



International Month 2019

A diverse range of cross-cultural events are conducted annually during “International Month” at Gifu University for the promotion of international understanding. This edition highlights some of the exchange activities held in October 2019.

Special Commemorative Ceremony Honoring the President of the Republic of Lithuania

October 24



Gifu University had the honor of conferring an Honorary Doctorate to the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Dr. Gitanas Nausėda during his visit to Gifu University. The president was visiting Japan for the enthronement ceremony to celebrate His Majesty the Emperor's accession to the throne. During his stay, he visited Gifu Prefecture because of the strong historical/cultural ties between Lithuania and Gifu Prefecture. In his memorial lecture, "Lithuania and Japan: The way forward," the President spoke about the history of exchange, culture, economy and the future between Lithuania and Japan. He concluded his speech by expressing his strong wishes for an enduring, solid partnership between the two countries.



October International Month Events / Activities

2 – 30 Exhibition of Gifu University's Global Public Relations Activities

7, 8 Gifu Joint Degree Symposium 2019

9 Bi-monthly English Circle of Friends

24 Memorial Lecture and Honorary Degree Awarding Ceremony

29 International Exchange Party hosted by the President

30 Aigi Career Development Consortium for International Students Gifu Region Workshop 2019
Bi-monthly English Circle of Friends



GU-GLOCAL hosted "Gifu Joint Degree Symposium 2019" at Nagaragawa Convention Center (Gifu City) in commemoration of the launching of four Joint Degree (JD) Master's and Doctoral programs with our counterpart overseas research institutions, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG) and the National University of Malaysia (UKM).

At the opening of the symposium, Gifu University President Moriwaki and invited dignitaries which included Dr. Sitharam (Director of IITG), Dr. Shukor (Vice-Chancellor of UKM), Mr. Muivah (Secretary of North East Council of Indian Government), and Dr. Biswas (former director of

IITG) greeted the audience of approx. 220 people. Their greetings were followed by a keynote speech by Mr. Kuniaki Sato from MEXT. Convening academic sessions focused on discussions on sustainable developments. Panel discussions were also presided on the theme of three-way collaboration among Japanese, Indian and Malaysian industry-government-academia. Video messages from the Federation of Industry & Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER), and from the first batch of JD students at IITG and UKM were aired publicly. The symposium resulted in establishing a significant milestone toward a successful implementation of the JD programs in the years to come.



Keynote speech by Mr. Sato (MEXT)



President Moriwaki's opening address (from right) Vice-Chancellor of UKM and Director of IITG



President Moriwaki and Mr. Muivah



A major pillar of the newly-launched JD programs between Gifu University and IITG involves the concept of "Giving Back to Local Communities." In correlation to this concept, GU-GLOCAL organized company inspection tours for the delegation from the Federation of Industry & Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER, India). The members of FINER first paid a courtesy call on Mayor of Hashima City and the representatives of the city's Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Textile Material Center (located in Hashima City, Gifu). They went on to inspect 13 different regional enterprises in Gifu, Aichi, Mie prefectures and Tokyo during their stay in Japan.



Juni-Hitoe Traditional Kimono Workshop

December 11

The Center for Japanese Language and Culture hosted the 6th Workshop on "How to Wear Juni-Hitoe (twelve layered traditional kimono)" for international and Japanese students, teaching and administrative staff of the university in line with the goal of experiential learning. Participants also listened to "gagaku" (traditional court music) being played, while closely watching a student model being dressed up in gorgeous, colorful kimonos.



An Unexpected Journey

Kor Eu Wei

Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology



Malaysia

I had never thought that I would have the opportunity to study in Japan, and this is my first time ever to live aboard for such a long time. My first impression towards Japan is the politeness of its people. After setting foot in this country, I found it true, as I have really got along with Japanese people well, especially my friends in the laboratory which I belong to. I am grateful to have them to share joy and laughter together amid hectic student life. The cheerful experience that I have gained has made me fell in love in this Land of Rising Sun, and I would stay positive all the time in the face of any life challenges.



Winter School

December 2 - 27



GU-GLOCAL hosted the 5th Winter School, 2019 with five students from IITG and UKM engaged in research lab work and cultural events and activities (such as twelve-layered traditional kimono workshop, making Japanese sweets). They also joined a company inspection tour during their stay in Gifu.



