

# OIP Travel Grant: Faculty Report

## Official Version for Public Review

**Date** September 6, 2011

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**Proposal title** Creation of (1) "Semester Abroad Programs" at Chuo University and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and (2) "Internship Opportunities" at GMI Japan (Merrill Lynch) in Tokyo.

**Country/ies visited** Japan

**Institution visited** Chuo University  
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies  
GMI Japan  
+  
Nanzan University  
Yokohama National University  
Hosei University

**Dates of travel** 16 days between Sunday, July 17, 2011 and Monday, August 8, 2011

**Number of student participants:** None

**Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded  
(list titles, countries and dates):**

**Granted Proposal #1**

**Proposal Title:**

Visits to Oita University and Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan to secure 10 slots for our Exchange Programs

**Place and date of Travel:**

Oita and Beppu, Japan

11 days between Friday, March 20, 2009 – Thursday, April 2, 2009

**Granted Proposal #2**

**Proposal Title:**

Visits to Hosei University, Hirosaki University to secure 10 slots for our Exchange Programs and (3) Kyoto Sangyo University to create a new “Summer Study Abroad Program” for 10-15 students.

**Place and date of Travel:**

Tokyo, Hirosaki, and Kyoto, Japan

13 days between Tuesday, July 14 – Friday, August 14, 2009

**Granted Proposal #3**

**Proposal Title:**

Visits to (1) Doshisha University to create a new Exchange Agreement and discuss the feasibility of creating a new “Summer Study Abroad Program,” and (2) Hosei University to develop the Faculty Exchange Agreement

**Place and date of Travel:**

Kyoto and Tokyo, Japan

8-10 days between Tuesday, December 29, 2009 – Friday, January 14, 2010

**Have all required reports been submitted?** Yes

**Other funding for this activity available/applied for:**

Assistance from SDSU American Language Institute

**Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum):**

I wish to negotiate with two new institutions in Tokyo and create *semester exchange opportunities* for students who are *required* to study in Japan. I would also like to begin negotiations with GMI Japan (Merrill Lynch) in Tokyo regarding *internship opportunities* for our students. I expect 6 ~ 8 semester students will participate in the new exchange programs during the academic year of 2012-2013 and 2 students in the internships during the summer of 2012.

## Travel report

I had a very productive visit. I visited Chuo University in Hachioji and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in Chofu and met all key administrators necessary to initiate the discussion on the exchange agreements. I am happy to report that they are eager to work with SDSU. It is highly likely that we can start exchanging students in the Fall of 2012 with Chuo University and the Fall of 2013 with Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.

The visit to JMI Japan turned out to be very disappointing. I must work with the new person who became in charge of hosting interns from abroad from scratch.

In addition, I visited to Nanzan University in Nagoya in order to initiate the exchange agreement. I also visited Yokohama National University in Yokohama and Hosei University in Tokyo. There were issues to be discussed in order to continue our agreements.

I am grateful that Dr. Sweedler wrote official letters of introduction to Chuo University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and Nanzan University. It helped my negotiation process immensely.

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### **(1) Chuo University (a prospective exchange partner)**

#### **Background Information**

Chuo University is a private institution famous for its law education. It was founded as *Igirisu Horitsu Gakko* (English Law School) by 18 young attorneys and scholars in 1885. Chuo has a student population of 28,500 (26,000 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate) and offers a full curriculum (Japanese as a Second Language courses and content courses in English) to international students. It is to be noted that law education begins at the undergraduate level in Japan. The majority of law majors enter the School of Law and earn undergraduate law degrees, while trying to pass the national bar examination.

Some of our graduates go into the field of international law. I know one IB major who is currently practicing law in the state of New York. He struggled before he was admitted to a law school in the U.S. He did an exchange program at an institution that does not have a Faculty of Law. If he had gone to an institution like Chuo University, he would have been surrounded by a group of serious students who plan to have careers in law. He would have learned how the Japanese students were preparing for the tough bar examination. He also could have cultivated friendships with future attorneys.

