



UNIVERSITY OF TOYAMA

CIER NEWS

Center for International Education and Research

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富山大学国際交流センター

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おもいで
思い出



Welcome party



Year-end party

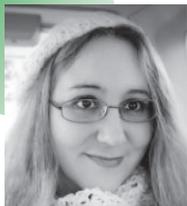


スタディ・エクスカーション



とやまし 民ぞく 民げいむら
富山市民俗民芸村

がくせい 学生からのメッセージ



My Experiences as an International Student at the University of Toyama

にんげんはつたつか がくけんきゅうか はつたつかんきょうせんこうしゅうし かてい ねん
人間発達科学研究科 発達環境専攻修士課程2年

ソフィア バストル マタモロス
Sophia Pastor Matamoros

I arrived in Toyama three and a half years ago by chance. Two years before that I attended a conference in my previous Spanish university where I met my guidance professor today. That day, my current supervisor gave me a pen that was a University of Toyama souvenir, which I used during the rest of my studies there without knowing this would be my future. When he offered me to come here, my husband supported me to make this great sacrifice together, even though our baby was only 1 year and 8 months old. Therefore, leaving the family at home, I packed my bags and came to Toyama for this adventure in order to improve the possibilities of my professional career.

The first month in Toyama was terrible. Winter was coming and it was cold. I could not see the blue sky and the sunlight because the clouds were persistently covering it. During the day, I could not communicate with anyone because I did not speak Japanese and all the Japanese around me seemed afraid to speak English. So at night I cried hard for leaving my love and our son in home country.

I had come as a researcher in the first place, but nothing was what I expected. My professor communicated with me more in Japanese than in English. In addition, the classes were going to all be in Japanese, so I had to take an intensive 6-month Japanese language course.

In the laboratory, the investigation never seemed to begin. In Spain, I already was a teacher and had been given one of the best in my promotions. I wanted to visit schools and study about the reality of education in Japan, because that was what my professor had come to do in my country so I could not understand why I was not doing that.

When the Japanese languages classes started, I met "Los Bandidos" a group of foreign students who were in the same situation as me. None of us could communicate well in Japanese, since our way of communication was culturally closer and more joyful in comparison with the Japanese, we met in our laboratories.

We also started going more often to the Center for International Education and Research (CIER). Not knowing that soon we became like a family beyond our provenance. The staff of the Center took good care of and worried about us with the love and affection. The Center soon became our second home and the tear-cloth of our problems in all the other classes. It was the space where we also met our best friends for life, where some found love, and others introduced the babies they had during the process.

However, this stay at the University of Toyama has been like going up a steep road to the top of a mountain with cultural and linguistic misunderstandings which were almost impossible to achieve. To the point that my family came, but I was so busy that I saw them more often by skype than in reality, so we decided for them to return home.

On another note, I also have sweet memories like the preparations for the parties for the president with international students' nomikais or parties with the help and love of the study abroad support team and together with the office of my faculty and other parties and trips for foreign students of the faculty. I even appeared in the newspaper announcing the beginning of the school year. On the contrary, there were also bitter memories like

the farewells of my best friends and family, added with impotence for not being able to visit schools in Japan and communication problems with some teachers.

Nonetheless, any slope has its slide and if someone asks me if the effort has been worth it, I can only answer yes. My family and I talk every day twice and we still love each other as if we were playing every second. Thanks to my supervisor, my career has been boosted. I have published two articles in magazines and two are on the way. I also have presented in six academic conferences in Japanese, several in Spanish universities, and one in European level in English in Tokyo. I also travelled to New York City in the U.S. and Taiwan for studies.

Besides, researching about the Japanese school systems and learning to speak and communicate in Japanese in the natural way, I have made great connections with professors from all over Japan specializing in the topics of my research. I have also met friends who will be forever in my heart and I have learned to respect the peculiarities between wonderful people who are very different from me. I hope that all the knowledge acquired in this trip will guide me to a life of success for the good and future of my family.

The Toyama I found was a cloudy and cold place that froze my heart, but the Toyama I leave, is my home. A place where, in every street I meet a friend, who does not greet me with a bow, but comes close and hugs me from the heart, because the encounter of cultures has been as successful that it has derived into love.



My Unforgettable Experiences in Toyama

にんげんはつたつか がくけんきゅうか きょういんけんしゅうりゅうがくせい
人間発達科学研究科 教員研修留学生

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Thaug Htike

Thanks to the MEXT scholarship, I was able to come to Japan as a teacher training student and especially enter the University of Toyama. When one thinks about Japan, the kimono and sushi come to mind fairly easily. However, if it is Toyama, masuzushi or trout sushi and shiro ebi ryori or white shrimp dishes together with the snow-clad Tateyama ranges cannot go without mention. Since I arrived here in autumn, the weather had played an important role in my experiences in Toyama.

