



The Asahi Student

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Music

When I was in high school, I couldn't live without music, especially the piano. Whenever I'm going through a hard time, I would play a favorite song and it would make me concentrate and clear my

Yundi Li

head. When I was a senior in high school, I was really into Yundi Li, a Chinese pianist. When I heard that he was performing in Korea, I bought a ticket with no hesitation. I remember being surprised at myself for going to the performance by myself because I've never gone out on my own before. I would like to take this time to introduce a little bit about Yundi Li.

YeWon Lee (Faculty of Letters, 3rd Year, Korea)

The 14th International Chopin Competition that was held in 2000 is still reminisced by many people. The reason is because he was the youngest (18 years old at the time) and the first Chinese titleholder. The whole audience was overjoyed because a winner appeared for the first time in 15 years. But the biggest reason he became the talk of crowd was because he was a down-to-earth local. He

mainly performs within Asia and barely performs abroad. The International Chopin Competition is one of the 3 largest piano competitions in the world and is held every 5 years. Out of the numerous contests in the world, it is known as the most prestigious and historical competition. It's even difficult to apply to the competition because many talented pianists gather from around

the world, including people who have their own albums and holders of sponsors. Therefore, there weren't many people who expected Yundi Li to win and it was clearly evident because only a few of his performances was recorded in the DVD. However, his marvelous performance in the first round drew attention from the crowd. In the NHK's documentary of the 14th International Chopin



Competition, you can identify Yundi Li performing Etudes OP. 25 No.11. Yundi Li made me realize that one's talent is the greatest weapon to draw people's attention.

Lady Gaga

Lady Gaga is a revolutionary legend that people have not seen in the pop music industry for years. With her powerful voice and unconventional image, she quickly gained attention from all over the world. In Kyoto, there are posters of Lady Gaga in the subway! Her first studio album, *The Fame*, was a success internationally and it reached No.1 on record charts in six countries. Within two years of the release of her first album, Lady Gaga had already gained numerous achievements including two Grammy Awards, two Guinness World Records, and an estimated sale of fifteen million albums. However, most people are still unfamiliar with her past. This article will focus on Lady Gaga's early life and how she became who she is today. Lady Gaga was born as Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta on March 28, 1986 in New York City. She is the eldest child of her father Joseph Germanotta, internet entrepreneur, and her mother Cynthia. Lady Gaga showed her music talent as a young child. She started playing the piano when she was four, wrote her first piano ballad at thirteen, and began performing at an open mike stand by fourteen.

Howard Hsu (Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies, September-December 2010, Hong Kong)

Moreover, in her high school musicals, Gaga portrayed leading roles as Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and Philia in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Besides her music achievements, she described her academic life as very dedicated, studious, disciplined and also a bit insecure. "I used to get made fun of for being either too provocative or too eccentric, so I started to tone it down. I didn't fit in, and I felt like a freak." One of her classmates shared that Lady Gaga had a core group of friends and singing was her top priority.

At the age of seventeen, Lady Gaga gained early admission to the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and lived in the NYU dorm on 11th Street. At NYU, she majored in music and improved her songwriting skills by writing essays and papers on topics such as art, religion, and politics. Compared to her classmates, Lady Gaga felt that she was more creative. She believed that "Once you learn how to think about art, you can teach yourself." In her sophomore year, she decided to drop out of college so that she could focus on her music career. Thankfully, her father agreed to support

her financially for a year, having her promise that she would re-enroll in NYU if she were to be unsuccessful. "I left my entire family, got the cheapest apartment I could find, and ate shit until somebody would listen," she said.

Although Lady Gaga appears to be weird at times, her early life was not as different from most people. People might have expected her life to be somehow twisted to make her the way she is today. However, it was her sedulous efforts in music that enabled her to succeed in her career. Furthermore, after knowing her ordinary early life, it gave people a sense of closeness to her. She may appear to be strange from her artistic value or marketing reasons, but behind the cameras, she is probably just like one of us. Lady Gaga is best identified for her revolution on music and fashion but her unique style did not come from nowhere. She was influenced by glam rock artists like David Bowie and Queen and pop music artists like Madonna, Britney Spears, and Michael Jackson. In fact, one of Queen's song, "Radio Ga Ga", inspired her stage name, Lady Gaga. "I adored Freddie Mercury and Queen had a hit called 'Radio Gaga'.

That's why I love the name. Freddie was unique—one of the biggest personalities in the whole of pop music." Despite their differences, people tend to compare Lady Gaga with Madonna. In response to their comparisons, Lady Gaga stated, "She doesn't want to sound presumptuous, but she's made it her goal to revolutionize pop music." Madonna may have launched the last revolution 25 years ago, but it's Lady Gaga time now.

Lady Gaga's voice is often criticized that it is similar to that of Madonna and Gwen Stefani, while the structure of her music is echo classic 1980s pop and 1990s Europop. From her debut album, *The Fame*, *The Sunday Times*, it's observed that, "In combining music, fashion, art and technology, Lady Gaga evoked Madonna, Gwen Stefani circa 'Hollaback Girl'." One critic, Sarah Rodman, commented on *The Boston Globe* that Lady Gaga drew "obvious inspirations from Madonna to Gwen Stefani... in her girlish but sturdy pipes and bubbly beats." Another critic, Simon Reynolds, wrote that "Everything about Gaga came from electroclash, except the music, which wasn't particularly 1980s, just ruthlessly

catchy naughties pop glazed with Auto-Tune and undergirded with R&B-ish beats." According to the analysis from various music critics, one can tell that Lady Gaga's style of music did not come out of the blue. She managed to absorb the essential elements from different artists and styles of music. By combining her experiences with other current pop idols, Lady Gaga succeeded to create a revolutionary icon.

Besides her music, Lady Gaga is also best known for her extravagant outlook. The Global Language Monitor named her as the Top Fashion Buzzword with her trademark "no pants" look, coming in at No.3. Furthermore, *Entertainment Weekly* put her outfits on its end of the decade "best of list" stating, "Whether it's a dress made of Muppets or strategically placed bubbles, Gaga's outré ensembles brought performance art into the mainstream." In order to keep having new costumes, Lady Gaga holds her own creative production team known as the "Haus of Gaga", which she handles herself. The team creates most of her clothes, stage props, and hair-do's. Her love for fashion came from her mother, who she stated was



"always very well kept and beautiful." Lady Gaga also stated that whenever she writes music, she thinks about what clothes to wear on stage. She always creates a fresh and mind blowing image for her fans and wants "the imagery to be so strong that fans will want to eat and taste and lick every part of her production." Lady Gaga's strong sense of music and fashion is a product of past music and her never-ending and daring efforts. Although some people might consider her as a "weirdo," the comments might only be specious at best. Her success proves that her uniqueness is "special" and not "strange." As you can see, her early life was not as different from common people. She is a genius, but not the kind that creates everything out of nothing. She was not born to be Lady Gaga, but she earned her own identity as Lady Gaga, who mesmerizes people in every corner of the world.