I plan to (1) meet with Dr. Stephen Hesse, the Director of the International Center at Chuo University, (2) observe both a Japanese course and a content course, (3) meet with the Japanese language faculty, and (4) meet with the exchange students from the U.S. institutions this summer. Chuo's classes will still be in session when I visit them in late July.

Chuo will be a welcome addition to the list of institutions we already have. Our students interested in careers in international law will benefit significantly more from Chuo than from any other institution. In addition, Chuo is already very much interested in SDSU and is willing to accommodate our request. Dr. Wakako Murakami, a close friend of mine since college days, has been on Chuo's faculty over 20 years. She has been helping both parties to negotiate smoothly.

### **Actual Visits and Activities**

Thursday, July 21, 2011

A meeting with Professor Wakako Murakami:

- ☆ Professor Wakako Murakami  
Professor, Faculty of Policy Studies

A class observation of Professor Stephen Hesse's class:

A meeting with three exchange students from the U.S. and the Office of International Center staff members over lunch:

- ☆ Mr. Patrick Murphy (University of Arizona)
- ☆ Mr. Joseph Ostrowski (California State University, Monterey Bay)
- ☆ Ms. Katie Autry (East Tennessee State University)

A meeting with the International Center administrators:

- ☆ Professor Stephen Hesse  
Director, International Center  
Professor, Faculty of Law
- ☆ Mr. Yojiro Muroi  
Head, International Center
- ☆ Ms. Yumiko Watanabe  
Deputy Head, International Center

A meeting with the Director of the Japanese Language Program:

- ☆ Professor Kyoko Minami  
Director, Japanese Language Program  
International Center

Visits to the Residence Hall for the international students hosted by:

- ☆ Mr. Yojiro Muroi  
Head, International Center
- ☆ Ms. Yumiko Watanabe  
Deputy Head, International Center
- ☆ Professor Wakako Murakami

### **Discussions and Recommendations**

Professor Hesse was extremely happy about SDSU and is eager to start the exchange program in the Fall of 2012. There is a schedule problem. Chuo was about to begin their summer break. Professor Hesse cannot call for a meeting until the end of September. The go-ahead approval cannot be obtained until early October. I said that I would meet with Dr. Sweedler and ask him for advice.

Chuo offers Japanese language courses at all levels for international students. In addition, Chuo offers numerous Asia- and Japan-content courses in English. These courses are available not only for international students but also for Japanese students. Our students will be in an excellent learning environment, since they will have ample opportunities to study with Japanese students.

Chuo offers short programs during the summer and spring breaks. They requested 10 additional packets.

I was given a tour of a residence hall for international students. Each unit consists of three bedrooms. A Japanese student is assigned to every unit so that two international students will be living together with a Japanese student, speaking Japanese all the time. In addition, the residence hall has a huge dining/cooking area, laundry areas, and many individual shower rooms. All of them looked very well managed.

## **(2) Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) (a prospective exchange partner)**

### **Background Information**

Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) is one of the oldest universities in Japan. It was founded in 1853 as the Institute of Research and Foreign Documents. It is a small specialty college with a student population of 4,300 (3,800 undergraduate and 500 graduate) and 570 international students.

As its name suggests, TUFS specializes in languages and area studies. TUFS offers a rigorous curriculum which will be quite beneficial not only to IB majors and ISCOR majors but also to Japanese majors and other majors who are eager to improve their language proficiency and to deepen their knowledge of Japan and Asia.

I plan to (1) meet with Professor Nobuo Tomimori, Vice President, (2) meet with Professor Yuji Kato, Associate Professor of American Language and Culture, (3) meet with Mr. Keiki Sakuma, the Head of the Office for International Affairs, (4) observe both a Japanese course and a content course, (5) meet with the Japanese language faculty, and (6) meet with exchange students from U.S. institutions this summer. Summer vacation will not begin until August 10 or so at TUFS. TUFS enjoys a remarkably high academic reputation. The benefit of having an exchange agreement with TUFS is not limited to our students. It will be good for SDSU to be affiliated with TUFS. I am already in touch with Vice President Tomimori.

