

20th graduating class given proud send-off

by Kelly Ise
Center for Language Education

On March 15, JIU held its 20th graduation ceremony in the Sports and Culture Center of its Togane Campus, proudly sending forth 842 graduates from the class of 2013.

At the beginning of the ceremony, an honorary doctorate was given to Professor Minoru Nagaoka, a member of the board of directors of Josai University Educational Corporation. Professor Nagaoka worked closely with Josai University founder Mikio Mizuta on the restoration of the economy of Japan during the postwar period. Subsequently, he was a key figure in the privatization of the tobacco industry, maintaining the stock and bond exchange system, and stabilizing the market and the Japanese economy as a whole in the post-bubble economy years.

The presentation of the diplomas followed, beginning with the doctorate degrees. Three graduates received their Ph.D. from the Graduate School of Humanities: Saeko Miyazaki, Wang Mei and He Zhiyu. The master's degrees were presented next. Accepting the degree on behalf of the graduates in the Graduate School of Humanities was Hairi Tokuyama, for the Graduate School of Management and Information Sciences was Hitoshi Yoshida, for the Graduate School of Social Work Studies was Rumi Kishida and for the Graduate School of Business Design was Sachie Takahashi. The bachelor's degrees were the final degrees awarded. Accepting them on behalf of their fellow graduates were Kohei Kikuchi for the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences, Hanako Nakayama for the Faculty of International Humanities, Princess Ayako for the Faculty of Social Work Studies, Eriko Seiwa for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Shunpei Okumura for the Faculty of Media Studies and Natsumi Abe for the Faculty of Tourism.

Following the presentation of the diplomas came the presentation of special awards. Receiving the prestigious Special Award from the Chancellor were Shieri Minamishima and the Women's Japanese Fencing Club and Princess Ayako and the Soccer Club. The recipients of the Special Award from the President for outstanding academic achievement were Sayuri Nonaka from the Faculty of International Humanities and Megumi Kase from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Three foreign exchange students were presented the President's Award for study abroad: Peng Xue from the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences, Chenxing Zhen from the Faculty of Social Work Studies, and Kurunczi Zoltán Gergely from the Faculty of Tourism. Receiving the President's Award for extracurricular activity was Azusa Aratani and the Women's Softball Club. Winning the Graduate Thesis Honors Award were Saeko Miyazaki from the Graduate School of Humanities, Chen-Wei Lin from the Graduate School of Management and Information Sciences, Rumi Kishida from the Graduate School of Social Work Studies and LinLin Guo from the Graduate School of Business Design. Next, the Graduate School Special Award was presented to Zhiyong He and Mei Wang, both from the Graduate School of Humanities. Finally, for their outstanding service to students and the academic world in general, awards were presented to faculty members. The Distinguished Professor Award was presented to Professor Shouichi Amikura, Professor Sumito Miki and Professor Sachie Kitada. The Best Young Teacher Award was presented to Professor Takako Kanamaru and Professor Naoya Oomori.

Chancellor Noriko Mizuta addressed the graduating students in a congratulatory speech. She expressed hope that the students would face their lives and new jobs

Continued on Page 6



A representative of the incoming freshman class delivers a pledge during the entrance ceremony on the Togane Campus on April 2.

JIU welcomes new students to campus

by Daiki Inayoshi
First-year Student, Graduate School of Humanities, Global Communication

On April 2, the 2013 Josai International University (JIU) Entrance Ceremony was held on the Togane Campus to welcome the incoming 1,490 students. The new student body comprises both the postgraduate students as well as the undergraduate students entering one of the eight departments at JIU.

The mayors of both Togane and Kamogawa cities, a number of important Japanese government and hospital officials, diplomats from Hungary and the Czech Republic, representatives of sister universities including the University of British Columbia in Canada and INTEC in Malaysia attended the ceremony.

As usual, the ceremony featured a warm welcome for the incoming students and an important announcement about the launch of the new Graduate School of Humanities Master of Arts in Global Communication and the new Graduate School of International Administration. A warm welcome was also extended to the second year's intake of students to the recently established JIU nursing program. The nursing students were also formally given their traditional uniforms.

