

IIU TIMES



Vol. 7 **WINTER 2014**

Nearly 1,600 students attend IIU matriculation ceremony

by JIU Times

Nearly 1,600 new undergraduate and graduate students had their first day at Josai International University, attending a matriculation ceremony at the Sport Culture Center on the university's Togane Campus in Chiba Prefecture, on April 2.

Five people addressed ceremony attendees, offering students warm welcomes and words of encouragement. The speakers were Josai University Educational Corp. Chancellor Noriko Mizuta; JIU President Hakuo Yanagisawa, who is also a former health minister; City University of Hong Kong President Way Kuo; Togane Mayor Naoharu Shiga; and Kamogawa Mayor Takao Hasegawa.

"The next four to six years at Josai International University will be a very important period in your lives. The time you spend here will be the foundation for your future. Please take your time here seriously, lay the groundwork for your character and nurture international views," Mizuta said to the 1,582 new students.

Yanagisawa focused on JIU's international connections and encouraged the students to take advantage of them to study abroad. JIU has relationships with universities and institutions in 12 countries and the island of Taiwan.

City University of Hong Kong is one such university and university President Kuo was invited to address the students.

"City University of Hong Kong and Josai International University have one thing in common. Both young and energetic, just like you, full of dreams and hopes for a bright future," Kuo said.

"University life is a process of 'character building through learning, which is the mission of your university. Learning to be independent should be part of your character building, which I feel cannot be achieved if you limit your studying only to textbooks," he said.

Kuo received a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from National Tsing-Hua University in Taiwan in 1972 and a Ph.D. in engineering from Kansas State University in

1980. He has written several books on nuclear power, including one about the March 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster.

Congratulatory messages from Eisuke Mori, a Lower House member and former justice minister, and Takeshi Okada, a former coach of the Japanese national soccer team and specially appointed JIU professor, were read to the students.

Yuta Yamanouchi, 18, of the Faculty of Management & Information Sciences represented the new students in pledging to study hard, follow school rules and become successful both locally and globally.

Ceremony guests included Hungarian Embassy official Gyorgyi Juhasz, Polish Embassy official Piotr Szostak, local politicians and others. The two countries are home to JIU sister institutions and there are currently 15 Hungarians and 13 Poles studying at JIU. ★



Yuta Yamanouchi of the Faculty of **Management & Information Sciences** makes a speech on behalf of the new



Chancellor Noriko Mizuta addresses the audience at the matriculation ceremony.

Fukushima victims among latest JIU graduates

by JIU Times

Josai International University held its graduation at the Sport Culture Center on JIU's Togane Campus in Chiba Prefecture on March 15, with diplomas conferred to 864 undergraduate and graduate students in seven faculties.

After graduating students received their diplomas, some of those who showed outstanding achievements received special awards. Also, three students from the first group of graduates to complete their degrees in the Faculty of Social and Environmental Studies received the Chancellor's Special Award.

Speaking to about 2,000 guests, Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta said: "Please don't forget the founding spirit of the university 'Character Building Through Learning.' Please keep that in mind even as you start your career."

Representing the graduates, Haruna Shoji of the Faculty of Social and Environmental Studies said, "Using what I learned at the university, I will live my life with the idea of always trying to improve myself."

Five of the graduates were from areas battered by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami. These students received financial assistance in the form of tuition exemptions and livelihood support. The money came from an emergency support fund established after JIU's donation request.

The five are Kenshiro Uchimi and Yuko Watanabe of the Faculty of Management & Information Sciences; Reina Iijima of the Faculty of Social Work Studies; Mayumi Atami of the Faculty of International Humanities; and Keisuke Sato of the Faculty of Media Studies.

ture, near the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant that suffered meltdowns in the aftermath of the March 2011 quake and tsunami.

Uchimi is from Namie, Fukushima Prefec-

Uchimi will go to work for the Namie municipal government with the aim of revitalizing his hometown.

"I was able to graduate thanks to the university's support. I really appreciate it," Uchimi said to Chancellor Mizuta and JIU

President Hakuo Yanagisawa.

Also, Wang Yan, who majored in comparative cultures in the Graduate School of Humanities, and Takeshi Ito, who majored in corporate management in the Graduate School of Management and Information Sciences, received their doctorate degrees. Wang was also given the Chancellor's Special Award from Mizuta, who doubles as the head of the Graduate School of Humanities.

Wang studied Japanese literature at the Dalian University of Foreign Languages, a JIU sister university, before becoming an associate professor in the Japanese Department of the Foreign Studies College at Northeastern University, in Shenyang, China, in 2005. He has been working toward his doctorate at JIU and Northeastern University and will teach Japanese and Japanese literature at the Chinese university.

Wang's dissertation is "Tsurezuregusa research - acceptance of folk tales and formation of the work."

"Many people have researched the Tsur-

Wang Yan, in black robe, right, and Takeshi Ito, in black robe, left, pose with the chancellor, the president and other university executives after the graduation ceremony.

ezuregusa essays and I had to work hard to have an original take. I was able to do it thanks to the guidance of professor Sumito Miki," Wang said.

Ito worked for a bank after graduating university, before moving to study in the United States. After working for a consulting firm, he established his own consultancy near Josai University's Kioicho Campus in 1999, where he counseled clients to satisfy their customers to improve profitability.

He was studying at the Togane Campus while he was working. The title of his dissertation is "Improvement in quality of company management by shifting focus to increase value offered to clients," which is in line with the advice he gave his clients.

Ito will teach industrial management at a national university in the Tokyo Metropolitan

Mizuta museum offers glimpse of Edo life

by JIUTimes

On April 8, Josai International University unveiled an exhibition of 17th to 20th century Japanese paintings, some of which depict kabuki and other scenes in the Edo Period, at the Mizuta Museum of Art on the JIU campus in Togane, Chiba Prefecture.

"Genre Scenes in Edo" by Miyagawa Chōshun

The 12 pieces from the Mizuta Collection, which were donated by the family of Josai University Educational Corp. Chancellor Noriko

Mizuta, will be displayed through April 26. Sitting in the center of the museum, the largest piece, "Genre Scenes in Edo" by famous ukiyo-e artist Miyagawa Chōshun between

1716 and 1736, is composed of two large scrolls. The first is 587.9 centimeters long and 31.8 centimeters wide, while the second is slightly longer and the same width.

