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Officials seek out exchanges with Malaysia, Vietnam

by JIU Times

A delegation of eight Josai University officials headed by Chancellor Noriko Mizuta visited Malaysia and Vietnam from Jan. 23 to 31.

Upon their arrival in Kuala Lumpur on Jan. 24, the Management and Science University, which is a sister school to Josai, conferred an honorary doctorate on Mizuta, citing her long years of research activities and efforts for the empowerment of women. At the ceremony, Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Hajah Haminah, chancellor of MSU and the Malaysian queen, presented the doctoral certificate to Mizuta.

"MSU, Josai University and Josai International University share much in common in terms of their educational goals as they are both made up of social studies faculties centering on subjects that have direct links to students' future careers such as economics, business administration and tourism, as well as medical and science faculties aimed at promoting medical research and health," said Mizuta. "MSU and Josai began implementing exchange programs in the belief that they can produce leaders of Malaysia, Japan, Asia and the world through cooperation."

The student exchange program between Josai and MSU began in the 2012 academic



A signing ceremony with Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education

year and 65 students from Josai have studied at MSU while 34 MSU students have been to Josai. There are currently 12 MSU students now enrolled in Josai's faculty of pharmaceutical sciences, according to Mizuta.

"I'd like to express my profound joy at receiving MSU's honorary doctorate," said Mizuta. "This has made me a member of MSU, so I intend to step up my efforts to promote exchanges between Josai and MSU."

On Jan. 25, the Josai delegation visited Mahathir bin Mohamad, who served as Malaysia's prime minister for 22 years, at his home. While prime minister, Mahathir played an active role as one of the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations



Chancellor Mizuta with the president of Foreign Trade University, Hanoi

in energizing the region and strengthening Malaysia's economy, promoting the "Look East" policy of using the Japanese economy as a role model for Southeast Asia.

Josai University, which was founded in 1965 by former Japanese Finance Minister Mikio Mizuta, will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. As part of the celebrations, the university will launch in April a Global Lecture series in tribute to its founder, inviting lecturers who wield great influence in the international arena, are known for excellent research achievements or played an important role in the development of society and culture in the second half of the 20th century. The aim of the lecture series



Malaysian Queen Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Hajah Haminah (left), who is also the chancellor of the Management and Science University, confers an honorary doctorate on Chancellor Noriko Mizuta.

is to produce young men and women who will pursue an active career in a global setting. Chancellor Mizuta asked the former Malaysian prime minister to give a lecture as part of the event and Mahathir agreed to speak at Josai.

The Josai delegation then headed for Vietnam to strengthen ties with Vietnamese universities and tell young Vietnamese, including high school students, about Japan, Josai University and Josai International University while encouraging them to learn about Japan.

The delegation visited Ho Chi Minh City

University of Transport, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education and Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology. In Hanoi, they paid respect to the Foreign Trade University, one of Vietnam's top schools.

Chancellor Mizuta signed an agreement with the president of each of these universities to conduct joint academic research and student exchanges. The Vietnamese universities asked the Josai delegation to send Japanese language instructors to Vietnam and requested Vietnamese students be allowed to study at Josai while offering to admit stu-

dents from Josai for a short period.

During their trip to Vietnam, the Josai delegation visited a number of high schools, language schools and newspaper publishers. They made a stop at Ngoi Sao and Le Quy Don high schools and the Dongdu Japanese Language School in Ho Chi Minh City and traveled to four high schools, including Viet Duc, Que Vo and Luong Tai and Akira Language Education, which teaches Japanese, in Hanoi. Officials of the Josai delegation spoke before some 500 students each at Que Vo high school and Luong Tai high school, who listened attentively to their talks.

Ritual kicks off dorm build

by Nora Keryell
Student, Faculty of International Humanities

On Dec. 11, a Shinto groundbreaking ceremony was held at Josai International University's Togane campus to pray for safety during the construction of the international students' dormitory scheduled for completion at the end of 2015.

A similar ceremony was held at the JIU Kamogawa campus on Dec. 1 in preparation for the start of construction of an international dormitory there. As the dormitories are intended to house a mixed group of Japanese and international students, they have been named global villages.

In spite of a heavy downpour, the ritual at Togane, conducted next to the Prince Takamado Memorial Sports Park, went ahead as scheduled. The Togane global village is to be located on the ceremony site.

The participants at both ceremonies included Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, Yuichi Kashima, an executive director of the Obayashi construction company, architect Sunil Bald, professors, students, local government officials and representatives of subcontractors.

In keeping with custom at Shinto ceremonies, all participants washed their hands prior to entering the large tent that had been erected because of the rain. Two priests from the Tamamae Shrine in Togane, dressed in green and white robes officiated the 10-step ceremony during which the head priest waved branches of the sacred "sakaki" tree



and intoned prayers asking the protection of local deities for a successful and safe construction.