In Chancellor Noriko Mizuta's speech, she pointed out that we are approaching the 50th anniversary of the founding of Josai University Educational Corporation. The Chancellor continued by adding that both Josai University and Josai International University are highly future-oriented schools based on their goals: "We place

emphasis on having a community-based school as well as an 'international' university. Therefore, we established the MA in Global Communication, the MA in International Administration, and a Department of Nursing to meet local and national needs."

Chancellor Mizuta also announced the completion of the Tokyo Kioi-cho Campus Building No. 3 in April 2013. The building has been designed to be earthquake resistant and is equipped with a backup power generator so that it can function as a disaster-prevention facility for students and local residents in case of an emergency. Chancellor Mizuta also stated, "We are deeply touched by the warm feelings from all over the world. JIU helped with the aid efforts after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami disaster, and it was a deeply emo-

tional and strengthening experience for all of us. I want it to give us all hope for the future."

President Hakuo Yanagisawa took a moment to recall the world when JIU first opened its doors to students over 20 years ago. His recollections led him to hope that more students will study abroad to gain greater understanding of the world we live in today. It would not only help understand our friends and neighbors, but also allow us to become stronger and better people from within, he said. In view of the fact that JIU is largely based on these principles and ideas, all departments, old and new, have an opportunity to send students abroad. Finally, President Yanagisawa encouraged students to enter one of the study abroad programs available and to focus on the outside world, not only Japan. ★

Mizuta Museum of Art acquires *Nihonga* of Japanese beauties

by The Japan Times

Special exhibitions were held at the Mizuta Museum of Art on the campuses of JIU and Josai University in celebration of the graduation and entrance ceremonies.

The highlight of the exhibits was the unveiling of three new works of modern *Nihonga* donated to the museum from the family of Mikio Mizuta, the late founder of Josai. These paintings of Japanese beauties

were displayed alongside other works on the same theme by modern artists.

One section of the museum held a memorial exhibit devoted to the calligraphy and haiku of former Chancellor Seiko Mizuta, the wife of the founder, who passed away in January.

The three new acquisitions were all painted on silk. "Fuji bitai" by Kiyokata Kaburaki (1878-1972) shows a woman in front of a mirror applying white powder

makeup to her neck. She has a forehead that evokes the image of Mount Fuji, a sign of traditional Japanese beauty. The screen she sits behind is decorated with the classic imagery of snow-covered pine associated with the mountain.

"Haru no yugure" by Kaburaki's pupil Shinsui Ito (1898-1972) is a scenic portrait of a lady protecting her hair as a gust of wind from behind her blows around cherry blossom petals.

"Bijin noryozu" by Shoen Uemura (1875-1949), the only female of the trio, shows a woman in a kimono, holding a fan and wearing hair pins and combs — all in Edo-period fashion — in a finely detailed image made during the Showa era.

The next exhibit at the Mizuta Museum of Art at JIU, from May 7 to 25, will focus on the various sizes of paper traditionally used for *ukiyo-e*. ★



Chancellor Mizuta visits the special exhibition of recently acquired *Nihonga*.

Japan-China Joint Ph.D. Program sees its first graduates

by Yasuko Wachi
Professor

On March 15, Commencement Day, the JIU Graduate School of Humanities felicitated three new Ph.D. degree holders. Chancellor Dr. Noriko Mizuta awarded the best dissertation award to Dr. Saeko Miyazaki, who wrote "Urban Modernity as Visionary Displacement: Ozaki Midori's Drift Away from Gender and Sexuality as a Resistance to Patriarchy."

The other two new Ph.D. degree holders are the first graduates of the China-Japan Joint Ph.D. Program who entered the JIU Graduate School of Humanities in April 2010 and started this unique program with satellite guidance connecting Dalian and Tokyo. Chancellor Dr. Mizuta awarded the Special Dissertation Awards to Dr. Wang Mei from Dalian University of Foreign Languages, who wrote "Inner Discourse in Tayama Katai's Novels: With a Focus on the Naturalism Period," as well as to Dr. He Zhiyu, who wrote "The 'China' Constructed in the Literature of Inoue Ya-



From left, Dr. Wang Mei, Dr. He Zhiyu and Dr. Saeko Miyazaki.

sushi: His History Novels as the Major Research Subject."