The first shows a series of kabuki scenes, with people massaging kabuki apprentices, and playing instruments for them at a teahouse before a kabuki play begins. It also shows kabuki actors performing and putting on their costumes and fixing their hair in a green room.

The second shows scenes from Yoshiwara in

Tokyo's Taito Ward. Yoshiwara was a major redlight district in the Edo Period and some businesses reminiscent of those days remain today.

"The color has remained so vivid. It's hard to believe this was done in the 18th century," said Mariko Yamaguchi, an assistant curator at

The museum is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is ¥300 (free for high school students and younger children).

The next exhibition "Traveling the Boso (Peninsula) in Ukiyo-e" will run from June 10 to July 5. ★

New book examines N-power

by JIU Times

A Japanese language edition of a book on nuclear energy, authored by City University of Hong Kong President Way Kuo, has been published by Josai University Educational Corp.'s publishing arm.

The book by Kuo, who holds a doctorate in engineering, is titled "Critical Reflections on Nuclear and Renewable Energy: Environmental Protection and Safety in the Wake of the Fukushima Nuclear Accident," in English.

The book is divided into two sections. In the first, he analyzes the causes of the nuclear disaster at the Fukushima No.1 nuclear plant. Kuo asserts the causes include aging

Way Kuo interview

by Shuko Ujiie Student, Faculty of International Humanities

Shuko Ujiie had the opportunity to interview Dr. Way Kuo from the City University of Hong Kong.

Ujiie: My name is Shuko Ujiie and I am a senior at Josai International University. We met before when you came to JIU to give a speech about nuclear energy. At that time, I asked you a question about nuclear power because I am from Fukushima and worried about nuclear power plants, but your answer changed my mind. Will your book be translated in English, French or other languages?

Kuo: The book is going to be published in English any time now. A French version should be published by the summer and a condensed Chinese version will be published in Beijing around the same time.

Ujiie: That's good because there are many nuclear power plants in France and after the nuclear crisis in Japan many people are opplant facilities, lack of transparency in mangement and other human errors.

In the second section, he examines energy policy and its future in connection with environmental conservation. He also looks at a variety of fuels for possible power generation.

A dinner party celebrating the Japanese language edition was held following Josai International University's matriculation ceremony on April 2.

Chancellor Noriko Mizuta; former Director General of the Science and Technology Agency Akito Arima; Agency for Cultural Affairs Commissioner Masanori Aoyagi; and The Japan Times President Takeharu Tsutsumi were among those in attendance. ★



posed to them. I'm thankful your book is available to teach people how safe and useful the plants can be. I have a question about the relationship between your university and Josai International University as we saw an exchange of students between them last year. What do you think of the future of our relationship?

Kuo: I think it is going to be very good. We have had many exchange students and I hope we are able to exchange some faculty and staff. We encourage our students to visit Josai International University and welcome students from Japan to City University of Hong Kong.

Ujiie: Thank you very much.

Kuo: Thank you. ★

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The Japan Times

Israeli tableware collection shown

by JIU Times

From Feb. 7 to April 19, the exhibition "A Collection of Israeli Tableware: Around a Dinner Table" was held at the Josai University Mizuta Museum of Art with the support of the Embassy of Israel and the cooperation of Design Museum Holon. On Feb. 6, Israeli Minister to Japan Peleg Pablo Lewi (on behalf of Ambassador Ruth Kahanoff) visited the Sakado Campus, where an opening ceremony was held to commemorate the exhibit.

This exhibit features pieces from 21 different young designers and studios selected from the tableware collection at Israel's Design Museum Holon, which boasts a collection that has attracted attention in recent years for its superior artistry and contemporary global appeal.

Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, speaking at the opening ceremony, said: "After becoming close with the Embassy of Israel during a tree planting ceremony commemorating Mr. Raoul Wallenburg at Josai International University on Oct. 26, 2012, it is a great honor to receive their blessing to host this marvelous exhibition. I would be very pleased if, through this exhibit, visitors will come to appreciate the charm of the new Israel. Currently, there are over 4 million people study-

Princess

by JIU Times

culture and sport.

Takamado

awarded Ph.D.

South Korea's Hannam University, a sister

school of Josai University and Josai Interna-

tional University (JIU), conferred an honor-

ary doctorate to Princess Takamado on April

3 for her tireless contributions to academic

exchanges between Japan and South Korea.

Takamado Memorial Foundation for Japan-

Korea Exchange in 2008, and has worked

to promote academic exchanges and foster

human resources mainly through education,

The presentation ceremony was held at the

Takamado residence at the Akasaka Detached

Palace, in Tokyo's Minato Ward, with Hannam University President Kim Hyung-tae and pro-

fessor An Jeong-whan in attendance. Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta and the President of Josai

University Yasunori Morimoto were on hand

when Hannam's Kim presented Princess

Josai University inked an agreement to

work with Hannam University in 2009, and

since the following year, students from the

two schools have interacted with each other.

In 2012, Josai University invited Hannam's

soccer team, which is one of the strongest

university teams in South Korea, to a friend-

ly at the Prince Takamado Memorial Sports

Park at JIU's Togane campus.

Takamado the honorary doctoral degree.

Princess Takamado established the Prince

ing Japanese in the world, and it is my hope that more and more students from Israel will consider studying in Japan."

Lewi followed Chancellor Mizuta, saying: "It is thanks to Israel's introduction to Josai University that we can bring you this exhibit today. In Israel, the most important part of the home is the kitchen, with the most vital place being the dinner table, where family members gather together. This dinner table serves as an important tool for communication."

The opening attracted many esteemed guests — including Assistant Director of the Holocaust Education Center, Japan, Akio Yoshida; President of the Japan Israel Friendship Association, Tetsu Akiyama; representatives from the Sakado Open Garden; high school instructors; members of local industry; and representatives from the Apartment Owners Association — who shared appreciation for these unique works of art.