The major differences between Japan and my country, Myanmar, is basically the climate. Japan has four seasons while we only have three. On the other hand, although there are mountains in the northern part of homeland where it is also cold and snows, I have never seen so much snow in my life because I originally come from the southern part of Myanmar. To be honest, this was actually my first time to see the roads covered with snow where it is difficult to walk.

In Toyama, convenience stores here are open for 24 hours. It is very convenient because I can shop for necessities at any time I want. On the other hand, there are no such kinds of stores in my hometown. When comparing prices of goods, Japanese prices are almost seven times more expensive than those in my country. Luckily, there are affordable 100 Yen shops which are useful for students. Unfortunately, there are no such shops like the 100 Yen shops back home. Therefore, I am sure to face some inconvenience upon my return to Myanmar.

A new surprise for me was that there is a very good transportation system in Japan. I was also quite impressed with the Shinkansen or bullet trains, because we do not have such an express train system in Myanmar. They are not only very punctual and safe but also fast and convenient to travel in.

Moreover, the view of Tateyama ranges is very beautiful with the climatic changes. I have been fortunate to visit twice. I also enjoyed the scenery there because in my hometown there are no such mountains. The Shomyo daki, said to be the seasonably

highest waterfall in Japan, is tranquilizing and amazingly beautiful. In addition, the abundant water originating for the Tateyama ranges in Toyama is clean and tasty to drink.

My experiences here will be incomplete stories without a mention on the University of Toyama's Center for International Education and Research, which we call the Center. The Center plays an important role in the international students' life because it supports them in many different ways. When I tried to find a new apartment, the center staff helped me to rent an affordable one. Of course, living away from family, I sometimes felt homesick and encountered difficulties. Whenever I consulted about my feelings and difficulties, the teachers and staff at the center would always lend a listening ear and relieve me with suitable advice and encouragement.

I also enjoyed the study excursions conducted by the Center, which is an enjoyable activity for everyone. We visited museums or historical sites around Toyama so as to broaden our understanding of the Japanese culture and customs. I also enjoyed participating in the cross-cultural exchange parties at the Center, because I could chat and have a lot of fun, not only eat Japanese but other countries' food as well. At the year-end exchange party of 2016, I cooked "Monhinga", a Myanmar cuisine. To my delight, everyone said that they enjoyed it. I therefore cannot leave the Center without saying that I had made a lot of friends, both from Japan and different countries.

Because I did not study Japanese before coming to Japan, I had to study in the intensive Japanese language course at the Center. After this course, I could be able to communicate. During the course of my study of Japanese language, the teachers taught all their students very heartily and with much patience. From my point of view, this course is the most effective way for students to be able to speak Japanese in a short period. In addition, I also enjoyed the Japanese culture class because I was given the chance to learn Japanese culture and customs. This class was very fruitful in my adaptation to life in this new environment.

To wrap up, great luck crosses a person's path at least once in his lifetime. This fortune also came my way once because I was granted this prestigious scholarship to come to Toyama and Japan. Should an opportunity favor me again, I would like to return to study at the University of Toyama. Here, I could adjust to this new life because I am now accustomed to the different climate. Toyama is a very safe and peaceful place so I enjoyed living here. After completing my research at the University of Toyama, I will have to return back to my country. However, the bittersweet memories of Toyama will linger on forever. I wish to extend my deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone who made my stay a memorable one!



私の留学体験

経済学部 経済学科4年

安藤 泰之

私は、富山大学から奨学金をいただき2016年5月から2017年2月までニュージーランドのUnitec Institute of Technology, English Language (Level 3 and 4) に約9か月間留学させていただきました。

私の留学目標は大きく分けて二つでした。一つ目は、英語の能力を向上させ異文化理解力を養うことです。そしてもう一つは、野球が発展途上なニュージーランドでその普及活動に携わることでした。留学全体を振り返ると、双方とも満足した結果を出すことができましたと考えています。

まず、英語ではスピーキング能力を飛躍的に改善することができました。週当たり16時間の授業で、各国から語学留学に来ている学生たちと日常生活に関する話題はもちろん、経

済や歴史的な側面からの問題についても話し合うことで、自分が英語で会話ができる内容に深みを持たせることができました。そのような経験を通して、お互いの国の文化や宗教について理解を深め、国際的な人材へと成長することができました。

次に野球では、実践的な活動を中心として普及に貢献できました。当初の目標であった、現地の学校で野球教室を開催すること、大学で野球教室を開催して野球部を創設すること、野球ニュージーランド代表チームの練習に参加することなど、一通りすべての項目を達成することができました。

