

Kitami Institute of Technology

NEWSLETTER

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Dance Parade at Kitami Bonchi Festival



Campus Festival: Wearing Kimono

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Making Japanese Sweets (wagashi) at Daimaru

June 11th



They made a variety of sweets!

12 International students experienced making traditional Japanese sweets (wagashi) at Daimaru in Kitami. They made beautiful sweets and ate them with green tea. Ma from China said, "Japanese sweets are delicious and beautiful. I found it is a great harmony to eat Japanese sweets with bitter green tea!"



Field Trip to Tokoro : Observing Native Grass and Flowers

June 22nd



Every year we have this event and this year we went to Tokoro Forest Park of Archaeological Sites and Wakka Wildflower Nature Reserve. 15 students from 6 countries were taught about local flora by KIT Honorary Professor Yamagishi.

Zhao from China said, "I learned the names of many plants and I also learned the history of the area. The Okhotsk Sea was so beautiful!"



We wish to thank the Kitami Soroptimist Association for their donation in making this trip possible for the international students.

Visiting Koizumi Elementary School

July 20th

Alex from Tanzania visited Koizumi Elementary School and introduced Tanzanian food, music and so on. The students sang songs, danced and cooked together. Everybody liked the Tanzanian food that Alex made.



♪ Alex introduced Tanzanian songs ♪

Visiting Kitami Hokuto High School

July 18th

4 international students from 3 countries went to Kitami Hokuto High School and they visited the Kyudo club (Japanese archery) and the Kendo club. Jeong from Korea said, "I studied from 7:00am to 10:00pm at high school in Korea. Japanese high school life seems to be relaxed and fun. I am jealous that they have time to enjoy clubs everyday."



Kimono : Campus Festival

June 24th



International students enjoyed wearing Kimono on the second day of the festival. Their hair was done and dressed up beautifully by professionals.



Kong from Korea said, "Kimono is totally different from Korean traditional costume. I couldn't eat anything when I was in Kimono. I wonder how Japanese female eat food in Kimono?!?"

International Food Booths: Campus Festival

June 23rd -24th

◆ **Taiwan** : Tapioca milk tea, Minced pork rice

All students from Taiwan are short-term exchange students. Chen said, "It was a big challenge for us. It was so windy the first day and our tent was almost blown away. It rained hard the second day, so we encouraged each other and made a big success. We earned good money! I was very happy that my new friends in Kitami came to buy our food and they said they were delicious! It was a great experience and great memory at KIT."



◆ **China** : Dumplings, Tea eggs

The Chinese students won first place in the booth contest. Li said, "On the first day it was so windy that our pot with all the tea eggs blew over and they all fell to the ground. We were so sad about the tea eggs, but all the dumplings sold out and we got first place, so all our hard work was not in vain."



The Chinese students won first place in the booth contest!

◆ **Korea** : Teeokbokki, Korean pancake

Kim said, "I was so happy that our food sold out quickly, even though it was a lot of work to prepare and we were very busy. We are proud of ourselves!"



◆ **Mongolia** : Kjuushuur (Fried dumplings)

Mongolian donuts

Mongolian spit-roasting

The Mongolian booth has served traditional food every year and it was popular this year, too. They donated the money this year, too. Ariunbileg said, "Mongolian students got together and worked hard for this. It was great!"



◆ **Malaysia** : Cendol, Curry Puff

They set up a booth for the first time in 4 years. Jonathan said, "It was hard to get ingredients, so we asked our family in Malaysia to send them. I enjoyed working with other Malaysian students together for this."

◆ **OFIC** : Hashimaki

International students club OFIC served rolled Japanese pancakes called Hashimaki. Yamamoto said, "Many international students bought Hashimaki and said they were delicious. I am glad that they enjoyed our Japanese food!"

Ikebana : Flower Arrangement

June 23rd



Ms. Lu got first place!

On the first day of the Campus Festival, there was an Ikebana lesson for international students. The instructor, Ms. Nishino, taught us how to arrange flowers in the traditional way. Each student made their own arrangement. Then we voted on the best one and Ms. Lu from China got first place. She said, "It is not easy to understand Japanese traditional culture, but Ikebana is lots of fun!"



Dance Parade at Kitami Bonchi Festival

July 13th



Many international students enjoyed dancing in the parade at the 65th Kitami Bonchi Festival. They were excited about wearing a yukata (summer kimono), and zori (Japanese sandals) while dancing together



Chen from Taiwan said, "That was my first time to see that many people in Kitami. I was surprised!!"



President Prof. Suzuki led the KIT dancing team!

International "C-Hour": Flowing Noodles (Nagashi Somen)

July 25th



More than 80 people joined this event. They enjoyed catching noodles flowing in water. After the noodles, participants caught cherries and jellies, too. We also enjoyed "Watermelon Smashing". Zhao from China said, "Nagashi Somen is such a great idea to enjoy summer. This event will be my great memory in Japan."



Short-term Foreign Students' Graduation Ceremony

July 30th

Short-term foreign students from our sister universities had a graduation ceremony. 11 students from 4 cooperative universities received a certificate. Teem from Finland said, "Living in Kitami has been the most wonderful one year in my life!! I really don't want to go back to Finland. I would like to work in Japan in my future. I promise to come back to see you all again! "



Future Schedule

- ◆ Language Study Tour to Germany
August 11 – September 1
- ◆ Culture Study Tour to Beijing
August 13 - 17

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