In connection with this exhibit, the museum also displayed nine contemporary Japanese prints, including some of Chōshun Miyagawa's ukiyo-e, which are part of the Mizuta family collection donated to the university in 2013.

Afterward the guests visited the Seiko Mizuta Memorial Rose Garden, which opened in October 2013 as part of the 30th



Israeli Minister to Japan Peleg Pablo Lewi and Chancellor Noriko Mizuta look at pieces from the exhibition "A Collection of Israeli Tableware: Around a Dinner Table."

anniversary of the founding of Josai Base College and the 40th anniversary of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and admired the six rose bushes, which were donated by the Holocaust Education Center, and are known as "Souvenir de Anne Frank."

At the reception that followed, Akiyama said, "It is with great pride that we are able to present an exhibit that reveals the talent of the youth of Israel, a nation with thousands of years of rich history."

Later, a certificate of appreciation was presented to Yoshida thanking the Holocaust center for the rose bush donation.

To end the event, a meal of steamed sea bream, corn soup, sweet and sour chicken,

Chinese-style almond jelly, a pofa (meaning cheek in Hungarian) chiffon cake and other delicacies prepared by students from the Department of Clinical Dietetics and Human

Nutrition was served. We are hoping that this most recent exhi-

bition will help to further deepen Josai's relations with Israel. *

New book looks at "Patriarchy and gender"

by JIU Times

Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, an expert on comparative literature, renowned poet and gender issue pioneer, has published "Kafucho-sei to Jendaa" (Patriarchy and gender), a compilation of discussions and symposia on gender and expression.

The book is the first in a series on discussions on gender issues that Mizuta has been engaged in since the 1980s. Following this, "Literature criticism: Female writers and expressions, talks with female writers" and "Gender and Asia" will also be published.

The book has six discussions, including "The beginning of Japanese culture and gender (the patriarchy and criticism of it)," with Chizuko Ueno, a professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo, critic Kojin Karatani and others; and "Questions on maternity: examining a mother and daughter" with writer Minako Oba.

Others include "Sorekara - Daisuke as a subject of gendiscussions' (Sorekara is a novel by Natsume Soseki and Daisuke is the character); main and "The experiment of post family."

Mizuta developed an interest in women's studies while studying Western literature in the U.S. After returning to Japan, she has worked to foster women's studies through symposia and discussions on gender issues while managing the university.

In the preface, Mizuta says: "These discussions show some of the footprints of when feminism studies developed activities to create discussions from a fresh viewpoint. I want it to provide ideas for the future of this field." The book is ¥2,500, excluding tax. ★

support students studying abroad. We would like to increase the number of young people who turn their attention outside Japan and take on challenges."

Chancellor

by JIU Times

on March 30.

Mizuta speaks

to Saitama Gov.

"As 2015 approaches and we near 50 years

since our establishment, Josai University

aims to set down roots in the local commu-

nity in addition to pursuing globalization,"

said Chancellor Noriko Mizuta during a talk

They spoke in March at the governor's resi-

dence in Saitama Prefecture, which is home to

Josai University, a sister school of Josai Inter-

national University. Mizuta and Ueda held a

discussion on society and human resources, 30

minutes of which was broadcast by TV Saitama

After being introduced by the broadcaster

as "a leading authority on the study of femi-

nist literary criticism and renowned poet,"

Chancellor Mizuta spoke about some of Josai

"Using some ideas from our students, we are

conducting the 'Koma River Project,' which in-

volves the restoration of the environment, eco-

logical activities and community events for the

"In terms of area covered by rivers, Saitama

Prefecture ranks number one in the nation. It

is important to improve the rivers' condition,"

the governor said in response. "I'm so happy

Saitama version of 'womenomics,' to realize economic revitalization through women's ac-

tive participation," the governor said. "In con-

crete terms, womenomics looks to improve the

working environment, employment support for

women and maternity assistance," Ueda said.

only realized the importance of women's so-

cial advancement after seeing the birthrate

decline and the elderly increase. I think it is

indispensable to create a culture and society

On globalization, Ueda said: "Saitama has

launched a fund to provide scholarships to

in which women can live and work well."

In response, Mizuta said: "It seems Japan

students are engaged in such activities." They then discussed women's social advancement issues. "We are promoting a

river near the university." Mizuta said.

University's regional activities.

with Saitama governor Kiyoshi Ueda.

Mizuta spoke of Josai University's more than 120 sister schools overseas and its accomplish-

ments in human and academic exchanges. "We'd like to keep fostering human resources capable of being globally active," Mizuta said. *

Princess Takamado poses with her diploma alongside Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, left, and Hannam University President Kim Hyung-tae.

tween Japan and South Korea.

After the ceremony, officials from both schools enjoyed lunch at a hotel in Tokyo. Other attendees included Kim Weon-jin, a counselor at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea; his wife; Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) Chairman Hiromasa Yonekura; Japan Foundation President Hiroyasu Ando; the princess and officials from the business community related to the Japan Foundation.

The sports park was established to honor Prince Takamado (1954-2002) for his earnest At the beginning of the luncheon, Mizuta made a speech: "I am pleased to announce contributions to sports promotion and international exchanges and to pass his message to that our sister school Hannam University future generations. Princess Takamado, who is conferred a doctorate to Princess Takamado. an Honorary Patron of the Japan Football As-Hannam University is one of the most tradisociation, attended the international friendly. tional universities to have pursued interna-The game was held in commemoration of the tional education and I am very happy with 10th anniversary of the 2002 World Cup in Jathe conferment of this degree. Hannam and pan and South Korea and was an opportunity Josai International University have interacted to promote sports and cultural exchange bethrough education and sport and I am sure

the relationship between the two schools will be further enhanced in the future."

Hannam's Kim added: "I am grateful and honored that we could offer the honorary doctorate to Princess Takamado and I want to thank Ms. Mizuta for facilitating this. This August, the soccer teams from Hannam University and JIU will have a friendly and I hope the relationship between our schools will deepen."

