

Kitami Institute of Technology

International Center Newsletter

August/September 2014 Volume 100

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“Youth of World” 2014 Summer

August 10(Sun) – 12(Tue)

National Taisetsu Youth Friendship Center



6 Foreign Students from KIT Participated in “Youth of World” at National Taisetsu Youth Friendship Center

“Youth of World in Summer” was held at the National Taisetsu Youth Friendship Center. Some Japanese high school students, college students and working members of society joined that event. The purpose of the event was to educate leaders with a global point of view for the future. 6 foreign students from KIT joined this 3-day event and experienced rafting, trekking, cooking outdoors and much more. They had a great time and appreciated those valuable experiences. They are looking forward to participating in the “Youth of World in Winter” at National Hidaka Youth Friendship Center this December.





German Study Tour

August 8(Fri) – 31(Sun)

Freiburg in Germany

11 Students Participated in the Language Studying Tour to Germany!

The students took classes about German language and culture on weekdays at Freiburg University. On weekends, they enjoyed field trips to Switzerland and so on. These are the comments from students who participated in this tour.

Freiburg was a city that I wanted to walk around forever. The buildings were so different from Japanese ones and the center of the city was closed to car traffic. I was so excited about seeing all the buildings, people walking on pedestrian roadways, local markets, children floating a boat on a small waterway and all the new sights. The German classes focused on listening and I tried to learn so hard in order to use them in real situations. I had such a healthy life I hardly had in Japan! (Dept. of Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Sophomore, Natsumi KURIYAMA)

I learned many things through this studying tour. People in Germany had different ways to communicate and they were friendly even when we met for the first time. Speaking in German was difficult but I could communicate with them also in English. I was very happy about it and it became confident in studying English in the future. I will keep studying English and German hard. (Study of Mechanical, Civil and Environmental Engineering: Freshman Ryota FUKUMOTO)

It was my first time to visit Europe in my life. Taking German classes and living in Germany for three weeks made me able to speak daily conversation or order something when shopping. I found that I could live in the country where I did not know their language. I went to visit Neuschwanstein Castle which is a world heritage site. I also visited France and Switzerland. I could experience European townscape and an atmosphere that I never could have had. (Dept. of Mechanical Engineering: Sophomore, Kohei KUDO)

I really enjoyed myself in Germany. I was worried a little before the tour, but Prof. Natalie was kind and helped me every time I had troubles. I could make foreign friends and keep communicating with them through "Facebook" and "chat" applications. German food was delicious. White sausages, carbonara pasta-sauce and kebab were so good. I had a wonderful 3 weeks. (Study of Computer Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Freshman, Yutaro YAMAMOTO)

That 3 weeks in Germany was long in one way and short in another way. I did not have a feeling of reality before visiting and now I feel like it was a dream. In Germany, I had a hard time with differences of culture and language at first, but I came to enjoy the differences and would like to know more about that. I had a lecture about environmental policy and it was very deeply impressive. I will make use of this experience and I definitely would like to visit Germany, again. (Dept. of Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Freshman, Mai NOZAKI)

I took German lessons from the teacher who could speak Japanese on weekdays. I could not make myself understood in Germany at first, but I came to be able to communicate a little in German at last. I visited a Mercedes museum and a Porsche museum. I could know their history, philosophy and episodes there. I will study Germany harder and understand more.

(Study of Mechanical, Civil and Environmental Engineering: Freshman, Yuya HARA)

It was my first time to go abroad. I was anxious about staying in Germany for 3 weeks, however people were very kind and I enjoyed myself very much. All of the scenery was much more beautiful and moving than I saw in the pictures and I expected. I also enjoyed many varieties of German food such as bread, sausages and pasta. I would like to visit Germany, again. This 3 weeks were an unforgettable memory. (Study of Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Freshman, Sho SAKURAI)

It was my first time to go abroad and I worried about German conversation before visiting, but I came to be able to communicate in daily life such as greetings, shopping and dining. Communicating in German was not easy but I have a little confidence in my German now. I had wonderful experiences to visit Neuschwanstein Castle, Switzerland and France that I never had here in Japan and I really enjoyed the atmosphere in Europe. (Dept. of Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Junior, Yoshinori MAETA)

I had many valuable experiences during my stay in Germany. I came to understand some German words in the conversation. I did not make big progress in my German, but I could learn so many things not only German, but also differences about culture and customs through German classes and just walking in the streets over there. I sometimes felt anxiety about the difference of language or customs, but people were very kind and teachers helped a lot. I could enjoy studying and sightseeing. (Dept. of Computer Science Engineering, Sophomore, Sakiko NOMURA)



English Study Tour

August 23(Fri) – September 28(Sun)
Australia · Brisbane

First English Study Tour to Brisbane !

