

YOSAKOI Summer School in Kochi University of Technology 2012

1. Purpose :

This Summer School aimed at attaining the following goals through the cooperative experiences of attending students from 3 universities.

- To get to know other cultures more deeply.
- To have new friends from other countries.
- To broaden academic knowledge.
- To deepen a beautiful relationship between 3 universities.
- To achieve a personal relationship with local people.
- To learn local history, environment, society and culture.
- To get a wonderful experience through the lively Yosakoi Odori.

2. The venue of the event:

Kochi University of Technology, Japan and neighboring areas.

3. Period:

From Sunday 5th August, 2012 to Tuesday 14th August, 2012

4. Persons who attended:

- Shenyang University of Technology(SUT) 8 students including 3 table tennis players
1 faculty member (Ms. Ling Ling)
- Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology(TNI) 5 students
1 faculty member (Mr. Wimol SAN-UM)
- Kochi University of Technology(KUT) students and several faculty members

5. Organizer:

Kochi University of Technology

6. Schedule:

- | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------|--|
| DAY 1 | August 5 th (SUN) | - Arrival |
| DAY 2 | August 6 th (MON) | - Opening Ceremony and Orientation, KUT Campus Tour
- Welcome Lunch with KUT President
- *3 members of table tennis club from SUT go separate ways and join KUT table tennis club until August 9th afternoon.
- Lecture 1 by Professor HATTA
"Electronics & Photonics for Sustainable Development"
- Exchange event with KUT Yosakoi Team |
| DAY 3 | August 7 th (TUE) | - Lecture 2 by Professor NONAKA
"Opto-Electronics Innovation (from Shikoku, Japan):
Introductory Lecture about LED and LD"
- Practical work of LED circuit
- Practice of Yosakoi Odori |
| DAY 4 | August 8 th (WED) | - "Japanese language and culture course"
by Professor BAN and KUBO Lecturer
- Prepare for next day's Presentation |
| DAY 5 | August 9 th (THU) | - Presentation, Q and A, Cultural exchange at Minami Senior High School
- Free time in groups in Kochi City,
- The eve of the Yosakoi Festival, fireworks |
| DAY 6 | August 10 th (FRI) | - Participate in the Yosakoi Festival in Kochi city |
| DAY 7 | August 11 th (SAT) | - Participate in the Yosakoi Festival in Kochi city |
| DAY 8 | August 12 th (SUN) | - MUROTO short trip
Street of Kiragawa, Muroto Geo Park, Hotsumisaki-temple |
| DAY 9 | August 13 th (MON) | - MUROTO short trip
Deep seawater facility tour, the birthplace of Yataro Iwasaki,
Calcareous cave tour
- Farewell Party |
| DAY 10 | August 14 th (TUE) | - Departure |

The Experience of Cultural Exchange in Kochi University of Technology

In August of 2012, I spend ten days in Kochi University of Technology for cultural exchange. The experience was such exciting and I will never forget. During the period, the kindness of Japanese teachers and students impressed me deeply. At the same time, we also brought in our Chinese traditional culture to keep the endless friendship between our two universities.



In the part of academic exchanges, it was the first time I sit in the class of Japanese university. Japanese professors explained patiently and the atmosphere was relaxed and happy. During the visit of robot laboratory which has closely contact with mechanical knowledge, the teachers taught me some detail about the basic principle of transmission and drive connection ways. The advanced technology and special concept gave me a lot of benefit. As a student of engineering, practice ability and innovation consciousness are very important which will be my goal and direction in the future life.

In the other part, we participated Yosakoi (Japanese dance in Kochi) training and performance. I was deeply moved by the enthusiasm and positive attitude of people in Japan. The weather of Japan was very hot in the daytime and there has a big raining in the evening. However, under such conditions, the people still showed their joy and passion. Nobody participating in the show complained about the bad weather. I think it is the Japanese national spirit which we should respect and learn.

During these days, we also visit Kochi city and Minami senior high school for culture exchange. In our speech, I was mainly responsible for the Chinese traditional arts section. With Chinese traditional Guzheng music "Butterfly Lovers", I explained Chinese Kung Fu, folk music, classical dance, and on-site display of traditional costume which they were very interested in. In the whole communication process I also deeply realized the importance of learning English.

In the last few days, we had a short traveling to feel the beautiful scenery and humanistic landscapes. In the end, when singing of "Auld lang syne" song, students from three countries preformed in different languages. I truly felt the peace and friendship in the song. The soul of this activity has been final sublimation through the song.