Princess Takamado also spoke: "I am very delighted and honored to receive the degree. Following Prince Takamado's wishes, I have worked to promote grass roots international exchanges between Japan and South Korea. I am blessed that interactions between the youth of both nations and the relationship between the two schools are expanding."

Kim and Keidanren's Yonekura also offered their congratulations, and Mizuta presented Princess Takamado with a bouquet. **

U.S.-Japan Women's Journal

by JIU Times

Contents:

The U.S.-Japan Women's Journal is a gender studies English publication promoting academic exchange. While the journal mainly focuses on Japan and the United States, it also includes other areas. The journal seeks to promote information exchange on topics such as gender, family, working conditions, social issues and cultural studies. It is published twice a year by Josai International University's International Center for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences (JICPAS). The latest edition (number 45) focuses on images of women's bodies around World War II.

Women's Voice, Bodies, and the Nation in 1930s-40s Wartime Literature』 (Michiko Suzuki) ▼ Japanese Women's Poetry from Interwar to Pacific War: Navigating Heterogeneous Borderspace (Janice Brown) ▼ Fat, Disease and Health: Female Body and Nation in Okamoto Kanoko's "Nikutai no shin-

kyoku"』 (Michiko Suzuki)▼『The Properly Feminine Nationalist Body in the Propaganda Kamishibai of Suzuki Noriko』 (Sharalyn Orbaugh) \(\nspecific \text{From the Nikutai to the Kokutai:}\) Nationalizing the Maternal Body in Ushijima Haruko's "Woman" (Kimberly Kono).

Women's studies book

To celebrate its 12th birthday, "Karin Karin," a book on women's studies and gender research, was published in March, the first issue in three years. The cover photo — Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge — is by Zhang Yawei, a Josai International University graduate student.

"The bridge is something that has deeply moved me since I came to Japan. The bridge seems to stretch to infinity and the imagination of freedom and vastness resonates in my heart. What's more, the bridge reaches the other shore that it is tethered to. I think it also represents the idea of going forward to realize your goals and dreams. Because I feel it repre-



sents these things, I chose this photo," she said.

Expanding further on the bridge theme, the book is an important publication to act as a bridge between current students and graduates from the Departments of both JIU Women's Studies and JIU Comparative Culture.

The first edition was published in 2001. The name "Karin Karin" can be said to represent people on bicycles in China as well as the sound of bicycle bells. In Japanese, the word karin means Chinese quince, which has beautiful flowers in the spring. In autumn, the fruit can be eaten and can be used as a natural medicine. Although not well known, karin is a word tying Japan with China in many ways. ★

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.



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.

Students study role of U.S. pharmacists

by Kimihito Tashima Associate professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The University of California-Riverside & JIU Pharmacy Internship Program 2014 was held in Riverside, CA, from Feb. 16 to 28. This program has been held five times since 2010 and aims to study the role of U.S. pharmacists and to con-

sider the role of Japan's future pharmacists. This year, 12 pharmacy students participated and as most of the students had never been out of Japan, the first step was to prepare their pass-

The goal of the program is to gain fresh insight on Japanese culture and the role of pharmacists in Japan through cross-cultural experiences and learning pharmaceutical care in U.S.

The students enjoyed the two weeks with their home stay families and diligently studied pharmaceutical English terms as they considered the role of U.S. pharmacists. ★

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JOSAI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

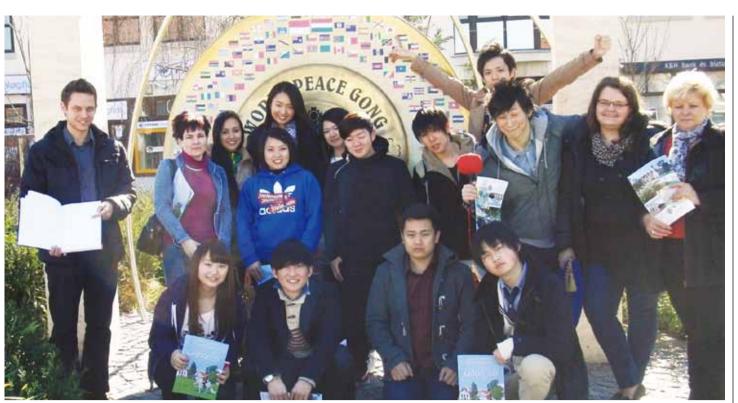
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Students study business overseas

by Nobuo Watanabe Professor, Faculty of Management & Information Science

Each year at Josai International University, some students take part in a short-term overseas training program called "Global Training." This program is carried out with the cooperation of Japanese companies that agree with and support the curriculum at Josai International University. The destination for this year's training program was Hungary. The theme of the training was business and students were asked to identify and study the differences between Hungary and Japan in the area of commerce. Thirteen students from various departments, including the Department of International Exchange Studies and the Department of Management and Information Sciences, participated and stayed in Hungary for six days, from March 6 to March 12. One of the students who took part in the

training, Moe Yamaguchi, a sophomore in the Department of International Exchange Studies, shares her experience below:

We visited the Royal Palace in Gödöllő and learned a lot about the history of Hungary there. We also toured Budapest, looking at all the splendid architecture and visiting famous churches and cathedrals. It was very exciting to feel the long history and culture of the country through the shape and design of the city, its buildings and its monuments.

We also toured a dairy farm and saw how they manage their day-to-day operations. This introduced us further to Central European culture, and it was interesting how different it was from Japan. We found this culture greatly revolves around the markets in the streets, which in turn support the lives

Faculty of Tourism has students spend one month on exchange program in Hungary

by Yasuko Wachi Professor, Faculty of Tourism

From March 3 through March 31, five JIU Faculty of Tourism students visited Szent István University (SZIE), one of JIU's sister universities in Hungary for a monthlong special student exchange program. "We introduced ourselves in Hungarian at the opening ceremony hosted by the president and dean of SZIE," student group leader Erina Shirai said. "That was the beginning of our four-week study and internship program using only English and Hungarian. We had a lot of fun sightseeing at historical sites in and around Budapest with our Hungarian friends and attending parties where we learned traditional Hungarian ethnic dance steps."

