



# The Doshisha Student

No. 4

November 2009



From the Doshisha Sports

## Special Feature on Sports

Our purpose: To introduce information on sports from our home countries by sharing our personal experiences of games, classes, and sports clubs

### An inspirational sport in my life

#### YoungWoo Jang (Faculty of Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> year, Korea)



When you think about sports that represent South Korea, the 2002 Soccer World Cup semi-finals and the 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the WBC come to mind. Both soccer and baseball have been taken up largely through the media and have become ever so popular because of it. It has grown to the point that soccer is considered the national sport and baseball is not far behind as well. For instance, the red uniform that was worn by the national team and fans during the 2002 World Cup instilled a strong image throughout the globe. Players such as Park Ji-Sung who plays for the Manchester United FC have gained

national fame that far exceeds any pop idol or singer in Korea.

Of course, I was also one of those fans wearing the "red devils" uniform and rooting for the team. But instead, I would like to write about a sport that I experienced during my elementary and junior high school years that hold close to my heart. A different article on these two sports will simply state what you have already heard before on the TV news. The sport that affected my life is basketball.

There is only a little background on basketball when it comes to Korea. In 1996, the KBL (Korean Basketball League) was formed and since its establishment it has not produced any world-renowned players nor has it made any major accomplishments. Unlike the K-League (Korean Professional Football League), which has a history of over 25 years, basketball has a very short history compared to these other two major sports in Korea. Even though

most people are interested in baseball and soccer, my attention is on basketball.

There is a story behind the reason why I would like to write about this sport. You could say that basketball was part of my student life and still is now. Like most Asian societies, South Korea is known for its concentration on education and studies. At a very young age, we start living in a cyclic life style. First, we go to school, then to a private tutor/secondary educational school and then we return home. Everyday, most students live the same cycle, which continues on and on. To escape this daily routine and to relieve the stress from my studies, I started to play basketball at a nearby court. I was able to forget everything and regain my sanity just by running through the courts.

As a child, I was very shy and quiet. I was unable to make any friends and would often play alone. The fact that I went to a private school did not help the situation as well. Then one

day when I was in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, my father bought me a basketball. That was when I met the sport that would soon change my life. All I needed was a ball and a court to play basketball. You didn't need other players to improve on your own skills. I started to practice on my own and soon the level of my individual play became much higher than the average elementary student. I was also able to make new friends through the sport.

Once I entered junior high school, my friends and I played in street basketball tournaments and also joined the school team. Every summer vacation, we would enter in those tournaments and meet different people from throughout the world. Not only people from Asia but also from across the globe. Companies such as Adidas and Nike would open tournaments for 3 on 3 games. My shy and awkward personality started to change around strangers. The more I met new people, the more I became open. It had changed

my life.

Ever since I came to Japan, I have not been able to play in such tournaments but I still take the time to play basketball at the school gym. In this country, street basketball has not yet become popular and is only able to play in the gym. But we still meet new people through the sport. Using this common ground, I've made many friends in Japan. Basketball still has a magical effect on people where two strangers can become friends through one sport. Not only has it relieved the stress of being in a international country, but it has also helped me create new friends.

Here is a message and advice to all foreign exchange students. If you ever feel overwhelmed by the stress of coming to another country or the studying seems to take out everything out of you, try a sport for exercise. Any sport will be sufficient. Maybe it's baseball or even jogging. You will soon feel the difference not only mentally but also physically

when you concentrate on moving your body.



MinSoo Kim, Representative of Korea

### What is a sport?



I wonder what you would reply to this question. Generally, one would think of a sport that involves competition like baseball and soccer. The definition of sports consists of countries

and culture and it has changed quite a bit with the flow of history. The present sense of values toward sports has changed; it's a junction of the transformation of the societies demand for sports. Today, I would like to focus on the latest developed and the new concept of sports.

There's a new sport called E-Sports, which was created recently. E-Sports is an informal name for electronic sports, and is known as a computer game that battles with numerous players. This TV game is used as a competitive sport. There are

probably a lot of people who think it's strange to consider a sport that doesn't use your body as one of a competitive sport. But chess and the game of go, also known as mind sports are included in the sports category. E-Sports is an online game that performs various world scale tournaments with high priced rewards that includes everybody from amateurs to professionals. It is also known as a sport that allows disabled people to participate equally and is hoped for welfare.

Another new sport that

#### Yuna Otake (Faculty of Policy Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> year)

was brought up was street dancing. It's not acknowledged as a formal sport like ballroom dancing but it has been recently brought up as a sport. Street dancing's biggest difference with other sports is the lack of prepared rules and exemplary models. There are somewhat forms and steps that exist but there's no problem in how one arranges them. It depends on each individual on how they want to dance. Since there are no standards in dancing, it's up to the individual's subjectivity to decide which dance is

good or not. Even though there are no rules, there is a competitive side known as dance battles. The winner is chosen by having the competitors dance to randomly chosen songs and see how well they match the rhythm and express the sounds through their dance. Technical skills are definitely required but its important to see if one was on the rhythm and if one was able to attract the audience. It's also important to see how much one enjoyed the music. I think by combining the original meaning of sports of

joking around and playing around along with the modern meaning of competing can be pulled off as a new sport.

