



# JIU TIMES



Vol. 9

SUMMER 2014

## Symposium held to honor chancellor's Cikada Prize

by JIU Times

Josai University Educational Corp. held a symposium on June 7 to commemorate Chancellor Noriko Mizuta's winning of a prestigious international literature prize, at

Josai University in Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward. The symposium titled "Expressing the Majesty of Life" featured Mizuta and other winners of the Cikada Prize, established in 2004 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Swedish poet Harry Martin-

son. The symposium was co-hosted by the Josai International Center for the Promotion of Art and Science, the Swedish Embassy, the Japan-Sweden Society and Shichosha publishing company.

At the beginning of the symposium, Swedish Ambassador Lars Vargo welcomed the panelists and audience members, noting that the symposium was the first ever to bring together past prize winners from overseas.

He also said that the Cikada Prize, from this year forward, will be awarded every year. Over the past 10 years, there have been six recipients of the prize, with Mizuta being the sixth. Mizuta won the prize in December last year for her poetry and contributions to Japanese literature. The prize is given to East Asian poets because of Martinson's great interest in literature from the region.

The following panel discussion was moderated in fluent Japanese by Vargo. The panelists were two Japanese — Mizuta and haiku poet Akito Arima — and three South Koreans — Shin Kyong-rim, the fourth recipient of the Cikada Prize; Moon Chung-hee, the fifth recipient; and Han Sung-rea, a poet and a translator of poems between Japanese and South Korean.

Vargo introduced the idea that "poetry is sometimes lost in translation."

In response, Mizuta said: "It's a fact that



Swedish Ambassador Lars Vargo; haiku poet Akito Arima; Shin Kyong-rim, the fourth recipient of the Cikada Prize; Han Sung-rea, a poet and a translator of poems between Japanese and South Korean; Moon Chung-hee, the fifth recipient of the prize; and Josai University Educational Corp. Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, the sixth recipient, discuss poetry at Josai University in Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward, on June 7.

translation has broken language barriers and made it possible for poetry to reach many people. Some may be lost in translation, but the many benefits outweigh that aspect."

When Han translates poetry, she first

translates word for word, followed by about 10 rewrites, she said.

"First of all, the words are important, but I also have to think about what a poet really wants to say. Then I try to become the spirit

of the poet," she said, adding that final translations often contain altered wording.

The initial panel discussion was followed by two others, which had poets from elsewhere in Asia, including China. ★



## Josai hosts Eva Vargo's Swedish craft exhibition

by JIU Times

Josai University Educational Corp. held an exhibition displaying crafts made by the wife of the Swedish Ambassador to Japan, Eva Vargo, at Josai University's Kioicho Campus in Tokyo.

The exhibition "Eva Vargo Fibers & Fragments Selected Works 1998-2014" was held at the Art Gallery of Mizuta Memorial Museum

at the university between May 14 and June 12.

Vargo weaves crafts using paper and hemp thread. The exhibition showed about 20 of her works made between 1998 and 2014, including neckerchiefs and some wall hangings.

The gallery was occupied by "Eva Vargo's world" in which Korean paper, washi Japanese traditional paper and fibers are ripped and twisted together to form shapes with new meanings. ★

## Josai rose club aims to grow exchanges

by JIU Times

The Josai Rose Club was launched in April to expand exchanges among Josai International University, its alumni and local communities while making the Seiko Mizuta Memorial Rose Garden a symbol of international relations.

The rose garden was opened in October to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Josai University's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the 30th anniversary of Josai Base College.

The club will plan events promoting exchanges among Japanese and foreign students, creating a connection between the university and the community through roses.

The membership fee for the club is ¥1,000 yen a year and members will receive a member's badge, a "Josai" magazine and will be able to use the university library.

The garden has Bulgarian Rose Nadia, a gift from the Bulgarian ambassador and Souvenir d'Anne Frank, a type of rose named for Anne Frank and a visitor favorite. Additionally, rose-related goods created by the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences have been popular among alumni.

Also to celebrate the anniversaries, Josai University held a tree-planting ceremony on



Bulgarian Rose Nadia grow at the Seiko Mizuta Memorial Rose Garden

June 13.

The university planted *hanamizuki*, or flowering dogwood, which was a favorite of Josai University Educational Corp. Honorary Chancellor Seiko Mizuta, among other trees.

At the venue, a new rose species, "Noriko Mizuta Josai 50," was unveiled. The rose, named after Josai University Educational Corp. Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, was donated by parents of Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences students' and will be planted in the garden. ★



## Josai forms academic exchange agreement with Walailak University

by JIU Times

On May 9, the Josai University Educational Corporation formed an academic exchange agreement with Thailand's Walailak University.

As part of Josai's midterm target of strengthening international exchange to cultivate global human resources, our university has formed academic exchange agreements with a number of institutions worldwide, focusing particularly on those in Southeast Asia and Central Europe. In Thailand alone, Josai has formed a cooperative alliance with the Technology Promotion Association (Thailand-Japan, October 2012), as well as academic exchange agreements with Bangkok University (January 2013), Rangsit University (April 2013) and the Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology (May 2013).

Josai had already established relations with Walailak University with the Asia Summer Program, in which students of this university participate every year, and used the occasion of Walailak President Keerath Sangansai's visit to create a formal academic exchange agreement.

Founded in 1992, Walailak University is one of 31 national universities in Thailand. Its name comes from the third daughter of King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX), Chu-

labhorn Walailak. Walailak University has an enrollment of 6,000 students and is comprised of the following 11 schools: Agricultural Technology; Allied Health Sciences and Public Health; Architecture and Design; Engineering and Resources; Informatics; Liberal Arts; Management; Medicine; Nursing; Pharmacy; and Science.

Upon arriving at the Tokyo Kioicho Campus, Keerath met with Chancellor Noriko Mizuta and other Josai University Educational Corporation executives.

Before the signing, Chancellor Mizuta provided opening remarks, saying: "It is a great honor for us at Josai to form an academic exchange agreement with Walailak University. Our two universities share many common fields of study and with this agreement we plan to take concrete measures toward developing our program of exchange."

Following Chancellor Mizuta, Keerath also addressed the attendees, saying: "I would like to thank Josai for such a warm reception. Starting today, we will deepen our program of exchange with us sending exchange students to Josai University and Josai International University and working together to develop human resources."

Josai International University and Walailak University share many common programs of



Participants pose at a ceremony to sign an academic exchange agreement with Walailak University.

study, especially in the Faculty of Nursing and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Thus, with the formation of this academic exchange, we anticipate the beginning of many cooperative projects in these fields and others. ★

## Former Slovenian president lectures on future role of U.N.

by JIU Times

On April 23, former Slovenian President Danilo Turk visited Josai's Kioicho Campus in Tokyo, where he delivered a lecture and met with students. The Republic of Slovenia, a nation in central Europe, in June 1991 declared its independence, which was achieved after much suffering, marking the dissolution of the Yugoslavian union.

Serving as UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs from 2000 to 2005, Turk made it his work to resolve border disputes. He later worked as a professor of international law at the University of Ljubljana from 2005 to 2007 before being elected the 3rd President of the Republic of Slovenia, serving from 2007 until 2012.

Arriving on campus in the afternoon,

alongside Ambassador Helena Drnovsek Zorko and Minister Plenipotentiary Oto Pungartnik, Turk met with Chancellor Noriko Mizuta and other representatives from Josai University.

Providing opening remarks before Turk's lecture, Chancellor Mizuta said, "I'm overjoyed at the opportunity for Josai students to hear a speech from such an esteemed scholar of law and diplomat as former President Danilo Turk."

Shiba Nobuhiro, deputy director of the Josai Institute for Central European Studies, also expressed his wishes to the diverse audience in attendance. "At the Josai Institute for Central European Studies, we have had many great opportunities to become closer to the Visegrad Group, but I hope to use this event as an opportunity to deepen relations

with not just the group as a whole, but the individual nation of Slovenia," he said.

