



## JDP Students from IITG Commence their Master's Program at GU

June 14

**F**ive students from the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG, India) commenced their studies at Gifu University, as part of the program "International Joint Department of Food Science and Technology between IITG and Gifu University (master's)." It is one of the four international joint degree programs (JDP) launched in April 2019 by Gifu University, IITG, and National University of Malaysia (UKM). The five students have been working for their research themes at IITG since July 2021, and they were the first batch of students to arrive in Japan after the Government of Japan eased border control regulations. The students will attend lectures, engage in lab work at GU and participate in an internship. They are expected to receive their JDP diploma in 2023.



## Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania Paid a Courtesy Visit to Gifu University

August 3

**O**n August 3, Dr. Aurelijus Zykas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Ms. Kristina Mineikienė, Agricultural Attaché from the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania, paid a courtesy visit to Gifu University. They met with Professor KAMBARA Shinji, Vice President (International Affairs, Information and (Deputy in Charge for) Evaluation) and Professor MOURI Tetsuya from the Faculty of Engineering, and shared their thoughts about exchange between Lithuania and Gifu University. Starting from the visit of President Gitanas Nausėda of the Republic of Lithuania to Gifu University in 2019, they discussed the history of university-level partnership agreements between Gifu University and universities in Lithuania, status of exchange among students and faculties, and possibilities of future collaboration in the field of agriculture. Gifu University entered into a university-level agreement with Kaunas University of Technology in April 2010 and Vytautas Magnus University in January 2012. Since the signing of these agreements, active exchanges have been continuing among students and faculties. We sincerely look forward to our continued friendship with these universities and forging stronger ties between Gifu and the Republic of Lithuania.



# Preparation for Studying Abroad

## Briefing Sessions on Summer ESL/EST Program 2022

April 25, 28 and May 9

Three “Briefing Sessions on Summer ESL/EST\* Program 2022” were held on April 25, 28 and May 9. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, all study-abroad programs were cancelled in order to ensure the safety of GU students, and only online summer school programs opened for students in 2021. The programs resumed in 2022, and students can attend the programs either in Canada or Australia this summer. In these briefing sessions, senior students who participated in the programs in the past shared their experience of studying abroad. Over 150 students participated in the briefing sessions, showing a high level of interests in studying abroad in summer 2022 and beyond.

\*ESL: English as a Second Language/EST: English for Science and Technology



## Orientation for Crisis Management when Traveling Abroad

June 29

“Orientation for Crisis Management when Traveling Abroad” was held for the first time in three years after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Four guest instructors gave speeches on necessary preparations before traveling, the importance of health management, how to avoid getting involved in crimes or accidents, and what actions to take to deal with troubles while overseas. More than 80 students and university staff participated and listened to their instructions and advice. Since many GU students travel overseas in summer, this crisis management orientation provided some insights about how to protect themselves while overseas.



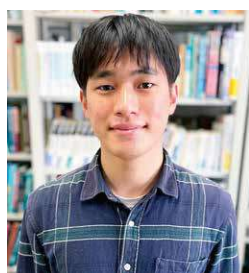
## Exchange between International and Japanese Students

June 22, 24

A program entitled “Exchange between International and Japanese Students” was held on June 22 and 24, which was attended by a total of 25 students, including 13 Japanese and 11 international students from seven countries, namely, China, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, and Vietnam. Japanese and international students worked together to create their own “Gifu City Map” by entering information on a large paper map spread out on a tatami-mat room at the Center for Japanese Language and Culture. Information includes tourist spots, restaurants, shopping malls, public facilities. Before this meeting, only online exchange programs were available for students for the past two years. This first in-person meeting was conducted with participants taking precautions against the spread of infections. After the event, international students who recently arrived in Japan said, “I enjoyed a lot creating our own city map,” “In the process of map-making, I learned more about Gifu,” and “I am glad that I could meet not only Japanese students but also international students from other faculties.” Some of the comments made by Japanese students include: “The event offered us valuable opportunities to communicate with people in English,” “I learned a lot about different cultures and traditions including Islamic dietary food, halal.” All the participants thoroughly enjoyed this face-to-face exchange after many months of limited activities under strict infection prevention measures in place on and off campus.