One of our days there was designated Japan Day and Erina reported that, with help from Prof. Nana Shimizu and her students

studying the Japanese language, the JIU students and SZIE students recited poems by Chancellor Noriko Mizuta from books she donated to SZIE. Erina performed a tea ceremony and Miyaki Kashima led the group in performing the Soran Bushi, a very lively traditional dance performed in fishing villages in northern Japan. Wearing traditional kimono was also popular on the day.

The group also paid an official visit to the Mayor of the city of Gödöllő Dr. György Gémesi on March 11, handing over a letter from the Mayor of the city of Kamogawa Takao Hasegawa. Masami Iwanami reported, "Vice Dean Henrietta Nagy kindly introduced us to the mayor of Gödöllő. Gémesi told us that the city is proud to have the lowest unemployment rate in Hungary, thanks to the citizens' great efforts to boost the tourism industry to support the economy."

Yosuke Murata was impressed by the city's

of the people.

I will never forget the warm welcome we received from the people of Hungary. Some of the students from Szent István University, a sister university of JIU, dressed in traditional clothes and performed a traditional Hungarian dance. In the end, we all formed a circle and danced together. This was an unforgettable experience for me.

I learned that Hungarian students are familiar with and like Japanese pop culture. We talked about popular Japanese manga and anime and they were all quite well-informed. As we said goodbye, they said, "Someday we'll visit Japan." I am very much looking forward to that day. Although our time in Hungary was very short, it was a great experience to touch upon a culture different from my own and meet such interesting new friends. I am very grateful for this opportunity. ★



green tourism, scenic environment and its health-oriented spas and hot springs.

Akihito Shigetomo, a member of the JIU Faculty of Tourism baseball team, tells us that he enjoyed teaching Hungarian students how to play baseball.

The five students came home with wonderful memories, enriched language and the cultural experience of visiting Hungary and Central Europe. They are now preparing to welcome five exchange students from SZIE in late May. Such mutual exchange students programs have been ongoing since 2009 between SZIE and the JIU Faculty of Tourism. *



by Kei Kirihara Student, Faculty of Media Studies

Soon I will have been in America for 6 months. Gradually I feel like I'm making progress with my English. This brings back memories of how I worried about life in America. Anyway, I think we exchange students have several reasons to go to America, including gaining life experience, gaining experience useful for job hunting among others.

In my case, I never really thought that I wanted to go to a foreign country, let alone study abroad. It was out of the question. But when I became a sophomore, I had no idea what kind of job I wanted to get in the future. That's one of the reasons I thought I would study in America. In a way, I was compelled to go there.

Frankly, before I came here, there is no denying I disliked English. Furthermore, I did not think it was necessary to study English. That's why, before I came here, I could not understand nor speak English at all. I cannot live without a dictionary, but I can now manage to make myself understood when I speak with Americans because of the UCR Extension Center. That's why I want to write an article like this — which comes from my heart.

First of all, I'd like to explain some things to those of you who are still debating whether or not to study abroad. I have been taking the Intensive English Program for about 5 months now so I can tell you some details about the IEP program. It is what I am involved with most of the time.

Basically, the IEP is composed of six classes from level 100 to 600. Level 600 students are those who want to take courses at the main campus and their class is a bit special because they can also take electives. Students must belong to the 500-level or above to take

When you arrive at UCR Extension, you have to take a level placement exam. The school then decides what class you will be assigned based on the results of that exam. Students who are disappointed by their results can take the exam once more, but only

There are four subjects — Reading, Writing, Grammar and Oral Skills and Communication. You may encounter lots of types of teachers in these classes, including those who suddenly break out in song and dance, those who give out candy, etc. The funniest experience I had was during Halloween because we had to wear costumes all day for that event. It goes without saying that all the teachers had to wear costumes, too. Experiences like that help you feel the cultural differences between Japan and America.

Wait until you see this: you can enjoy dancing after you finish your class.

By the way, if you are tired of studying or for some reason need to get your mind off things, you can take optional trips (at extra cost) to many of the sights and events available nearby. The costs vary according to the destination. Disneyland, Universal Studios, Sea World are all possibilities. These activities help you release stress and make new friends. It's time to make good friends!

To close, from my point of view, if you feel bored, you need to change your life style. If I had to say, I would say I can grow in America better than I could in Japan. Just so you know — we have to make an effort every day to study everything. *

Vol. 6

Serendipity Recalling youth, friends

by Paul Schalow Director, Institute for Comparative **Cultural Studies**

Last summer, I returned to Norway after an absence of many years. I had once spent a summer living in Stavanger, on Norway's southwest coast, when I was in my teens, and this was my first time back. You see, my mother was a Norwegian-American from Iowa and often spoke about Norway as her homeland, even though she had never been there. As a teenager, I was curious to see where my ancestors came from and for that reason decided to join a summer program

As fate would have it, my host family in Stavanger was the Sydnes family. We turned out to have much in common. Their hometown of Førde was near my mother's hometown, and the Sydneses had many family members who emigrated to America and settled in the same town in Iowa where my mother was born and raised. "It's a small world," we agreed.

Dr. and Mrs. Sydnes had three sons who became my brothers that summer: Kåre, Leiv (rhyming with "life"), and Gunnar. Gunnar and I were closest in age and we did everything together: bicycling up and down the North Sea coast, visiting sites in the city and traveling to Bergen and Oslo for two weeks. I always thought I would see Gunnar again, but that was not to be. He died in his forties, as did his brother Kåre, of a rare form of brain cancer. When I contacted Leiv, now a Professor of Chemistry at the University of

Bergen, he told me, "Come and visit when you have a chance."

So, last summer I made my return trip to Norway. In Oslo, I revisited the places I had first visited with Gunnar many years earlier, such as the Vigeland sculptures in Frogner Park; the castle of Akershus, which overlooks Oslo fjord and where Norway's kings are buried; and the Munch Museum, where they were celebrating the 150th anniversary of Edvard Munch's birth. But the highlight in Oslo was celebrating my birthday with Gunnar's widow, Synnøve. By coincidence, she and I share the same birthday, and she graciously hosted a double celebration with her three sons Kristian, Lars, and Karl Andreas and their families. "Don't they remind you of Gunnar?" she asked, and indeed I felt that, through them, their father was there with us that

From Oslo, I took the night train to Stavanger, arriving just as the morning light touched the twin towers of the 12th-century domkirke, or cathedral. During my first visit to Stavanger, Gunnar had often taken me to hear organ concerts there, where Synnøve's father, Lars Maeland, was the organist. It happened that on this visit there was a chamber music festival at the cathedral. Listening to a performance of the "Andante" from Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, I experienced a moment when I finally made peace with Gunnar's death and accepted that he was gone.