Snoop-Dogg

It's hard to make it big in the music industry. Many of the music world's biggest stars used money they already had to propel themselves to the top. The more remarkable ones, though, rose to the top from nothing. Cordozar Calvin Broadus, better known by his nickname Snoop Dogg, is a prime example of these artists.

Snoop grew up in a very poor area of Long Beach, California. Often his father would abandon the family, leaving Snoop to fend for himself. Since his family was often absent from his life, he became part of the Rollin 20

Kyle Horimoto (Stanford Center for Technology & Innovation, April-September 2009, U.S.A.)

Crips gang in the Eastside of Long Beach. The Crips, infamous for their prominent drug dealing and violence, brought Snoop into a dangerous world where a small dispute with a rival gang could result in a huge brawl, possibly even a gunfight.

Although Snoop had a strong sense of camaraderie with his fellow gangsters, he was dirt poor and lived each day with the knowledge that a rival gang could kill him for next to no reason. How could he possibly rise from these conditions to fame and fortune in the music world?

Snoop was always musically inclined, singing in his church's choir in his childhood and freestyle rapping through his teenage years. In 1992, rap legend Dr. Dre heard a tape that he had recorded, and this would serve to be the stepping-stone for Snoop's entire career. Dr. Dre, widely regarded as the most influential gangster rapper of all time, took Snoop as his protégé. Dre and his close friends helped Snoop train his raw rapping ability into more structured verses, hooks, and choruses.

One would suspect that for a very poor person to become

a big star in the rich music industry, he would have to hide his past self to some extent in order to appear more acceptable to the public. However, Snoop's rise to fame came when he rapped about where he came from. The primary theme of his first album, *Doggystyle*, was that Snoop was a gangster. This came as a big contrast to conventional music. Most of the music at the time told of stories, experiences, love, and various ideals. Snoop, on the other hand, rapped about who he was and where he came from, explicitly mentioning

taboo subjects such as his drug use and refusing to euphemize any subjects not normally broached.

Snoop's success continued as he recorded more albums, and he began to gain a sense of authenticity and reverence for his rise to success from the ghetto of Long Beach. However, despite the fact that he was beginning to earn millions of dollars, he continued to claim his authenticity and links to his roots. In his song *Wrong Way*, for instance, he states, "I don't want anybody to get the wrong idea about me. I've got nothing to hide—I want

the world to see I'm a gangster." Nearly 20 years after he released his first album, Snoop is still today one of the music world's most popular artists, ironically gaining his fame for just being himself, a poor man from the Eastside of Long Beach.



From <http://www.clubwallpaper.jp/2010/10/snoop-dogg-f253.html>

Music and Me

I would like to start off by saying that music is a big part of my lifestyle. The one thing that connects me to music would have to be the radio. It may not be that popular today but it's actually quite enjoyable. I use a radio cassette player when I'm in my room and a music player with FM when I'm commuting to school. The best thing about the radio is

that you get to listen to various genres of music. I think people have a tendency to lean towards a certain type of genre when they use an iPod. Some people might avoid Western music because they are unfamiliar with the songs. But with the radio, it introduces a wide range of music and allows people to open up about other types of music.

Another thing I like about the radio is that it features a "heavy rotation" where they pick up 1 Western song and 1 Japanese song everyday for a month. The songs may be minor in Japan, but after you listen to it over and over for a month, you end up getting hooked. In the end, you fall for the radio stations scheme but it always makes me happy that I was able to come

across such a great song.

Not only does the radio provide music, but it also provides various news and useful information. There are many times when I find about events and the weather. One time, I heard how bad the weather was going to be and it reminded me to bring an umbrella. The radio is also full of surprises because it gives away presents to the

(Graduate of 2011)

listeners. (I won a present before!) It's definitely exciting when the radio station answers to your requests. It gives you a sense of happiness when they call out your name and play the song you've been wanting to hear.

These were some of the ways I enjoy the radio in my daily life. A new application known as "Rajiko" was recently created and it allows



one to listen to the radio on computers and iPhones. The radio is once again beginning to take part in our lives, so why not check it out!

No Music = No Life

Ever since I lived in the United States, music has been a part of my life. I would say that without music, my life wouldn't go on. Whenever I would have something bad going on at school or at home, I would always listen to music to relax myself. I think it's amazing how music can make you feel calm and relaxed. Some artists that I listen to are Aiko, Mr. Children, Dreams Come True, and Utada Hikaru. The thing I like about these artists is that they send out some sort of message through their songs. Since I love them so much, I would like to take this chance to

introduce them a little.

aiko
She was originally from Osaka but moved to Tokyo after her pro debut. She studied popular music vocal at Osaka College of Music and graduated in 1996. She later worked as a DJ on FM OSAKA until she became a professional singer from her first song, "Ashita." Many of her songs were used in television dramas and movies and became well known to many Japanese music lovers. Not only is she a talented Japanese pop singer-songwriter, she is also energetic with a humorous

character. Many people also love her bright big smile!

Mr. Children
They are one of the most popular Japanese pop and rock band formed by the excellent singer, Kazutoshi Sakurai. They have sold over 50 million records and became the most successful band in Japan. In 1994, they won a Japanese Record Award with "Innocent World" and won another award with "Sign" in 2004.

You might recognize them from the song, "Gift", which was used in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. In this song, Sakurai sent out a

Shinobu Ando (Faculty of Letters, 2nd Year)

message that "The most beautiful sparkling color in the Olympic Game is gold. But [he] also think there are other colors which are more important and valuable for all participants." Not only are they known for their songs and albums with touching messages, they are also active in charity events. Sakurai says that the goal for their live concerts is to raise awareness about AIDS and support children who suffer from HIV. They also conduct concerts to raise money for construction funds for schools in countries like Africa and Asia. They are truly a top artist for their songs and for

their passion towards helping people in need.

Dreams Come True:
They first started their group with bassist, Masato Nakamura and was then fronted by singer-songwriter, Miwa Yoshida. They debuted as a three-piece band with the keyboard player, Takahiro Nishikawa. However, Nishikawa left the group in 2002 and the two of them were left to continue. Their first album, *Dreams Come True*, was released in 1989 and sold over a million copies. "The Swinging Star" of 1992 was the first Japanese album in history that sold over three

million copies in Japan. It also held the title of best-selling Japanese album of all times for several years. Yoshida started her solo musical career in 1995 and she appeared in *The Time Magazine* the following year since she worked with the Walt Disney Company before. Many Japanese companies



At Toei Kyoto Studio Park (Oct. 10, 2010)

noticed her talent and hired her to sing for commercials like Sony, Visa, Honda, Shiseido, Lotte, Vodafone, and Coca Cola. On the other hand, Nakamura was hired to compose music for commercials and songs for games.

They are famous worldwide, such as in Taiwan. Their name is different but its

holds the same meaning. With many copies being sold, there is no question that they will not be famous in other countries. I love them very much because they sing with joy and I love their performance on New Years on the NHK program.

Hikaru Utada:

She was born in New York City, specifically Manhattan, in 1983. Her influence as a singer came from her mother, who was a Japanese traditional singer, and her father, who was a Japanese record producer. By 12 years old, she released her first professional recording, "U3", with her mother. Later, she

released her own first solo project, "I'll be Stronger". Utada was different from other professional Japanese pop singers because she mainly focused on becoming a singer and a songwriter, where other female singers wanted to be an idol.