Japanese are apt to linking sports with education and self-discipline. Since the "nations physical education" concept penetrated, it allowed one to learn manners, discipline, and training through sports. I think it would be a waste of potential if one only used sports as a training of the mind and soul. Having new sports as a starting point, I hope the roles of sports spread in the future.

### Comparing the club activity between Japanese-Chinese students

#### Zhou Weiwei (Faculty of Commerce, 4<sup>th</sup> year, China)



People say that there are no walls in sports but it's hard to say that the structures are the same in all countries. The biggest difference that surprised me the most was the club activities in Japan.

Also known as examination schooling, the education in China ultimately emphasizes on the college examination. Rather than the rearing talent that is useful in society for the future, students defeat through the strict competition of the mass population and

are devoted to enter prestigious universities to survive. It's common for one to pursue a high educational institution starting from kindergarten to high school to be able to enter a high ranked university. There are many students who succumb to the cruelty of only concentrating on studying for the twelve years between elementary to high school. School records are the only things that can evaluate a student. I remember how the music, physical education, and liberal art classes were used for free time and for other main classes.

Up until high school, we didn't have circles or sport clubs. There were a few who participated in the clubs for the honor of the school, but they didn't do well in their studies. Regardless of being good or bad, those students were known as "athletes"

and weren't very smart. On top of being athletes, they weren't motivated to study, lost time because of the rigorous training, and got more behind in their studies. People were able to go to high school with a sport recommendation but when it came to college, athletes from all over the world had to face the strict competition. Therefore, most athletes couldn't get into college. Based on the peculiar system of the examination education of my mother country, China, the following conditions of club activities were formed. (I think it has somewhat changed now, but this was how it was when I was in high school.)

Hence, I didn't have an image towards club activities before I came to Japan. Coming here and going to college, I was moved when I saw Japanese students

working their best toward the club activities. I found out that most students played some type of sport along with studying ever since elementary school. It wasn't just for play, students played full-scale. Club activity allows one to improve and discover personality and knowledge and it provides responsibility and practice to act independently. One must support each other during club activities; it's an environment where gifted personality in society is created. Club activities play a big role in upbringing people who are physically and mentally strong and have good manners.

It is no exaggeration to say that the spirit of club activity led to the powerful Japan that stands today.



A MAN, Chinese International Student Basketball Team Zhou (center, back row)

#### Correction

The third edition (June, 2009) Page 3 Through the International Exchange During My College Days By Mariko Imamura (Graduate of 2009) (sentence inside) AISEC→AIESEC

## The sport in my country



My country is the south of Europe, Spain, with a very warm weather. I was born in Madrid, the capital in Spain, but not in the core of the culture. The core of the culture in my country is said to be the north, where Galicia is and so on, and the south, where it is the famous Andalusia region. I would

like to write about the culture in my country but this time, yes, this time, I am going to talk about the sport in my country.

Spain is a country where sports are known to be more important than the politics. It is like a religion to us. Ever since one hundred years ago, football is especially the most popular sport in my country. There are very important clubs, not only national but also international clubs like FC Barcelona and Real Madrid CF. These are the two most important clubs in my country, leading a league called La Liga where there are other famous clubs like Sevilla, Athletic, Atletico de Madrid, Valencia, Deportivo,

etc. As I said before, in Spain, the king sport is football and the leaders of the sport are both FC Barcelona and Real Madrid CF. Not only for sport reasons but for other reason too. Historically, Madrid and Barcelona are two different cultures with different languages. Yes, not dialects. In Madrid, Castellano is spoken but in Barcelona, Catalanian is spoken. Two different languages that create a deeper conflict between Madrid and Barcelona. Also, there is a very important conflict in the politics and social area. I am not going to talk deeper about this subject but I must say that football

in Spain is more than a simple sport. It's something easy to understand for us but sometimes its difficult to understand to people from other countries.

I was born in Madrid, so since I was a kid, I was crazy about Real Madrid CF. I went to the stadium many many times and enjoyed the Galacticos Era when Zidane, Ronaldo, Raul, Beckham, Roberto Carlos, Figo all played together. It was fantastic, and every Sunday when there was a game in Bernabéu (The stadium of Real Madrid), Madrid, my city was literally paralyzed by fans from around the world, even from Japan.

When I was I kid, I

dreamed about playing in Real Madrid someday. It is every Spanish kid's dream. I was examined by the Real Madrid coaches but I was really bad so that's why I could not get into the junior squad. Not only me, but other hundreds of kids tried too. But it's a almost impossible to play for Real Madrid when there are players like Zidane, Ronaldo, . . . the level is very high.

As I said, in Spain the king sport is football, but there are other popular sports too. Basketball is one of them. Since Paul Gausol went to the NBA, the Spanish ACB league became more popular and now Spain is said to be one of the best

national basketball teams in the world. Another sport that is famous is Formula One and Tennis.