## **Actual Visits and Activities**

### **Friday, July 22, 2011**

A meeting with the University's top administrators:

- ☆ Dr. Nobuo Tomimori  
Vice President
- ☆ Dr. Koji Miyazaki  
Trustee, Executive Director for Academic Matters
- ☆ Dr. Kato Yuji  
Associate Professor of American Languages and Culture
- ☆ Dr. Akito Okada  
Associate Professor of Global Studies
- ☆ Mr. Keiki Sakuma  
Head, Office for International Affairs

An observation of presentations by the students of the Japanese Language Center for International Students:

A brief meeting with Japanese faculty:

- ☆ Dr. Megumi Sakamoro  
Professor
- ☆ Dr. Mika Suzuki  
Associate Professor

A tour to a Residence Hall for international students:

## **Discussions and Recommendations**

TUFS is eager to expand its exchange programs especially with institutions in the U.S. However, the residence hall space is not sufficient to accept many more students from abroad. They are planning to build an additional residence hall for international students. This new building is scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2012. Thus, they wish to start exchanging students in the Fall of 2013. I do not see any problem with that.

TUFS offers a rigorous program for international students. Most of their international students are sent by foreign governments. They are likely to be government officials and business leaders of their countries. The level of curriculum is quite high. Our students will be in an excellent learning environment, since they will have ample opportunities to study with these future leaders and the Japanese students.

TUFS offers short programs during the summer and spring breaks. They offer English training programs even to their staff since they are dealing with students, faculty, and visitors from all over the world. They asked me to send 10 copies to Mr. Sakuma.

I was given a tour of the current residence hall for international students. Another building is scheduled. It appeared to be well maintained.

### **(3) GMI Japan (Merryl Lynch)** **(a prospective internship provider)**

I have been communicating with Mr. A. Douglas Butcher, a student who took Japanese from me 25 years ago, since October 2010. He currently works for GMI Japan (Merrill Lynch) in Tokyo. His office is offering summer internships to juniors. He is wondering if I could recommend good candidates. I am very much interested in learning more about the internship program. I also would like to get the paperwork (the Service-Learning Agreement and the Learning Activity Site Questionnaire) signed: We are now required to sign these documents before we send our students.

I would like to (1) visit his office in Tokyo, (2) meet with Ms. Nariko Tanaka of the Human Resources Department, (3) meet with the person who is in charge of their internship programs, (4) interview American students who are doing internships there, and (5) find out if this program is feasible for our students. I hope that this will be the first official internship in Japan for SDSU students beginning in the summer of 2012.

#### **Actual Visits and Activities**

##### **Monday, August 1, 2011**

My visit to GMI Japan was very disappointing. It appears that I must work with the new person who became in charge of hosting interns from abroad from scratch.

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This is all I originally planned to do when I submitted my OIP Travel Grant Proposal. However, after it was granted, I learned from Mr. Patrick Colabucci of ALI that Nanzan University was very much interested in having an exchange program with SDSU when he visited there in May. I introduced Mr. Colabucci to Nanzan through Professor Osamu Kamada, my long-time friend who has been teaching at Nanzan for over 20 years.

I had thought that Nanzan was only interested in exchanging students through ISEP (International Student Exchange Programs). If they were interested in having a direct exchange with SDSU, that is a welcome addition. We have exchange programs in Tokyo and Osaka/Kyoto but nothing in between except a small program in Gifu. In addition, Nayoya is close to Toyota. There might be ample opportunities to develop internships for our students. Furthermore, we need graduate students who can teach Japanese classes as GTAs.

So I decided to visit Nanzan. I also decided to visit Dr. Matsuo Soga, Professor Emeritus of Nanzan, who created a graduate program in Teaching Japanese as a Second Language at Nanzan. He currently lives in Sendai. Thus, I visited him in Sendai on the day before I went to Nagoya and asked for an insider view of Nanzan. Professor Osamu Kamada was instrumental in introducing me to Nanzan's faculty and staff.