It is very grateful for the care of Japanese teachers and students in these days. Wish the friendship between us sincerely and last forever.

Ma Wenxuan
School of Mechanical Engineering, Master course student
Shenyang University of Technology

Feelings of cultural exchange

I was very fortunate to participate in cultural exchange activities this summer holidays with Kochi University of Technology and Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology. Through this exchange of learning, I gain a lot.

When we arrived at the Kochi University of Technology, the school arranged for us comfortable accommodation carefully. They considered every detail and we are all very touched. In the academic exchange process, the professors carefully prepared courses and experimental contents that is made us benefit. In the Yosakoi activity, everyone was full of passion and enjoyed it very much, we were all very tired, but we all felt very happy.



Kochi University of Technology arranged for the three countries' students activities carefully, in order to better communication with other countries' students, they arranged for Japanese students to accompany and take care of us.

Through the cultural exchange activities in the three countries, we gain friendship, emotion and moving. I sincerely hope that such exchanges can be continued, so that more students can feel the friendship between different cultures.

Geng Yue

School of Management, Master course student

Shenyang University of Technology

Yosakoi Summer School Report

I would like to use impressive to describe the summer school.

Firstly, the academic research in Kochi University of Technology is amazing. The echo parking, elevator, and so on, are even designed and made by the professors and students themselves, which is really remarkable. Some works in the labs in KUT are advanced.

Additionally, I made many friends with students from KUT and TNI. They were really kind and friendly. Especially those from KUT, they kept accompanying us every day. Whenever we need help, they stood along with us. What is more, the staffs are considerate and the activities arranged by them are meaningful and interesting. When we were dancing on Yosakoi Festival, two staffs took our bags and stayed with us, though it was very hot.

The Japanese culture is really interesting and the foods there are delicious. People in Japan are always polite. On the culture part, the Yosakoi dance was the highlight. Although we were very tired in that two



days, we all felt impressed. It was my first time to dance on street in that way. A lot of food in Japan is without cooked, but still tasty, especially the fresh fish.

Happy time always goes fast. Ten days' summer school had gone. However, this part of memory will still live in my mind.

Thank KUT for give us the opportunity to attend the summer school. I enjoyed the ten days very much.

Nice Memory

Thank you for KUT's enthusiastic receptions and careful arrangements. It's a nice memory. I really had a fun time here. And it was my first time to go abroad. Therefore, everything was fresh and curious to me. I've learned something about Japanese culture. But it was less impressed than what I saw in naked eyes. Here are some points which impressed me most.

Japanese teachers are so kind and considerate. They have considered all the conditions and details, and always gave us surprise. For instant, before yosakoi, we practiced dancing. In the end, everyone got a costume. Then someone asked what we should wear under the costume. The teacher said T-shirt was OK. However, later someone just said he didn't have T-shirt ambiguously. I thought he didn't have any other thoughts, just saying. Then the next day, the teacher distributed T-shirt with KUT logos to everyone. What a surprise to me. How considerate Japanese are! They solved all the problems. I was moved. Maybe any word was pale to describe the feeling. We could know the spirit of the nation through such trifles.

Besides, I was impressed by Japanese serious spirit. In one evening we went to gym to watch KUT's students practicing yosakoi. The weather is hot, and the gym is hotter. I noticed that KUT's students concentrated on practicing without any complaints. They were trying to do the best with heart and soul. I was moved again. It's the spirit that I should learn. As to me, I fell behind them.

During these days I've learned too much. The above is just a little part. What I learned in Japan is the treasure of mine and I will benefit from it throughout all my life!



Zhang He
School of School of Electrical Engineering, 4th Grade
Shenyang University of Technology

Report of Yosakoi Summer School

Introduction

In this report, although it is short, I'd like to review and summarize in 3 parts. At this moment, I still want to express my appreciation to KUT for this treasure time of Summer School again. And wish all of us can meet again, at not only Kochi but also Shenyang.

Short Review

In the first four days, it was about the experience of the life in campus. At first, we take a close look at the environment of KUT, especially its labs. We had two lectures about the energy and light energy. Accompanying with the lecture, there was an experiment in the afternoon. Later we practiced the dance of Yosakoi. After the study of scientific subject, we took a course of Japanese Culture, and tried to prepare for a representation that would be held at Minami Senior High School. There we had fun in speeches, games, and traditional toys. At next destination, we went to Kochi Castle. That night was before Yosakoi Festival. The firework and beautiful dance made the city a highlight.