Their award ceremony was specially honored by the attendance and felicitations accorded by their mentors from China, Professor Dr. Du Fenggang of Dalian University of Technology and Direc-

tor of the China-Japan Joint Ph.D. Program, Professor Liu Ligu, Dean of the School of Japanese Language at Dalian University of Foreign Languages, and Professor Dr. Wang Qiuju, Vice Dean at the Foreign Studies College of Northeastern University. ★

New program 'Japan Within the World' seeks to foster students with international mindsets

by Akira Shirahata
Vice President, Josai University

In 2011, Josai University Educational Corporation established a number of objectives as mid-range goals to become a leading university in the world.

These educational objects focus on developing human resources within an international mindset, developing expertise and extensive knowledge of Japanese culture.

Josai believes that it is very important for a student to understand his/her own country correctly in the world in order to be a leader of global society. Based on this concept, JIU and JU started a new program titled *Sekai-no-Naka-no-Nihon*, literally meaning "Japan Within the World," for students regardless of major.

The class was set as an intensive course in February at the JIU Togane Campus and as an Internet-linked distance learning class at the Sakado Campus. More than 100 students from JIU and JU took the class.

Three prominent researchers in the field of fine arts, including Professor Motoaki Kono, director of the Akita Prefectural Art Museum and professor emeritus of

the University of Tokyo, lectured on three themes, including "*Ukiyo-e* and the Japanese Fine Arts Which Spread Worldwide," "Japonism" and "Acceptance of Foreign Fine Arts." Students learned about the worldview of Japanese artists and the role Japanese art has had in European art by looking at typical works. A field trip to the Tokyo National Museum at the end of the class greatly stimulated the students' interest in Japanese fine art.

The program was created to link with the global internship training based in Hungary. Thirty students participating in the "Japan Within the World" course visited art museums in Budapest that possess examples of Japanese fine artworks in order to see the influence Japan has had on European art.

Josai University Educational Corporation intends to extend this type of program to fields such as economics, environmental studies and other fields in which Japan's global contribution is significant.

We hope the program stimulates student motivation to learn about Japan's role in global society and facilitates further exchanges with foreign sister universities. ★

Inside This Issue

Scene on Campus Page 2

- ▶ New Kioi-cho Wing Houses Fossil Gallery



Coelacanth (*Holopagus penicillatus*), Jurassic Period, about 150 million years ago

Interview Pages 3-4

- ▶ Chancellor Mizuta

Global Views Page 5

- ▶ Serendipity: My first encounter with Japan

Back Story Page 6

- ▶ Special zazen session tea ceremony

Chancellor's message to incoming JIU students

Continued from Page 3

replica, but it is an exact reproduction and not just a cast.

MH: This is the fourth edition of the JIU Times. It's becoming very popular among Japanese and foreign students. How do you feel about the work students have done on the paper?

Chancellor: We have had JIU Times in the past, but I think only one issue was published at the time. We always wanted

to have a newspaper where students can see the news and we can see ourselves from the student's point of view. So they become the reporters and the writers and also their point of view will be expressed through the journal.

In the past, it wasn't successful, but all of a sudden now we have had lots of assistants, advisors and others who have helped with the establishment of the second installment of the JIU Times. We have been very fortunate to have those

people, including Usuki-san, who is the most professional journalist in the world, and The Japan Times people who helped us greatly in order to start the paper, and also for their professional work. I am very, very impressed with this journal and the selection of topics and themes. The articles have been well-written and discussed, and the journal covers many areas of the activities going on at JIU; I am terribly impressed by it.

I think it would be very nice for the students to become interested in writing in English in a way that is not academic nor

conversational, but helps to relate students to the reality, environment and society of JIU. I would like the JIU Times to go on and flourish for years to come. It's something I'm very proud of and I don't think many universities in Japan have such a high-quality paper. I'm quite sure the incoming students will be very impressed by it.

MH: What's your message for the students entering JIU this year?