Even though Utada sold 38 million records in Japan

alone, she decided to take a break from singing to study, learn about the world, and to spend some time for herself. It's amazing that she worked nonstop for 12 years without taking time off. She wrote in her personal blog that it might take a long time before she goes back to her singing. Out of all the artists in

Japan, I would say that these four successful singers are the ones that help me out the most. After getting to know a little about these artists, I hope that people will take this opportunity to listen to some of their songs (no matter the language barrier)! I guarantee you that all of the songs are really good!

KARAOKE Ruriko Mitsuishi (Faculty of Law, 3rd Year)



"Karaoke" is a shortened word for *karappo orchestra*, which means lack of orchestra. It was originally invented in Japan and is now famous and loved by many people from around the world. I often go to karaoke with exchange students after school.

One thing I realized is that

while Japanese people usually sing individually, exchange students (especially Americans) tend to sing together. When they see a song they know, they get up and sing and soon it becomes a large chorus. It's a little unusual within the Japanese to sing as a group so it was surprising at first. Some exchange students even say that going to karaoke is better than going to nightclubs.

Karaoke continues to progress year by year. Besides singing, you can enjoy a variety of food, drinks, and games. My friends and I usually go to the largest Jankara in Shijo-Kawaramachi, which is famous for its free drinks. But I have to say, the

newly established Super Jankara is unlike any karaoke. The rooms are spacious, everything is lined up neatly, and it's as if you walked into a hotel. Japanese karaoke is like heaven.

Karaoke is a good way to put aside Japanese *tatemae* (public position or attitude) and to bond with other people. There are awkward situations when you feel uncomfortable or nervous talking to someone for the first time but I think karaoke breaks the ice and loosens people up to have a good time.

Karaoke is one of the essential entertainments in Japanese culture that are enchanted by generations and generations.

Review



The international student from Hong Kong introduced Lady Gaga, the international student from the United States introduced Snoop Dogg, the international student from Korea introduced YunDi Li, and Japanese students introduced famous singers and bands. A Japanese student explained the different habits

Zhou Weiwei (Business School, 2nd Year)

of karaoke between Japan and the US and how the radio can be used to enjoy a wide range of music.

All of the articles were highly fascinating. The way one enjoys music and thinks toward music is diverse depending on one's home country, culture, and customs. But interestingly, I found 3 common points in the articles.

(1) One relaxes by listening to a favorite song

Rhythmical music soothes the mind and soul by allowing one to daydream and be released from busy life.

(2) Music is an important medium of close friendship

Music allows one to break the walls of nationality and

language barrier. The key is to express amity through gestures, facial expressions, and voice. To deepen a friendship, it's important to be open towards one another and to enjoy each other's differences.

(3) Use the spirit and endeavor of successful artists as an encouragement

Stepping aside from just enjoying music and learning from an artist's background, life story, and efforts in the demanding music industry may encourage one to reach for the stars.

From now on, I will be conscious of the things stated above and continue to enjoy the beauty of music.

International Exchanges

Frontiers of International Exchange:

① My Life and Latin America

Kenetsu Mikami (Graduate of 1963)

My idea of an international exchange consists of mutual understanding of cross culture and different systems. I will discuss about my relation with Latin America accordance with the thoughts stated above.

1. My Childhood Dream

I entered a national elementary school in 1945, which was the year Japan was defeated in WWII. I was obliged to transfer schools three times when I was in first grade because of food and housing. Since my father was a sailor, I lived in an old port town in Toyama prefecture from second grade. Every morning, I looked forward to see the ships enter the port from uphill and would go check out the foreign ships that came in every now and then. I dreamt to visit foreign countries in the future like the ships I saw. As you can see, I was brought up with the ocean, harbor, and ships during my childhood years.

2. Two Encounters of Cross Culture at Doshisha University

I applied to the Faculty of Commerce at Doshisha University in April 1959 with the desire to play an active role in the trading world. However, I met with Christianity for the first time in my life during Chapel Hour.

Since then, I couldn't shake off the interrogation. I attended three bible lectures at the religion center to deepen my understanding. At the time, Christianity itself was a different culture to me.

I chose to study Spanish because my goal after graduation was to work in a commerce department at a trading or manufacturing company. My professors were Mr. Ooshima, Professor of Spanish literature and Minoru Chonan, Professor at Tokyo University for Foreign Studies. I failed the exams over and over and consequently ended up studying for four years. But studying Spanish broadened

my world and allowed me to open my eyes to Latin America.

I became more interested in Latin America history especially with the impact of the outbreak of the Cuban Revolution in 1959. I'm still in the process of studying Professor Chonan's version of *Historia de las Indias*, which took him ten years to translate. I was given this opportunity owing to the new encounters of cross culture of Christianity and Spanish at Doshisha University.

3. The Liberal Arts of Amherst House and International Spirit

I wasn't a Straight-A student but I probably lived the best student life at the time. I lived as a dormitory student from April 1960 to March 1963 under Otis Cary, the director of Amherst College.

The Liberal Arts through the three years of heart-to-heart community life with the Carys', Amherst Fellows, dorm students had such a

great variety of international programs that it was impossible to count them all. It was clearly expressed in the "Presentation letter from Amherst College" below, which was sent from the President of Amherst College to the President of Doshisha University (Gintaro Daikuhara) on May 21, 1932. The international spirit of the Amherst House began in November 29, 1931 and the ceremony to mark the laying of the cornerstone of Amherst House was held along with the 56th anniversary ceremony of the founding of Doshisha University.

Presentation letter from Amherst College (An excerpt)

Joseph Hardy Neesima, the founder of Doshisha University and Stewart Burton Nichols, one of the Professors at Doshisha University until recently and student representative of Amherst College, have donated a total of forty thousand dollars together (divided into a few times) to commemorate and to promote their wish to present a building to Doshisha University... Our wish is that the buildings, which will be entrusted to authorities of like-minded people, will forever maintain a friendly spirit between the United States and Japan, Doshisha University and Amherst College, and to be utilized to increase good will. We also wish for the building to create a common ground of culture, thoughts, and ideals for Eastern and Western countries and to become a mean to increase mutual understanding and tolerance

within both people. (Cited from the Amherst Spirit)

The letter still remains to this day and is recited every year in May by the chairman of Doshisha Amherst Club and Student Representative of Amherst College at the Amherst House opening ceremony.

Furthermore, in commemoration of the first Student Representative of Amherst College, Stewart Burton Nichols (1900-1925) and the founder of Doshisha University, Jo Neesima, the Nichols Tablet and Neesima Tablet didn't get removed during the Pacific War and is still hung on the front door and hall of the Amherst House today.

4. Friendship with Latin America

After I graduated from college, I worked at JETRO for about thirty-nine years. Within those years, I resided in Ecuador and Brazil for a total of eight years and was blessed to visit fifteen countries in Latin America to develop the Japanese import market and trade promotion business.

There were countries including Peru where I visited more than ten times.