The ceremony at Togane took approximately 45 minutes and included symbolic acts marking the start of construction. Chancellor Mizuta, Kashima and Bald each took turns pounding stakes with a mallet and turning the soil with a wooden spade. At the end of the ceremony some 200 attendees were served sake in tiny white cups.

Speaking after the Togane groundbreaking, Bald, who taught a course on modern Japanese architecture as a guest professor in the fall semester, said he found it significant that everyone involved in the project — the client, the architect and the builder — were called on to perform various ritual acts such as turning the soil or driving stakes into the ground.

The new global village will be equipped with rooms for 140 international students as well as a center for activities focusing on international education, where students can interact with each other and local students. Construction on the dormitory has begun for completion by December, allowing students to move in before the 2016 spring semester.

Groundbreaking at Awa Global Village

by Faculty of Tourism

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Awa Global Village was held on Dec. 1.

The village will be a dormitory for overseas students that, when completed, will accommodate around 100 people. It will feature a central courtyard allowing maximum opportunities for students to interact with each other and also with the people of Kamogawa. It is also planned to be a place where tourism students can truly flourish.

Completion of the village is expected in July 2015, and it will be ready to welcome its first student residents in autumn 2015.

On Jan. 1, local residents joined JIU students on the Pacific and Sunrise Decks at the Faculty of Tourism campus to witness



the first sunrise of 2015. Although the sky was mostly cloudy it was still possible to see a beautiful sunrise as it rose above the horizon. Each year many local residents and dignitaries join the event, and this year some 250 visitors came to the campus.

Symposium focuses on female poets, issues facing women

by JIU Times

Josai University Education Corp. held a symposium to discuss female poets and feminine ways of poetic expression with Chancellor Noriko Mizuta and two other prominent female poets at Josai University in Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward on Oct. 7.

Joining Mizuta, who is a poet and a comparative literature scholar, were Moon Chung-hee from South Korea and Hiromi Ito. The three held an open discussion on the subject at the symposium, titled "The Sound Absorbed on Earth: Looking Back at a Century of Women and Poetry," with support from the Shichosha publishing company.

Ito debuted as a poet in the 1970s and said her poetry was inspired by an eating disorder she suffered in her late teens.

"I was nearly starving to death. My poems were about my body and never about society," she said during the symposium at the University's Kioicho Campus. "After I became pregnant when I was 28, I began writing about menstruation, birth and breast-feeding."



From left, Hiromi Ito, Moon Chung-hee, and Noriko Mizuta

Moon said she grew up at a time when marriage was considered the only available path for women.

Moon noted that she used to ask herself: "What are women?" and "What am I?"

"Back then, poems were written only from

the male perspective," she said.

In representing her philosophy as a poet, she recited her poem, titled "Breast," which is about a woman having an X-ray for a breast cancer exam.

"I wrote it wondering why such an im-

portant part of a woman's body is treated so awkwardly," she said at the symposium.

Mizuta said she used to write a lot of poems about birth.

"I don't want to feel like giving birth is painful. I want to feel that it is nothing extraordinary. Animals do it, too," she said.

The three also discussed poetry translation. Moon said poems will not be "lost in translation" if the original work is good.

Ito said poems will become profound if poets write them under the assumption their works will be translated into multiple languages.

Mizuta and Moon met at Josai University in June at an event celebrating Mizuta being awarded the Cikada Prize, established in 2004 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the birth of Swedish poet Harry Martinson. Mizuta is the sixth recipient of the award, while Moon is the fifth. There was also a symposium at the June event with participation by the two, another Cikada Prize winner and other poets, all of whom were either Japanese or South Korean.

Czech industry and trade minister visits Josai

by JIU Times

On Nov. 13, 2014, The Czech Minister of Industry and Trade, Jan Mládek, visited the Tokyo Kioicho Campus where he gave a lecture and met with students. Mládek studied economics at the University of Economics, Prague and mathematics at Charles University in Prague. He has worked as director of the Czech Institute for Applied Economics, first deputy minister of finance, minister of agriculture, and most recently, beginning last year, minister of industry and trade.

As part of Josai's plan of strengthening international exchange to cultivate global human resources, the university has formed academic exchange agreements with a number of institutions worldwide, particularly those members of the Visegrád Four (V4) countries of Central Europe: Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. To further promote exchanges between Josai and the V4, the Josai Institute for Central European Studies was established on Josai's main campus in November 2013.

In the Czech Republic, Josai has formed academic exchange agreements with the University of Economics, Prague; Charles University in Prague; and Masaryk University in Brno, with Josai International University

hosting Czech exchange students last year and Josai University hosting some this year. Mládek's visit to Josai is an extension of their exceptional commitment to international exchange.

Mládek arrived with a delegation from the Czech Embassy led by Tomas Dub, ambassador of the Czech Republic to Japan. Czech and Hungarian exchange students and Japanese students studying at Josai greeted the group as they arrived. The group then met with Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, JU President Yasunori Morimoto, JIU President Hakuo Yanagisawa, and other university representatives. Chancellor Mizuta made introductory remarks, saying: "It's a great honor that you would take the time to visit our university. We believe your lecture will provide a precious opportunity for students to learn more about the Czech Republic."