Chancellor: In the entrance ceremony I tried to focus on the messages that I wanted to send out to the students. It's about

two things. The first is that university is the place where students develop themselves and they should realize how lucky and fortunate they are to have been given these four or six years to concentrate on developing themselves. They are supported by their professors and staff, and helped by their parents to grow and develop themselves, but how they should develop themselves is up to them. First they must start to think that this is the most precious time that's been given to them.

The second thing is that the professors and staff are working hard to put all their

energy, thinking, dreams and passion for the period of human history for which we won't be alive. In other words, the time in the future for which you will be living, we won't be there. Therefore, students are the hope, not just for JIU, or Japan, but for the world.

For example I can't live during the end of the 21st century, but we put our dreams out there and I would like the students to receive our messages and expectations, and to also dream very seriously. The purpose is for your own life and the future of a peaceful world. *



See the dinosaur at the entrance



Find a relaxing place in the heart of Tokyo



Entrance to the Oishi Fossil Gallery



Large lecture hall

Tokyo Kioi-cho Photo Gallery

The third building on the Tokyo Kioi-cho Campus opened in April. High-tech facilities, such as an international conference room equipped for simultaneous interpretation, and a collection of fossils, including displays of 100-million-year-old gems from Brazil and Lebanon, make for a great place to visit.



Building No. 3 completed



International conference room



Animation/CG learning laboratory



Explore exciting fossil specimens



Competitors engage in kendo at the tournament in February.

12th Mikio Mizuta Memorial High School Invitational Judo, Kendo Tournaments

by JIU Times

In February, the 12th Mikio Mizuta High School Invitational Kendo Tournament was held at the Sport and Culture Center of Josai International University. Thirty-two schools in the men's category (including teams from South Korea) and 32 schools in the women's category — all selected at the national level — competed fiercely to win the Mikio Mizuta flag. Takanawa High won the flag in the men's category and Toogijuku High won the flag in the women's category.

In December 2012, the 12th Mikio Mizuta Invitational Judo Tournament was held

“The kendo and judo tournaments shape talented individuals with an outstanding mind and robust body.”

with 62 schools competing in the men's category and 41 schools competing in the women's category. For the third time in a row the final game in the men's category pitted Toin High against Sotoku High. Toin High won the tournament for the second time in a row. In the women's category, Higashi Osaka Daigaku Keiai High, which finished second last year, won the tournament.

The late Mikio Mizuta, founder of Josai University Educational Corporation, practiced judo during his early days to

train his mind and body in order to excel both in the literary and martial arts. The sound mind and robust body Mizuta shaped through his Judo training became the foundation on which he based his career, devoting all his energy to rebuild the Japanese economy and society from post-war ruins. From the time of the first Ishida cabinet (1960) onward, Mizuta was elected Minister of Finance seven times and dutifully fulfilled this role for 12 years.

Josai International University, which opened in 1992, follows the spirit of literary and martial excellence of its founder with a mission of “character building through learning.” Both the kendo and judo tournaments conform to Mizuta's spiritual legacy by shaping talented individuals with an outstanding mind and a robust body. First held in 2001, these tournaments are now renowned for gathering the strongest teams in Japan. ★

Tournament results:

Kendo (Men's):

- 1st place: Takanawa High (Tokyo)
- 2nd place: Oyama High (Tochigi)
- 3rd place: Toin High (Kanagawa), Saitama Sakae High (Saitama)

Kendo (Women's):

- 1st place: Toogijuku High (Aomori)
- 2nd place: Moriya High (Ibaraki)
- 3rd place: Toin High (Kanagawa), Yoko-hama Shoka High (Kanagawa)

Judo (Men's):

- 1st place: Toin High (Kanagawa)
- 2nd place: Sotoku High (Hiroshima)
- 3rd place: Shutoku High (Tokyo), Adachi Gakuen High (Tokyo)

Judo (Women's):

- 1st place: Higashi Osaka Daigaku Keiai High (Osaka)
- 2nd place: Chiba Meitoku High (Chiba)
- 3rd place: Shutoku High (Tokyo), Yokusuka Gakuin High (Kanagawa)

JIU Tea Ceremony Club's special zazen session

by Neale Cunningham
Center for Language Education

My favorite saying by a Zen master is Bodhidharma's answer to Emperor Wu's question, “What is the highest meaning of the holy truths?” Bodhidharma replied: “Vast emptiness, nothing holy.” A confused Emperor Wu then asked, “Who is facing me?” Bodhidharma shot back: “I don't know.”