From Stavanger, I went to Bergen by car with Leiv and his wife Kirsti. On the way, we

stopped at the old Sydnes home in Førde, which Leiv had inherited. Gunnar and his father had been the ones who had taken me there on that earlier trip as a teenager. I remember that we had placed flowers on the grave of Leiv's grandparents on that visit. This time, I was there to pay my respects at his parents' grave. "I wonder if they knew how thankful I am for everything they did for me that summer," I said.

"I'm sure they did," Kirsti replied.

I am grateful that fate linked me to the Sydnes family and gave me three Norwegian brothers for a time. Only one remains now, Leiv, whose name rhymes with "life." Sometimes serendipity changes our lives dramatically, but in this case it just enriched my life with brotherhood and friendship in small but unforgettable ways. *

Chancellor Mizuta visits Konyang U.

by JIUTimes

On Feb. 20, Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta visited Konyang University, a leading private medical school, where she received an honorary doctorate from university President Kim Hi-soo. Mizuta received this award for her achievements in academics and education and her contributions to academic exchanges between Josai and Konyang

While Konyang University already had an exchange agreement with Josai International University, during this visit, Josai University was added to the agreement. Konyang University



Chancellor Mizuta receives an honorar doctorate from Kim Hi-soo, president of Konyang University on Feb. 20, in South

has received wide recognition in the fields of medicine and nursing, and was voted the top medical university in southwest Korea in 2004 and 2007 by the Korean Medical Association. JU President Yasunori Morimoto and Director of the JIU Faculty of Nursing Kanae Iida accompanied Chancellor Mizuta on this visit. During the visit, discussions were held on exchange programs in pharmaceutical sciences and nursing as well as cooperative strategies for fostering global professionals. **

Seeing behind the scenes at a newspaper office

by JIU Times

About 15 students from Josai International University's Faculty of Management and Information Sciences took part in an internship at the Mainichi Newspaper in Tokyo in February. Polish and Hungarian students as well as students from Josai University participated.

Over five days, the interns met in the editorial conference room to listen to leading members of Mainichi's science, social, pho-

tography and digital media divisions. They also toured the editorial offices and

learned about news from on-the-scene coverage to the final article. They also learned how newspapers make the journey from the presses to retail outlets and the logistics of home newspaper delivery.

Mainichi management spoke on topics such as "the role of newspapers," "the world of sports news" and "newspapers and photography."

The highlight of the internship was an "interview" with a reporter acting as CEO of an electronics company. The students focused on the company's finances and wrote a mock

Honors students get chance to experience different workplaces

Student, Faculty of Media Studies

Like many educational institutions, Josai International University has an Honors Club, a group of students who show excellent academic achievements and represent JIU proudly and responsibly in extracurricular activities. The university provides various opportunities to nurture these people into becoming better leaders. Included in these opportunities were two training programs that took place in March. A total of 94 students participated in the programs and I was one of them.

I had a very good experience visiting the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, The Mainichi Newspaper and the Diet. Naturally, it was exciting to see such facilities and workplaces as they are usually difficult to gain access to. Furthermore, hearing the voices of the people working and seeing the atmosphere of the workplaces was stimulating for me.

Although the three places are different in character, with one being a private company and the others public facilities, I got the sense of the same "pride in one's work" from the people working at these places. It impressed me how the staff at the museum watched over visitors looking at the art and how closely they themselves look at the art, admiring it even after the visitors have gone.

At the Mainichi, workers were excited speaking about how they took one-of-a-kind pictures in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami and how

they are doing their best to find ways to attract people to read their paper. The person who showed us around in the Diet building seemed proud when speaking about how the building was built and its unique and interesting features.

While visiting these three locations I was able to get a sense of the responsibility and day-to-day perseverance of the people working there. I could also see their passion for their work and their desire to share its appeal with others. This opportunity made me rethink what work really is.

Above all, it meant a lot to me to visit the Mainichi as I have always been interested in publishing and journalism. This experience taught me how important publishing and journalism are and how much pride journalists take in their consideration for the many people they represent, further fueling my interest in this area. At the same time I learned one must be strong mentally and physically in order to survive under such intense pressure and I am eager to succeed.

I didn't used to read the newspaper much, but this experience has spurred me into reading the newspaper every day. It has broadened my horizons, both in thinking about my future career in this field and in my daily life. I am really happy to have participated in this study program as a freshman. It was a good opportunity for me to examine what I want to do and I am grateful to the university for the opportunity. If there is another opportunity like it, I would like to take part again. ★





by David Williams Vice Dean for Public Relations

On Sunday April 6, the 8th Cherry Blossom Festival was held on the grounds of the former residence of Josai University Educational Corporation founder Mikio Mizuta. Guests, including Mayor Hasegawa of Kamogawa City, as well as visitors and students from China, Taiwan, Vietnam, and Hungary, had an opportunity

to take part in a tree planting ceremony, before being treated to musical entertainment by the Awa High School brass band and Hungarian folk dancing.

The international atmosphere was complemented by the bilingual master of ceremonies emphasizing the global reach of those in attendance. Before the ceremonies, around 100 people from the neighborhood and students took part in a 12K walk from the JIU Faculty of Tourism to the residence. Tired participants were, however, able to enjoy complementary refreshments, and locally produced food on their arrival.

Unfortunately the event was interrupted by rain prior to its end, but this did not dampen the spirits of everyone looking forward to the 9th Cherry Blossom Festival on the occasion of Josai University Educational Corporation's 50th anniversary. ★

U.N. forum on status of women

by Yasuko Wachi, Ph.D. Professor, JIU Gender and Women's **Studies**

From March 10 to 21, in conjunction with the 58th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the U.N. (CoNGO) held its Forum, which attracted about 6,000 women to more than 300 events at the U.N. Building, the Church Center, the Armenian Convention Center, the Salvation Army Center and others.