Mládek replied by saying, "I'm very thankful for this opportunity." The meeting then proceeded with greetings from three Czech exchange students studying at Josai and four former exchange students who became Josai faculty members this year.

The title of Mládek's lecture was "The Czech Republic and Japan." With the Czech Republic as a core member of the EU,

Mládek's speech stressed the importance of a promising entrance by Japan to advance the EU marketplace. During a Q&A session following the lecture, Mládek fielded questions from exchange and graduate students, politely responding to each one. In closing, Minoru Masumoto, a sophomore in the JIU Faculty of International Humanities majoring in international exchange, thanked Mládek for his lecture in Czech, drawing a smile from the minister. Japan's former Ambassador to the Czech Republic Tadashi Otaka and his wife, honorary President of the Japan-Czech Friendship Association, Setsuko Otaka, also participated in the event, with the audience listening in rapt attention.

At the urging of Mládek, the event wrapped up with a meet and greet with students and himself. While scheduling permitted only twenty minutes, Mládek was able to meet briefly with all of the students, including Japanese students studying the Czech language and the thirty or so exchange students from the Czech Republic and other V4 nations. The delegation expressed their many thanks and was sent off with a round of applause.

It is our hope that this visit from Mládek will lead to even more productive exchanges with the Czech Republic.

Inside This Issue

Scene on Campus Page 2

- ▶ Japan-Sweden Society holds annual dinner event
- ▶ Media art piece grabs 1st prize at Designers Week
- ▶ Romanian youth choir concert at Kioicho Campus

Views from Abroad Page 3

- ▶ Visit by Chinese high school students
- ▶ Conference on gender issues

Back Story Page 4

- ▶ Learning about Mizuta Memorial Library
- ▶ Success for runners at Hakone Ekiden
- ▶ Renowned speaker shares ideas on 'mountain witches'

JSS hosts annual dinner party, honors past president

by JIU Times

The Japan-Sweden Society (JSS), of which Josai University Educational Corp. Chancellor Noriko Mizuta is the president, held its annual dinner party at the Hotel Okura, Tokyo on Nov. 25.

Mizuta, Honorary President and Swedish Ambassador to Japan Magnus Robach and other society members attended the dinner.

The evening began with an opening speech by Mizuta, followed by an award ceremony in which Mizuta presented Etsuko Hattori a Certificate of Appreciation for Reijiro Hattori, Etsuko's late husband and former president of the JSS. There was also a speech by Makoto Kobayashi, a 2008 Nobel laureate in physics.

Mizuta was appointed as JSS president in February, in part, for her deep connection with the Nordic country. In December last year, Mizuta, who is also a renowned poet, received the Cikada Prize, which was established to commemorate the birth of the Swedish Nobel Prize poet Harry Martinson. The award ceremony was held at the Swedish Embassy in Tokyo.

Following her appointment, Josai University has worked to further deepen its connection with Sweden.

The university hosted the International Symposium Commemorating Winners of the Cikada Prize at its Kioicho Campus in Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward, in June, inviting then-Swedish Ambassador Lars Vargo, who is a haiku poet, as well as two past Cikada Prize-winning poets and other poets from South Korea and Japan.

In October, Mizuta and six other Josai University Educational Corp. faculty members visited Sweden to enhance exchanges and friendship. During the visit, the Josai delegation visited Stockholm University, the Stockholm School of Economics, Uppsala University and the Karolinska Institute medical school.

Those universities and the Josai group discussed exchange possibilities during the visits. Josai already has a number of exchange programs with universities around the world, mostly in Europe.

The Josai group also visited the Zui-Ki-Tei

Teahouse, in the Swedish National Museum of Ethnography. The teahouse was donated by Ginjiro Fujiwara, a former president of the JSS in 1935, the Moderna Museet and the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities.

The Japan-Sweden Society was established in November 1929, to deepen exchanges between the people of Japan and Sweden and contribute to the enhancement of bilateral cultural and economic relationships.

As of September, the society had 17 honorary members, 67 individual members and 31 corporate members. Of the 67 individual members, 13 were Swedish and 54 were Japanese.

Learning about children's human rights issues

by JIU Times

On Nov. 28, professor Kaj Reinius, chancellor of the Japan-Sweden Friendship Association arrived from Sweden to deliver a special lecture. Reinius spoke at the international conference hall on Josai's Tokyo Kioicho Campus, addressing about 80 people. Juniors and seniors from the Faculty of Social Work Studies, graduate students, professors and other guests attended this meaningful event to learn more about international social work.