This exchange is Case 1 from the Zen Bible known in English as The Blue Cliff Record or *Hekiganroku* in Japanese. The Blue Cliff Record originates from China, where it is known as the *Pi Yen Lu*, and comprises a set of 100 “public cases.” The cases were compiled and elucidated in the 11th century, and finalized in the 12th century with further introductions, remarks and commentaries by the Chinese Zen master Yuanwu Keqin. The case stated

“Zazen is a method of quiet contemplation while sitting. Sitting in the lotus position, the practitioner thinks of nothing, focused on breathing deeply and working toward an enlightenment experience of the oneness of the universe.”

above illustrates why Zen is so difficult to understand for Westerners schooled in the use of rationality. Zen is neither rational, nor irrational, but rather “arrational” — beyond rationality.

Zazen itself is a method of quiet contemplation while sitting. In India the practice is called *dhyana*, in Chinese *tschan-na*, and in Japanese *zen-na*, which is shortened to Zen. Sitting in the lotus

position, the practitioner thinks of nothing, focused on breathing deeply and working toward an enlightenment experience of the oneness of the universe.

On February 25, Yukio Doi, manager of Josai Education Corporation's Innovation Center at the Kioi-cho Campus in Tokyo, joined Yoshiko Plutschow and seven members and guests of the JIU Tea Ceremony Club to hold a lecture about zazen and a guided session of sitting meditation.

First, Professor Doi, who has many years of zazen practice, instructed and encouraged us to sit in a full- or half-lotus position, with hands one on top of the other, and to maintain the correct posture on a *zafu* — a meditation cushion. Next, Professor Doi taught us how to breathe correctly. During zazen, it is important to breathe in and out deeply from the diaphragm, focusing energy on the *hara*, a center of gravity in the belly. The eyes are kept half-closed



ever, my mind was immediately filled with thoughts. This is quite natural and the trick, as Professor Doi had explained, is not to follow or pursue the thoughts. A good analogy would be to imagine oneself as an immovable mountain and the thoughts are clouds floating past the mountain.

During the session, Professor Doi rose quietly and walked silently in front of the meditating students, bearing the *keisaku*, the warning or encouragement stick (see photo). As instructed, we bowed slightly as Professor Doi passed in front of us, and we each received gentle blows on the left and right shoulders, on acupuncture points, before resuming our original postures. The session was brought to an end

by a single ring of the bell.

The meditation was followed by a Q&A session with Professor Doi. Most of us talked about how difficult it is to control our thoughts. It is very hard to think about nothing. Professor Doi advised us to focus just on breathing and not to chase thoughts. For zazen practitioners, calming the mind, which has been likened to a crazy monkey, is the key challenge.

I would like to thank Professor Doi, Yoshiko Plutschow, and the JIU Tea Ceremony Club for providing this fascinating experience of zazen. For a while, the hustle and bustle of Tokyo felt a million miles away from the quiet calmness of our meditation room. ★



The competition in progress on the Tokyo Kioi-cho Campus on March 23.

The 8th National High School Information Technology Competition

by Minoru Honda
Professor and Director,
Information Technology Education Center

The 8th National High School Information Technology Competition was held by the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences at the Kioi-cho Campus on March 23. This competition obtained the auspices of The Japanese Language Examination Committee and Nikkei Business Publications, Inc. The participants were 158 high school students.

The purpose of this competition is to promote education in information technology in high school. The contents of the examination of this competition have taken the form of the trial examination for the Fundamental Information Technology

Engineer Examination and the Information Technology Passport (IT Passport) Examination that are state examinations.