Latin America made an appearance in world history due to Cristobal Colon's discovery of America but a world of Azteca, Maya, and Inca civilization existed before.

But sadly, the civilization became extinct due to the Spanish conquerors. Various countries of Latin America became independent in the beginning of the 19th century after overcoming three



hundred years of the colonial period.

Afterwards, Latin America finally established a democratic nation at the end of the 20th century while fighting against the supremacy principle and the control of military strength of the Great Powers of the West.

In the 21st century, a descendant of an Inca, an aborigine, became the President of Bolivia and a female President was assumed in Brazil in January 2011.

Latin America welcomed Japanese immigrants during the difficult times of the Meiji Period. But above all, there are more than 1.5 million Japanese-Brazilian's who approached 100 years of immigration and now plays an active role in a wide range of fields such as politics, finance, education, and the judicial circles.

My small childhood dream was materialized in Latin America and I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to make good use of the Spanish I learned at Doshisha University. (Reprinted from "The Cross Culture News No.11" on Dec. 1, 2010)

② My International Experiences

Naozo Sakata (Graduate of 1958)

1. Introduction

If I were to say my working life was 40 years, the first half was spent in an export business at a trading company and the second half was spent on education at a school for returnee students. Since the export business dealt with customers abroad and the education for returnee students dealt with students who had an expatriate as a guardian, both jobs required an international outlook. When I worked at the trading company, I traveled to numerous countries and experienced many things as a trading company officer. Though I was surprised by the different cultures when dealing with foreign countries for the first time, I felt that "all people are the same, yet different" as I cemented relations with foreigners. To me, those years were the youthful days in my working career because all the experiences were new to me.

The second half of my working life was spent on education at a school for returnee students for 19 years. The transition from a trading company to a school was a big change but commerce and education both required an international outlook, open mind to welcome different people, and to fully understand them. The two didn't seem too different to me because they were

connected by the roots. I can say the latter half of my life was satisfactory with the 21 years of experience in my youthful days being useful.

2. Education for returnee students

I would like to discuss a summary of the education of returnee students I engaged in as a supervisor of the international activity and rethink about the educational problems in our country.

I participated in the establishment of Doshisha International High School in April 1980 and was involved in the education for returnee students till I retired in March 1999. The details of the education for returnee students and the duty it holds for globalization in Japan's education are stated below.

1) The origin of education for returnee students

The education for returnee students is the product of globalization in our country's economy. Due to the Nixon Shock in 1971, our economy, which was protected by the fixed exchange rate system, was forced to appear on the open competition scene. There was no longer the advantageous export terms of low yen rate, hence, if it doesn't defeat the price competition within the floating exchange rate, it was impossible to continue to reserve the export market. Moreover, the oil shock in

1973 and 1979 hit Japan's manufacturing industry hard, which bought large quantities of oil for a cheap price and produced merchandise. Due to the steep rise of yen rate, crude oil price, and labor costs, it weakened export competition in our country's industrial products. As a countermeasure, most of the manufacturing industries have accelerated multinational for low labor cost and to avoid exchange risk and trade friction by moving the hub production to the export market. This became the factor for the increasing number of Japanese workers abroad, which also led to an increase of returnee students.

Based on the overseas shift of the manufacturing industry's production base, the number of Japanese residents abroad and children companions increased. Also, in the latter half of 1970, it began to show a trend of increase in the number of returnee students. Looking at the transition of the number of returnee students, there were 1,544 people in 1971, 5,774 people in 1977, and 7,504 people in 1980 (the year Doshisha International High School was established). The necessity of correspondence for the amplifying number of returnee students has risen in educational grounds. Japanese education was brought up in a different culture and is too

conservative and exclusive for a returnee student. Not only is reformation in the field of studies (the content of education, teaching method) and school life (school's history) imperative but globalization in the hearts of teachers, children, students are also vital.

2) What's an education for returnee students like?

Being raised in a different culture, returnee students have undergone diverse experiences. The purpose of education for returnee students is to utilize one's experience (linguistic ability, cross culture) and to strive for adaptability in Japanese education.

Since the classes shall pay careful attention to the returnee student's personalities, the Japanese education in the past, the standardized classes, the one way teaching classes, the knowledge cramming classes, and the relative evaluation system are considered unsuitable which demands improvement and reformation.

On the learning side, returnee students acceptance school introduces following types of classes that are important for teaching returnee students. Classes that are divided into levels to pay more attention to student's experiences, a cooperative learning class to exchange mutual opinion to share each others experiences and good qualities, a problem-solving class, a class which makes use of a returnee student's point of view and actions and the absolute evaluation system.

As mentioned above, the education method for returnee students is different from the conventional education of Japan.

In the school life, it is important to accept a person with the sense of value that is different from oneself and to change assimilation guidance of forcing own sense of values. It's becoming obligatory to teach to venerate the culture and customs returnee students acquired abroad. The most important thing is for the teaching staff and students to become internationally minded and to be able to accept different values. An alteration of studies and school life and globalization among the teaching staff and students is an indispensable term for promoting education for returnee students. In this sense, the education for returnee students is like a priming to internationalize the education in our conservative and exclusive country.

3) In conclusion

Looking back at my working career of 40 years, I met numerous foreign people through trading and was able to distinguish their behavioral patterns and way of thinking. I also discovered the education of people are different in Japan and foreign countries through the education of returnee students. I feel very fortunate to have spent my working life among the connection with the international society. But if I were to evaluate myself, I think I should have worked harder on my



communication skills because then I would have been able to settle business negotiations more smoothly and made more foreign friends. I am aware that I lacked those skills and didn't try hard enough. But as I researched the education records of returnee students who possessed communication skills, I realized they were influenced by the education they experienced abroad and it showed me how important education was when building character.

To acquire communication skills, one must have presentation skills and understand different cultures. Above all, Japanese are insufficient of presentation skills because they lack linguistic skills and the establishment as an individual.

As my working career is coming to an end, I would like to say that I am looking forward to the education of Doshisha University, which strives for individuals to stand on its own, build own character, and to strengthen linguistic skills.

My Hometown's International Exchange-Nagoya City

Saki Yamada (Faculty of Economics, 3rd Year)

Many migratory birds rest on the Fujimae Tidal Flat. They may have come all the way from north, but they haven't reached their final destination just quite yet. They are ready to fly off from the Fujimae Tidal Flat to some place far away.

My hometown is Nagoya, Aichi, which is located in the center of the mainland of Japan. Nagoya has a population of about two million and twenty five thousand people, also known as one of the most famous cities in Japan. Nagoya has sister cities relationships with five cities including Los Angeles, Sydney, Mexico, Torino and Nanjing. A number of good will envoys pay a visit during Nagoya Festival to interact with Nagoya residents. In addition, a cuisine from each sister city is served for lunch at elementary schools once a year. For example, tacos are provided as a representative dish for Mexico. The Nagoya International Center, which is a public facility in Nagoya, takes part in the World Terakoya Movement. Thus, Nagoya city attempts in variety of international exchanges and 2010 was a special year because an influential international conference was held that year.