Since the 1990s Reinius has worked actively on the serious issue of the commercial sexual exploitation of children, as well as related topics concerning children's human rights. During his lecture, Reinius detailed his various activities to date, explained about

different countries' efforts, outlined the present situation of children's human rights and described the problems left to address in a simple, yet very enthusiastic manner.

Reinius expanded on the activities of ECPAT (an NGO seeking to End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism) and explained that there are only 52 countries that have agreed to implement ECPAT's concrete plan of action. Additionally, the subsequent fictions and difficulties following the development of the Internet have made children's situation worse. This is why Reinius stressed the necessity for universities, which have many different faculties such as Social Work, Environmental Studies and Medical Studies to work academically to raise social awareness, adapt legal systems and develop support systems for the victims.



The Theotokos Youth Choir performs on Dec. 2 at Tokyo's Kioicho Campus.

Josai Kioi Club hosts Theotokos Youth Choir

by JIU Times

On Dec. 2, 2014, the Josai University Educational Corporation hosted a Christmas concert with the Romanian Theotokos Youth Choir on the Tokyo Kioicho Campus.

The choir consists of 37 members between the ages of 11 and 18 and is affiliated with the Romanian Orthodox church in the town of Alba Iulia in Romania's Transylvania region. This was their first visit to Japan as cultural ambassadors and the event was made possible through the support of the Embassy of Romania and the Japan-Romania Society.

Before the concert, Radu Serban, Romania's ambassador in Japan, provided opening remarks, saying, "The songs are an expression of their religious faith and their singing recalls the voices of angels." The choir performed roughly twenty songs in all, including Romanian Christmas carols, international Christmas songs, and Japanese folk songs such as "Akatombo" and "Hana wa Saku," sung in sublime harmony. More than 160 audience members packed the performance hall, including Josai University President Yasunori Morimoto, members of the Japan-Romania Society, local residents and extension students, who provided resounding applause after each song.

At the reception following the concert, Japan-Romania Society Chancellor Akiko Igaya said: "I would like to thank Chancellor Mizuta and everyone at Josai for making this splendid opportunity possible. It's my hope that some of the children who sang for you today will become future exchange students at Josai."

Josai takes prize at Tokyo Designers Week 2014

by JIU Times

A hands-on media art piece titled "Intentions" created by ten students from Josai International University's cross-media course was selected for display at the Tokyo Designers Week 2014's Asia Awards, which ran from Oct. 25 to Nov. 3. This marked the second year in a row that a JIU work had been chosen as one of six finalists for display, this time winning the award in the final competition.

This year's competition for the Tokyo Designers Week's integrated creative international prize — known as the Asia Award — featured pieces submitted by not only domestic institutions, but international ones as well, including works from France, England, Israel, Taiwan and others. In all, 64 teams from 54 different schools, both domestic and international, participated in the event. Over the course of three days, a panel of judges, consisting of university faculty, professional artists and curators, evaluated the pieces before

naming six finalists. JIU's team was among the six to advance to the final presentation stage. The final presentation was given in English by senior Seika Pak, who explained the concept and design behind their installation.

Junior Hajime Kutsuwada gave another presentation during the all-school stage on Oct. 31, resulting in JIU winning the grand prize.

This year's installation was a cross-media piece that combined elements of graphic design, visual media, programming and sound produced through the collaboration of ten first- to fourth-year students. The piece began with the production of twenty-one basic units, followed by 2,100 paper wings each with individual holes. The students then had to construct a fan while envisioning a method for putting it in motion during the program. All the components were handmade, with production from concept to completion taking about five months of diligent effort.

This piece, which "allowed visitors to experience a sense of avant-garde," was viewed

by 20,000 people over the course of the ten-day exhibition. Many viewers expressed a fascination with the installation after just one glance. As they approached, the piece yielded an even stronger reaction of joy and surprise that exceeded students' greatest expectations, concluding with great success after ten days.

It was a great thrill for the students who created the installation to witness the reactions of each visitor to the piece who were able to view their individual presentations at the attached booth.

In the JIU cross-media studies course, students research graphics, web design, film and sound production, in addition to the art installation skills used for this project. The program also plans productions and displays that make the most of the knowledge and techniques used in art and design.

We plan to post content that illustrates the creative process and teamwork involved in the realization of this project on the Josai website in the near future.



Culture seminar for JIU exchange students

by JIU Times

On Friday, Oct. 24, exchange students from Josai International University participated in a fall cultural exchange seminar held to facilitate international understanding at Chiba's Narita International High School.

This year's seminar was attended mostly by exchange students from Europe, with twelve students from Norway, three from Poland, three from Hungary, two from Slovakia, and two from Spain participating. Additionally, there were two students from Canada, two from the United States and two from China, making it a unique opportunity for international exchange and facilitating understanding of foreign cultures.

JIU students received an enthusiastic welcome from first year students upon arrival, and, after giving personal introductions before the entire class, divided into groups and began the seminar.

The seminar was characterized by a friendly atmosphere and featured prepared presentations on Japanese culture and the culture and language of the exchange students' home countries.