## Studying Abroad



**HORIE Masaharu**  
School of Science  
Nagoya University\*



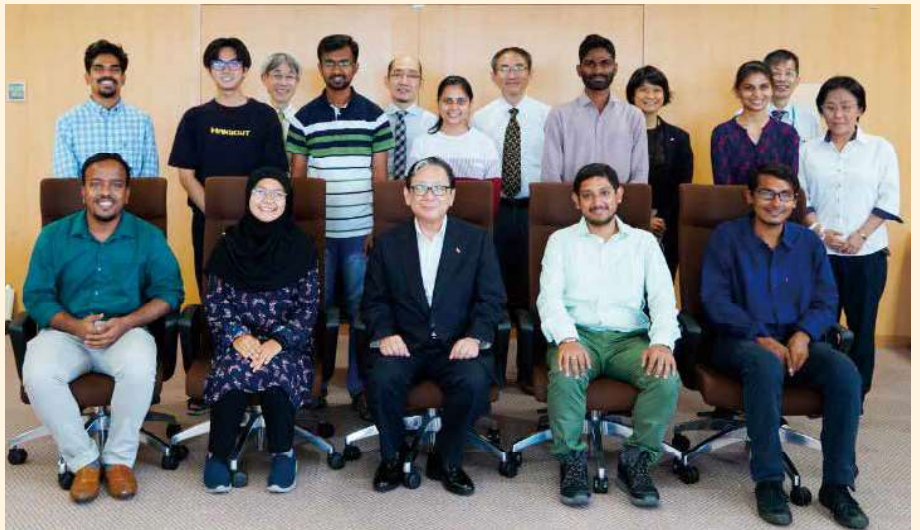
### What Online Study-Abroad Programs Have Taught Me

I always aspired to work with researchers overseas in my field of research in the future and decided to apply for online ESL programs to enhance my English proficiency. I joined the online ESL/EST programs offered by the University of Alberta (Canada) and Griffith University (Australia) during summer and spring recess in my third year at the university. In both these programs, I was given many opportunities to use English spoken by scholars at universities or research institutions overseas. Initially, I was apprehensive about my poor English communication skills, but keeping engaging in the programs brought me more and more success, which helped me regain my self-confidence. At the conclusion of the programs, I had a better understanding about the level of English necessary to study at universities abroad, and what I should and can do to improve my language skills while in Japan.

\*Since 2021, part of training programs are accessible by both GU and Nagoya University students within the framework of Tokai National Higher Education and Research System.



Four international joint degree programs (1 master's, and 3 doctoral) were launched in April 2019 to accelerate internationalization and enhance the quality of education among three partner universities, GU, IITG, and UKM. However, both inbound and outbound in-person exchanges were extremely difficult in 2020 and 2021 owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, only online instructions were given to the students from their supervisors. In-person exchange resumed in 2022, and GU welcomed nine IITG and UKM students who will continue their studies at GU. On July 7, these nine students and one GU student who started his JDP at IITG in July 2022, visited the Office of the President. During the meeting, students spoke to President YOSHIDA Kazuhiro about their motivations, aspirations to study at GU, research themes, impressions about Japan, and cultural differences among the three countries.



## Second Exchange Meeting between International Students and Gujo Municipal Aioi Elementary School Children

July 1

Following the first online meeting in 2021, four GU international students were invited to Gujo Municipal Aioi Elementary School (Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture) for an exchange with elementary students. During the meeting, the children made a group presentation on the city and their school, while the international students illustrated how children in their respective home countries spend their days at school. Both the students and children enjoyed lively back-and-forth conversations till a Q & A session was over.