In 2010, COP10, the 10th meeting of Convention on Biological Diversity was opened in Nagoya. CBD is known to conserve

biodiversity and in order to do so, there are two treaties: the Ramsar Convention and the Washington Convention. However, these treaties only apply to particular areas, ergo, it is difficult to preserve biodiversity all over the world. For this reason, CBD is suggested as a comprehensive frame. COP10 has three purposes: the first purpose is to preserve not only a great variety of life but also their habitats, the second purpose is to conserve biological resources, and the third purpose is to distribute the profit which arises from genetic resources fairly and equitably. Therefore, Nagoya city, the venue of COP10, has to apply CBD to the Fujimae Tidal Flat.

The Fujimae Tidal Flat is located in the southern part of Nagoya and extends across the mouth of the Shounai, Shin and Nikko Rivers. It holds an area of approximately 200 hectares and is one of the most famous wetlands in Japan. There have been 172 kinds of birds observed, with 41 species being snipes and plovers. Snipes and plovers are representative examples of migratory birds at the Fujimae Tidal Flat. The snipes and plovers that come to the Fujimae Tidal Flat stop at Japan during spring and autumn, spend the summer breeding on the tundra of Siberia and Alaska, and overcome winter in

Southeast Asia and Oceania. They travel about ten thousand kilometers between the breeding sites in Siberia and wintering sites in Australia. The Fujimae Tidal Flat is on the East Asia-Australia flyway, so it is important for them to take a rest and secure food. Hence, the Fujimae Tidal Flat was inscribed as a registered wetland under the Ramsar Convention in November 2002. According to experts, the number of migrant birds that stop at the Fujimae Tidal Flat is decreasing today and their flyway is changing although it is not clear whether global warming brings about the situation. In order to save the migrant birds, we need to keep the flyway clear and that is why we cooperate with all countries to preserve the environment.

As a first step, Nagoya made a wetland alliance with Geelong on May 22, 2007. Geelong is located in southwestern Australia and has a population of twenty three million people. It has more than one hundred wetlands and a portion of them is inscribed as registered wetlands under the Ramsar Convention as well as Nagoya. Every year, six million migratory birds fly over, with some possibly from the Fujimae Tidal Flat. In order to preserve the migratory birds, we should preserve not only the Fujimae

Tidal Flat but also the wetlands in Geelong. That is the reason Nagoya and Geelong concludes the treaty.

Today, Nagoya city carries out two projects as a wetland alliance with Geelong. First of all, Nagoya city has sent middle school students to Geelong every other year since 2007. They stay for four nights and six days to study how to preserve the marshes in Geelong. They also study about the Fujimae Tidal Flat and the marshes in Geelong beforehand. When they arrive, they observe the marshes by riding the canoe, pay a courtesy visit to the mayor of Geelong, and deliver a presentation on the Fujimae Tidal Flat. Nagoya city longs for young people to acknowledge the Fujimae Tidal Flat and to become international leaders for the next generation through the program. By joining the organization, students realized how little they knew about the Fujimae Tidal Flat and it reminded them to refrain littering. Moreover, they make an effort to tell their friends how important the Fujimae Tidal Flat and the swamps in Geelong are. Secondly, the real-time images of the Fujimae Tidal Flat and the swamps in Geelong are delivered by both Nagoya and Geelong websites. Live cameras are placed in both wetlands for one to see both images whenever they want. If you visit the website for

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First International Exchange With the Students from U.S.A. at Imadegawa Campus

Marina Suga (Former Editor-in-Chief, Graduate of 2011)

On December 8th 2010, we held our very first international exchange at the Imadegawa Campus. We invited exchange students and gathered Japanese students who had interest in the United States and talked about the upcoming holidays over a friendly lunch.

Christmas was just around the corner and everyone was beginning to feel the excitement. While Christmas

is usually spent with family in the United States, many Japanese prefer to spend time with their boyfriend/girlfriend or friends. It was also interesting to hear the different viewpoints of Christmas Eve. Since Christmas Eve is not an official holiday, most Americans spend the day like any other day. Some may go to church, go to a relative's house, or just simply relax at home. On the other

hand, in Japan, Christmas Eve seems like a bigger event than the actual day. Foreigners might think it's strange that the Japanese celebrate the holiday even though the majority of them are not Christians. The Japanese may be celebrating for different reasons but they cherish the holiday just as much. But keep in mind that not everyone celebrates Christmas. One exchange

student who was Jewish stated that Christmas was just like a normal day and that his family would go to the movies and has dinner.

When it comes to New Years, it seems to be a bigger celebration in Japan than the United States. In Japan, there are a number of chores that need to be done before the New Year approaches. The last week of December is mostly likely spent cleaning

the house and preparing for

the osehichiryouri. Though it gets less hectic once the New Year begins, there is the hats mode, visiting family and relatives, and the shopping spree. The exchange students were familiar with the Fukubukuro, also known as a grab bag, and explained that they've bought them before. In the United States, most people have a party with family and friends and enjoy the countdown together. In New York City, a crystal ball that is connected to a pole is dropped at midnight and everybody hugs and kisses each other wishing a

bright new year. Japanese and Americans may celebrate the holidays differently, but they both have things in common. Their holidays are filled with love, laughter, and joy. The international exchange made us realize that it's not what you do, but who you spend it with that matters most.

more information to preserve wetlands and enhance mutual understanding.

The wetland alliance between Nagoya and Geelong is just getting started. Migratory birds cross the border as if they connect the world and they may teach us how essential it is to cooperate to protect the natural environment.



The Fujimae Tidal Flat

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(From <http://www.crossed-flag-pins.com/Friendship-Pins/Japan/Flag-Pins-Japan-USA.html>)

Essays

I went to Seoul from August 4th to September 1st, 2010, to study Korean. I had 2 major reasons why I wanted to study in Seoul. One, I wanted to test myself and see how much I could communicate with the locals. I also wanted to improve my skills. Two, I wanted to learn more about the culture, customs, and the outlooks of

Korean people. I've been to Korea a few times before but I only visited popular sightseeing areas and met up friends.

My experience in Korea left with me 3 impressions. First of all, there were many Korean people who could speak Japanese. I thought there would only be people who spoke Japanese in

My Experience in Korea Yuki Tanikawa (Faculty of Economics, 4th Year)

popular sightseeing areas such as Myeong-dong, but there were actually a lot of fluent people outside of the tourist attractions. I was also surprised to find a ton of Japanese reference books, which included contents of everyday conversations, grammar, and etc. But the number of English, Chinese, German books could not compare with the number of Japanese books. I could tell how devoted Korea was towards education.

Secondly, I was shocked how there were many

homeless people. I saw them in downtown (especially near Seoul station), begging for food at the station stairways, inside the trains, and at the dining hall in the city selling gum and candy. But unlike Japan, the homeless weren't all old people. There were many people in their 20s and 30s. The increasing number of the homeless and youngsters have become a social problem in Korea.

Lastly, the people were very welcoming. One time I got lost on my way to language school and a person

came out of nowhere and helped me find my way. There was another time when I was on my way home to Japan, and I was having a difficult time carrying two of my suitcases. But some stranger helped me carry them downstairs and I was absolutely relieved.