Raul Gonzalez Blanc (Real Madrid)

## Traditional ethnic sport: Mongol Sumo



I was born and raised in a self-governed district in Mongol, China and I especially enjoy their national sports. I am not a Mongolian but since I lived there for many years, a lot of their racial customs became a part of me. Similar to the national sport of Japan, sumo, there is Mongolian sumo. When Genghis Khan established the Mongolian dynasty, it was known as an important way

to choose suitable soldiers. In Mongolian sumo, they don't have a basis or a specific limit. The first to have both shoulders hit the floor loses is a very different rule from the sumo in Japan. In Mongolian, sumo is called bokou. It became s popular traditional Mongolian sport in the grassy plains around the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Not only was it just played as a sport but it was also used to kill time. The Mongolians seemed to be very fond of it. The sumo wrestlers wear clothing made of cow skin, boots, and decorative hoods of red, yellow, and blue. The first, second, and third place winners are awarded with a prize. You cannot pull ones leg, hit the face, or kick above the stomach and knee. You also cannot touch the

others ear and eyes. In this sport, there are definite risks where it is possible for one to die. In case of these casualties, it is common for one to be given a pair of boots and be compensated with a three-year old cow. This is identified to be legal above the laws.

There are other competitions also known as Nadamu, which is the most magnificent sport festival for the Mongolians. They have horse races and other sports where one shoots an arrow while riding a horse. Of course, these are different from the mass sports because they are only popular in Mongol, China. I think sports are important if one wants to learn the culture and habits of the Mongolians.

I didn't have that many

chances to experience these sports since I came to Japan but there are many powerful sumo wrestlers from Mongol like Asashoryu and Hakuho that have showed bravery to the Japanese. Being born in the great grasslands, the optimistic personality of the Mongolians makes friends through sports and winners are looked up to as heroes.

I think it's somewhat the same as Japan's spirit of bushido. Competition of mankind created the affluent society we have today in the first place. Moreover, one cannot live without competition. I think Mongolian sumo and Japan's spirit of bushido is indeed a pillar to guide victory and defeat mankind. One must fight even if the opponent is strong. Pretend there are two

sumo wrestlers and one of the their ability is obviously less than the other. Do you think one will fight or surrender? Mongolian sumo wrestlers will not give up

and will definitely fight till the end. I think it's because of their disposition from birth and their way of sticking out till the end.



The sumo wrestlers of Nadamu competition held once a year

## Tennis and me

Do you know about Wimbledon?

It's the world's biggest tennis match that only allows chosen players to participate. Tennis players from all around the world admire and dream about Wimbledon. It is one of the four Grand Slam tournaments along with the French Open, the

Australian Open, and the US Open. Japan's representative tennis player, Kimiko Date, was able to make a comeback not too long ago. She was born in Kyoto, and fulfilled being the first Japanese to be ranked in the world's top ten in 1994. This record still has not been broken and there are

probably many young players who are baffled by her activities and are practicing hard. After announcing her comeback, people are expecting more than before.

But we can't deny the fact that the tennis population in Japan is limited. It is said that the financial conditions made an effect on this. If the

economy falls, so does the tennis population. This was caused by the financial conditions of the supply makers, schools, clubs who stood in the position of providing an environment to play tennis. One reason may be because compared to soccer and basketball it is not a sport that can be easily

held. When I was ten years old, I started taking tennis lessons because I always felt a close connection. But there were only few elementary players, which made it difficult to have tennis matches. Though in the last few years, *The Prince of Tennis* and other comic books became popular among

kids and influenced them to start playing tennis, which have increased the population little by little.

We can do nothing but to hope for someone talented like Kimiko Date who can actively perform in the tennis world.

## Sports Review



A few days ago in the World Championships of Track, Usain Bolt made a new world record in the 100 and 200 meters competition. I think everyone was moved

when they saw him run better than expected and beat rivals while bearing the extreme pressure of everyone from around the world watching. There is a sports essence in this simple impression.

I have picked up viewpoints from various countries on the theme of sports but there is no definite answer to what they are. As you can see in the other articles, the way of thinking and how it is organized are different based on each national trait.

In Spain, people depend on sports (especially soccer) just like they depend on religion.

At times, they follow sports even more closely than politics. In Mongol, sumo matches take place in the dangerous environment, and the winner is respected like a general of the Warring States. Also, in a country like China where examination education is the main focus, there is a tendency for people to bipolarize into studious students or athletic students. In Japan, however, the extension of the spirit of Bushido and the strong consciousness of sports equivalent to the training of the mind and body show a glimpse of club activities.

## Taiki Hanawa (Faculty of Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> year)

If you look from the sport and economy's viewpoint, the population of tennis players is controlled by the business conditions, which made the relation between the development of sports and economy stronger. The sports in advanced nations and developing countries also differ.

Well, what is a world shared concept in sports? One can be that it is impressive. The pleasure and charm, chagrin crossing the border, and overcoming the language barrier allows one to have a connection. In today's international society, the role

of sports having to accomplish in the progressing future is big. Like the shy children in Korea, one is able to make many friends from over the world through sports, and can solve disputes at times.