現在、留学に興味を持っている人はぜひ挑戦してもらいたいと思います。自分が奨学金をいただいたプログラムは給付型で留学費用の半額ほどをサポートしていただきました。悩んでいる人も、国際交流センターでまずは相談してみるのも一つの手だと思います。自分も留学の準備から英語のサポートまでたくさんお世話になりました。留学したからこそ得られる経験は必ずあります。ぜひ、挑戦してみてください。



留学？日本で働くのには？

人間発達科学研究科 発達教育専攻修士課程2年

加藤 由莉

グローバル化が進む中、日本においてもSNSを通して海外の人と関われる、語学も本人の意志さえ強ければ日本で十分学ぶことができます。海外生活もなく、英語も嫌い、知り合いも全くない、でも、私は留学をしました。理由はただ一つ、「目的があるのになぜ行かないのか」と思ったからです。「学びたいこと、学べる環境があるのにどうして行動しないのか」、行かない理由を探す方が大変でした。

実際に留学をして、目的を明確にしたうえで留学したおかげで、目的を見失うことなく一年間過ごすことができました。もちろん、他の人よりも語学をはじめいろんな壁を感じることはありました。毎日遅くまで英語の勉強をしたり、アメリカの教育に関する情報を調べたりと毎日時間が足りないと感じました。しかし、つらいと感じたことは一度もありませんでした。予習をしっかりすることで、子どもたちと過ごす時間、先生方から学ぶものをより充実させることができました。

帰国してから何度か国際交流センターにお邪魔しました。留学生の方とお話をしたり、留学生の方を誘って日本の小学校へ行ったりしました。センターは、日本人、留学生の壁がなく、まるで親戚の家のように、来た人来た人とみんなが繋がる場所のように感じます。センターへ行くようになり、今までよりも異文化に対する興味が増し、もっと早くから行けばよかったと思いました。その気持ちを感じるだけでなく、伝えていくことが今の私にできることだと思っています。

私は、留学とは「オフラインで経験する価値」だと感じました。近年はオンラインで世界中の人と関わるすることができます。しかし、オフラインでしか感じられないこともあると思います。留学を考えている人も考えていない人も、オフラインでの関わりを大切にしてほしいです。その一歩として、国際交流センターに来ている学生さんとお話してみることもよいかと思えます。

国際交流センター 掲示板 (五福キャンパス)

富山大学国際交流センターは、外国人留学生の受入・支援、学生の海外留学の支援、海外学術交流協定校との学生交流に関する連絡・調整、外国人留学生に対する日本語・日本事情教育、その他の国際交流に関する諸業務、留学生教育・国際交流に関する調査及び研究などをその業務としています。詳しくはホームページをご覧ください。〈<http://www.ier.u-toyama.ac.jp/>〉 留学や国際交流等に関心のある富山大学の学生のみならず、気軽に足を運んでください。

国際交流サークル PARTNERS

4月と10月にはWelcome Partyを開催する予定です。各催しに関する案内は国際交流センター内に随時掲示します。また、センターホームページでも紹介されています。みなさん、ふるってご参加ください。

※PARTNERSとは、富山大学に通う外国人留学生と日本人学生との交流を目的として立ち上げられた国際交流サークルです。

コンサルテーション

富山大学で学ぶ外国人留学生のみならず、海外への留学を目指すみなさんを対象に、相談に応じています。

担当: バハウ サイモン ピーター 教員
実施日時: 火曜日 2限・木曜日 3限
 相談予約・問い合わせは、下記事務室まで。

◆ 申込・問合せ先

☎ 076-445-6106

cier@adm.u-toyama.ac.jp

センターの2階には「留学情報資料室」もあります。

平成29年度4月入学新入留学生のためのオリエンテーション

〈日時〉 2017年4月4日(火) 9:15集合
〈場所〉 五福キャンパス 共通教育棟D11教室
 杉谷キャンパス看護学科研究棟11教室
 高岡キャンパスH棟2棟CALL教室
〈対象〉 平成29年4月入学外国人留学生
 (非正規生を含む全員)
◆ 連絡先 ☎076-445-6972 (副島研究室)

2017年度前期日本語課外補講オリエンテーション

〈日時〉 2017年4月6日(木) 11:30~13:00
〈場所〉 共通教育棟4階A43番教室
 ※日本語課外補講の受講希望者は、このオリエンテーションに参加してください。
◆ 連絡先 ☎076-445-6271 (小木曾研究室)

スタディ・エクサカーション

〈日時〉 2017年5月13日(土) 8:45集合
〈見学場所〉 五百羅漢・富山市民俗民芸村
 留学生と日本人学生との「交流」を目的とした見学です。詳細については、後日掲示にてお知らせします。



◆ 連絡先 ☎076-445-6106 (センター事務室)