In his lecture "The Future of the U.N. System" Turk drew on his experiences as a high-level diplomat and U.N. official to provide an overview of the U.N. system and discuss its approach toward the three categories of national security, development and human rights. European exchange students, Josai University and Josai International University students alike listened with great interest.

During the Q&A session, Shotaro Fujino of Josai University's Faculty of Economics asked, "I would like to work for the U.N. in the future and plan to study abroad at the University of Economics, Prague and I was wondering what do you consider necessary in terms of U.N. reform?" Turk demonstrated his problem solving approach, answering,

"Before suggesting a course of reform, one must first grasp the U.N. system as a whole and consider its structure critically and then argue whether reform is necessary." There were many questions from students from Europe and other places overseas who are studying at JU and JIU as well as students from JIU's Graduate School of International Administration, all of which Turk answered courteously. Turk continued to answer questions in the reception that followed, generating a pleasant atmosphere for the event that went beyond the allotted schedule.

To this point, Josai University Educational Corporation has worked actively for the promotion of student exchange and the cultivation of human resources in Central Europe, earning many accomplishments in the realm of education and cultural ex-



Former Slovenian President Danilo Turk (left) meets with students and other lecture attendees.

change in the process. The Josai Institute for Central European Studies was established to promote even further the development of joint research, academic exchange, human resources and undergraduate and graduate education in this region.

With Turk's visit to Josai, we hope that our program of exchange with Slovenia will become even more active. ★

### Inside This Issue

[Scene on Campus](#)  
Page 2

▶ [Hong Kong students visit Kioicho Campus](#)

[Views from Abroad](#)  
Page 3

▶ [Reflecting on different journeys to Japan](#)

[Oxfam Trailwalker](#)  
Page 4

▶ [In-depth look at the Oxfam Trailwalker charity event](#)

[Campus Life](#)  
Page 5

▶ [Further deepening ties with Eastern Europe](#)

[Back Story](#)  
Page 6

▶ [Strengthening bonds through music, media](#)



# Hong Kong students visit the Media Department

by Hirotaka Nakagawa  
Student, Faculty of Media Studies

In the early evening of May 25th, a group of Hong Kong City University students arrived at JIU's Kioicho Campus for an eight-day program with the Department of Media Studies. The students researched a variety of topics, attended workshops and talked with media students. A few media department students and I spent almost every day with them and were able to learn a lot from them.

The students from Hong Kong and the JIU students met the morning they arrived. After introductions, everyone was divided into three groups based on their research topics and we began discussing our assignments and going out to do field research.

The group covering "Museum Management" visited the Mori Art Museum and the National Art Center in Roppongi. The students not only visited the museums, they also interviewed visitors to the museums as part of their research. Japanese students helped translate questions and answers from the visitors. The friendship between the two groups of students was strengthened through their trips to museums and other excursions.

The visiting students also attended special workshops given by media department professors. These covered animation, dance and film. They also visited an anime production company and heard lectures from leading Japanese film directors. I think they were very interesting and the students were deeply impressed by the wide range of the depart-

ment's field of study.

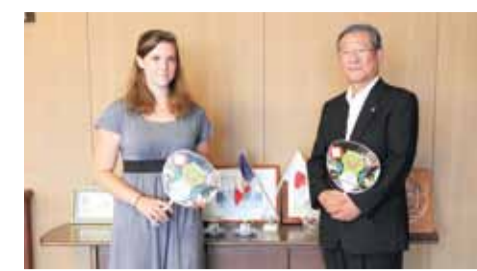
On May 30th, two days before they were to leave, each group gave a presentation about their research in Tokyo. The professors and the students of the department attended this presentation and were quite impressed by the Hong Kong students' keen observations and unique analyses. I realized that Japanese students can learn a great deal through the program, despite not going abroad and only spending a few days with them.

While they were here, we spent a lot of time together and it was very interesting to learn that young people like ourselves think alike even though our nationalities are different. We talked a lot while visiting such places as Ueno Zoo or Sensouji Temple or when we ate together. The topics were typical for people our age, touching on the future, dating and even part-time jobs. Through these conversations we were able to further strengthen our friendship. We realized our feelings are far different from those reported in the media these days and we Japanese students definitely felt free from prejudice. It's possible that the JIU students gained more from the visit than the Hong Kong students did.

After just eight days in Tokyo, the students from Hong Kong left Kioicho in the early morning. This exchange experience left me feeling it might be possible for me to work abroad someday — something I had never imagined. I also realized how important it is to act globally and not be inward thinking. I believe that the Hong Kong students also were enlightened by their experience at JIU. ★



Hong Kong City University students stayed in Tokyo for an eight-day program with the Department of Media Studies from May 25.



## French student visits mayor of a sister city

by Rie Hayashi  
Center for Admission and Public Relations

On June 19th, Sandra Pizzorni, a Josai International University student from France paid a courtesy visit to the mayor of the city of Togane, Naoharu Shiga, in Chiba Prefecture.

Pizzorni is from Rueil-Malmaison in France and has studied at JIU since September. Pizzorni made the visit because Togane has a sister city relationship with Rueil-Malmaison.

Shiga talked about the history of international exchanges with her city and noted that he wants to deepen the relationship with the city.

Pizzorni said she found the view from Togane's Sanodai Park very beautiful. "There were many opportunities to interact with the people of Togane and enjoy its culture. I'm glad I was able to live here," she said.

Pizzorni will return home this summer and has told Shiga she wants to work on promoting the relationship between the two cities.

JIU works to contribute to a variety of international exchanges within the community. ★