By seeing competitions like E-Sports, chess, and the game of go categorized as sports, it seems as if math and music were called sports too. Mathematics is a world-shared concept and with common results through the competitive research of the nation, there are mathematics Olympics tournaments. Music has crossed the border long time

ago and have shared the ups and down of the emotion of melody.

There may be competitive sports like the World Championships of Track, but there are also sports where there are no ranks. Even if it were just for play, it wouldn't be fun without concentration, therefore, it's important to be serious and active in sports. The reason is because in the concentration there is an emotion that crossed the border and by acquiring that, one is able to experience the essence of sports.

## Report of AFS Activity

### The Opening of the Hiroshima Peace Study Session

#### Representative of the Hiroshima Peace Study Session, Rika Tanaka (Ritsumeikan University 3<sup>rd</sup> year)



At Hiroshima

The 8<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Peace Study Session was held at the Kyoto chapter this year. The group originally started with international students wanting to go to Hiroshima.

They all put their ideas together and continued to build the group with the desire for others to learn. I wonder what they thought and learned in the past two months.

On July 19<sup>th</sup>, the Hiroshima Peace Study Session was held at the Campus Plaza Kyoto. In the morning, there was the international student's presentation and Rumi Hanagaki's speech on the atomic bombing. In the evening, people were divided into five groups and had a discussion meeting.

Each of the five international students presented on the different views of Hiroshima. They stated their

ideas of world peace from their own countries point of view and through the study sessions that were held before. Many questions were asked by the participants how the topic of Hiroshima was taught in their countries. They were very nervous but they answered seriously in Japanese on what they thought about Hiroshima. I think they were able to get their point across to the participants by presenting the impression of Hiroshima tour through the victim's words.

We had Mrs. Hanagaki give a speech about her personal experience of the atomic bombing and about her life after the war. The

participants listened eagerly while Mrs. Hanagaki explained in tears. We also had her friend, Mrs. Takagoshi perform a story illustrated with picture cards called "The Old Lady's Doll" before the lecture. The students of Bukkyo University used Mrs. Hanagaki as a model for this paper story. Mrs. Hanagaki appealed the hope of peace to the participants of the meeting.

In the afternoon discussion, each group discussed about peace from various angles. They also discussed about what one can do for the future and exchanged bright opinions. After the discussion meeting, each group stated

their ideas and shared as an entire group. One international student explained, "having a peace study session itself is a small peace." Later, everyone shared their thoughts and opinions of the discussion meeting.

The Hiroshima Peace Study Session of the Kyoto chapter ended successfully. I think the international students will look back at the things they learned and felt once they return to their country. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to open a Hiroshima Peace Study Session at Kyoto. I am also thankful for all the help we received from the participants of the district and the AFS members. I believe there is

some sort of peace left in each person that participated that day.

Including both the pre-discussion meeting and tour, we were able to have the Hiroshima Peace Study Session with the help and support of many people. I would like to thank the graduating students, participants of the meeting, people we met in Hiroshima, the victim and to all the people who participated after the meeting. Thank you again!

(AFS, "Okoshiyasu Communications" Reprinted from August edition, 2009)

※ AFS (American Field Service)

#### EDITORS & REPORTERS WANTED

The Doshisha Student News is now looking for new members who are willing to join our club.

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# Frontiers of International Exchange Through the Japanese education in Doshisha University

**Miyuki Hira (Professor, Center for Japanese Language and Culture)**

I became a full-time instructor at the Doshisha University, Center for Japanese Language (Bekka) that was established in April 1999. To be honest, we jump started without creating goals and organize how things were going to be carried out. Teaching Japanese at Bekka was the beginning of my international exchange. We tried to improve the Japanese class as much as possible

with the cooperation of other teachers by piling every conceivable device. Then little by little, we realized our goal was to make the Doshisha University International Bekka the world's best Japanese education institution. We thoroughly researched on teaching methods and materials and aimed to acquire refined Japanese.

Along with the society inspection that is held once a

year, we visit Shiyo Gakuen, institution for the intellectually disabled. I was able to experience valuable time of true peace by having young and old people of both sexes, people with the intellectually disabled, and people from various countries surround the table and enjoy dinner. Listen to your heart, learn the importance to keep things that you cannot see in your heart, and conduct education that you can only do at Doshisha. Let's send out talented people from the university who can create a bright 21<sup>st</sup> century that everyone can enjoy. I believe this is my personal mission in Doshisha and this made me strive for bigger dreams.

If I were to wrap up these last ten years, I would say that it was fun but I can't lie that education for international students are twice more work. It's

challenging for international students to figure out their goals because they feel lost in the inter-culture, have to face the worries about living, problems with studies and their future. There are even students who don't know the reason why they came to Japan. To help figure things out, we must talk to them on one on one and listen to their thoughts. I'm happy that I was able to exchange and discuss about their dreams despite the different country and generation. It takes time and work but the more we give the more things become affluent. I am very grateful for all the things I received from the international students.