Students volunteer, conduct surveys at terraced rice field light festival

by JIU Times

Twenty-four Josai International University students participated as volunteers in this year's night festival for Oyama Senmida, which has been named as one of Japan's top-100 terraced rice fields.

Students from the Faculty of Tourism participated in the event that took place on Oct. 24 and 25, 2014. During the festival, the rice fields are lit up in the most spectacular fashion, with more than 10,000 LED lights and torches used to illuminate the fantastic scenery of the terraced fields, mesmerizing

tourists. This year, over 1,000 visitors were present to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

To better study the experience of the festival, JIU students — both domestic and international — conducted a survey of attendees. One of the things they discovered was that many of the festival attendees came as part of a group tour.

Participation in this event gave students valuable experience in planning local tourist events, while showing students how, through the spectacular illumination of terraced rice fields, an agricultural resource can be converted into a tourist resource.



Students conduct a survey at the event.

JIU's mission: Character building through learning

JIU prides itself on its youthful ambition and energy, on its commitment to forming the characters of young people with dreams and noble visions of working for the benefit of both local and international communities. The university is guided by the spiritual legacy of its founder, a mission of "character building through learning," in helping students to make themselves responsible individuals and members of society at large.

JIU provides much more than specialized and liberal education in the classroom. The university also offers three practical training programs that focus on the use of foreign language and information processing skills for planning and implementation, and on

the development of the abilities to take the initiative in their endeavors.

The first of these three programs, "field training," was first introduced in Japan by JIU and includes a variety of internships and on-the-job training. The second program is "project training," in which students undertake various projects that they have conceived and planned on their own. The third is "career education," in which students choose their future occupations and start to prepare for their careers by developing their own capabilities.

Through these and other training and education programs, JIU helps students to find their mission in life and offers them solid support with specific preparation and training.



Chancellor Noriko Mizuta

Profile of Chancellor Mizuta

The Chancellor of Josai University Educational Corporation, Dr. Noriko Mizuta graduated from Tokyo Woman's Christian University. She earned her Ph.D. in American Literature from Yale University, then taught as an Assistant Professor and then as an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California.

She was appointed President of Josai University in 1994 and President of Josai International University in 1996. Since 2004, she has held the post of Chancellor of Josai University Educational Corporation.

Dr. Mizuta's fields of research are in Comparative Literature and Women's Studies.

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KAMOGAWA CORNER

Visit by Guangzhou Vocational School of Tourism & Business High School to JIU Faculty of Tourism

by Ayana Shinzato and Akiko Sekine
Faculty of Tourism students

From Nov. 17 to 25, JIU Faculty of Tourism welcomed 27 high school students from the Guangzhou Vocational School of Tourism & Business for an internship in Japanese

culture and tourism. As student organizers, we were involved in the development and organization of the program. It was an excellent opportunity for us to practice tourism planning, guiding and event management.

While in Kamogawa our guests enjoyed making Futomi sushi, a local traditional dish, a tour of the Futomi near the Awa campus and getting to know the students in the Faculty of Tourism. The students were also given a speech by Kamogawa mayor Takao Hasegawa, in which he encouraged them to learn about the spirit of Japanese hospitality "omotenashi."

As well as preparing activities in Kamogawa we also planned and undertook tours of Asakusa in Tokyo and Kamakura

and Hakone in Kanagawa. Although the weather was not very good, we were still able to see beautiful autumn colors everywhere we went.

We also visited the Kioicho campus and made a courtesy call on Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, who encouraged the Chinese students to become a bridge between China and Japan by learning Japanese language and culture.

Even though the internship was only nine days long, we established good friendships with the students, making it very hard to say goodbye on the last day. However, all the staff in Japan felt a strong sense of achievement when the students told us they would like to return again next year.

Serendipity | The Language of Buildings — Vol. 9

by Sunil Bald
Architect of the international dormitory at the Togane Campus. Related story on page 1.

I have taught architecture for almost 20 years, for the last nine years at Yale University. Since 2001, I have been a visiting professor at JIU. This experience has encouraged me to think about language as I never have before. Not just the languages I speak, like English, or the languages I don't speak, like Japanese, but the language of buildings.

JIU's innovative program to teach English through courses that provide academic content to complement focused language and grammar courses, is as educational for a professor like myself as it is for my students. At Yale I teach graduate students who have already studied architecture at the university level in a spoken language we share. At JIU, I must find methods to teach concepts to students who have no former knowledge. This presents interesting challenges. I must look at architecture from the eyes of a layperson. In doing so, I discover for myself what is essential and what is not. Luckily, because we all live in buildings and experience cities, architecture is not an abstract subject. True, most buildings we experience are quite simple, and may have little architectural design, but this allows students to look at architecture from the perspective of experience rather than expertise.



