

# Kitami Institute of Technology

## NEWSLETTER

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Factory Tour: Itomuka Plant

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# Studying Language Tour in Germany

The University of Freiburg: Sept.1 - 30

## Mai FURUDATE (Freshman)

### Study of Mechanical, Civil and Environmental Engineering

I could improve my German of course and I also could improve my English by communicating with people from many countries. Furthermore, I could find lots of cultural differences in a variety of situations. I could learn German culture and history by visiting many places. I would like to make good use of this experience in the future.

## Hiyori MATSUMOTO (Freshman)

### Study of Mechanical, Civil and Environmental Engineering

I was very nervous because I had never been to foreign countries and could not speak English well, but one month seemed to fly by. I have many wonderful memories of Freiburg, Dortmund, Bonn, Strasbourg in France, sightseeing in Basel in Switzerland, German food and so on. I will keep putting my effort on overcoming the language barrier.

## Takahiro FUJII (Sophomore) Department of Biotechnology and Environmental Chemistry

I could learn a variety of things from this tour. I had many experiences that I can't have in Japan. First I could learn how important language is. I use Japanese every day ordinarily but it was so hard to communicate there. The more I learned, the happier I was to understand. I also could get to know many new people and I made lots of friends in this program. It was very good.

## Yuki YANO (Junior)

### Department of Materials Science and Engineering

I could experience a variety of things in Germany for one month. I could study two languages at the same time because I studied Germany in class and I also talked to my friends in English. I could touch German culture by living there and I could feel the differences from Japan. I could do a lot of sightseeing in one month and it was so much fun. One month flew by in Germany. I will make good use of these experiences in my life.

## Yuichiro HIGUCHI (Junior)

### Department of Materials Science and Engineering

It was a valuable one month that is totally different from Japan, because seeing real European cities and buildings was much more dynamic than seeing them in the pictures or TV. I was so moved to see the houses in real 3-dimensions that I saw in books when I was small. Also the food was good and it was safer than I thought. These were opposite from my expectations in good ways. This German life made my distance to foreign countries shorten. It also changed my point of views and values.

## Daiki HAGIWARA (Freshman)

### Study of Mechanical, Civil and Environmental Engineering

I could learn many things by this German tour. During the weekend, I visited Neuschwanstein Castle, as well as France, Switzerland, and so on. I could touch culture in another country. The last weekend, I went to Kassel city with my friend. There were a lot of unlucky things on the way, but we could arrive there finally and visited Grimm's Fairy Tales Museum and Wilhelmshohe Park that is a world heritage site. This trip made me feel that I progressed. I have never been to another country but I will try visiting other countries, to touch their culture and see their city sights.

## Yuki KIYA (Freshman) Study of Biotechnology, Environmental Chemistry and Materials

One month seemed to be long but it was short. I experienced wonderful things I will never forget. I ate food that I can't eat in Japan, and I was moved and it was delicious. Visiting Germany made my horizon broaden, and I would like to visit there again.

## Takumi KONDO (Freshman) Study of Biotechnology, Environmental Chemistry and Materials

The University of Freiburg was beautiful and it has more than 500 years of history. During this tour, I met a variety of people, saw wonderful views, and learned customs that don't exist in Japan. They all motivated me. They were valuable experiences I will never forget in my life.

## Kazuki YAMAMOTO (Sophomore) Department of Biotechnology and Environmental Chemistry

I learned a lot things from this studying tour. I will study foreign languages harder because I think I will definitely need to study them when I will go outside of Japan in my future. I will get along with people from all over the world and tell them about Japan someday in my future.

## Yuji MATSUURA (Freshman) Study of Biotechnology, Environmental Chemistry and Materials

I could notice how big the world is from this tour. It was a big experience. I couldn't notice that if I only keep staying in Japan. Talking about language and communication, this tour gave me a good chance to rethink my Japanese that I use everyday.

## Taro KONDO (Junior)

### Department of Computer Science

I learned a lot of things from this language studying tour. I was surprised to know that German always said "Thank you" and "Good bye" to the cashiers after shopping. Every time I said that, it made my heart warm. I think I should do that more in Japan. After this tour, I came to think about working with foreigners in the future. I will study foreign languages more for my goal.