The next two days, the traditional clothes and music of every dance team made me excited and not be able to wait to dance. All of us were under the hot sun, and I got my T-shirt wet. But I enjoyed a lot of seeing so many friendly smiles at the side of roads. Near the night, it became the heavy rain. I felt happy just as the same as I just took a shower after hard time work. Fortunately, I still had enough power for enjoying the next day's dancing. Due to continually rain, we had to reduce some route for our team. But when finally, I was handed with the medal of memory, and said goodbye to the leader teacher, I felt the tiredness attached to my body.

With city staying enthusiasm of Yosakoi Festival, we had a good night rest and went on our trip of Muroto cape to get touched with traditional Japanese lifestyle. On the road we had a colorful bus trip. In the hotel, we had the original Japanese Food. We learned the nature sight and history of Kochi and her people by visiting the famous place. On the way back, students of Japan, Thai, and China had a good memory of communication with each other while having meal surrounded by sea sight.

We came back and toasted for our friendship in the night. Then we shall look forward and start a new journal, not only go back to our country, but also shoulder the responsibility of becoming the bridge between our two university ,or maybe, our two countries.



Summary of Summer School

Please let me to conclude this SC (Summer School) program in an interesting way, when we began, we learned how important the energy is, in a meaningful way (compared with each energy with that produced everyday per person). Then we got to know how to generate light energy, and consume some energy in experiment of LED. In the next few days, we spent a lot of energy on practicing, representing, and dancing. At last, we stayed calm in the trip, and make a review of how we consumed such big energy and think about whether we used it properly or not.

For people, knowing how to consume their energy is important. In the usual study lives, we burn the energy and concentrate on study or others like this. While we are having a rest, we will think about ourselves and put what we learned into practice when next circle starts.

I think this Summer School project maybe a general idea about Japanese students' life. And there are many other Japanese custom in this ten days, too. I like the symbol of Tai, So, Yu in the Ikebana of Japanese Culture class. (いけ花にある「体、相、用」という象徴である) After class, what our students from different country talked mostly is the difference in custom and daily life. International communication is important, and such a soft way of different cultural contact will contribute to it.

Some other Feelings

- In this SC program, I experienced Japan closely. I would like to express my deep admire to the people there, for creating such a cosmic society by keeping the order consciously. By this mean, people show their respect for others, and the ones who receive this will also show it to others. Then it creates a good circle. When people get enough respect, the limited resource in the society will certainly be given to the one who need mostly, since this behavior will be respected mostly. In my mind, it is an excellent way of not a technical one to assist to solve the energy problem, isn't it?
- When we took part in the Yosakoi Festival, the well plan impressed me a lot. Even if there are many people anticipating, everything including the route, schedule for dancing, and supplement or rest was going properly.
- This time students from Thai have changed the image of Thai's people in my mind. They are both good at language, science study, and sports especially Muay Thai. I will learn more from these strong partners.
- Everyone we met in Kochi, KUT is very kind to us. I appreciate for it forever.

Liao Wang
School of Electrical Engineering, 4th Grade
Shenyang University of Technology

TRIP TO JAPAN

Eight days' all kinds of activities made my staying in Japan really unforgettable and meaningful. Thanks for the teachers and students from KUT. It was your hard working that made my memory full of happiness.

I saw and learned a lot from the several days' table tennis



training, the table tennis players from KUT were well trained, but it was the way they treated the training and their unbeatable spirit that really made me surprised. I believed we could learn a lot from this remarkable team.

During the following days, I made many new friends from Japan and Thailand. We sang and danced, and we went on a trip. It was just a short time that we spent together, but it was full of happiness, and could never be forgotten.

Zhou Hongsheng

School of Economics, 4th Grade

Shenyang University of Technology

TRIP TO JAPAN

The staying in Japan was a period of fantastic experience. I was so excited to make many new friends from Japan and Thailand.



As a table tennis player, I had a great time doing the training with the KUT table tennis club, all the players' skills and most important the kind of attitude and spirit really shocked me, I did benefit a lot from the training.

I enjoyed every day, but I think the most unforgettable part was the Yosakoi. I had the chance to see what Japanese real life was, and I could enjoy the festival with my new friends from Japan and Thailand. We danced together and we smiled to each other. I was not a good dancer, but I danced happily.

Thanks, KUT.

Thanks, all my new friends.