By changing the form of the original culture experience classes that make use of the profit of earth, along with improving the classes of Japanese language and culture,



Hira, far left

## The Doshisha Student

The Doshisha Student is published twice a year by the Doshisha English Language Newspaper Society, Kyoto, Japan.

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students from all over the world have joined Bekka. The center for Japanese Language and Culture carry organizations of the Doshisha Japanese Education Center which became bigger. I hope to face the students who are here today sincerely and use my important gift for the

international students who look up to us. I can't help but to imagine the grown figure of the students that will play an active part in the future.

(Reprinted from "the Cross Culture News No. 8" (on May 18, 2009))

## The Aoyama Gakuin University English Newspaper Staff's Visit

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, four English Newspaper Staff from Aoyama Gakuin University visited. After the campus tour, they met up with the Doshisha English Newspaper Staff and chatted over lunch and later took a stroll in the city.

Seven English Newspaper Staff members from Doshisha participated for dinner and were able to have a peaceful exchange throughout the night; it's as if it wasn't the first encounter. We promised to support one another for the publication of the newspapers and spent a worthwhile night. The Aoyama Gakuin University's English Newspaper has been published four times a year ever since 1984. At present, they have published the 98<sup>th</sup> issue and have more than thirty members enrolled. Like Doshisha University, Aoyama Gakuin University's

founding spirit is based on the principles of Christianity and is known to be one of the prominent universities nationwide. There are eighteen thousand students at the Sagamihara, Aoyama campus. The Doshisha

English Staff have exchanged with Waseda University starting from last year, and have exchanged with Aoyama Gakuin University from this year. We are looking forward in the progress of our exchanges.



In front of Ryoshin-Hi  
From left Zhou (Doshisha), Yamamoto, Yoshida, Nogami, Kobayashi (Aoyama), Kaneko (Doshisha)

## Visit to Aoyama Gakuin

**YoungWoo Jang  
(Faculty of Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> year, Korea)**

On August 27, 2009, Miss Han and I visited the English Newspaper Club of Aoyama Gakuin University. On August 6<sup>th</sup>, Aoyama Gakuin

visited Doshisha University to discuss the previous visit they had at the university. First of all, I would like to thank the members of the

English newspaper club of Aoyama Gakuin that welcomed me during the visit. I enjoyed lunch, visited the English newspaper clubroom, and went on the Tokyo Tours (Omotesando, Yasukuni temple). I exchanged with ten members of the English Newspaper Club of Aoyama Gakuin during lunch. It made me anticipated for the exchanges in the future. In addition, the clubroom was enviable especially because we don't have one for our club. The clubroom is used for meetings, editing, and studying for examinations. It may be said that it is the main body of the English Newspaper Club of Aoyama



At Aoyama Gakuin University  
From left Abe, Yoshida, Kobayashi (Aoyama), Jang (Doshisha), Yamamoto (Aoyama), Han (Doshisha)

## Visit to Waseda

**Taiki Hanawa (Faculty of Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> year)**



Waseda Guardian's room (student assembly hall)

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, I visited the English Newspaper Club of Waseda University also known as the Waseda Guardian. I met up with the editor in chief, Ayuko Kiyoshi and with one of the members of the editorial department, Kyosuke Higuchi in the afternoon. After we ate curry near the campus and exchanged ideas, they guided me to one of the rooms in the student assembly hall.

Next, I would like to point out two things I felt after I exchanged with the two members of the Waseda Guardian.

- The importance of the English Newspaper's existence

The main object in publishing the English Newspaper is for the exchange of international culture. The students who are involved are from various countries, therefore, I think it is very important to publish

the newspapers in English. Since the establishment of 1936, Waseda Guardian has continued the publication with the desire of awakening the international public opinion by having Japanese students express their opinions in English. However, the topics that are brought up are not unified because a specific meaning of existence hasn't been recognized. They also seem to have problem of only having Japanese students stay in the club. But if you actually look at the newspaper, the overall quality is fairly high and the topics are freely chosen since the meaning of existence are not restricted. Nevertheless, I was most surprised at the high proficiency of the interview. They used the name value of Waseda and interviewed scholars, television stars, sport athletes, and other genre of people and wrote articles on them.

- The organization of the English Newspaper

The high proficiency of the interviews is based on the manuals. The Waseda Guardian provides a manual that carefully explains everything from the way they welcome new members, the production process, how to plan out a project, the way to interview, and how to write a thank you letter. Since the format is well built, each individual can plan things the way they want and still have the vector pointed the same direction systematically. Our club also consists a secretariat based on students and it is important to organize things little by little. I think by doing this, the quality of the complete newspaper will improve. It might also be interesting to broaden out and interview celebrities in the Kansai area since there are many famous scholars in Kansai.

Even though my visit was short, I was able to gain a lot of things from this. I enjoyed talking with the two people who guided me because they knew a variety of facts about the media, literature, and philosophy. The other members I met at the clubroom were vulgar at times but they were overfilled with vigor. It seemed like they had a line drawn between socializing and working. I hope we can deepen our exchanges with them more in the future

Gakuin. Lastly, the Tokyo Tours of "Omotesando" reflected the liveliness of the city of Aoyama Gakuin and also showed me a glimpse of Tokyo. As a Korean international student, the Yasukuni temple was a very interesting place to visit. But it was strange how Asia made such a fuss over a temple that looked so common. I hope to maintain a deep interchange between Doshisha University and Aoyama Gakuin University.