## Museum shows prints of past Chiba tourism

by Kaho Suzuki  
Student, Faculty of International Humanities

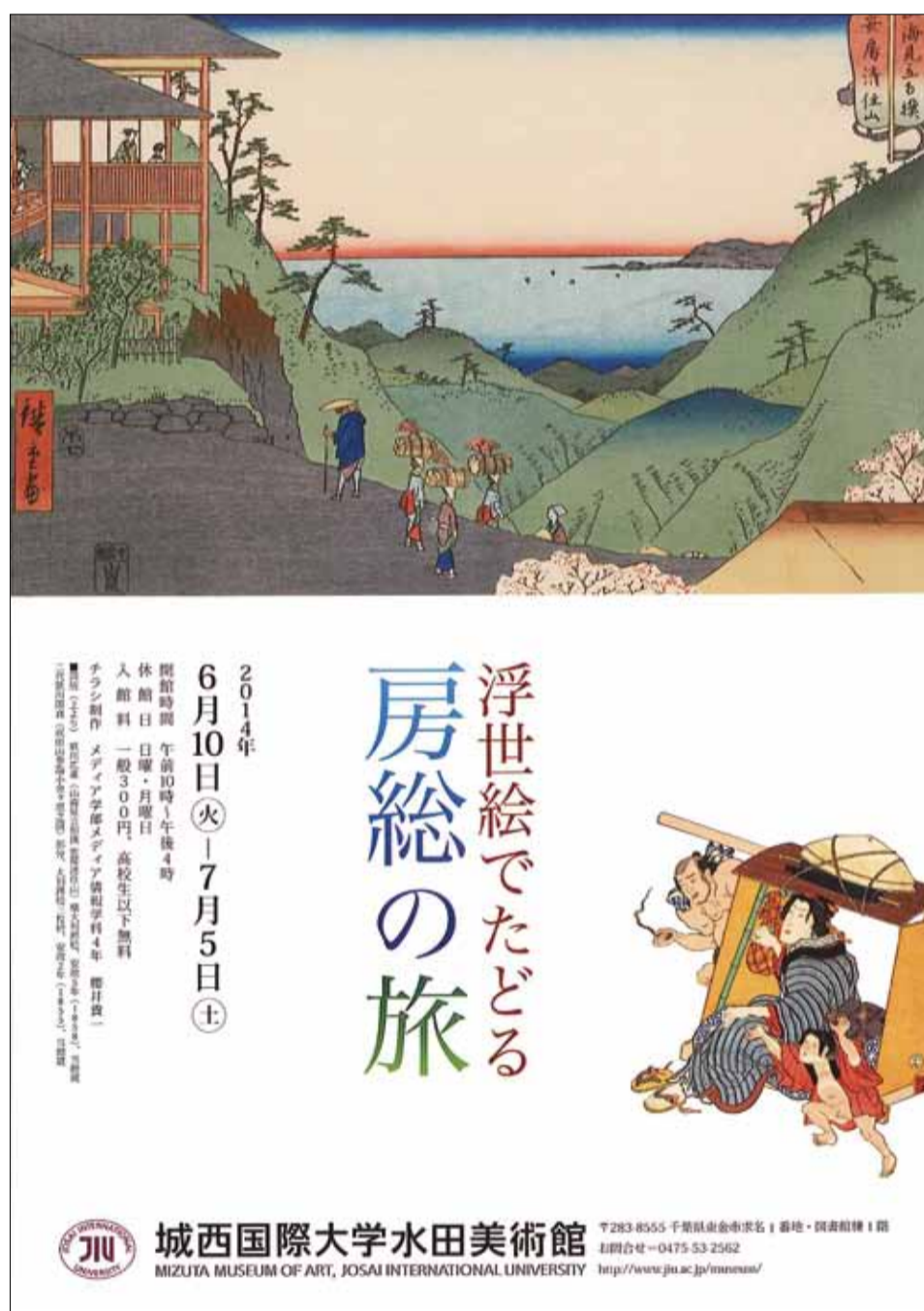
An exhibition of 40 multicolor woodblock prints at the Mizuta Museum of Art on the JIU Togane Campus focuses on Chiba as a leisure travel destination in centuries past. Under the title of "Travels through Boso," the show includes works by great artists such as Ando Hiroshige (1797-1858) and Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849). Boso is the old name for the part of Chiba Prefecture facing present-day Tokyo, known as Edo until 1868.

The poster advertising the exhibition uses part of a print by Hiroshige, one of several on display. It shows a temple perched on top of Kiyosumiyama, a mountain near Awa Kominato not far from JIU's Kamogawa campus. Temples and shrines were the stated destinations of travelers in the Edo Period (1603-1868) although in actual fact people often took off for journeys just to enjoy themselves.

"The prints tell us a lot about Edo life and customs," said Mizuko Horiuchi, one of the Museum's curators. "The closer you look the more you see," she added pointing to another Hiroshige print showing women in colorful kimono at a shrine engaging in the custom of "nagesen" the throwing of small coins on the road to invite good fortune for the journey. Local children are depicted scurrying to pick up the money.

Another famous print in the exhibition is Nobuto Inlet by Hokusai, one of the series called Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji. In this print, the viewer sees snow-covered Fuji in the distance through the torii gate of a shrine located in present-day Chiba City. Both Hiroshige and Hokusai traveled to the Boso area producing masterpieces that encouraged visits by others.

Horiuchi said, "Travel came to be a popular pastime among ordinary people during the latter part of the Edo Period and Boso was a favored destination because it could be reached easily by sea." Boso and Edo were



connected by ferries called "watashi-bune." Boso boasted many famous temples and shrines, especially Narita-san. Many of the prints in the exhibition depict scenes along the Narita highway. The place names on the prints, such as Funabashi, Owada, Usui,

Sakura, and Shisui are with us to this day. Travel guides printed from wood blocks the same way as color prints are also on display.

Prints are on view until July 5th. Museum hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. ★

## JIU's herb garden entertains and educates

by Cinthia Yuko Arakaki  
Student, Faculty of International Humanities

Today herbs are used mostly to make teas and improve meals but in times past herbal medicine saved lives. JIU's Herbal Medicine Garden in Otaki offers an entertaining way to learn about the use of herbs both past and present. Some 500 plants are grown or kept on the premises located at the top of a hill about 20 minutes walk from Otaki Station on the private Isumi Railway Line. Trains depart regularly from Ohara Station on the JR Sotobo Line.

"There are many ways to use the herbs some can be used as they are, others only the seeds and others with some processing, such as mixing with something else or making it into a powder," Yuko Yoshino, the Herb Garden's caretaker explained while giving a guided tour to a group of JIU students recently.

Ms Yoshino guided the group through the seven different plots of the Herb Garden, each containing different types of vegetation. One



section is devoted entirely to plants used in cuisine, including a giant artichoke plant taller than most of the JIU visitors. Yoshino-san pointed to three varieties of chamomiles and a row of ten mint bushes, each having leaves that taste different from the rest. Students enjoyed biting into the mints and comparing flavors.

One JIU student from Europe seeing a rhubarb plant recalled eating the red and green stalks with sugar as a child. Yoshino-san explained that rhubarb is not a popular food in Japan yet although some people have learned to enjoy it as an ingredient in home-

made jams.

A separate plot at the Garden is reserved for some beautiful but poisonous specimens. "Some plants are so thoroughly dangerous that ingesting any part can cause sickness or death," Yoshino san explained, pointing to one green-leaved shrub that figured in a murder case not long ago.

The Herb Garden contains a hot house where tropical plants such as mangos and bananas are grown. The JIU facility also hosts a laboratory where pharmacology students come to do experiments and a display room where hundreds of dried flora and some fauna used in traditional medicines can be viewed.

Founded in 1987 by Chiba Prefecture at the request of a local association of pharmacists, Herb Garden ownership was transferred in 2005 to Otaki City which requested the university to manage it. Although regularly used by JIU students, the facility is open to the general public from between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. except Mondays. Admission is free. ★

## Paper says campus food affordable, tasty

by Shuko Ujije  
Student, Faculty of International Humanities

Food at JIU's three Togane campus student cafeterias is inexpensive, filling and delicious, according to an article in Chiba's largest local newspaper published May 12 this year. Among the menu items singled out by the Chiba Nippo for praise was "yakibutaju" (roast pork over rice).

"The meat portion is so large it more than covers the rice," the paper reported. This dish, costing ¥460, is served at the Tabu Terrace, the cafeteria specializing in large portion main menu items. According to the Chiba Nippo the Tabu is especially popular with male students with healthy appetites.

The Tabu, as well as the Tochi and Fuu terraces are operated by the Kamogawa

Universe Hotel and are all open to the general public. At the Tochi, hotel chefs prepare food items which students can order from a menu, just like at a restaurant, the paper reported. To coincide with a facelift this April, the Tochi is offering new menu items such as beef stew for ¥500 and "doria" (rice casserole with white sauce) for ¥460.

As for the Fuu Terrace, the Nippo stated it was popular with students living on tight budgets because they can bring part of their lunch from home. Additional items from the buffet can be purchased for as little as ¥260 for a two dish set. "Ingredients at the Fuu are all sourced from Chiba farms and fish markets," the paper said.

The paper called the three restaurants a "great find for those seeking good food and large portions for bargain prices."



In addition, the Nippo commented favorably on JIU's bakery, located on the second floor of the cafeteria: "Freshly baked croissants served just after morning classes are grabbed up quickly." The paper pointed out that students can take their baked goods to the English Café located across from the bakery and work on their English conversation during lunch. "Native speaker English instructors are there to help them."

Students have plenty of lunch options to choose from at JIU, the paper concluded. ★

## 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.

## JIU TIMES Staff and Contributors

Michael Critchley

Kelly Ise

Andrew Horvat

Hideo Usuki

Lara Hayashi-Promnitz

Tim Woolstencroft

Maria Shiguemi Ichiyama

Aldo Villarreal

JOSAI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

1 Gumyo, Togane-shi, Chiba  
http://www.jiu.ac.jp

The Japan Times, Ltd.