#### **(4) Visit to Dr. Matuo Soga**

##### **(Professor Emeritus of Nanzan University residing in Sendai)**

###### **Background Information**

Professor Soga is a well-known linguist in Japan and North America. He took an early retirement from the University of British Columbia in order to create a graduate program in Teaching Japanese as a Second Language at Nanzan University. He currently lives in Sendai. Thus, I visited him in Sendai on the day before I went to Nagoya and asked for an "insider" view of Nanzan

###### **Actual Visits and Activities**

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

A meeting with Professor Soga over lunch (3 hours):

☆ Dr. Matsuo Soga

Professor Emeritus, Nanzan University

Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

#### **(5) Visit to Nanzan University**

##### **(a prospective exchange partner)**

###### **Background Information**

Nanzan University is one of the most prestigious universities in the Tokai region (between Tokyo and Osaka/Kyoto). It was founded in 1946 as Nanzan Foreign Language School. It became a university in 1949 and is a small university with a student population of 9,700 (9,200 undergraduate and 500 graduate). It is unique in the sense that Nanzan provide an education rooted in Christian values and that the majority of Nanzan's faculty has advanced degrees from English-speaking countries.

###### **Actual Visits and Activities**

Thursday, July 28, 2011

A meeting with the University's administrators:

☆ Dr. Machida Nanako

Deputy Director, Center for International Education

Director, Center for Japanese Studies

☆ Dr. Masahiko Mutsukawa

Dean of Academic Affairs (Japanese Language)

Center for Japanese Studies

A meeting with the Center for International Education officers:

☆ Ms. Daisy V. Montesa

Exchange Coordinator, Center for International Education

☆ Ms. Mizuho Yagi  
Center for International Education

A campus tour:

☆ Mr. Michio Matsui  
Center for International Education

☆ Ms. Yajima  
Center for International Education

A meeting with Professors Kamada and Sakamoto:

☆ Dr. Osamu Kamada  
Professor, Program of Linguistic Science

☆ Dr. Tadashi Sakamoto  
Professor, Program of Linguistic Science

A meeting with Professor Kamada over dinner:

### **Discussions and Recommendations**

Nanzan has exchange programs with quite a few institutions in the U.S. However, Nanzan has experienced difficulties finding students who can clear TOEFL requirements. As a result, there is a big imbalance issue. They are not interested in expanding their exchange programs unless they can actually send students to the U.S.

Nanzan offers a variety of courses for international students. American partners are eager to send their students because their students love Nanzan's curriculum. In addition, Nanzan's faculty is familiar with the education system in the U.S. because a majority of them earned advanced degrees in the U.S. They know what is expected of faculty and they are able to offer courses which satisfy the demands of students from the U.S.

Regarding the exchange program with SDSU, I presented them with a unique opportunity: They can send the students of their Master's Program in Teaching Japanese as a Second Language as exchange students. They will learn how Japanese is taught at SDSU by taking Japanese 499 "Teaching Japanese as a Second Language" along with applied linguistics courses. If recommended by their Japanese 499 supervisor, the student can teach Japanese 112 as a GTA who is solely responsible for the course, while getting paid. This could be part of their training program. This proposal was very well received.

The residence hall for international students was very clean and secure. It appeared to be well maintained.

## **(6) Visit to Yokohama National University (current exchange partner)**

## **Background Information**

There are two SDSU students who were sent to Yokohama National University (YNU) during the academic of 2010-2011. When CSU Chancellor Reed announced his decision to suspend all exchange programs with Japan on March 15, both students refused to follow the order.

Rodrigo Gutierrez came to see me on the day he came back to San Diego on May 10. He was afraid that he damaged SDSU's relationship with YNU because he did not come back immediately after Chancellor Reed's decision was made known to him. Instead, he joined a volunteer group and helped the victims of the earthquake and tsunami for three weeks. He did not vacate his dorm early enough. He dragged on and did not leave until May 10. He was deeply concerned.

He did not know where the other SDSU student, Nicole Slight, was and what she was doing. The last communication I had with Nicole was when she was planning to go and help the victims of earthquake and tsunami.

I thought that I should visit YNU and learn what exactly happened and what the YNU faculty is thinking about our relationship. I also thought that we should apologize to them for whatever trouble our students caused them.