## Final Thesis Presentations by Students studying "Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course 2022"

August 7

On August 7, the Center for Japanese Language and Culture held a presentation session (both in-person and online) for students who have completed the "Japanese Language and Culture Studies Course 2022." Three students each from China, Thailand, and Vietnam made presentations in Japanese. Some of the students arrived in Japan only in late March owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite many challenges including a shortened period of stay in Japan, all the students researched, analyzed, and completed their theses on the similarities and differences between Japan and their home countries. There were approximately 30 spectators from both on and off campus who offered their hearty congratulations on their great achievements.



## Studying at GU



**Pham Dang Khuong**

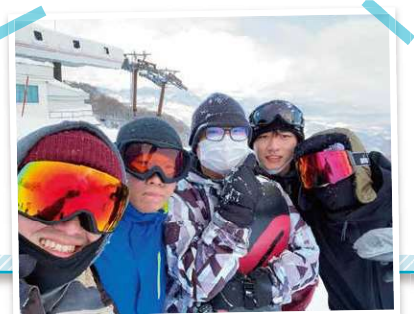
Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology



Vietnam

### What I Have Learned at GU

It's been two years since I came to Japan. During these years, I focused on my research and lab work at GU, which was enlightening and inspirational. One of my unforgettable memories in Japan is my skiing experience in winter. I was excited to see snowfall, something the people of Vietnam have never witnessed in their country. I am also grateful for the opportunity to meet with wonderful Japanese people who made my stay exciting and fulfilling. On the day of my graduation, my classmates hugged me with tears in their eyes and wished me good luck. My days at GU have been extremely rewarding not only academically but also in building a strong friendship with the people of Japan. Thank you very much for your kind hospitality and welcoming me at GU.

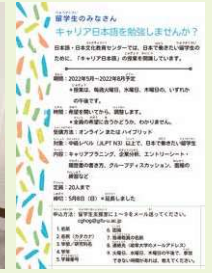




# “Career Japanese” Classes Offered to International Students seeking Jobs in Japan

May-August

Since 2020, the Center for Japanese Language and Culture has been offering “Career Japanese” classes to international students intending to find employment in Japan. Overall, nine students attended the classes from May through August in 2022. They studied business, distinctive Japanese corporate culture, etc., while exploring the possibilities of future business opportunities in Japan through self-analysis and job-seeking experiences. When the classes commenced, many students had a challenging time looking for jobs in Japan, but their attendance of classes enabled them to express their determination to work in Japan and envision their dreams in the future.



# “Glocal Lesson” Video Streaming Service

April 11

GU-GLOCAL started a new video streaming site “Glocal Lesson” in April 2022. Viewers of “Glocal Lesson” are expected to play an integral role in internationalization that is deeply rooted in the community (glocal: global + local). Through the “video on demand” platform, the lesson aims to help local industries, the business community, etc. realize their global ambitions via comprehensive intercultural education.



QR code for membership registration



# Information Dissemination through Social Media

Updates of lectures, seminars, events for international exchange, studying abroad and scholarship information are posted on Gifu University’s official YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram accounts.



GU Promotional Video (Studying Abroad edition)



GU PR Video for Overseas Students



GU-GLOCAL Channel



Facebook



Instagram



# Gifu University Overseas Alumni Association

Various activities initiated by members of the Gifu University Overseas Alumni Association have been reported from the Chinese and Indonesian chapters since the launch of the Association. On August 1, Mr. Aswandi (graduate of the Graduate School of Regional Studies) who serves as Director of the Indonesia Chapter and Mr. Fauzy Ammari (graduate of the Graduate School of Engineering, member of the Association) visited the GU-GLOCAL office and held talks with Vice President KAMBARA and Executive Director UEMATSU Yoshihiko. Mr. Aswandi reported the latest activities of the Indonesian Chapter whose membership has exceeded 100 people, exchanged opinions about how to promote Gifu University in Indonesia, and continue interactions between Japan and Indonesia. The activities of these chapters are uploaded on the GU-GLOCAL website. We continue our close communication with the Association members overseas for our campus internationalization and regional revitalization. Please contact <kokusaik@gifu-u.ac.jp> for chapter updates.



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International Engagement Division, Student Affairs Department



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