At the curry restaurant by Waseda, Hanawa (center), Editor in chief, Kiyoshi (left), Higuchi (right)

## My Hometown's International Exchange-Kumamoto Version

I would like to introduce the international exchanges at my hometown, Kumamoto. First of all, many of you probably know that Kumamoto and Doshisha University are closely related. The exchange began by having students and graduates of "Kumamoto Yogakko" (the former Kumamoto International School), which shut down when Doshisha University was established, enter Doshisha University unexpectedly. They were called the "Kumamoto Band" and the famous Soho Tokutomi was also part of it.

Doshisha University participates in the Kumamoto Camp every summer and maintains a connection with Kumamoto. Next, I would like to briefly explain about Kumamoto. It has a population of 670,000 people and is known as the prefectural capital. In the center of the city, you can see the grand Kumamoto castle surrounded by an admirable wall. Around the castle, there is a lively shopping area known as Kamitori and Shimotori where young people gather. I visited the Kumamoto International Exchange

Assembly Hall to research on the international exchanges at Kumamoto.

Kumamoto's friendly sister cities

Kumamoto is sister cities with the city of Guilin in China, the city of San Antonio in the United States, and the city of Heidelberg in Germany. If you look at the details of the exchanges, dispatch of the administrative exchange member and mutual international students, exchange events with middle and high school students, medical exchange business, student dispatch at summer

science schools, and dispatch of mayor and assembly chairman delegation of Kumamoto were mentioned. The objectives for these activities are stability and development of friendly relations with various countries in the international society of Kumamoto. The main concern is to have Kumamoto residents correspond appropriately towards internationalization. They are promoting the meaning of internationalism and the participation of the international exchanges.

Other foreign exchanges

Kumamoto city also exchanges with non-sister cities. To list a concrete example, there is the mutual dispatch of the culture exchange members that was taken place between the summer and fall of 2007. Through the experience and exchanges of Kumamoto culture, for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, the dispatch was held to achieve people up who can be a go-between with the Japanese-Brazilian society. Also, in October 2007, a Korean-Japanese concert was taken place at Kumamoto castle. In this occasion, they admit the

Ulsan Metropolitan City visiting association. The concert was opened for the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kumamoto castle, hence, the visiting association came to represent for the mayor of Ulsan, Korea. There was also the Ulsan whale festival and dispatch of the food business mission of Hong Kong. In comparison, I felt that there were more international exchanges with Asia.



the Kumamoto castle



# The Doshisha Student

No. 4

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## Asked 25 International and 25 Japanese Students: What is needed to promote internationalization at Doshisha University?

### International Students

1. Smits Saskia Susanne Germany Center for Japanese Language and Culture (Nichibun Center)

I hope the international circle, Cosmopolitan, continues to have activities. I am also going to try and make new friends from different countries.

2. Angele Beatrice Elisabeth Germany Center for Japanese Language (Bekka)

At Doshisha University, there are many chances to meet various people from around the world. I think it's wonderful how one can make friends just by putting a little effort by participating in circles or exchange events.

3. Sheyhatovitch, Beata Israel Bekka

I think it's great how one can exchange with people from different countries through the events held at school. I think it would be fun if there were a class where students can freely study foreign languages.

4. Chittarat Kunawat Thailand Bekka

We are able to make lots of international friends at Doshisha. Not only do we need to overcome the language barrier but we also need to understand each other's habits and culture.

5. Ellard Samuel David England Bekka

Since the cafeteria is small, the lounge is often used as a place to eat. I hope they make more places like the lounge because there aren't that many places where one can talk and hang out.

6. Vigil Saldana Antonio Spain Nichibun

I think the classes at Nichibun should concentrate more on improving conversational skills for us international students.

7. Yang Lin China Bekka

I would be happy if there was a time like coffee tower, where Japanese students and international students had more opportunities to exchange with one another. I want to take classes with Japanese students and I wish they wouldn't avoid us.

8. Chen Yuwen China, Taiwan Bekka

I think it's nice how the HP at Doshisha have foreign languages that send out to the world. I hope the school adds more international exchange programs.

9. HyeSeon Kim Korea Nichibun

I would appreciate it if the school not only increased the number of international students but to also put more effort into supporting our daily lives. It would be nice to have a counselor to talk about various problems.

10. JuYeong Moon Korea Bekka

I wish the school held more exchange events between the Japanese students and the international students. I also wish there were classes where they taught us more about Japan.

11. Moiyadi Ammar USA Nichibun

Doshisha should encourage international students to start their own circles or clubs to introduce more foreign advice diversity.

12. Chen Rui Sweden Nichibun

The clubs that focus with international students should have more activities other than only talking.