## **Actual Visits and Activities**

Saturday, July 30, 2011

A meeting with the University's administrators:

☆ Dr. Chika Maruyama

Director, Japanese Language Program

☆ Dr. Yoshimi Ogawa

Japanese Language Program

☆ Dr. Toshiyuki Kawano

Department of Social Studies and Education

## **Discussions and Recommendations**

Both Professors Maruyama and Ogawa were surprised to learn about Rodrigo's concern. They were not aware that he did not leave until early May. They were nothing but impressed with his academic performance, his warm personality, and his willingness to help others. Nicole continued her study for the second semester. They were not aware of her legal status but they treated her as an exchange student in class. She was doing fine.

They assured me that there was no damage done to our relationship. They introduced me to Professor Kawano who is in charge of the graduate program of teaching Japanese as a Second Language. I learned that his students came to his program after substantial experience as full-time professional instructors and that their schedule does not allow them to participate in an exchange program at all.

## **(6) Visit to Hosei University (our current exchange partner)**

### **Background Information**

The academic year of 2010-2011 was the first year to exchange our students. We exchanged two students from each institution. Hosei is very generous and supportive of our students by offering support worth \$1,000 per month to each student to help cover accommodations and meals. They rent the residence halls with meal service for the entire academic year for our students and charge only \$300 per month per student.

Following CSU Chancellor Reed's decision to recall exchange students after the earthquake, both SDSU students came back to the U.S. This means that Hosei has the right to demand payment of \$16,000 (\$1,300 x 5 months x 2 students) as damages. I thought that I should visit them and ask them not to charge damages.

In addition, I wanted to know how Hosei counts the number of students. I was hoping that I could persuade them to count the two students who attended for only one semester as the equivalent of one exchange student studying for the whole year. I hoped that they would give SDSU an extra spot for one student during 2012-2013. I thought that I should negotiate on this issue, too.

### **Actual Visits and Activities**

#### **Thursday, August 4, 2011**

A meeting with the administrators at International Center:

- ☆ Dr. Rebeca E. Fukuzawa  
Director, Exchange Students from Overseas Program (ESOP)
- ☆ Ms. Kimiko Hotokezaka  
Executive Assistant, International Center

A brief meeting with the advisors at International Center:

- ☆ Mr. Hidemi Tanaka  
Advisor (Inbound), International Center
- ☆ A successor of Ms. Oiwa  
Advisor (Outbound), International Center

A meeting with Professor Fukuzawa over dinner:

### **Discussions and Recommendations**

Hosei appreciated our concern about the financial difficulties Chancellor Reed's decision caused. They assured me that they were not planning to demand any damages from CSU/SDSU. I expressed my appreciation for their understanding.

Regarding the number of students exchanged, they counted our students as 2 even though they did not stay for the entire academic year. There was no damage at Hosei caused by the earthquake, tsunami, and the nuclear plant accident. They view that the suspension of the exchange program in the middle of the academic year was overreacting to some extent. They already invested sufficient funds to secure comfortable living conditions for our students for the entire year. I could not argue with this point.

I mentioned that there are not a few students who were forced to withdraw from the exchange programs after they were nominated to go because of their families' financial difficulties. Not only for Hosei's academic reputation but also for Hosei's generous support, Hosei is getting extremely popular among SDSU students. I stressed this point to Ms. Hotokezaka and Professor Fukuzawa. I stressed this point again to Professor Fukuzawa when we met over dinner. When I came back to the U.S., I learned that Hosei had agreed to consider the number of students from SDSU for the academic year of 2010-2011 as 1. I was relieved.

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In sum, I was able to initiate discussions on exchange agreements with Chuo University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and Nanzan University. I was also able to stimulate their interest in the English programs at SDSU's ALI for their short-term study-abroad programs. I was successful in ironing out any existing issues with Yokohama National University and Hosei University. Regarding the internship opportunity at GMI Japan, I must start from scratch with the new person who is in charge.

I wish to thank you for giving me the opportunity to help SDSU internationalize its academic curriculum. It has been fulfilling and rewarding.