The Women's Intercultural Network-California Women's Agenda, a CoNGO in the San Francisco Bay Area, invited Chancellor Noriko Mizuta to address some of its parallel events. However, due to her numerous chancellorship duties, she asked a JIU Graduate School professor in Gender and Women's Studies to go in her place. Prof. Yasuko Wachi took part in two panels at the Armenian Convention Center. On March 10, Wachi participated in the "Winning Strategies for Implementing the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for Gender Equality.

The panel was moderated by Kathleen Cha, WIN Co-Chair and the American Association of University Women National Leader. Panelists included Ana Maria Sanchez (Guatemala); Hon. Annetta Mukabera, former Republic of Uganda MP and Special Presidential Assis-

tant on Political Affairs, Kayunga Land Project; Prof. Raihana Popalzai, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Kabul University; and Krishanti Dharmaraj, Executive Director of International Action Network for Gender Equality and Law and the founder of the Dignity Index of Sri Lanka. Dr. Wachi thanked the panel coordinator and lauded the courageous achievements of her fellow panelists. After citing several actual gender issues in Japanese society today, she introduced JIU's challenges and achievements in its Gender and Women's Studies Program and its global women's leadership program L-WIN (Leaders-Women International Network), which was started by Dr. Noriko Mizuta as Japan's best practices to bring about systemic changes in socio-cultural power structures.

On March 11, Wachi participated in "Access to New Economic Models for Workplace Success: Education, Training, and Technology."

The March 11 panel was moderated by Gail James, the representative of U.S. Women Connect. Panelists included Elahe Amani of California State University at Fullerton; Brittany MacLean of U.S. Women Connect; Raihana Popalzai, vice chancellor, Kabul University, Michele Ozumba of the Women's Funding Network. Dr. Wachi spoke about JIU's Gender and Women's Studies programs and the Faculty of Tourism programs giving even wider global access to both higher and practical education and employment opportunities for women in the globalized human resource market. *



Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for Gender Equality

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Ballroom 1, Armenian Convention Center 630 2nd Avenue

New York, NY

Women's Intercultural Network (WIN), NGO consultative to the UN ECOSOC invites NGOs, icipal, state and province levels. Our focus is or articipation of girls and women's voices in

Panelists will speak of their country experiences and best practices in implementing BPFA, MDGs and CEDAW and how these have impacted women and girls

Following their remarks will be an interactive discussion with participants. Our focus is on sharing solutions for a





Krishanti Dharmaraj, Executive Director of International Action Network for Gender Equity and Law (IANGEL), and the Founder of Dignity

Hon. Annette Mukabera, former MP Republic of Uganda, Special Presidential Assistant on Political Affairs; Kayunga Land Project, Uganda; WIN Advisory Council. Raihana Popalzai, Vice Chancellor for Academic

Ana Maria Sanchez, M.S., Holistic Counsele

Tokyo, Japan; WIN Advisory Council

Co-Sponsors: San Francisco Department on the US Women Connect,

Coalition of Women from Asia and the Middle Eas Humanitarian Support- Uganda International Action Network for Gender Equity & Law, Josai International University

SOUTHWEST.COM

Record kendo turnout

by JIU Times

The 13th Mizuta Mikio Invitational High School Kendo Tournament, sponsored by Josai International University, was held on Feb. 2 at the Sport and Culture Center on the Togane campus. This year's edition had 33 men's teams and 36 women's teams, the highest numbers since the tournament's inception.

The tournament continues to attract more participants every year. One JIU kendo club member said: "This is a good opportunity to compete before the National High-School Invitational Tournament. To raise the level of competition we invite schools with strong kendo programs (including some from Korea)." Along with the high school judo tournament, the kendo tournament was created to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of JIU.

Mikio Mizuta, the founder of Josai University Educational Corporation and former finance minister, trained his mind and body through the practice of both judo and kendo.

The women's kendo team from JIU is regarded as a kendo powerhouse and was in the national invitational tournament for 6 years in a row through 2012.

Many of the tournament participants were full of praise for JIU's facilities. The university president, all department heads and many JIU staff were on hand to watch the tournament.

In the men's finals, two teams from Chiba Prefecture, Awa High School and Narashino



Aso Chuo High School grabbed the women's championship.

City Senior High School faced each other. Narashino City Senior High School ended up beating Awa high for the title. In the women's final, Aso Chuo High School topped Toin Gakuen High School for its second victory since the 9th edition of the tournament.

On March 1, the Faculty of Tourism organized the first Mizuta Junior High School Baseball Tournament in the city of Kamogawa, Chiba Prefecture. The tournament brought back the participants of the 2010 Mizuta Junior Baseball Tournament. As the players have now entered junior high school, the tournament was held to deepen relationships between local residents and promote exchange through sports.

In addition to organizing and managing the tournament, students from the baseball club managed the games, allowing the junior high school players to give their best. ★

Ongoing exchanges with Tianjin University

by JIU Times

On Feb. 14, Tianjin Foreign Studies University President Xiu Gang gave a lecture for the JIU Executive Program at the Kioicho Campus auditorium.

Xiu, who holds a Josai International University honorary doctorate, is seen as the biggest advocate of Japanese language education in China, serving as the nation's key person for Japanese education. Xiu was named president of the university in 1999, and as part of the university's plans for expansion, successfully accomplished the formidable task of raising their status to a multidisciplinary university in 2010. Xiu also holds other important offices such as honorary president of the Chinese Institute of Japanese Language Studies and vice president of the Chinese Translators Association.

In 2011, the university hosted the World



President Xiu of Tianjin Foreign Studies University delivers a lecture on Feb. 14 at the Kioicho Campus auditorium

Conference on Japanese Education in conjunction with the Japanese ministry of education the Japan Foundation and various Japanese and Chinese corporations. In September that same year, Xiu received his honorary doctoral degree from JIU in recognition of his numerous contributions and accomplishments in the field.