These were only a few examples of the warmth of Korean people that I experienced.

Even though it was only a short period of time, I feel like I got to see a whole different view of Korea. I

now understand that it's difficult to realize the real beauty of foreign countries just by going there for a trip.



Jongmyo, World Heritage in Seoul

Life Reformation

I was completely absorbed in soccer until I entered college. I played soccer at a so-called prestigious school and participated in the youth national football team of Japan.

But in the latter half of my second year in high school, I began to get injured a lot and couldn't play in the matches. I didn't even get to sit on the bench for my last match in high school. I then looked back at my life and felt like there was a hole in my heart. I began to loathe soccer and decided to quit for good. But that was easier said than done. I played soccer for 15 years so it wasn't something I could easily give up. I reproached myself for quitting and even suffered from anorexia. At that time, I received a phone call from an acquaintance of mine who played soccer in Germany. He asked if I would be interested in playing soccer in Germany. I was uncertain on what to do but I decided to go for it. Yet my body wasn't in shape since I hadn't played for almost 3 months. There was no way things were going to be easy. I tried out for various teams but I had no chance. I was vexed but I was determined that I could not quit soccer because of this. Hence, I decided to continue soccer. First, I went back to Japan and enrolled in college. I joined the school

soccer team and practiced hard to prove to Germany what I'm truly capable of. I went back to Germany in June and tried out for the selections. People teased me for being small and even said, "the kid's selection is at the other ground." I suppose that's understandable because Karlsruhe, the team I applied for, was known as a distinguished team. People from all over Europe gathered to try out for the team. But out of all the people, I was able to pass. There were about 50 to 60 people and I was the only one that got chosen. I was overjoyed. I chose to join U-19 Karlsruhe and went back to Japan to get a visa. But my life was about to get turned upside down. . .

I finished my exams and was on summer break. I got my visa, asked for a year's leave of absence from school, and fled to Germany. As soon as I arrived, the team I was supposed to play for told me that they don't remember signing a contract with me. I was supposed to play soccer with their team, live in their dorm, and make a living with the small amount of money given. But everything disappeared before my eyes. I had no where to go so I went to the city my acquaintance had lived and looked for other teams while staying in hostels. I somehow managed to join a team in the city of Ansbach. It was a

Naoto Oishi (Faculty of Economics 4th Year)

team for a small town so there were no dorms and no money was provided. Consequently, I had to look for an apartment on my own. I was such a fool. All my life, I only played soccer. I couldn't even speak a word of English, more so German. I knew things were going to be rough. I ended up living in a hostel for quite a while. Let me assure you, it was horrible. The cheapest room had 12 people sleep in the same room and the people changed daily. The system was more like renting a bed than renting a room. In the end, I stayed there for 2 months and a lot of things happened in between. First off, there was bullying. This was when a group of college students from some country strolled along. In any case, I got many things stolen such as my underwear, clothes, and a sandal. I couldn't stand it anymore so I wrote a note in English saying that I wanted my things back. When I got back to the hostel, they had given back a pair of my underwear on the bed. But it had urine all over it. . . I wanted to cry. There were also times when I wanted to take a shower after soccer practice but there was only cold water. The shower was in the room everyone slept in so I had no choice but to take a shower the next morning. Even when I did shower, I somehow

didn't feel so clean due to the massive hair that was clogged up.

One morning, I headed to the supermarket to get some food. Everyone brought their own bag and used it as a shopping basket. I learned from my surroundings and did the same. I went up to the register, paid for my food, and left like I always did. But a Thai came out of nowhere and stopped me. I couldn't understand what he was saying but I showed him my bag and receipt. Supposedly, there was a packaged ham hidden in the corner of the bag, which meant that I didn't pay for it. I was taken to the back of the supermarket, not understanding a word they were saying. Soon later the police came and I rode the patrol car to the police station. To make a long story short, I was accused for shoplifting. The police questioned me but like I said before, I couldn't communicate with them. Therefore, the police went out to look for restaurants that had Japanese workers so they could translate. There were only a few Japanese restaurants that were actually managed by a Japanese but they finally found one after the 5th restaurant. She was a Japanese woman who has lived in the city for a long time. I explained my situation at the supermarket and I was thankfully freed from

the police.

The woman came to Germany tens of years ago and was married to a local. I had exchanged numbers with her when she helped me out with the police. She kindly told me to call her if I needed anything. One day, I got a phone call from her and she invited me for a cup of coffee. I talked to her about soccer and how I was looking for an apartment. Then, she told me that there was an apartment that was not being used and offered me to stay there. The apartment wasn't ready to be moved in yet so she invited me to her house for the time being. After great difficulty, I was finally able to leave the hostels.

Her house was very big; the woman lived on the first floor and her son and daughter's family lived on the second floor. I stayed with her daughter's family for about a month. Her daughter was half German and half Japanese so she spoke a little bit of Japanese. She lived with her husband and two children. I played soccer with her kids whenever I didn't have practice. At the time, they were 3 years old and 1 year old. They were very adorable. You see, they were my German teacher. The 1 year old couldn't talk yet, but the 3 year old could already speak. I couldn't speak German at all, but the child would point out and say "this is a table" and teach me. Surprisingly, I learned to

speak a little bit of German within that month. Even though some of the words were baby words. . . But I was truly able to spend a wonderful time.

In case of soccer, it took me approximately 2 months to receive a pass from foreigners. Moreover, I didn't get to play in the matches. But in my first match, I was given the important role of #10. I only thought of it as a practice match but it was actually the first match for a big competition called the German Cup, which I found out after the match was over. I also found out the opponent was the team that teased me when I first tried out for the selections in Germany. I was quite pumped when I saw the opponent's #10 was the U-19 representative player of Germany. But my teammates didn't keep quiet when the #10 jersey was given to a Japanese. Some even disagreed to play in the match but we were thankfully able to play the match. This became a match I could



Oishi, far right, first row, after winning the game with Football Club Bayern München, Germany

never forget in my life. Even though my teammates refused to pass me the ball at first, they began to along the way, as if my thoughts got across to them. People in the stands even began to cheer for me too. Out of all the games, I felt as if I was able to perform my best in the match. We went all the way to the penalty kicks and were able to achieve victory. It was the best feeling in the world. The match was brought up in the local

newspaper the following day with an attached photo. I was glad to have continued soccer. In the second season, I was appointed the top scorer and was offered an extended contract with a sponsorship, but I decided to go back to Japan. I experienced many things in Germany and used all my strength to live my life. I realized that soccer wasn't "everything". When I was in Japan, I was too strict towards soccer. For instance,

I never ate greasy food and never drank soda and alcohol. I also practiced harder than anyone else. But I never seemed so ridiculous as when I came to Germany. Germans drank beer no matter the result of the game. They would drink to celebrate the victory and drink to forget the loss. There were times when I practiced on my own and the coach told me that I was being too strict on myself. He said, "If you have enough

energy to practice on your own, work harder on the drills I give you. You have to believe me! If you're going to practice, don't work longer than 15 minutes. Your body will get tired." Practicing on my own was one the ways to appeal to the coach but it I guess it was different in Germany. He also said, "Don't think about soccer on your days off. You think too much." He even took me to the club to get my mind off of soccer. This is how I

matured as a person and I felt a great deal of achievement when I headed back to Japan. But above all, I hoped to communicate better with my coach, teammates, and friends. Once I got back, I enjoyed soccer as a hobby and began to study German. Currently, I am studying at the University of Tübingen as an international exchange student and am going back to Japan at the end of this month. I made a lot of

friends by playing soccer and was able to exchange with various people. I can proudly say that I have made lifelong friends. Life is great right now and I am absolutely happy. Of course, soccer is my treasure even today. But it isn't the only thing and soccer taught me that. Germany is another treasure of mine. I hope to continue to make friends through soccer and to learn many languages and exchange with many people.