4-5-4 Shibaura, Minato-ku, Tokyo  
http://www.japantimes.co.jp



# One student's journey from America to Josai University

by Nija Chappe  
Student, Spelman College

Josai University's (JIU) summer partnership program with Spelman College is an oasis away from home for international students. Nestled on Josai's Togane Campus, the Josai-Spelman International Summer Program is an educational haven away from the hustle and bustle of Tokyo. With its massive buildings and friendly student's and faculty, Spelman students like myself felt right at home at JIU Togane. Intensive Japanese classes coupled with informative Japanese culture classes each week filled our twenty-eight days in Togane with laughter and learning. I was astounded and delighted that each of my professors were passionate and made each class entertaining and mentally stimulating. Each weekend the Josai International program provided outstanding experiential education outside of the classroom. The Spelman and Morehouse students were introduced to enjoyable activities every weekend such as calligraphy, touring various sights and shopping in the heart of Tokyo's fashion district, Harajuku. One exhilarating

experience that I enjoyed tremendously was being able to meet the chancellor of multiple Josai campuses, Dr. Noriko Mizuta. I was astounded to hear that the Josai program had taken myself and other Spelman exchange students to her father Mikio Mizuta's childhood home. I was then told that he was the founder of Josai University. To meet Chancellor Mizuta was truly an honor and an unforgettable moment during my time in Japan. I shall never forget her kind and gentle words of affection for Spelman College and her calm and relaxed demeanor.

Another favorite memory I cultivated here during my stay in Japan was my home stay experience. I created a beautiful bond with my homestay family. They introduced a plethora of Japanese values and traditions. My homestay mother taught me to have an appreciation for Japanese food and gardening techniques and her delectable feasts always kept me warm and deliciously happy. My home stay father taught me to love and admire Japanese gardens and beauty. I truly could not thank them enough for opening their hearts and homes to international students like myself.

The amount of care, helpfulness and re-

spect the Japanese have for others is admirable and it was comforting to see the way other societies live their lives. To witness and be able to participate in club activities such as Shodo — the art of Japanese calligraphy — and to have fought in a kendo gym with massive wooden swords was wonderful. Other exhilarating experiences included being able to visit Tokyo, sampling various cuisines from all sorts of restaurants and being able to truly immerse myself in the Japanese culture. This remarkable experience has reassured me that I made the best choice to come to Japan and choose the international summer program at Josai University. I will definitely be returning to Japan in the hopes of teaching English and then becoming an international entertainment lawyer. It is with deep sadness that I leave Japan, knowing that I will return some day soon and longing for its calm rustling rice fields, its relaxing onsen hot springs and its amazing educational curriculum. The Japanese way of life is both inviting and mysterious to foreigners and I'm glad I was able to experience such a wonderful society with an amazing and helpful institution such as Josai University. ★



## Serendipity | How plans can change with opportunities — Vol. 7

by Maria Shiguemi Ichiyama  
Director, Global College



Students sometimes tell me that in three years they will be working for a certain company or will be in a given country and I think they should not be so sure. I had never considered working in Japan until the minute I was offered a position at Josai International University.

While in graduate school in Riverside, California, my plan was to go back to Brazil after finishing my studies and hopefully one day open my own school there. That was the plan until the day I attended a meeting with Drs. Hartley and Dwight back in 1992. They told me about the founding of a new university in Chiba Prefecture and said they would like to send me to teach English there. I had been working for them for a few years and was honored to have been chosen. However, the immediate concern was the fact that I didn't speak any Japanese de-

spite looking Japanese.

I declined the offer, expressed my gratitude to Hartley and apologized. However, Dwight said I should take a bit more time to think about the opportunity. She said there was nothing I could do about my looks, but that there was no need for me to worry about my language proficiency. According to her, Chiba Prefecture was quite international and many people spoke English — she assured me things were changing quite rapidly in Japan. They also thought I would learn Japanese quickly.

I asked how much time I could have to think about it and was given 24 hours. The first phone call I made was to my parents in Brazil. My mother said she couldn't quite understand my hesitation, excitedly and repeatedly saying, "What a wonderful opportunity."

So in just 24 hours my life changed completely. I started filling out paperwork to get a visa to work in Japan. I used the fax machine a lot as I had so many questions

to the people who were in Nagatacho helping me with the complicated paperwork. A few months later I arrived at Narita Airport. In those days it was called the New Tokyo International Airport and I was surprised when we landed in a place without any buildings. I was so sure I was landing in Tokyo. That gives you a good idea of how little I knew about Japan.

After I landed I realized that two of the people I tried to talk to at the airport did not understand my English, which was a bad sign. Panic set in and I decided then that I would only finish my 2-year contract and leave. However, 22 years later, I'm still teaching here.

I am very grateful to both Hartley and Dwight for having given me the opportunity to see a different world and consider a different career path. I was personally very pleased when Hartley was awarded an honorary doctorate from JIU a few years ago for his contributions to our international education programs. ★

## Language and Culture Dept. provides bridge to grad school

by Nora Poulsen Keryell  
Student, Faculty of International Humanities



Starting September this year, JIU's Department of Japanese Language and Culture, also known as Bekka, will offer a new intensive program to help prepare foreign students for graduate school in Japan.

"We created this preparatory course for students who have already graduated or who may be in employment but feel they cannot follow courses at graduate level because their Japanese proficiency is too low," said Professor Noriko Shimazaki, who looks after exchange students at Bekka.

"The new program will offer courses on the basics of thesis writing, intercultural communication as well as computer skills," Professor Shimazaki said. "The aim is to provide students with a good grounding in subjects shown to be helpful when taking M.A. level classes."

Depending on individual need, students

can choose to attend the program for one or two semesters. According to Professor Shimazaki the first group of students on the new program are expected to complete their courses by March 2015. Proponents hope the new program will offer a bridge to graduate studies for students through individual guidance and coaching so as to prepare them for the more intensive environment of graduate school. ★



### KAMOGAWA CORNER 1 Remembering an iconic haiku poet

by David Williams,  
Associate Professor, Faculty of Tourism

On June 9, the Josai Educational Corporation held a ceremony to establish a memorial dedicated to poet Tomiyasu Fusei. The ceremony was held in the beautiful surroundings of the Mineoka Forest Road near the birthplace of Josai Corporation founder, Mikio Mizuta. Distinguished guests included Fumiko Endo, daughter of Fusei and Toshi Sakai, a consultant to the haiku journal Wakabasha. Also in attendance were city of Kamogawa Mayor Takao Hasegawa, representatives of the JIU Haiku Society, members of the Wakaba Haiku Society as well as Kamogawa residents. International attendees included a delegation from one of JIU's sister universities in China.

The memorial itself includes an inscription of one of Fusei's haiku and reads: "Swans came. What magnificent birds

they are."

This haiku was printed with the permission of Fusei as a forward to JIU Honorary Chancellor Seiko Mizuta's collection of haiku, titled "Swans." It was a gesture she treasured until the day she passed away.

In April 2006, Josai Educational Corporation inaugurated the Mineoka Forest Road Regeneration Project, a project which oversees the planting of Mizuta Sakura — a new type of cherry tree — along the Mineoka Forest Road. The trees are kindly donated each year by Kasumi Kaikan and now some 700 such Mizuta Sakura have been planted as part of the project. The trees represent Mikio Mizuta's aspiration for regional restoration and international exchange. In China, where Josai International University has several sister universities the trees are a symbol of friendship between the two countries.