Yang Guang

School of Electrical Engineering, 3rd Grade

Shenyang University of Technology

TRIP TO JAPAN

It's an unforgettable tour in Japan. The life in Kochi attracted me so much. The KUT is an excellent university. Although the school is not big, but very complete and advanced facilities. Provide more convenience for the teachers and students in learning and life. Everyone in the school to do the things they want to do, everyone is full of vitality. For this reason, the KUT in just a few years could develop so rapidly and become a well-known school. I also learn a lot of things from table tennis team in the KUT. They kind of give up, indomitable fighting spirit impressed me deeply. Through hard training, they make their basic skills and technology have reached a very high level. So we also decided to go back to good training, meticulous, and I hope next year to have the opportunity again to learn from each other. Then we participated in the "Yosakoi" activity. I feel the enthusiasm of the people on this activity, even under heavy rain, they still continue to dance, I admired so much. Through this activity, we deepened the understanding of Japanese culture. We all had a good time.



In short, the trip to Japan, broaden my horizons, enrich my life, thank you very much the school can give me this opportunity, thank KUT meticulous care, thank you all.

Chao Fan

School of Architecture and Civil Engineering, 2nd Grade

Shenyang University of Technology

YOSAKOI SUMMER SCHOOL



I was so happy to join Yosakoi Summer School at Kochi University of Technology. Everyone was so kind to me and I'm glad to meet very good teacher and friends who were Japanese and Chinese. Japanese friends are always pay attention to me. They taught me Japanese language. I learned many new words and had a chance to learn Chinese and English as well. There were new things that I had never learnt before such as Ikebana, Opto-Electronics Innovation, Yosakoi Dancing, Japanese Calligraphy, History of Mitsubishi and Kochi History, and so on. I was very impressed in this program. Kochi was a beautiful city and people were very kind too. Kochi cuisine was very delicious. I liked Katsuo no Tataki very much! Anyway, the most I like was a Yosakoi dance at the festival.

I was so excited and enjoyed the show because it was very fantastic show than I expected. I got a gold coin from Yosakoi dancing which made me so happy. I would like to attend Yosakoi dance again. Finally, I would like to thank Kochi University of Technology on giving me such a good opportunity! I will come back Kochi again after I graduated and hope to see you all again.

Thank you very much.

Sudarat Boonkum
4th year in Bachelor of Business Japanese
Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology,



It was my First time to visit Japan. This time was the best experience of my life. I got many friends with great hospitality. This program made me happy. I visited many great places. There have so beautiful nature. The last day, I had to go back to Thailand, some friends sent us to airport. But so sad..I love you all! Thank you for everything. Many thanks for inviting me this program.

Tanapan Thunpongprud
Business Japanese, 4th Grade
Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology



I would like to say thank you to Yosakoi summer school in Kochi University of Technology 2012, thank you to teachers of Kochi University of Technology and thank you to everyone who taking care of me during my visit at Kochi. According to this visit, I had learned many interesting things. I got lots of knowledge and attended the exciting program, such as Yosakoi Dance. It was my big surprise that I could have such a good opportunity to be the exchange student in Japan and join the Yosakoi Dance. All activities made me enjoyed and happy so much. I made lot of Japanese and Chinese friends. Life in Kochi University could relax me from busy life in Bangkok. I had an opportunity to learn about LED. LED was new in my life. Teacher in Kochi University of Technology was very kind and paid attention to me until I was clear on LED specifications. The 10-day program was come to the end but it seemed I just arrived yesterday. I wish to come back to Kochi University of Technology again someday. Thank you very much.

Lukkana Songthong
Business Japanese, 4th Grade
Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology

YOSAKOI Summer School 2012



First of all, I'd like to thank "Kochi University of Technology" and "Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology" who gave me a chance to join "YOSAKOI Summer School 2012" during 4th – 14th August 2012. Regarding the 10-day visit in Japan, I learnt and obtained new experiences such as technology, art and culture, daily Japanese life and so on. There were many interesting things in "Kochi University of Technology", but I couldn't explain all because it was more than words to say. I think everybody who joined the "YOSAKOI Summer School 2012" Program knew what I meant. It was an unforgettable, impressive and memorable festival for me. I got new friends in Japan and they took care very well. I learned many interesting things about LED from Kochi University of Technology, enjoyed the wonderful "YOSAKOI" festival, appreciated all Japanese staffs and students who took me a short trip and arranged a lot of parties for Thai students during our trip in Japan. What's a wonderful trip! I couldn't delete even one picture that we took together because all of them reminded me those good times we had been together. (I'm sad, I lost some pictures). You can see some pictures (It's so funny). Moreover, we shared knowledge about the difference of weather and culture between Thailand and Japan and learned to know why that season is affected by heavy rain or sometimes it's too hot. People need to find out the solution to solve the problems. I think it's very impressive and good for me to use and apply this knowledge in my work. This program, as such, made me understand more why Japan becomes a developed country and has been advanced more and more. Japanese people have been encouraged to think and find solutions to solve problems. This impressed me so much! I won't forget all events in Japan. It will be my memorable things:- friend, teacher, instructor, professor, everyone from "Kochi University of Technology" or friend from "Shenyang University of Technology". Let me say again. Thank you so much for arranging me the wonderful program. I wish this program would be continued and three universities could have the great cooperation in the future.