Studying Abroad

Study Abroad Fair Fall 2019

November 13

GU-GLOCAL hosted "Study Abroad Fair Fall 2019: Let's Expand Study Abroad Network." GU-GLOCAL staff presented an overview of study abroad programs and scholarships in the first half. This was followed by special booth exhibits set up by participants from previous year's study abroad programs, which provided for direct face-to-face interaction with students who are considering studying overseas. The booth sessions offered the exhibitors the opportunity to share their experiences and field questions from the participants interested in more information about the programs.



My life-changing Experience in the State of Utah

Utah State University



USA

Mako Nakamura

Faculty of Regional Studies



Before my departure to study at Utah State University from August, 2018 to April 2019, I was told that class work and home assignments there would be "daunting." As it turned out, I was literally overwhelmed by the volumes of study workload. However, thanks to the kind support from my classmates who sometimes studied with me far into the nights, and many dedicated teachers around me, I spent a wonderful, unforgettable eight-month campus life. Needless to say, I also enjoyed fulfilling break with friends away from my studies on weekends. We cooked, talked and hung out together. My life in the U.S. can be epitomized by: "full of excitement, self-reflection, and chattering"





Deeper Collaboration between Gifu University and Northern Kentucky University

November 1



President of Northern Kentucky University (NKU), Dr. Ashish K. Vaidya and Executive Director of the Center for Global Engagement, Dr. François Le Roy paid a courtesy call on President Hisataka Moriwaki. Student and faculty exchanges between NKU and GU have continued to remain very active since the conclusion of exchange agreement in 1990. In the meeting, both presidents agreed to further deepen the partnership between both institutions in many years to come.



Disaster Prevention Drills

December 14

A Disaster Prevention Event for Foreign Residents, which was co-sponsored by Gifu University and Gifu City, was held on campus. During the session: "What should I do when an earthquake strikes", the experts provided tips on how to protect oneself from a major earthquake. In addition, participants got a taste of life in makeshift shelters set up in the gymnasium. During the session: "How to Support Foreign Citizens", the presenters discussed support for foreign nationals in time of emergencies. Other activities included sampling emergency foods, operating AED equipment, and confirmation of local residential evacuation sites.



Aigi Career Development Consortium for International Students Career Development Program for International Students of MEXT Gifu University International Student Employment Promotion Program

Networking with Local Companies Event

November 27

GU-GLOCAL hosted "The 8th Networking with Local Companies" event with the purpose of offering international students insights into Gifu's local businesses and industries. The event was attended by approximately 60 students. Fifteen companies with overseas branches set up booths where participants could drop by for information exchange and/or questions. An internship consultation desk was specially set up to facilitate "bridging" students and business personnel.



Gifu Region Workshop

October 30

Four consortia members from the Aigi Career Development Consortium for International Students, namely: Gifu Prefecture, Gifu Employers' Association, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Gifu and Gifu University co-hosted the "Gifu Region Workshop 2019" for the purpose of supporting international students' job-seeking efforts in Japan. A total of 83 people, including students, company representatives, and educational institute officials attended the event. Speeches, informal meetings and a buffet-style meal were offered to promote information exchanges and networking.



Gifu Regional Council for the Promotion of International Exchange

What is Gifu Regional Council for the Promotion of International Exchange or Giryukyō?

The Gifu Regional Council for the Promotion of International Exchange was established to facilitate smooth acceptance of international students and exchange activities in Gifu Prefecture. The council is comprised of representatives from universities, local governments, business organizations, international exchange associations and civic bodies.

Japanese Speech Competition by International Students Residing in Gifu Prefecture

November 23

Since 2001, the Gifu Regional Council for the Promotion of International Exchange has annually hosted the "Japanese Speech Competition by International Students Residing in Gifu Prefecture" in order to raise students' interests in Japanese language and enhance their language skills.

In the 18th competition, 13 students from five institutions (representing six countries) participated. The speeches delivered truly reflected each individual's sincerity and diligence in their Japanese studies.

留学生日



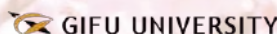
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