In erecting a memorial inscribed with haiku written by such a renowned poet as Fusei, Josai Educational Corporation hopes an opportunity has been created for more visitors and tourists — including haiku poets from all over the country to visit the Mineoka Forest Road — to enjoy the trees and the surrounding natural beauty. Both Josai University Educational Corporation and Josai International University are proud to establish this memorial on the Mineoka Forest Road, which was so beloved by founder Mikio Mizuta. ★

### KAMOGAWA CORNER 2 World heritage study tour in Malaysia

by David Williams,  
Associate Professor, Faculty of Tourism

As an English-speaking country with a strong tourism industry based on cultural heritage, Malaysia is the ideal place for tourism students to learn about language, heritage and culture. With these three elements in mind, 29 first-year students and two staff from the Faculty of Tourism embarked in May on a weeklong World Heritage Study Tour at Tunku Abdul Rahman University (UTAR).

Since the study tour was supported by JASSO, JIU research funds and associations connected to the Faculty of Tourism, it was important that students used the opportunity to full effect and, prior to departure, they began learning about Malaysia through a series of individual and group studies on the country's culture, history, geography and tourism industry. These learning foundation stones enabled students to be prepared by having some knowledge of Malaysia and also, since many participants were traveling abroad for the first time, allowed them to be mentally prepared for an overseas experience in Southeast Asia.

After being seen off at Narita Airport by JIU Vice President Masumi Ishida and a seven-hour flight to Kuala Lumpur, our group was met by some hosts from UTAR. Despite a three-hour bus journey to UTAR, the students were excited to reach the university dormitory to rest before the first full day of the study tour.

On the first day, following an introductory briefing by program head Mr. Faizul, students took some English language classes before being treated to a cultural exhibition, which

featured a wide range of traditional and modern Malaysian cultural performances given by local students. Afterward, the JIU students enjoyed meeting the performers and learning more about three main Malaysian ethnicities with their roots in Malay, Chinese and Indian cultures.

The second day combined hospitality language study with a visit to the Grand Kampar Hotel. At the hotel, Mr. Jalil, the head of human resources and other senior management conducted a seminar for the students and outlined the key issues in managing a three-star hotel. The seminar included an instructive back office visit to see hotel operations firsthand. The future hotel managers among the students learned about the subtle ways that service can be altered to raise customer satisfaction.

One of the key aims of the tour was to raise students' awareness of the role of heritage in tourism. To ensure this, the group made an overnight visit to Penang — a UNESCO World Heritage City — about 200 km north of UTAR. This provided students with a real-world example of how a city manages the contrasting demands of preserving the past while encouraging and promoting tourism. In addition to a bus tour and a lunch of multicultural origins, the JIU students took a guided walking tour. This helped students to see firsthand the differences between heritage properties given "Category 1" status that allow no change in form or function and those given "Category 2" that allows for some changes. That night, the students stayed at the newly opened five-star Royal Bintang Hotel, a modern hotel that also boasts a rich heritage.

The following day the Royal Bintang Hotel provided a second opportunity for JIU students to learn about hotel operations in Malaysia. Here, they heard a fascinating anecdotal lecture from the hotel's head of public relations as well as its executive manager. Two key lessons students took away from the session were the importance of preserving the character of a building in a heritage zone and the necessity of English in the international hotel industry.

Students came away with a new motivation to refocus their efforts toward both tourism and language studies. On our way back to UTAR we visited the royal town of Kula Kangsar and also had the chance to try out our pottery skills by making clay jars that are iconic to the State of Perak.

On the final full day at UTAR, JIU students held a cultural exchange session where they taught aspects of Japanese culture, including calligraphy, cooking and traditional games to our hosts. The sushi made by JIU students was particularly popular and many Malaysian students displayed keen calligraphy skills. Afterward Dr. Chong, Dean of UTAR's Faculty of Finance and Business led a formal ceremony at which each student received a certificate for their achievement during the study tour.

On the seventh day, we made our way back to Kuala Lumpur for the return night flight to Japan. However, there was plenty of time to take in the excellent Central Market, a center for Malaysian arts and crafts, where students did some last-minute shopping using their newly formed English skills. The final place of interest was a visit to the new capital city of Putrajaya, where we enjoyed seeing the lakeside Putrajaya Mosque.

The World Heritage Study Tour in Malaysia gave JIU Faculty of Tourism students a broad and practical experience that showed just how much English language and heritage are indispensable to understand Malaysian tourism. Upon their return to Japan, it is certain that all those who attended will have new motivation and desire to adopt a more international perspective to their studies and pursue their English and tourism studies with greater purpose, determination and desire.

"I am Yuhei Yamashita, a first year student in Faculty of Tourism. All first year students participated in the World Heritage Study Tour in Malaysia and we all had a wonderful experience."

During our study tour in Malaysia we visited the UNESCO World Heritage City of Georgetown (Penang). Georgetown is unique be-





# Oxfam Trailwalker: What was the effort for?

by Trevor Ballance  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of International Humanities, NGO/NPO Support Center

At precisely 9 a.m. on May 17, four students from the JIU Students' International Development Society (JIU SID Society), attached to the NGO/NPO Support Center at JIU, took the first of many steps that marked the start of their participation in the 2014 Oxfam Trailwalker Japan. It was the culmination of months of preparation and training for the event. Not only did the walkers show great determination to successfully complete the grueling challenge, but a behind-the-scenes team of supporters also helped them in the weeks prior to the event and ensured that everything went smoothly on the day itself.

But what was all the hard work for?

Oxfam Japan, the organization that ran the event, is one of 17 other Oxfam organizations around the world. Oxfam is a non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to helping people in developing countries improve their lives. These NGOs can be found in several countries. In Europe, Oxfam can be found in Germany, Spain and France, while elsewhere, Oxfam has offices in America, Australia, India, Mexico and Hong Kong. They may be spread out all over the world, but these organizations all work to alleviate poverty and promote programs that help communities develop.

The original Oxfam was started in England in 1942 when the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief was set up in the city of Oxford to provide food for the people of Greece who, at that time, were experiencing a terrible famine. Similar committees were set up in other towns and cities in England, but when the war ended many of them stopped their activities believing that their work was done. However, the Oxford committee suspected that similar future crises to that in Greece were likely to occur in other parts of the world, especially as countries tried to recover from the devastating years of war. The committee wanted to be ready to respond wherever a new crisis occurred, so it chose to continue its work. By combining their city's name with their intention to provide food for starving people, the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief became Oxfam.

As we know, the Oxford committee was correct in its assessment. Sadly, many tragic situations have happened despite the world becoming a richer place for many. Famine is an extreme form of poverty, but it is only one of many types that include slum living, restricted access to health care, ethnic and religious conflict, gender discrimination and a lack of education and jobs.

According to Oxfam, one in three people in the world live in poverty today. This represents an enormous challenge, but Oxfam, along with NGOs throughout the world, use their resources to promote practical and sustainable ways for people to achieve a standard of living that meets their basic needs. The organizations that make up the confederation of Oxfam are relatively independent in that they can create for themselves the kinds of programs and activities most suitable for the people they are endeavoring to support.

For example, Oxfam Japan supports victims of the March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Together with a local organization, they have provided computer training for women who wish to set up small businesses. This has been part of a long-term focus by Oxfam on the needs of women in Tohoku that started with providing maternal health care within the emergency services and helping to secure income-generating activities for women, especially single mothers.

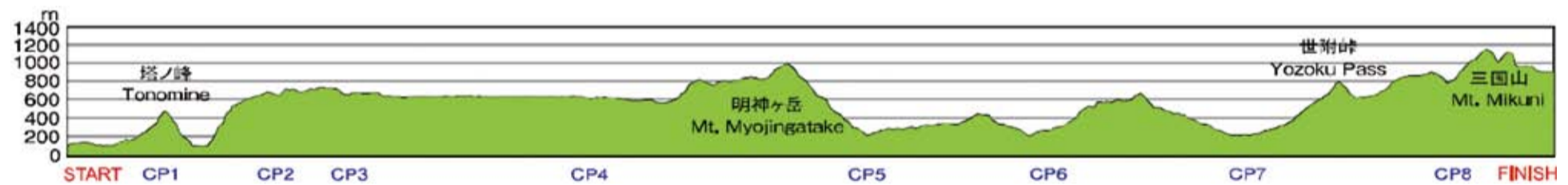
Of course, Oxfam Japan supports poverty alleviation programs overseas. For example, in the province of Uttarakhand in the foothills of the Himalayas, people in the mountain villages have started to enjoy greater economic power, but this progress has resulted in serious damage to the environment and has become a threat to their future sources of food.