The Fundamental Information Technology Engineer Examination's course is called the SE section and consists of basic and applied parts. The former is 40 questions in 45 minutes, and the latter is three questions in 45 minutes. The IT Passport's course is called the IP section and has 50 questions to be answered in 65 minutes.

Faculty members of the information management course of the faculty were responsible for planning the competition, Nikkei Business Publications, Inc. was responsible for creating the exam questions and the explanations and the faculty office carefully created this program. This competition was run by faculty members, clerical

staff and students.

On the competition day, Daijiro Wati, a 2013 graduate, passed the Fundamental Information Technology Engineer Examination and received a job offer from a major game company. He gave a presentation on “The student life that I adopted to get a job with an IT company” before the award ceremony.

The competition also received the support of the following companies: IFY, Totsu, Inc., Ricoh Sales Co., Kaga Educational Marketing Co., Kinokuniya Co. and Fujitsu, Ltd. This competition ended with great success. I would like to express my appreciation to all participants and the parties concerned for their cooperation.

The result of this competition can be seen at <http://jiu.ac.jp/newsevents/events/2013/joho.html>. ★

Commencement

Continued from Page 1

with determination and gratitude as they take their first steps into adult society. She acknowledged that as Japan's population ages and birth rate declines, there was a great burden on their young shoulders, but she said she trusted them all to take on this great responsibility without hesitation and reminded them to always keep themselves disciplined, despite failures and setbacks, and to face each of their goals one by one, working together and thinking each through fully. She impressed upon them the fact that from that day forward they would all have to live according to their own judgments and practicalities, and that she hoped they would realize that using their own strengths to tackle the difficulties and experience the wonders of opening up the doors of their lives would benefit not only themselves, but also society as a whole. She assured them that while at that moment they were not subject to any labels, through each of their chosen careers, they would all develop into unique individuals, and that the bonds of friendship they had built up to that day and their sense of gratitude toward the many people who had helped them on their path as a nameless youth would become an invaluable guide on the long journey ahead. She said the diploma they had all received that day was a record of each of their memories of their young days. She reminded them that Josai International University was built on the ideal of “character building through learning” but that that was not something that could be done overnight; it happens gradually over time with hard work and determination. In the end, she hoped that they would all value the knowl-



Kensaku Tanikawa, the composer of the JIU song, performs at graduation.

edge they had cultivated at JIU and keep it with them for the rest of their lives, and that they would all grow into honorable people prepared to live life to the fullest.

Next, President Yanagisawa addressed the graduates, congratulating them and paying respects to their families for their support and boundless affection up to that day. The President then said he wanted his message to them to be in keeping with the spirit of the founding of JIU and the ideal of “character building through learning.” First, he turned his thoughts toward the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, which occurred while the current graduates were studying on this very campus, and the slow recovery and reconstruction process that has at times led the refugees in waiting to lose hope. He reminded us that those were the people who showed great care for others, acting selflessly in that great catastrophe, and deeply moved people all over the world. He urged the graduating

students never to forget that disaster in the future, to become responsible and earnest members of the global community so as to send the earthquake victims a message of caring and unity, and to keep at the foundation of their every endeavor the importance of human relations in society.

Congratulatory speeches from some of the official guests followed, including some words from the mayor of Togane City and the head of the Alumni Association. To wrap up the speeches, on behalf of the graduating students, Erina Uno from the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences expressed gratitude to JIU and the supporting community, the faculty members, and all the parents. At the end of the ceremony, the graduating students, joined by all attending, sang the JIU Song together for the final time.

We wish the best of luck and give our heartfelt congratulations to the JIU graduating class of 2013! ★

Seven goals toward becoming a leading university in the world

JOSAI
20/50
ANNIVERSARY

“7 J-Vision”

1. Expanding the horizons of students' capacity to serve society
2. Developing human resources with an international mindset, expertise and extensive knowledge of Japanese culture
3. Continually improving the quality of educational programs; collaboration directly connected to local and international communities
4. Improving our research capabilities and promotion of innovation
5. Enriching the campus environment through internationalization and networking
6. Establishing a stronger university governance system to support the dynamic development of education, research and social contributions to the community
7. Strengthening the impact of our communication capabilities and social presence