“Real” Kimono for Modern Women

I was out to eat at a Japanese-style restaurant when a Japanese friend asked me if the kimono the waitresses were wearing were “real” kimono. At first I wasn't sure what he meant, but I assured him that yes, they looked like “real” kimono to me. He clarified that he was wondering if the *obi* were two-piece easy-on *obi* (“*tsukeobi*” or “*nibushiki obi*”). I honestly could not tell one way or the other, but what was more interesting to me was that he seemed to think that if the *obi* were not regular tied and folded models, then the waitresses would not be wearing “real” kimono.

What constitutes a “real” kimono? Is the opposite of a “real” kimono a “fake” one? I do believe that I have seen “fake” kimono. Garments sold as bathrobes to tourists in souvenir shops that are labeled “kimono” (the ones made of shiny fabric, with skinny fabric belts), or “kimono” that are made

without an understanding of the basic components of actual kimono ensembles in Japan—these garments I would not consider “real” kimono. However, these are the only examples of “fake” kimono that I can think of.

The general consensus on kimono in Japan seems to be that while beautiful, they are uncomfortable and ill-suited to modern life. However, I don't believe that comfort and ease of movement are inherent differences between kimono and *yōfuku*. I agree that a kimono is more constricting than pants, but so is a pencil skirt. There are plenty of other uncomfortable things modern women wear for the sake of fashion.

Many people think that all kimono are uncomfortable, some people even have the experience of wearing a kimono tied so tightly that it can be hard to eat a meal or even get a full breath! I have had this experience myself. At the time, I thought that

kimono were meant to be uncomfortable, that if they were not tight, they were not tied correctly.

A few months ago, I went to a special event held by the *kitsuke* school I attend. The school advertises that after studying there, anyone can put on a kimono correctly and beautifully in merely five minutes and without even using a mirror. The event turned *kitsuke* into a performance. Women in choreographed groups dressed themselves and each other in a variety of kimono styles to instrumental songs and recent pop hits, with no mirrors in sight.

Throughout the performances, there was a notable emphasis on advances in *kitsuke* that have made kimono more comfortable to wear. With kimono, there are no fasteners to speak of; each layer is held in place with thin strips of fabric tied around the body. Now, however, the discerning

Romelle Whalen (2010-2011 Amherst-Doshisha Fellow)

kimono-wearer has a choice of regular fabric or of elastic strips, which bend and expand, making kimono less restricting. Although the layers must be tied securely, it is not necessary to tie things so tight that the woman wearing it cannot comfortably sit, eat, or generally enjoy her day. This is possible even with the regular fabric strips, but the elastic bands make this balance of secure yet comfortable much easier to achieve.

While *tsukeobi* were not mentioned during the event, the use of something called a *kairyō-makura* was key to the *kitsuke* performances. With this tool, the *obi* is never actually tied, just folded. Not tying the *obi* has several advantages: it makes getting dressed alone easier, it does less damage to the *obi*, and it makes it possible to use shorter antique *obi* that would not fit around the body if tied normally. A variety of *obi* styles can be

made with this tool—without any assistance, even for the *obi*!

The first time I heard about the two-piece *tsukeobi*, I thought of it as a “cheater-*obi*.” Then, one day I saw a show on NHK featuring fashion designer Yokomori Minako (OshareKoubou 2009/11/23). She was on the show promoting a modern way to think about wearing kimono. She showcased a series of *tsukeobi*, and even talked about making one's own *tsukeobi* on the cheap! She demonstrated how the *obi* could be prepared in advanced and held together with clothespins until she was ready to put it on. She also pointed out that once on, the *tsukeobi* looked no different from a regular *obi*. Yokomori's main point during the program was to show that a modern woman can wear kimono as casual fashion, that kimono does

not have to only be for weddings and Coming of Age Day. This was when it first occurred to me that encouraging people to wear kimono by promoting new, easier ways to put it on is a good thing. What good are strict rules and the “right” way of doing things if it causes kimono to only be worn once or twice, if at all, in a person's lifetime?

There are a lot of rules about how to wear modern-day kimono, but there is no rule that says kimono and *obi* that are easy to wear are “fake.” Kimono may not be for everyone, but I hope that anyone who is curious about kimono will not be overwhelmed by the reputation and will give the idea of kimono as fashion a chance.

(Reprinted from “Doshisha University Staff English Club News No.11” on May 31)



Introduction of Club Activities

AFS

Hyansugi Son (Faculty of Policy Studies, 2nd Year)

I am involved in an event called “Kyotsu”, where people provide a place for exchange students and middle and high school students of Japan to experience Kyoto's culture together. At the event held in January, we practiced calligraphy and offered sweet red bean soup for people to get to know Japanese New Year. There were exchange students who learned the origin of calligraphy for the first time and the Japanese students also took interest. While everyone was doodling on origami paper, the exchange students realized that they couldn't write their names in

kanji. Before you knew it, the high school students took out their cell phones and looked up kanji's that fit best for their name. I thought to myself, “now this is a cultural exchange”. They also helped with the order of the strokes during the calligraphy relay, where each person wrote a stroke of a kanji and see which team completes a kanji first. There were people who said that they gained knowledge and that they made new friends. Exchanging information can lead to intercultural understanding and it can trigger people to take interest in other

cultures. Though I felt satisfied with the event, I realized that there are many people who want to have an international exchange but there are just not enough places that organize them. I hope to provide more opportunities for international exchanges and for people to have interest in cross-culture.



DESA

In mid-November, we held our first cooking party. Some of the dishes we made were *chirashi-sushi* (unrolled sushi), *ton-jiru* (soup with sliced vegetables and pork), and pancakes. We met up in front of the supermarket early morning and bought the ingredients before the exchange students arrived. Even though 2 out of 5 people had no experience in cooking, the others took leadership and guided each

Ruriko Mitsuishi (Faculty of Law, 3rd Year)

other through the recipes. During the process of cutting baked eggs, it was difficult to explain what a *tanzaku-giri* (the shape like rectangular) waste to the exchange students. Later, I realized there are many ways of cutting shapes in Japanese cooking. Since America does not, it was hard to explain to them in English. While enjoying our meal, we talked about traditional foods in one's countries. We only made

Japanese food this time, but hopefully we'll get to challenge foreign recipes in the future.