The people in Uttarakhand know that having more money will not help them if there is no food to buy.

To address this, programs have been put in place to encourage more sustainable farming activities while responding effectively to the new conditions brought about by climate change. Such programs will help people here to feel more confident about their future despite increasingly uncertain times. The main purpose for our students taking part was to



The 2014 JIU Students' International Development Society Oxfam Trailwalker team



raise money so these kinds of programs can continue to provide opportunities for people in developing countries to improve their lives.

We take it for granted that we can exercise the right to manage our own lives. By taking part in the Oxfam Japan Trailwalker, we are helping the people of Uttarakhand and those in many other places in the world to do the same.

Preparations for participating in the 2015 Oxfam Trailwalker are already underway. To support these valuable programs, the students in the Students' International Development Society and NGO/NPO Support Center are willing to walk as many kilometers as it takes. \*



## A physical and mental fundraising challenge

by Aldo Villarreal  
Assistant Professor, the Center for Language Education, NGO/NPO Support Center

Taking place in twelve countries such as the U.K., Canada, Australia, Belgium, China's Hong Kong province, New Zealand and Japan, Oxfam Trailwalker is currently the world's greatest fundraising team challenge event whose aim is to raise funds to conquer poverty and inequalities in countries that need help to do so. This event involves teams of four completing a physically and mentally demanding 100-kilometer walk covering terrain that includes bush, trail and mountains between rising between 800 and 1,320 meters in height. Whether in rain, snow or fair weather, teams must complete the challenge within 48 hours. Trailwalker Japan, which first took place in 2007, is arguably the hardest of all because it is the only Trailwalker in the world with so many high mountains. Trailwalker Japan's difficulty was such that in 2014 a Trailwalker Light was created in Japan. In the Trailwalker Light, the four-member teams cover 43 kilometers in a maximum time of 24 hours and still face climbing some high mountains on their way to the finish.

### JIU & Trailwalker 2013

In 2013 the JIU Students' International Development Society (JIU SID Society) attached to the NGO/NPO Support Center at the Togane campus became the first university in Japan to have student teams competing in the full, 100-kilometer event. In fact, JIU had two teams; an all-male team named JIU's Rabbit & Ambitious and a coed team called JIU's Turtle & Fitch. They were greatly supported by a large number of supporters and friends who all belong to the JIU SID Society.

Starting with meetings in 2012 led by professors Kawano and Ballance of the NGO/NPO Support Center, who have been involved with Trailwalker Japan as volunteers

since 2007, students first started discussing their interest in forming a team to participate in this event. After deciding they would form teams, the next and arguably most challenging step of how to raise the minimum fundraising target set by Oxfam Japan.

With professors Kawano and Ballance's leadership and help, supporters and walkers began planning how to make use of JIU's NGO/NPO Support Center involvement in the 2012 Global Festa event, arranged by Development Japan, as well as the Cultural Festival at the Togane campus in November 2012 to raise funds.

In addition to this, all team members successfully raised funds by visiting businesses and the Togane Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The team members worked very hard on this part of the Trailwalker challenge by visiting businesses on days they had no classes, thereby also learning and developing many skills that will be useful in their future.

Collected funds were given to Oxfam in early April, just before the event. The use of funds is explained in the "Oxfam Trailwalker: What was all the effort for?"

**Trailwalker Japan, which first took place in 2007, is arguably the hardest of all because it is the only Trailwalker in the world with so many high mountains.**

With the fundraising over, attention then turned to the physical challenge and the training needed.

In preparation for the event, 2013 team members and supporters had many one-day training sessions that required them to travel from Gumyo to Odawara, leaving Gumyo by 5 a.m. to arrive by 9 a.m. to begin training. Fortunately, the weather on the training days was good.

All Trailwalker walkers, supporters and professors Kawano, Ballance, Villarreal and

Peregrino met at Odawara station on the evening of Thursday May 9 and then went to the hotel Professor Kawano had booked. After unpacking, we all went for dinner where walkers divided into their teams and along with their supporters had their last discussions and preparations for the next day's event. Once the teams finished their discussions we went back to the hotel to get a good night's sleep so everybody could be ready the next day.

Unlike the weather on training days, the weather on the days the 2013 Trailwalker took place was completely different and both JIU teams walked in extremely difficult conditions. Walkers only had ½ a day of good weather on the first day, Friday May 10. The teams set off at 9:30 a.m., walking with enthusiasm and determination. Everything was proceeding according to schedule until the weather changed at 6 p.m. that evening. From then, it rained nonstop until about 6 a.m. on Sunday May 12, a total of nearly 36 hours of rain. This meant JIU's teams walked in the cold and in constant rain for 1½ days. While the weather conditions affected everybody and every mem-

ber of the teams suffered minor aches and pains, both JIU's teams successfully completed the event.

Congratulations to the JIU SID Society teams on being the first Japanese university teams to participate in and complete this challenging event.

While finishing this event was a huge accomplishment, special congratulations must go to one of the JIU SID Society teams who received an award for the youngest team to compete in and successfully finish the 2013

Oxfam Trailwalker challenge. Fantastic effort!

### JIU & Trailwalker 2014

After hearing about this event from previous participants and knowing there was much hard work ahead of them, students belonging to the JIU SID Society decided to join the 2014 Trailwalker Japan.

Starting with meetings with professors Kawano, Ballance and Villarreal and those involved in the 2013 event, students began discussing and planning their involvement around the middle of 2013. Following advice and suggestions offered by previous JIU SID Society participants and professors Kawano and Ballance, students began the most important and challenging part, fundraising. They started official fundraising in the 2013 Global Festa, asking for donations from all visitors and passers-by to JIU's NGO/NPO Support Center booth. While nervous at first because it was their first time raising funds in this manner, the members quickly became more and more confident and raised a significant amount of money over this weekend. Their hard work meant they were well on their way to raising the minimum fundraising requirements.

Like the previous year, the 2014 Trailwalker participants, both walkers and supporters, visited businesses in the Gumyo and Togane areas, as well as the Togane Chamber of Commerce and Industry to talk about Oxfam, the Trailwalker Japan event and their involvement. Their hard work in these talks and presentations convinced these businesses to become official sponsors, allowing students to raise in excess of the minimum fundraising target. These funds, like in 2013, were given to Oxfam Japan in early April, just before the event. In addition and to show appreciation to these kind sponsors, students designed and ordered special t-shirts that all members wore during the event.

While fundraising, physical training and preparation began with the first practice led by Ballance on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, nearly six months before the actual event.

### 2013 Sponsors for 2 JIU teams in the 100km Trailwalker

Asai Hospital  
Flora Takayama  
Furukawa Transport Co. Ltd.  
Iijima Real Estate Co. Ltd.  
JIU Apartment Service  
Kamijuku Festival Society  
Kishimoto Pharmacy  
Kujukuri Driving School  
Minamoto Medical  
Ohsato Sogo Kanri Co. Ltd.  
Sanyu Plant Service Co. Ltd.  
Shinkoh Co. Ltd.  
Takedaya  
Togane Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Tokyo-an Co. Ltd.  
Tsukumori Kogei  
Washin Sangyo Co. Ltd.  
Wave-1  
(alphabetical order)

### 2014 Sponsors for 1 JIU team in the 43km Trailwalker Light

Asai Hospital  
Flora Takayama  
Iijima Real Estate Co. Ltd.  
Kishimoto Pharmacy  
Ogawa Taxi  
Sanyu Plant Service Co. Ltd.  
Togane Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Togane Shopping Arcade  
Tokyo-an Co. Ltd.  
Tsukumori Kogei  
(alphabetical order)

While this was a challenging day, students were convinced they had the teamwork and mental and physical ability to successfully complete Trailwalker Japan.