But what about the language of architecture? Architects do not just use spoken language to describe buildings. We use drawings. Some of these are images that simulate reality, but others, like plans, are more abstract and technical and difficult for someone who is not an architect to read.

Interestingly, I have found at JIU that drawings are more of a helpful tool than an obstacle. All cultures draw, and I have found in Japan a propensity for drawing. Many scholars from both the East and the West have said that the Japanese have cultivated a particularly visual culture. This is not just a description of Japan's strong aesthetic sensibility, but also the Japanese use of drawing as a tool for navigating architecture and the city. When I ask for directions in Japan, I am often treated to a beautifully drawn map created before my

eyes to guide me. In Tokyo, a city without street names, maps become a useful tool for navigation. What's more, buildings are often drawn as landmarks for turning left or right. This ability to communicate through drawing seems particularly strong in Japan and invariably adds to my teaching experience here.

So, if drawing is the language of architects, what is the language of architecture? Can we read buildings as we might read a text? This has forever been a much-debated subject, and I cannot provide an answer. But it is a good exercise to read the buildings at JIU. At first, the concrete surfaces seem abstract and quiet. However, I find their relationships to each other and to the campus landscape to be quite revealing. The parts are generally connected to each other, linking various departments and disciplines to create a more singular entity. The buildings frame impressive pedestrian boulevards, but also enclose intimate courtyards creating a variety of social spaces to encourage different types of interaction. For me, JIU's architecture embraces difference, culturally and academically, and the belief we learn as much from each other as we do in the classroom. And for myself, embarrassed by my Japanese skills after almost fifteen years of coming to JIU, this makes for a comfortable and stimulating place to have conversations with students through the languages of speech, text, drawing and building.

LIGHT FESTIVAL



Josai University was colorfully decorated for its "Light Festival" on Dec. 12, while Josai International University followed suit on Dec. 13. A variety of entertainment and performances were held on the illuminated campuses. At Josai University, exchange students from Hungary, Malaysia and the Dailian University of Foreign Languages each performed their countries' folk dances and songs. Pictured are Malaysian exchange students performing a traditional dance.

JIU hosts conference on gender issues

by JIU Times

A Josai International University Women Studies conference took place on Dec. 18. JIU's conferences bring together students and professors who focus on a variety of different research topics.

The conference's theme was "Yamamba: Memory and Representation" with two keynote speakers, Dr. Sandra Harding (UCLA distinguished professor) and Dr. Fukuko Kobayashi (JIU visiting professor). Harding's lecture was "Can Women Become Modern? Whose Modernity? Whose Tradition?" It was a critique concerning the aporia of the goal of modern feminism.

Kobayashi's lecture was "Retelling the Myth of the Female Monster in U.S. Ethnic and Japanese Women Writers," and demonstrated that the peculiar Japanese symbol of "yamamba" (mountain witch) can also be found in the works of American



female writers.

The lectures were followed by individual presentations from various panelists. These presentations focused on exposing concrete research on the symbols and history of yamamba, a longstanding research theme in JIU's Women Studies Department, as well as opening up future research possibilities.

During the conference, a commendation ceremony was held to award the Women Leader Scholarship Award. This scholarship for the development of female talent was created in 2006 with a donation from Chancellor Noriko Mizuta and is offered to promote well-rounded training.

Exchange partner president visits

by JIU Times

Lv Yinghua, the president of the College of Humanities & Sciences of Northeast Normal University in Changchun, China, paid a courtesy visit to Noriko Mizuta, Chancellor of Josai University Educational Corp., and Hakuo Yanagisawa, the president of Josai International University, at the Togane campus of Josai University on Dec. 11.

The College of Humanities & Sciences of Northeast Normal University is a private educational institution founded in 2004, comprised of 11 schools and departments offering programs for welfare, arts, technology and engineering, law, liberal arts, English and Japanese studies for about 10,000 students.

The college and Josai University Educational Corp. concluded an accord for academic exchange programs in September 2013, and three students of the college have been studying at Josai International University since September 2014.

At the meeting, Lv agreed with Chancellor Mizuta and Yanagisawa to enhance exchange programs between the universities.



Student presentation in Japanese traditions class



Discussion in minority studies course

Josai Global College

All-English Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

nurturing knowledge, building character
providing human resources for global society