13. Robert Clinton Hovis England Bekka

Though I think the clubs are good for some people, if they focus on language only, it excludes some students who don't feel comfortable in that language. If clubs had

less of a language focus, more people might join. For use music has been the best way to meet people, it is international and is beyond language. I think "open mic" type of weekly event would be a great way for people to relieve stress and enjoy other people's performances.

14. Mayue China Bekka

We international students have little chance to connect with the Japanese students here. I think we need friends to learn oral Japanese. But I like the Japanese culture class, it's interesting.

15. Yu Jinshen China Bekka

I am glad to have the chance to come to Doshisha University. I have made a lot of friends from different countries with different backgrounds in Doshisha. But I found that the communication between international students and Japanese students are very rare. If Japanese students could be friendly and consciously talk to international students, it would be better for the international communication.

16. Liu Cheng China Faculty of Economics, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

I think there should be more exchanges between the Japanese students and the international students. By doing this, many students will be able to deepen their understanding on intercultural.

17. Shi Zhe China Faculty of Science & Engineering, 1<sup>st</sup> year

I think it would be nice if the school had Japanese students be tutors for the international students. They could ask them questions about school or other things, which could create a chance to become friends. I wish there were more exchange events where we could easily make friends with the Japanese students.

18. Zhou Weiwei China Faculty of Commerce, 4<sup>th</sup> year

There are so many international students studying in Doshisha University who come from different countries. But there are not too many chances for international students to have communication with Japanese students or other international students. Also, it is very difficult for our school to hold events to make everybody pleased. So we should do some active things for ourselves. It depends on us. More efforts, more gains.

19. Chen Liqin China Faculty of Commerce, 4<sup>th</sup> year

I think the school should accept the international students more. I would like the Japanese students to know that we, international students are just one of the students at the university. If we receive special treatment, we feel anxious. I would like to be treated just like everybody else.

20. Zhang Yu China Graduate School of Engineering, 1<sup>st</sup> year

I think there are many international students who want to exchange with the Japanese students. I wish there was an opportunity to be able to freely study with the Japanese students. The content is more important than the formation.

21. YoungWoo Jang Korea Faculty of Economics, 4<sup>th</sup> year

I think they should create a bigger exchange system where more students can join. It's a good experience to study in a foreign country during college.

22. SulKi Kim Korea Faculty of Economics, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

I think it's necessary for Doshisha to make a system to have international students other than China and Korea to come to the school.

23. HyounHyu Kim Korea

Faculty of Economics, 1<sup>st</sup> year  
The school should accept more international students and perform more exchanges with the Japanese students. It's important to be continuous.

24. JeongMin Han Korea Faculty of Letters, 1<sup>st</sup> year

Since the majority of the international students go to the Imadegawa Campus, there are close to none that go to the Kyotanabe Campus. I wish more international students came to the Kyotanabe Campus.

25. SongYeun Kim Korea Faculty of Economics, 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Doshisha is a well-known school in Japan but I think it still lacks with international exchanges. We should make use of exchanges that are held at other universities.

### Japanese Students

1. Taro Nakano Faculty of Policy Studies, 5<sup>th</sup> year Oita prefecture

It's important to realize the necessity to deal with internationalization. It may be necessary to forcibly perform half of the will that are increasing. Without this, we probably cannot look into students voluntarily having international exchanges. We can possibly have small mandatory English classes, give credits for campus tours, and create chances with common ground.

2. Momoka Wada Faculty of Policy Studies, 4<sup>th</sup> year Osaka prefecture

Attempt to exchange communication between Japanese students and international students in class, use the Kambaikan lounge for international exchange, and perform discussion events with other Asian countries.

3. Midori Naruse Faculty of Theology, 1<sup>st</sup> year Shiga prefecture

Japanese students and international students should create a newspaper that is easy to read for both. For example, they can introduce the current international students or have mini English lessons. They can also introduce some of the exchange events that are held at school so students can acknowledge them.

4. Chika Kawamoto Faculty of Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

Invite international students to the foreign language classes.

5. Shiho Kanai Faculty of Policy Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

There aren't that many chance to exchange with international students so I think we should organize an event.

6. Keiko Shiotsuki Faculty of Commerce, 1<sup>st</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

I am thinking of exchanging with the international students through AFS starting this spring. Not only

do I want them to learn various things but I also think there are many things for me to learn too.

7. 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

I think there are many people, including myself, who are interested in international exchange. I hope for projects that allow students to freely participate. I am looking forward to having a deepened international exchange

8. Marina Suga Faculty of Letters, 3<sup>rd</sup> year USA

When it comes to international exchange, there is a strict image. Therefore, it would be nice to organize an event where people can freely hang out.

9. Ryuichi Asada Faculty of Culture and Information Science, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Hyogo prefecture

On top of international exchange, I think it's important to create an environment where one can self-analyze and deepen mutual understanding. Hence, enlightening activities are valuable.

10. Sohei Kato Faculty of Letters, 1<sup>st</sup> year Gifu prefecture

Create an image that exchanging with international students is an advantage. If one is able to open up, it can turn into an actual benefit when looking for a job.