Mitsuishi, far left

SIVIO

Kazuma Yamamura (Faculty of Economics, 3rd year)

SIVIO is an international cooperation team for students. In this organization, we work for “educational support for Laos” and “organizing charity movement among students” as concepts of our activities. It started in July 2007 and has reached four years since then. SIVIO is divided up into 3 places, which are Kansai, Kanto, and Tokai areas. As of now, in the Kansai area, there are 15 colleges with around 40 members working together to organize the projects in SIVIO with students from Doshisha and Ritsumeikan Universities playing the major roles. We do charity events, such as dance shows and fashion shows as well as collecting donations on the streets twice a month, setting

up collection boxes in Kyoto restaurants and participating in flea markets. We do all this to collect money to support the education in Laos and inform people about our SIVIO works. From everyone's support, we were able to build our second elementary school in Wanhin Village. During spring and summer, our members actually visit that elementary school to see the condition of it. Even though we don't have any status and money, we eradicate the strict image of volunteer and charity, and we work in a way that only students could do. SIVIO is a place where we value the relationship and the opportunity among the people we meet, and each of our members find meaning in our

works. At the same time, we can improve ourselves in each other's presence. Our motto is that to enjoy connects to charity. We hope that SIVIO would be the “opportunity” for many people. There are no national boundaries to the connection between smiles. We are just born in different countries. We hope that our thoughts and feeling will reach.



At Con Village, Laos

Habitat for Humanity

I have been part of Habitat for Humanity since freshman year and have conducted various activities. There are a number of teams in the club. For instance, there are teams who build houses, participate in the GV, sustain people who live in the garbage mountain in the Philippines, support orphanages in Bangladesh, night watch, offer study groups, and etc. There is also the international supporting team, which inaugurated when I was a junior (June 2009). We are constantly looking for ways to perform international support within Japan. Out of all the activities, we decided on the ecology camp drive because it was the easiest and would report the things sent as a receipt. What the ecology camp drive does is that it delivers bottle caps to the recycling factory and

donates the collected money to the NPO for vaccine shots. Our purpose is to provide vaccines to countries that are in shortage. Incidentally, about 800 bottle caps make one polio vaccine.

When the club first started, we did a presentation at Saga Middle School, where the members graduated, and broadened the ecology camp drive at the member's work place. We have continued our activity with a goal of setting up the ecology camp drive at Doshisha University. We drew up a proposal in April and were able to set up 8 recycling boxes at school in July 2010 after negotiating with the student-supporting department a few times. We worked together with the Environmental Problem Association because they had the same plan in mind, and as a result, we were given a fixed

Kaori Sawada (Graduate of 2011)

period of time to place the recycling boxes from July to December. We were also able to set them up during the 3 days of Doshisha Eve. We, the international supporting team, will do our best to spread the ecology camp drive to young children so they will become more conscious about the environment and foreign countries.



Recycling box that was set up in the underground lounge in Meitokukan Building

AIESEC

Takahiro Mitsui (Faculty of Commerce, 3rd Year)

AIESEC has 60 years of experience in developing high-potential youth into global minded, responsible leaders. In the second semester, we welcomed international trainees from Brazil and Georgia. This year, a total of 8 trainees came to the Doshisha Local Committee. We provide opportunities to meet and interact with students from different parts of the world to fulfill every internship and we share each other's experiences, thoughts, and ideas. For example, we visited places in Kyoto and experienced traditional activities like Ocha. In addition, the number of Japanese students who are willing to challenge to participate in international internship, especially European and African countries are increasing. There will be 10 students leaving Japan soon; therefore, we are planning to have study sessions for each trainee to prepare them to work abroad. Many students participate to be the in-between of Japan and overseas countries. Each trainee is trying hard to adapt to different cultures and society.

We also have connections with other universities and companies in Japan. In February, we had an event where 200 members and 80 people from companies in Kansai gathered at Doshisha University to choose the best internship in Kansai. We are hoping to cooperate with our partners to create more fascinating and valuable internships.

We were successful in running international internships and cooperating with the society this year. We will work harder to provide opportunities for Japanese

and international students so they can head forward to a new year.



Mitsui, far right, first row at the announcement meeting of “excellent achievements” of overseas internship in Western Japan

ICG Mathew Zeng (Faculty of Science & Engineering, 3rd Year)

The ICG International Exchange Club was organized by freshmen alone in 2009. Our main activities include conversational classes in Chinese, Korean, English, and etc. We provide a place where Japanese students and international students can exchange daily. If there is anyone who is thinking of studying abroad or looking

for Japanese friends, please stop by at our club!



ICG Logo

The Chinese Students Association

Zhou Weiwei (Business School, 2nd Year)

In November 2010, the Chinese Students Association opened up a store, as usual, at the school's Eve Festival.

Up until the last year, we sold boiled dumplings, to advertise the Chinese traditional culture. However, to the Japanese people, this food did not seem familiar and the handmade productivity was very low that we ended up in a continuous deficits. I have worked hard to successfully change those continuous deficits into a surplus.

From the experiences that I have obtained by working at a bar and sending orders and managing the cash register, I fully analyzed the reasons for the annual deficits. By doing so, I have found out that there were two major reasons: many unnecessary expenses and the sales were low. By examining these two reasons, I have come up with the answers for them.

Reason ① The Unnecessary Expenses
 ◎To reduce the fixed expenses: By using one gas stove instead of two, we were able to reduce the expenses by paying for a gas stove as 3000 yen (37.52 dollars), and gasoline as 6000 yen (75.04 dollars). From that, we were able to manage a profit out of it.
 ◎To reduce the loss of food

and dishes: From looking at the flow of the production, buying dishes were only done when it was needed.

Reason ② The Sales were Low
 Using the knowledge that I have obtained at the Master of Business Administration, or the MBA, I have considered about the “4Ps” in my improvement plan.

Product: Instead of selling the unfamiliar boiled dumplings, we have decided to sell the steamed dumplings, which will have more impact on the Japanese people.

Price: 3 dumplings for 250 yen (3.13 dollars). This is not just seeking out the profit, but also setting up to a reasonable price so that many people will try our steamed dumplings.

Promotion: It was not enough to just show that the Chinese exchange students were trying hard to sell these products. We needed to put more effort into the products themselves, and advertise the original Chinese steamed dumplings.

Place: Because the location was chosen by the raffles, we created movable signs and organized a delivering service.

As a result, we have changed into a popular store with more than 10 customers

queuing at once and bought our steamed dumplings. From that, the sales turned to 220 thousand yen (2,751.28 dollars) of 250 yen per 3 pieces. In addition to this, the net profit was 12 thousand, which successfully made more than twice the amount of what we had in mind.

Of course our goal for the school festival is not just to make money. But by setting up the products into an inexpensive price and selling many of our dumplings, we wish to welcome the Japanese students to experience the traditional Chinese culture. Furthermore, the Chinese exchange students will encounter the traditional culture of a Japanese college as well as publicize the traditional Chinese culture and the friendliness of the Chinese exchange students. These are the main goals for the school's Eve Festival.



The view of our store