4 Japanese students participated in the English Study Tour to Brisbane. Here are the comments of those who participated in this tour. They had English classes at Queensland University, took field trips and enjoyed sightseeing!



I was exposed to English a lot in daily life and English classes. I was lucky to have good teachers and friends in the English classes. I enjoyed classes and could study hard with a positive attitude. Especially my listening ability improved very much. I have confidence to live in an English speaking country and I would like to have this chance so much now. I also participated in after school activities. I was touched by local people's kindness. I was glad to have this exciting life that I can hardly have in Japan. (Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering: Sophomore, Sunao TSUKAWA)

I had variety of cultural experiences in my homestay in Australia. Especially I was surprised that stores close so early. Most of the stores close around 5:00 p.m., except restaurants. Their system is like this so that everyone can go home early and spend time with their families. They think it is important to communicate. I found other customs interesting too, that they keep the door open except for sleeping and changing, in order to consider each other in the family. (Dept. of Electrical and Electronic Engineering: Sophomore, Terumi ONISHI)



I participated in a 5-week Study Tour in Australia. I had never had the experience to stay in another country for 5 weeks and there were many things I worried about. Before going, I was anxious about shopping, sightseeing and dining, but I enjoyed myself, and was able to shop or go sightseeing by myself. I felt that these 5 weeks were very short and that it was a wonderful experience. (Dept. of Mechanical Engineering: Sophomore, Hayate NAKAGAKI)

I experienced a lot in Australia. The most memorable thing was that my English ability was not good enough. I could not understand the English that the waiter, waitress, taxi driver or bus driver was saying to me. I was frustrated that I was not able to understand them or tell them what I wanted. This frustration was the biggest thing I could get through the studying tour. (Study of Electrical and Electronic, Civil and Environmental Engineering: Freshman, Ryunosuke UTSUMI)



English Study Tour

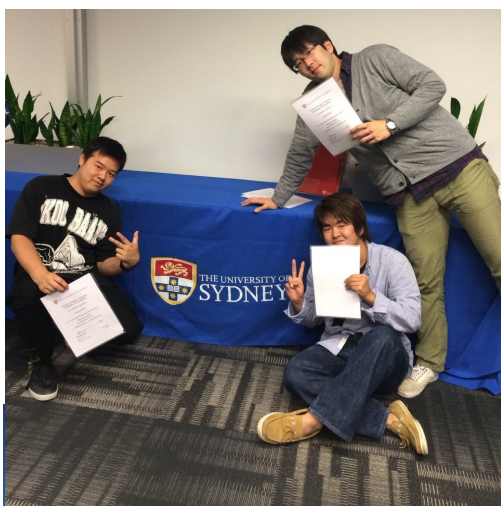
August 28(Thu) – September 13(Sat)
Australia · Sydney

5 Students from KIT Participated in the English Study Tour in Sydney with students from Takasaki University of Health and Welfare !

It was my first time to go abroad. At first, I had a hard time to listen to and speak English. As the day went on, I got used to English and I could listen and speak. English is not as formal as Japanese, I could make friends in English class and had a fun time every day. I also had a lot of free time and went sightseeing a lot. That was a satisfying tour.

(Dept. of Biotechnology and Chemical Environmental: Sophomore, Yuka MIZUTANI)

I had many new great meetings for 2 weeks in Sydney, Australia. I met members from Takasaki University of Health and Welfare, my host-family and classmates from all over the world. Time flew in Sydney and I was sad when I had to leave. Every memory was so memorable such as spending time with students from Takasaki, sight-seeing in Sydney, dinner with my host-family, and BBQ with classmates. (Dept. of Material Science and Engineering: Sophomore, Yuichi INDO)



【Future Events】

October 22(Wed) Welcome Party : KIT cafeteria

October 30(Wed) International C Hour : Meeting Room 2

November 28(Fri) – 29(Sat) : Visiting Factory Tour