While preparations and training were underway, in early 2014 Oxfam Japan, the organizers of Trailwalker Japan announced they would introduce a new version starting 2014. This was a shorter, but equally challenging Trailwalker Light, a 43-kilometer course, starting near Checkpoint 5, or Daiyuzan Saijo-ji Temple, to be completed in a maximum time of 24 hours.

After discussing and comparing both the 100-kilometer and the new 43-kilometer course, it was decided the JIU SID Society would enter the Trailwalker Light this year, with a goal of using this as preparation to possibly enter the 100-kilometer event in another year. However, the team also decided to challenge themselves by setting a self-imposed time limit of 16 hours in which to complete this event.

Originally scheduled for early February 2014, the second training session was postponed because of heavy snowfall. It eventually took place on Friday March 8, in conditions that were very snowy. While very challenging, the training session led by Professor Villarreal was successfully completed.

Students took part in two more training sessions, one arranged by Oxfam and another led by professors Villarreal and Martinsen. The students practiced on the whole course they

would eventually compete on. Students also set their own training schedules that involved jogging, hiking and walking, in order to further develop the stamina needed.

Like the previous year the JIU SID Society team stayed near the start the night before the event. After an enjoyable team dinner, a final meeting took place to discuss final details.

A beautiful warm day signaled great things for the 2014 Trailwalker event and all members were enthusiastic and looking forward to the event. The team's positive energy and determination was clearly evident as they started running, not just walking.

Their enthusiasm was still evident after being the first team to reach the first checkpoint. After a short break to recharge their energy levels, the team set off to complete the next 16-kilometer leg.

Once they set off, the support team made their way to the next checkpoint to prepare a delicious and energy-boosting lunch for the walkers and to prepare in case walkers needed massages after their long hike.

After the walkers left Checkpoint 7, at Fuji Center near Surugayama Station on the Gotemba train line, the support team packed up and headed for the next checkpoint, where again they waited to provide not only any food and drink the walkers needed, but most importantly, moral support, encouragement and camaraderie.

Continued on page 5



# Student impressions, thoughts on 2014 Trailwalker Japan

by Nora Poulsen Keryell  
Student, Faculty of International Humanities

Back at school, my friends wanted to know about the 2014 Oxfam Trailwalker Japan. "How was it?" they asked. Tiring was the first word that came to my mind. As a member of the JIU Students' International Development Society, otherwise known as the volunteer circle at Josai International University, I had been a supporter for the school's walking team at this annual event; a challenging fundraising effort in which teams of four complete either a 100-kilometer or 43-kilometer hike through mountain terrain in a limited time. My school's teams walked and ran 43 kilometers in an amazing time of just over 13 hours, resulting in being the third out of 31 teams to cross the finish line.

When I met up with the walkers and the supporters a few days later at school we talked about the event and recalled a lot of memorable moments. I asked Tsukasa Yamada, 19, the leader of the walking team, why he had decided to join the event in the first place. He replied: "First of all, I really wanted to walk the trail and challenge myself. Secondly as a member of the volunteer circle I wanted to do some kind of volunteer work, so the Oxfam Trailwalker was the perfect opportunity to do so." I asked Tomomasa Furihata, 19, a walker who had decided last spring to participate, if there were any embarrassing moments. He looked at me strangely as this was not a question he was expecting. After giving it some thought, he said, "Well, I guess it was kind of embarrassing having to shout out to a crowd of strangers asking for their support when we were raising money, but once I got used to it, I enjoyed it a lot."

Takashi Akiba, 19, another of the walkers added, "I also wanted to get more involved in volunteer activities and this kind of event was exactly what I was looking for." Haruka Shibaki, 19, the fourth member of the walking team, agreed. "I can definitely recommend this event to other people. The sense of accomplishment you get is amazing."

Rentaro Watanabe, 19, was originally a

supporter, but ended up joining the walkers for the whole race, also described the Oxfam Trailwalker as a bonding experience. "We got along really well and it is thanks to this bond between the supporters and the walkers that we made it."

Chihiro Chiba, 21, one of the four support team members, commented, "The most exciting part was waiting for the walkers at the different check points and seeing them come in smiling while everyone was cheering them on!"

Mayuka Ishihara, 21, felt that "the most enjoyable part was probably the time we spent waiting for the walkers."

We had many good laughs with the professors, ate good food and enjoyed the beautiful weather while others were running as fast as they could. We also saw the persuasive negotiating skills of Chihiro. After the team finished the hike, volunteers from Oxfam were kind enough to give every walker a t-shirt, but because Watanabe wasn't officially a walker, he wasn't going to receive one. However, Chihiro turned on the charm and managed to get an extra one for him!

I asked Tsukasa what was the most difficult part of the event and he replied, "Walking 43 kilometers within the time limit and on steep trails was very difficult, but the most difficult part was probably all the preparations before the actual event, including finding sponsors and making sure that everything was ready." One of the professors commented that the most memorable moment was at the very end. "Seeing everybody's reaction to the walkers completing the challenge showed how much their success meant, not just to the walkers, but to every member of the support team and everyone involved."

As an international student, working side by side with Japanese students and professors from around the world was a great feeling. After all, aren't we all concerned with international development? So yes, tiring was indeed the first word that came to my mind, but was soon followed by the words fun, exciting, moving and, last but not least, rewarding! ✪



## Group produces materials to help future walkers, supporters

Continued from page 4

Finally, 13 hours, 32 minutes and 42 seconds after setting off on this wonderful challenge, the JIU SID Society team reached the finish. Once the team crossed the finish line, both walkers and supporters were overcome with the joy and relief that comes after completing such a physically and mentally challenging event. The JIU SID Society team should be extremely proud of their accomplishment as they completed the 43km Trailwalker Light in 3rd place. The 3rd place finish and a finishing time that was much faster than their target time shows the great teamwork, encouragement and support shown

by each walker and support team member involved in the 2014 Oxfam Trailwalker challenge.

However, this was not the end of their duties. In the weeks after the event, all members were involved in writing letters of thanks to all sponsors and visiting them to tell them about the event and personally thank them for their support and encouragement. In addition, to better help future JIU SID Society teams who take part in Trailwalker Japan, all members began developing manuals and guides for both walkers and supporters with information about fundraising, gathering sponsors, logistical preparations and training.

It can be said these supporter and walker manuals will be very valuable for future teams.

Finally, we must not forget a different sixteen, mainly the first year students and exchange students of the JIU SID Society who worked as volunteers for Oxfam at the finish line throughout the 48 hours the Trailwalker Japan took place.

They tirelessly performed duties such as providing food and drink, guiding the walkers on the street, giving information on public transport and other duties requested by Oxfam. At the same time these individuals were working, they also had to complete an

educational assignment given by professors Kawano and Ballance. They had to interview walkers from overseas in English. They interviewed 33 walkers and they are going to present a summary and talk about their findings at their Kiso seminar. Walkers and supporters will also give presentations on the same day. While their many duties were varied, their efforts deserve congratulations and many thanks.

It is through the volunteering efforts of individuals such as those members of the JIU Students' International Development Society that events such as Oxfam's Trailwalker can not only take place, but also be a great success. ✪



A commemorative photo of the judges, participants and administrators following the competition

## 20th annual Czech speech contest held

by JIU Times

On May 17, the 20th annual Czech Speech Contest, sponsored by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Japan, was held at Josai University.