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| <p>Graduate School of International Administration</p> <p>Graduate School of Humanities</p> <p>Doctorate in Comparative Culture</p> <p>Master of Arts in Global Communication</p> <p>Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies</p> <p>Master of Arts in Women's Studies</p> | <p>Certification</p> <p>Translation / Interpretation</p> <p>TESOL</p> <p>Museum Curating</p> <p>International Tourism</p> <p>Japanese Teaching Methodology</p> | <p>Multicultural Studies</p> <p>Art / Visual Studies</p> <p>Literature</p> <p>Media / Tourism</p> <p>Entertainment</p> <p>Gender Studies</p> | <p>Global and Local Studies</p> <p>Innovation</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>Welfare</p> <p>Diplomacy</p> <p>Tourism</p> <p>Agriculture</p> | <p>Technology</p> <p>Information</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Medical Care</p> <p>Welfare</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>Media</p> | <p>Projects</p> <p>Project Based Learning</p> <p>Overseas Seminars</p> <p>Fieldwork</p> <p>Field Trips</p> <p>Research Projects</p> <p>Presentation</p> <p>Proposal Writing</p> | <p>Faculty of Nursing</p> <p>Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences</p> <p>Faculty of Social Work Studies</p> <p>Faculty of Social and Environmental Studies</p> <p>Faculty of Management & Information Sciences</p> <p>Faculty of Media Studies</p> <p>Faculty of International Humanities</p> <p>Faculty of Tourism</p> <p>Japanese Language Program</p> |
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An introduction to the Mizuta Memorial Library

by Galvin Wang and Xavier Niu
Faculty of International Humanities

The following is the first in a series of columns aimed at introducing various facilities in and around JIU campuses for the benefit of English-speaking students.

The Mizuta Memorial Library, located in H Building across from the administration tower, is the heart of JIU's Togane campus. Unlike many libraries, ours boasts huge skylights and large windows on every floor that make it possible for students to study in natural light even on rainy days. In addition to housing 400,000 books and 700 periodicals in half a dozen languages, the library allows students to choose from hundreds of DVDs and view them in screening booths on the ground floor.

Entering the library through the main doors of H Building, one will find current periodicals on both sides, and copies of national and regional daily newspapers immediately to the left. The most recent copies of the newspapers can be viewed at nearby desks. The most recent copies of periodicals are also on display. There are many comfortable chairs and tables where students can study before exams.

The card catalog is in the middle of the room in front of the doors. The cards are in alphabetical order according to title, author

and subject, making it easy for students to find the books they want. The majority of the room to the left is another study area. Next to the tables are long rows of shelves called stacks. The library has open stacks so that students can look for books themselves. If you want to borrow or return books, the librarians at the circulation desk are at your service. Photocopiers are available for students to copy articles they need to take home to study.

On the second and third floors are books in different categories. Japanese books are on the second floor while foreign language works are kept on the third. There are also computer terminals on which students can access the Internet. Every floor is also equipped with terminals connected to the library's database through which students can search for books and interlibrary loans can be arranged for books not available at JIU. The library also subscribes to many academic journals over the Internet through such services as JSTOR and MUSE. Students can ask librarians for help on how to obtain printouts.

The library has three departments: circulation, reading and computer networks. Circulation is in charge of some 340,000 Japanese-language books. Every floor has public retrieval computer terminals that students can use to search for books. The reading department maintains three reading rooms containing 40,000 volumes in Chinese and



more than 700 Japanese-language periodicals. The Foreign Language Reading Room keeps 20,000 volumes of English, French, German, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish books, as well as copies of English-language

periodicals. There is also a separate Reference Reading Room where books by JIU authors are kept. The network department is in charge of the 60 computers in the ground floor Media Lounge where students can go to

prepare their assignments.

Every year the librarians ask faculty members to suggest lists of books to add to its collection. These include not only the latest works, but also standard references intended

to increase the library's ability to respond to the needs of all JIU students.

The library is open Monday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays until 3:30 p.m.



School races to best-ever Hakone Ekiden finish

by Beata Barany
Josai Office of Contemporary Policy Studies

The 91st Hakone Ekiden was held on Jan. 2 and 3, with the men's relay team taking part for the 12th consecutive year. Thanks to the dashing speed of second section runner, captain Kota Murayama, who managed to pass eight racers, and the swift performance of final section runner, Hirohide Terada, who won the section prize, for the first time in three years, Josai University secured an

automatic place in next year's event. Taking eighth place on the first day and seventh on the second, and with a total time of 11 hours, 8 minutes, 15 seconds, this year's race gave Josai its best finish ever.

After the race, Chancellor Noriko Mizuta congratulated the runners saying: "Every year we are cheered on by many people. I believe that because of their continuous support we could perform well this year, as Josai University celebrates its 50th anniversary. The enormous effort of the team is great encourage-

ment and gave us the wonderful opportunity to put our hearts together in respect of the anniversary."

Coach Seiji Kushibe said: "This result is owed to Murayama's enduring, hard work over the past four years. I'm happy with Terada for never giving up until the end and winning the section prize. Seeing the hard work of the seniors, I would like to hand the baton to the juniors, sophomores and freshmen so we can give our best the 13th and 14th time as well."

16 teams vie for title at JIU football tournament

by Piotr Lewandowski
Faculty of Management and Information Sciences

The second Josai International University Kawabuchi Saburo Football Tournament was held on Jan. 10 and 11 at JIU's Prince Takamado Memorial Sports Park.