## Welcome to New International Students

19 new international students started studying at KIT this October. They learned how to register for classes, how to divide garbage, how to prevent water pipes from freezing in winter, and so on, in the orientation. We hope they will have a good college life here in KIT.



**Pyeon Seongeun (Korea)**

I decided to come to Japan, because I want to learn about Japanese people and study Japanese. I would like to tell you about Korea, too. I would like to make this year learning about many things that I didn't know.



**Cham Chen Sheyla (Peru)**

I feel the people in Kitami are very kind. They help me so hard because I don't know Japanese. I am always moved by that warm welcome. I am going to study Japanese hard and give in return for their kindness received!



**Bakdur Ali (Turkey)**

I am from Turkey. I started my life in Kitami as a research student to study computer science. My hobby is watching movies. I look forward to studying and living in Kitami.  
Douzo Yoroshiku Onegaishimasu!!

## International "C" Hour

**Welcome Party for New International Students!**  
**Halloween Party!! October 17**

We had a welcome party for new international students. 111 people participated in Halloween costumes including international students, Japanese students and people in Kitami. First the new international students introduced themselves in Japanese. After that, we enjoyed some Halloween games and dance. The "mummy game" was so much fun!



**Get to Know about the Republic of Peru**  
**November 29**

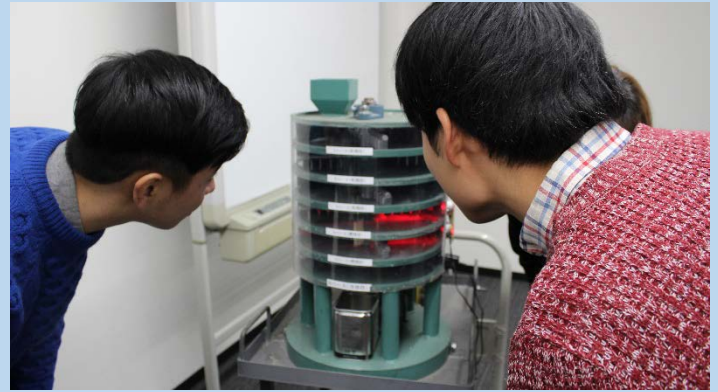
Sheyle from Peru talked about her hometown and country. She is the first exchange student from La Molina National Agrarian University in Peru, that is KIT's new cooperative university. Peru is famous for diversity, for example, there are more than 3,000 kinds of potatoes and 1,800 kinds of birds in Peru. She is interested in technology in Japan and decided to study here. She said she was so surprised to see the automatic doors at KIT!!



# Factory Tour: Itomuka Plant

November 25

We visited Itomuka Plant owned by Nomura Kohsan Co., Ltd. On the way back, we stopped by the aquarium in Rubeshibe. 22 international students and one Japanese student joined this tour. We enjoyed beautiful scenery from the bus window. Itomuka plant is the only place in Japan where batteries are recycled. They also recycle harmful things safely, such as lamps that include mercury.



They showed us recycled metallic mercury, zinc, manganese, aluminum and so on. Then we put helmets on and went inside the plant. We saw the gigantic machines that separate batteries and vaporize mercury. It was a great opportunity for engineering majoring students to notice how important it is to recycle harmful stuff safely, and to care for the environment. On the way back to Kitami, we visited the aquarium in Rubeshibe. Students enjoyed taking pictures at the water falling tank and touching doctor-fish. It was a memorable factory tour.

# Exchanging Culture: Film Festival

November 28



The 10<sup>th</sup> Asian International Children's Film Festival in Kitami was held and some high school students from Laos and Vietnam visited KIT as part of an exchange culture program during the festival. They visited some labs at KIT, such as "the Environmental and Energy Resources Research Center", "the Winter Sports Research Center", QVIC and so on.

At the gym, we had an exchanging culture event. A nunchaku performance was done by a Chinese student and Mongolian students sang a song. The Japanese archery club and the karate club performed. Then tea-ceremony club members dressed guests from Laos and Vietnam in yukata. Finally, we danced the "Kitami Samba Dance" together!



## Future Schedule

- ◆ International Party      December 14 (Wed)  
18:00 ~  
Communication Atrium

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