Josai first signed an academic exchange agreement with the university in October 2007, and has since enjoyed an extremely active partnership, with many students from Tianjin coming to study at Josai each year.

After an introduction from Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, Xiu gave a lecture titled "China-Japan Relations from a Public Standpoint — Toward Intercultural Communication." He described the challenges of current China-Japan relations and, accepting mutual fundamental differences, explained the importance of intercultural communication and the necessity of forming favorable relations from the perspective of an average citizen.

Despite heavy snow, about 150 Josai University and JIU faculty and students were in attendance, intently listening to Xiu speak.

The lecture was followed by a reception in which many faculty and students took the opportunity to approach Xiu and discuss establishing positive China-Japan relations, cultural exchanges and other topics. ★

Pixie takes award at 3rd annual Student Film Contest

by JIU Times

At the 3rd annual Student Film Competition, director Nakagawa Hiroshi Takashi and student filmmaking group, TAKE1, won the honorable award for their film "Pixie".

The production of "Pixie", 2nd to a series proceeded by "Rain Man Diary", took place from August to September A pixie is an English fairy that is

known to play tricks on people, but also help people. Along with TAKE1 and the cast

members, over 50 students took part in the production. Together they endured the hard-

ships of the 11 days of filming which was the key to their success. Filming also took place in the Multi-

purpose Studio in the new Tokyo Kioicho Campus Building. *

3rd annual high school picture book contest

by Miyuki Hatori Student, Global Communications, **Graduate School of Humanities**

On February 22, Josai International University's third nationwide high school picture book contest award ceremony was held at the Kioicho campus. The contest is intended for high school students in Japan to explore the potential of picture books. Picture books are not only for children to enjoy; they can also provide the elderly or disabled with feelings of energy or relaxation.

Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, JIU staff, prize recipients and their families attended the ceremony. Risa Otsuka from Kyoai Gakuen Senior High School was chosen for the grand Soratobukujira Prize for her book "Ototo." "Ototo" was shown at the ceremony and she explained her inspiration for her character. She explained that she was the inspiration for the older brother, while her dog Maron, was the inspiration for the younger brother.

Writer Arthur Binard, one of the contest judges, commented that he was impressed with the variety of picture books in this year's contest.

The prize recipients and the titles of their picture books are as follows:

• Soratobukujira (Grand Prize)



Risa Otsuka (center) from Kyoai Gakuen Senior High School was awarded the Soratobukujira Grand Prize.

"Ototo," Risa Otsuka (Kyoai Gakuen Senior High School)

"Shiirakansu," Ishii (Tokyo Metropolitan Kogei High School)

"Mizu no Kimochi," Ayumi Sato (Kanagawa Prefectural Kamiyabe High School)

Judge's Special Prize

"Kokorotamago," Maria Suda (Kyoai

Gakuen Senior High School)

International University) ★

• Student Picture Book Prize "Hippatte Kore Nanda," Reina Iijima (Josai

Spring Seminar in Barcelona

by Sam Spinak, Student, Faculty of International Humanities

JIU freshman Sam Spinak interviewed Prof. Maria Shiguemi Ichiyama about a trip some JIU students took to Spain.

Spinak: Hello, professor. First of all, what was the purpose of the trip? Ichiyama: To give students from all departments at JIU a chance to experience Spanish

gion and language. Spinak: What kind of activities did the stu-

culture and learn more about the Catalonia re-

dents take part in? **Ichiyama:** Besides attending lectures at the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, we had tours to places such as the Sagrada Familia and Casa Milá. Students were given expert guidance by Prof. Tanaka and therefore they could appre-



Marta Morros.

ciate art from different perspectives.

Spinak: What are some of the other inter-

loved their time at Camp Nou Stadium, but those not so fond of soccer might say they enjoyed the National Museum or the Fundació Joan Miró. Our last dinner was at El Tablao de Carmen where we enjoyed some

nice flamenco. Spinak: Where did the students stay dur-

Vila Universitaria on the UAB Bellaterra cam-

ing the trip? **Ichiyama:** We stayed at the dormitory at the

students use the facilities as dormitories. The rooms were comfortable. Students spent one esting sites you visited? **Ichiyama:** I'm sure some would say they weekend with host families in the Barcelona area and I think that was a highlight of the pro-

to Poland, France, Malaysia and many other

Spinak: Sounds fun. Are you planning to

Ichiyama: I sure hope so. I'd like to take students to Barcelona again and I'd also like to go

pus. That area was built for the Olympics and

Spinak: Wow, maybe I'll sign up for the next trip! ★

Students offer solutions to aging population issues in bilateral forum

Student, Faculty of International

Humanities

I participated in the Japan-Canada Academic Consortium (JACAC) Student Forum in February. The annual forum offers opportunities for university students from Japan and Canada to meet and exchange opinions and ideas on a topic selected by JACAC. This year's topic was "Toward a Sustainable Economic and Social Development: Challenges in Aging Society in Canada and Japan."

This year's forum was hosted by Meiji University from Feb. 15 to 23, with 28 students from Japan and Canada participating. During the forum we attended lectures and discussions on various subjects related to aging society, including a lecture by Prof. Seiichiro Nanai from Josai International University.

After learning about the aging populations in Japan and Canada and breaking into groups, we presented our opinions and ideas for solutions on the last day of the forum at the Embassy of Canada. Each group consisted of four people, two from Japan and two from Canada. In my group there were students from Tsuda College, Queens University and the University of British Columbia. Our topic was "Immigration," and we focused on Japan because the aging population in Japan is a more serious issue than it is in Canada. We came to the conclusion that Japan needs to accept more immigrants as we agreed that offsetting the population decline by increasing the birth rate would not be an effective solution.

After making our presentation in front of Princess Takamado, we won the award for the



best presentation. Students who participated in the forum are studying in many different fields. They brought many ideas and experiences and it was useful for all of us to be able to exchange thoughts on a timely topic. The forum offered all of us an opportunity to meet serious fellow students. It was also a chance for all of us to think about our future. ★

Seven goals toward becoming a leading university in the world

"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