yourself and give me a brief introduction of activities in AIESEC?

Naota: I am a Doshisha University student majoring in Policy Studies, with a focus on international finance. In the first year I was in charge of a trainee (a student from overseas) and a company which accepts AIESEC interns. The next year I was a leader of one program which focused on sightseeing and published 3,500 booklets about Japanese culture for foreigners. It was a collaboration with Kyoto City officials.

Nakabayashi: It seems like you've been very energetically involved! Why

did you decide to join AIESEC anyhow?

Naota: At the time, my friend Takuya Matsumoto told me how great AIESEC was, and I've always been interested in "foreign countries." Before entering school, I vaguely wanted to learn about international relations and to meet with international students. I thought I could make this happen by joining AIESEC. During my freshman year, there was one event that had an international meeting where I first became friends with a international student. I was touched.

Nakabayashi: I'm excited to attend the international meeting in the spring too. When do you experience

the most international exchange?

Naota: Definitely when trainees visit from foreign countries. It is impressive. I think what's fascinating about AIESEC is that you get to become friends with people your age that are from foreign countries.

Nakabayashi: OMRON Corporation and HORIBA, Ltd. are currently cooperating to accept trainees dispatched from AIESEC. There are many trainees visiting in the spring and fall, so this is the moment for me to experience international exchange.

Naota: Yes, I am very thankful for all the corporations that have been cooperative.

Nakabayashi: I wonder if

people know about this group. AIESEC has programs in twenty-four universities in Japan and allows internships in more than one hundred foreign countries. Not only do you go for an internship, but you also get to experience the international stage and become aware of problems of the world. It'll give you more opportunities to think about problems in the society and motivate you to change the world! There are some undertaking projects, internships, and interesting activities at Doshisha University. This time I chose to put the spotlight on one of the most active and driven members of AIESEC.