Due to the embassy's ongoing renovations, Josai, which has enjoyed a great deal of success in student exchanges and human resource development with Central European universities, agreed to host the contest for the second consecutive year.

Chancellor Noriko Mizuta provided opening remarks, saying, "It's a great honor to host the Czech Speech Contest for the second year!"

Czech Ambassador Katerina Fialkova then

followed with her own remarks, saying: "It is with great pleasure to present the 20th Czech Speech Contest. In recent years, the number of Japanese studying the Czech language has increased dramatically. Due to the unforeseen number of applicants for this year's competition, we were forced to split the contest into two parts. I would like to offer Chancellor Mizuta and all the other organizers my sincere thanks for offering to host this competition."

Thirteen professionals and students who study the Czech language took the stage for this year's competition. Participants gave five-minute presentation on one of two topics — "Czech Music in 2014—Czech Music and Me" or "My Favorite Town"— followed

by questions from the judges.

Fialkova; Taku Shinohara, a Tokyo University of Foreign Studies professor; Marketa Gebhartova, a Tokyo University of Foreign Studies visiting professor; Ikuo Shoji of the Central European division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Hikari Utsuda, last year's winner served as this year's judges.

Harune Hosoda grabbed the top prize for what Fialkova called her "rich power of expression." Additionally, Miwako Inoue was given the Chancellor Noriko Mizuta Award. Inoue works as a nurse and studies the Czech language in her spare time. Her exceptional language ability combined with her strong effort led to her being selected for the award. ✪

## Polish deputy minister of foreign affairs at Josai

by JIU Times

On April 14, Poland's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Artur Nowak-Far visited Josai's Kioicho Campus to deliver a lecture. Chancellor Noriko Mizuta preceded Nowak-Far with a welcome address, saying: "It's a great honor to have Minister Nowak-Far lecture at our university. This will serve as a splendid opportunity for students to learn more about EU law, a subject in which few Japanese are well-versed."

In his lecture, titled "Japanese Journey into EU Law" Nowak-Far provided an overview of EU law and an explanation of the legal system. He explained that EU Law is an international legal system that has been translated into 24 different languages and applied in 28 different countries. Nowak-Far also pointed out the system's discrepancies with Japanese law and the difficulty of finding commonalities between the two systems. In the Q&A session that followed, a lively debate ensued regarding the impact of EU law on local com-

munities and other issues.

Participants in the event, including Chancellor Mizuta, students and faculty from both Josai University and Josai International University and exchange students from Europe and other places abroad, all listened intently to Nowak-Far.

As part of Josai's midterm target of strengthening international exchange to cultivate global human resources, the university has formed academic exchange agreements with a number of institutions worldwide. This is just as true of Josai's collaborations with Poland, which includes the special exhibit "Madame Curie Why Poland's Original Scientist is Just as Vital Today" held at the Mizuta Museum of Art in March 2012 and the foundation of the Josai Institute for Central European Studies in November 2013 at the Kioicho Campus.

The Josai Institute for Central European Studies was established to document the progress made in central European education, as well as to promote joint research,



Artur Nowak-Far speaks at Josai University

academic exchange, human resource development and undergraduate and graduate education in this same region. With this program in place, Josai hopes to expand academic exchanges with Polish universities even further. ✪

## Five Chinese graduate students receive Josai JMBA scholarships

by JIU Times

Josai University awarded JMBA scholarships to five graduate students (MBA) of Dailan University of Technology's School of Management. Josai created the scholarship to allow students from the university, with which both Josai University and Josai International University have a cooperation agreement, to study for one year in Josai University's Faculty of Business Administration.

This year's award ceremony took place on June 13 at the Kioicho Campus. The scholarship recipients are Gu Zejia, Wu Guanying, Zhang Quigyun, Chen Qi and Lui Xiao. At the award ceremony Chancellor Noriko Mizuta conferred the scholarship and said: "Please learn as much as you can at Josai University. These days the relationship between Japan



Recipients, faculty and administrators attend the scholarship award ceremony.

and China is not very good and now it's imperative to have active cultural, academic and personal exchanges. Please learn a variety of things about Japan." Mr. Zhang who

represented the recipients replied, "While studying at Josai, we hope to acquire skills that will be useful in the future wherever we go." ✪





### 1st Josai Kioicho chorus recital marks 50 years

by JIU Times

To celebrate the upcoming 50th anniversary of the founding of Josai University Educational Corporation, the first Tokyo Josai Kioicho Mixed Chorus Recital was held on May 10 at Suntory Hall in Akasaka. The chorus was formed in 2010 by members of our student body, exchange students, faculty, parents and people living in the Kioicho neighborhood. There are currently 50 people in the chorus.

About 400 people came to see the concert, including the honorary head of the chorus Chancellor Noriko Mizuta, as well as

students, international students and various people affiliated with our universities. The chorus, conducted by Akira Kuroda, sang Japanese songs such as "Kokyō" and "Haru no Kogawa" and some overseas favorites, including "Halleluiah" and "My Old Kentucky Home." International students from Hungary, Poland and China sang songs from their homeland and gave demonstrations of various folk dances. The audience enjoyed these performances very much.

Since its formation, the chorus has practiced every week at the Kioicho campus and has entertained guests with their harmonious performances on many occasions. ★

## University press shares research with society

by JIU Times

The Josai University Educational Corporation University Press was opened within the Josai University Educational Corporation in March 2013. The press' main goal is to share with society the academic findings resulting from research undertaken by universities affiliated with Josai University Educational Corporation; Josai University, Josai International University and Josai Base College. Secondly, the press seeks — through the publication of research findings — to further enhance the research and teaching activities of our universities. These activities will promote culture and learning which will in turn promote the development of society.

Following these guidelines, the press published within the first year after its creation (through March 2014) "Noriko Mizuta: Collected Interviews, Discussions, and Symposia 1, Patriarchy and Gender," in February 2014; and "Way Kuo, trans. Jiu Sun, Issues and Prospects of Nuclear Power Generation from the Perspective of a Scientist: Various Problems of Energy/Environmental Protection/Safety/Reliability from the Viewpoint of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster," in March 2014.

As Josai University Educational Corporation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary



in 2015, the press will publish a Chinese translation of Josai's founding figure Mikio Mizuta's book "Butterbur Shoots: Autobiography of Mikio Mizuta." The press will also release this year "Noriko Mizuta: Collected Interviews, Discussions, and Symposia 2," in addition to other research findings.

Josai International University Press (part of JIU's Faculty of Media Studies), which was established before Josai University Educational Corporation University Press, is making all efforts to contribute to society and to our universities teaching and research activities. The press is currently working on

the publication of the "Collected Works of Sakyo Komatsu, Complete Edition," as well as "Urashimaso," written by Minako Oba and translated by Yu Oba. Additionally, an "Anthology of Contemporary Japanese Women's Writing (Literary Criticism)," by Noriko Mizuta and translated by Weiqu Ye.

Josai University Educational Corporation University Press from now make public the wealth of academic information and materials amassed by the universities and research centers affiliated with the Josai University Educational Corporation through further publications. ★



### Harvard a capella fellows perform concert at Kioicho Campus

by JIU Times

The Harvard Krokodiloes, Harvard University's best-known, oldest and finest a cappella singing group, held a concert at Josai University's Kioicho Campus on June 14.

The group is composed of 12 Harvard students who underwent rigorous auditions before making the ensemble. The group sings selections from the golden age of American jazz, as well as swing, ballads and rock.

With more than 200 performances a year, the group has spent more than 30 summers touring all over the world. Following last year's performance, this was the second time for the group to perform at Josai University.

About 170 people, including teachers and people from the neighborhood, came to hear the concert.

The Harvard Krokodiloes sang "Danny Boy," "In The Mood" and other well-known songs, thrilling the audience with their beautiful harmony and humor. ★

## 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