11. Nozomi Ishihara Faculty of Letters, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

The international exchange at Doshisha University only includes people who are interested. There are people who are outgoing towards international students but then there are people who are apathetic. As a goal from now on, we need to get more students interested.

12. Yuka Nonokaki Faculty of Commerce, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Gifu prefecture

Through the excellent international exchange circle at Doshisha University, it made me really want to know how foreign people think. It's good to participate in these events because one can absorb different ways of thinking. It's a top priority to improve ones way of understanding.

13. Wataru Hatakeyama Faculty of Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

It's up to the individual to participate in the international exchanges but not that many Japanese students are aware of the international students. There are hardly any opportunities to exchange with international students; therefore, I think the university should advertise more.

14. Tadaaki Nakagawa Faculty of Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

I think a weak point of the international exchange at Doshisha, especially at the Kyotanabe campus, is the extremely few exchanges between the international students. This might just be me, but it seems like there are more exchange students

from Asia than Europe and America. I think this is another weakness.

15. Yu Tanabe Faculty of Economics, 1<sup>st</sup> year Niigata prefecture

By exchanging with international students from around the world, not only does it make you think about your own culture but it also allows you to understand inter-culture. I think the school should provide more international exchanges.

16. 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kochi prefecture

I have a strong impression that the university is only interested in Europe and America, even though there are many Chinese and Korean international students enrolled at the Kyotanabe campus. People should pay attention to the history in Asia too.

17. Yuta Shibayama Faculty of Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

I had some doubts when I first found out there was an international lounge. I thought that you needed to bring in a passport and that you had to be an international student to be able to go in. To be honest, the name of the lounge is strange and it is an uneasy atmosphere for Japanese students to enter.

18. Reiko Nakai Faculty of Law, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Osaka prefecture

Until last year, I was at the Kyotanabe campus and the only exchange I had with international students was through circles. Moreover, most of them were from China and Korea and there were hardly any from Europe and America. But at the Imadegawa campus, there were many international students from various countries. I hope for the Kyotanabe campus to have more chances in exchanging with the international students.

19. Kana Hayashi Faculty of Theology, 1<sup>st</sup> year Gifu prefecture

Other than going up to them yourself, there aren't that many opportunities to exchange with international students. I wish there were classes or events that allowed exchanging. I also wish there were more English classes.



The photo provided by Hideo Ishida

## Internationalization Promotion Questionnaire Review

### Zhou Weiwei (Faculty of Commerce, 4<sup>th</sup> year, China)

We asked 25 Japanese and 25 international students opinion on what is necessary to promote more internationalization at Doshisha. I would like to express my opinion on this matter as one of the international students.

I found a common response between the Japanese and international students. They both wanted events that allowed more exchanges with one another.

International events are not only good for practicing languages but it also allows

people to exchange freely with open hearts. For instance, one may overcome the language barrier through the mutual understanding of music. There were many voices of Japanese students who wanted an event that one could easily participate. In contrast to people wanting exchanges with international students from Europe and the United States, there were people who wanted the focus on the international students from Asia. I got an impression that Japanese students were strongly conscious of international

exchanges from the different viewpoints. Through the questionnaire, I found out that the greatest way for the international students to study the language was through the exchanges with the Japanese students. While there may be international students who are very satisfied with the present situation, there are international students who think the school should put more effort. For example, support the living situations and focus more on the actual practice of the language in the

Bekka classes.

The reason why the opinions are different is because everyone has a different career and background. As a basic demand of the international society, one must accept people as they are and have mutual understanding. By doing this, people are able to broaden their way of thinking. To promote the internationalization at Doshisha, I think each and every student must actively participate in the international exchanges and build an environment that allow people to get involved easily.

20. Arata Nakanishi Faculty of Theology, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

I see many international students on campus, but I don't have the chance to talk with them. I hope there were more opportunities to exchange with them. Perhaps invite them to language classes and to the meeting booths at the Kambaikan and perform English classes.

21. Faculty of Science & Engineering, 4<sup>th</sup> year Kyoto prefecture

Since there are many businesses where they require people with international values, it might be a good idea to gather international students and Japanese students and have a discussion on the theme, "The future of the Japanese-Chinese," along with finding an employment.

22. Faculty of Policy Studies, 4<sup>th</sup> year Osaka prefecture

We should create a university that combines Japanese students and international students. I also think its necessary to strengthen the basic level of linguistics.

23. Nobuya Matsuura Faculty of Commerce, 1<sup>st</sup> year Ishikawa prefecture

From now on, not only should we focus on our own country but we should broaden our horizons by learning about other countries too.

24. Yuko Sawada Faculty of Law, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Shiga prefecture

At Doshisha University, most of the required language classes are held at the Kyotanabe campus and there are many people who are taking Chinese and Korean. In spite of the great number of international students from Asia, there are only few exchanges with them. I think it's important for the university to organize a daily exchange event.

25. Manami Miyamae Faculty of Letters, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Kagawa prefecture

There aren't many chances for Doshisha students to exchange with the international students other than joining the international circles. I think the school should create more opportunities by having Japanese students be tutors for the incoming international students.