

10. FY2022 Progress

■ Common indicators and targets

Internationalization

○ Meiji University Short-term Japanese Language Program– 29 International Students from 11 Countries Studying with Meiji University Students

Meiji University's Japanese Language Education Center organized the Meiji University Short-term Japanese Language Program (Winter 2023) from February 6 to 17, 2023. 29 international students from 11 countries participated in the program, making the first face-to-face meeting in three years. The students engaged in Japanese language classes, project work, and cultural experiences. As part of the "Cultural Experience" program, participants had the opportunity to practice Zen meditation at Kenchoji Temple in Kamakura and created animations at the Anime Museum, thereby deepening their interest in and understanding of Japanese culture.

During the program, Meiji University students, along with faculty members, provided assistance and support to the international students. In addition to helping them with Japanese language learning, students from diverse backgrounds collaborated on activities such as video production and exchange events, fostering mutual growth.



〈The international students appeared satisfied after completing the program〉

○ Sakura Science Exchange Program —Online University Visit

On Saturday, December 17, 2022, Meiji University, in collaboration with the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), organized an online event titled "Sakura Science Exchange Program —Online University Visit." The event attracted numerous participants, primarily high school and university students from the Asia-Pacific region and other countries worldwide.

During the program, after an introduction to Meiji University, a talk session featuring three international students, a special lecture by Professor Notomi from the School of Science and Technology, and a Q&A session were live-streamed from Meiji University's Surugadai Campus. Participants actively posed questions through the ZOOM webinar Q&A box, providing them with a valuable opportunity to enhance their understanding of studying in Japan and Meiji University.

The video recording of this program is available on the JST website. Please feel free to check it out at the following link: (<https://ssp.jst.go.jp/en/jst/online/online20.html>)

University reform

○ Promoting the development of forward-thinking human resources

In addition to training programs aimed at improving English skills, including vocabulary skills, Meiji University is developing training programs both in Japan and overseas as part of its efforts to promote the development of forward-thinking human resources. The objectives of these programs are to further enhance the policy-making abilities of the staff and facilitate operational reforms based on independent policy proposals. The overseas dispatch training programs are available on both a short-term and long-term formats, with a total of 5 staff members having participated in this program since 2013. In July 2022, one staff member was dispatched to Arizona State University (USA) and other institutions. The staff member will return to Japan in July 2023 after conducting research and making observations in the field on the topics of "building a diverse organization capable of high productivity and change" and "implementing online classes and remote work to hedge risk, secure new sources of income, and diversify work styles."

Education reform

○ "Training Program for Teaching Specialized Classes in English" by Temple University, Japan Campus

The "Training Program for Teaching Specialized Classes in English" was conducted in September 2022 and March 2023 (a total of 2 sessions). This program is part of the university's efforts to promote internationalization and focuses on teaching specialized subjects in English. Temple University, Japan Campus, with 40 years of expertise in English language teaching methodology, organized a three-day seminar in September 2022 as the foundational course to help participants prepare for and learn about teaching methods. This was followed by a three-day workshop in March 2023, serving as a practical course that built upon the knowledge gained from the foundational course.

A total of 20 faculty members participated in the seminar and workshop, which covered topics such as "Preparation for Teaching, Basics of Teaching Methods," "Demonstration Lessons," "Group Discussion," "Individual Conferences," and more.

■ University's own indicators and targets

○ Meiji University Tandem Language Exchange

“Meiji University Tandem Language Exchange” aims to provide a platform for international experiences on campus and foster international exchange among students. It offers opportunities for students to practice foreign languages and promotes interactions between exchange students who are currently in Japan or planning to come to Japan and Meiji University students. Campus Mate, an international exchange group, takes charge of determining conversation topics, promoting the event, and acting as moderators. In the academic year 2022, a total of 8 sessions were conducted online, with 141 participants from overseas universities and 207 from our university.

■ Initiatives for the enhancement of international reputation/ Featured initiatives based on the characteristics of the university

○ Learning about “Sustainability” with Thai students (Global Synergy Project)

This program took place from February 16 to 22, 2023, with the objective of deepening understanding of sustainability through dialogue with sustainability pioneers and hands-on experiences. The involved students from Rikkyo University, our project partner school, as well as student from our overseas partner school, Srinakharinwirot University in Thailand.

After receiving preliminary training in Japan, the Japanese student team traveled to Thailand. While in Thailand, the participants were based at the Meiji University ASEAN Center and engaged in meaningful dialogues with entrepreneurs, researchers, and officials of international organizations involved in “food” sustainability. They also visited various sites, including permaculture farms.

The Participating students provided the following feedback: “I found the program to be highly fulfilling and a valuable learning experience for my life. I am committed to applying what I've learned and promoting sustainability.” “This experience made me realize that I can contribute to addressing food waste across various professions.” “These five days were the happiest of my life thus far, and I am confident that my future will be even brighter because of them.”



〈 The challenge of making compost 〉



〈 Group photo at the farm 〉

○ Meiji University students who were dispatched as UN Youth Volunteers returned to Japan – UNDP Egypt, WFP Nepal

Students who were dispatched as United Nations Youth Volunteers (UNYV) to the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) in Egypt and the WFP (World Food Programme) in Nepal have returned to Japan in February after completing their five-month assignments. UNYV is a program that involves collaboration between the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and universities, sending students as volunteers to UN agencies in developing countries. The objective of this program is to provide students with opportunities to tackle global issues and to nurture future leaders. Under the cooperation agreement signed between UNV and its flagship school, Kwansei Gakuin University, a total of 11 students from seven universities including Osaka University, Akita International University, Toyo University, Meiji University, Meiji Gakuin University, and Rikkyo University, were sent to countries in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Pacific Islands from September 2022 to February 2023.



〈 A student working at UNDP in Egypt (left) 〉
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〈 A student working WFP in Nepal (second from right) 〉
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