This tournament was held to popularize football and contribute to the sound growth of young people who will lead the next generation. Additionally, the Kawabuchi Saburo Football Tournament is held to honor the achievements of Prince Takamado, who was known for his passion for football.

Sixteen local boy's teams battled for the championship. On the first day of the tournament, the teams were divided into four groups. In accordance with the results from the group stage, the teams played in another four groups on the second day. FC Mizuho ended up winning the tournament after defeating the other three teams in the group that matched the best teams. It was the first victory of FC Mizuho in tournament history.

At the closing ceremony, a member of JIU's teaching staff and former head coach of the Japanese national football team, Takeshi Okada, encouraged the players, saying: "It's



important to have dreams and goals and follow them thinking reasonably. I wish you well in the football world."

Talk on 'mountain witches,' settlement patterns

by JIU Times

On Dec. 10, 2014, the Josai University Educational Corporation hosted a lecture by philosopher and critic Kojin Karatani titled "Yamabito and Yamamba" (Mountain People and Mountain Witches) at the Tokyo Kioicho Campus auditorium. The event was organized as part of 2015's 50th anniversary of the founding of Josai University Educational Corporation and was sponsored by the Center for Intercultural Studies and Josai International University's Institute for Gender and Women's Studies.

Karatani began his career as a literary critic. He also wrote on the works of such thinkers as Karl Marx and Immanuel Kant, before developing his own theoretical frame of thought. In January 2014, Karatani published his most recent volume "Theory of Nomads: Kunio Yanagita and Mountain People" (Chikuma Publishing), which analyzes the work of Kunio Yanagita and the movement from "mountain people" to "settled people." A public speaking appearance by Karatani is extremely rare, but with a personal invitation from Chancellor Noriko Mizuta — with

whom Karatani is acquainted through past literary discussions on gender and expression — this lecture was realized.

Citing Zeami's "Mountain Witch" and Akiko Baba's "Demon Studies" (Chikuma Publishing), Karatani presented his theories on the subject. "Mountain people have no interest in permanent settlement. According to Yanagita, their existence is akin to that of a "tengu" (mountain spirit). The mountain witch, too, is distinct from the field woman or the village woman in that she is a mountain person, as I learned from the theories of Chancellor Mizuta," he said. Additionally, Karatani said, "The mountain witch has no resistance to sexual difference; it is an existence that transcends gender." Faculty, students, and campus visitors who filled the near-capacity auditorium listened with great interest to Karatani's compelling theories.

The lecture was followed by a friendly reception in Karatani's honor. Poet and JIU faculty member, Yoshimasu Gozo, who is a close friend of Karatani, raised his glass in the guest's honor, saying: "Today's lecture was both revolutionary and compelling, on a subject matter that I never grow tired of. That



Kojin Karatani delivers his lecture at the Kioicho Campus in Tokyo on Dec. 10.

Josai could host such a great lecture by such an amazing thinker, brings me great joy."

In addition, a book of joint dialogues "Dialogues and Symposia Collection 1: Patriarchy and Gender" (Edited by Noriko Mizuta, Josai University Educational Corporation University Press, 2014) featuring Karatani, Chancellor Mizuta and others was published by Josai last February.

'Kami Hikoki' takes top prize in film workshop

by JIU Times

"Kami Hikoki" (A Paper Airplane), a short film made by students of the Faculty of Media Studies of Josai International University won first prize at the Hamamatsu Cinema Workshop 2014. The film was directed by Hiroataka Nakagawa with Yuj Suzuki, Yuya Sato and Ayuki Tsutsui appearing in it. The students are now engaged in hands-on training at the Chofu Studios of Nikkatsu Corp.

Hamamatsu Cinema Workshop 2014, which ran for two days, was a film festival in which audience voting ranked participating films. We would like to thank the festival audiences from the bottom of our hearts for choosing our movie.

The workshop was created to honor the works and achievements of Keisuke Kinoshita, a film director born and raised in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Prefecture. This year marks the 14th anniversary of the event.

The festival looks to pass on — in Kinoshita's hometown — his contributions and the movies he loved to the next generation. It also aims to promote films in Hamamatsu to disseminate culture to the whole nation and further galvanize the surrounding areas.



Overseas exchanges foster language, ecology

by JIU Times

The Faculty of Social and Environmental Studies, which promotes international training using its strong network of partner universities in the farming country of Hungary and the gardening country of England, in February will hold an international training session in England.

Since opening in 2010, the faculty has set up international exchanges and foreign culture exposure programs using a unique scholarship system for short-term international training and summer programs to develop foreign language proficiency through

global education.

This year, the faculty will also organize an international training session at the University of Cologne in Germany, focusing on environmental preservation policies such as the preservation of historically significant areas and the reduction of CO2 emissions. In this program, students will look at the latest systems for nature and forest preservation, as well as work on the introduction of renewable energy.

The University of Cologne was founded in 1388 under Roman influence and is one of Europe's oldest universities. It is Germany's largest university with an enrollment of about 40,000.