Bandhit Suksiri
25 August 2012
Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Engineering)
Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology

Yosakoi Summer School



I was excited to go to Suvarnabhumi Airport on 5 August because my dream to visit Japan was come true. I'm always dreaming about Japan. The plane took off at 00:05 a.m. to Osaka Airport. I could not sleep at all. We arrived safely at Osaka Airport and check-in the hotel around 4:00 pm. After that, Kochi University of Technology (KUT) students accompanied us to walk around Tosa Yamada. Tosa Yamada is a district of Kochi City. It is beautiful place and has the most beautiful river that I have never seen before. The trip at KUT was opened much more to my world. KUT is located in the valley, it is very beautiful place. There are many buildings at KUT. KUT's library is very elegant. It has four floors and surrounds by pool. KUT's laboratory has lot of equipment for students. Each laboratory has laptop computer for students. Moreover, KUT's laboratory has special equipment such as Electron Microscope and Cleanroom. KUT is the place that I want to learn the most for master degree in the future. At the 5th day, we visited Minami senior High School. We attended the class for cultural exchange with Japanese, Chinese friends and other high school students. My friends--Gina and Gift showed Thai Dance and while Mob and I showed Thai Boxing. We learned to play some Japanese games too. It was a great time. At the Yosakoi Festival, we joined the Yosakoi Dance and danced around the Kochi City. Many audiences watched on the dancers. We danced until night, but we didn't feel tired. The festival gave me lot of fun and excitement. I cannot express how wonderful experience that I obtained from this Yosakoi summer school but, if you ask me about Kochi City and KUT, I can absolutely say "Kochi City and KUT are great!! I will come back to Kochi again!"

Weerayut Krajong

Computer Engineering, 3rd Grade

Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology

Unforgettable Things



(In Japanese Class)



(Students)

-With Thailand students

All of the students learned about “Shibaten-Dance” (traditional folk song in Kochi), and danced together. We really could enjoy dance time. Especially they liked Shibaten pose.

Someone wrote how to spell “Kappa” in Thai language without my notice.

(I regret that I forgot to ask why Thai students know Kappa)

-With Chinese students

The gladdest thing is talking in Chinese. I could learn many Chinese words and culture. When we went to the shrine, I could not explain about that. Then it made me realize how important to learn Japanese culture.

-In preparation (Digression)

I also tried to translate menu in cafeteria into Chinese.

Some words were especially difficult to translate because some menu is named after place name or locally spoken expression.

Example: Chikuzen-ni→日式煮菜 (Japanese food boiled and seasoned)

This chance was very useful for me because I could talk with foreign students every day. Thanks a lot!

Kochi Univ. of Technology
School of Environmental Science and Engineering
Forth year Lisa Yoshino

YOSAKOI SUMMER SCHOOL REPORT



Now, I'm researching about "International Exchange" as a theme of graduation thesis. As for this theme, it becomes necessary not only the knowledge from books but also experience that I experience. However, there is few opportunity to interchange with foreigners in my campus life.

Therefore, this summer school was a perfect opportunity for me.

In those ten days, I learned a lot of things and gained a pleasant memory. At first, I was full of anxiety and thought that the ten days was terribly long. However, when summer school began, I felt those days rolled on quickly.

All of what I experienced during ten days are the best memories, but the most impressive thing is "YOSAKOI Festival". I have been living in Kochi since I was born, but it was the first time that I participated in the festival. Usually I do nothing but watch the people who danced, but when I was in position as a dancer, I was tense very much. I performed in public with uneasiness only after two hours training, and I was desperate and practiced it during waiting time. During the public performance, there was an incident to be called off by the bad weather, but these two days were very fun, and it became a good memory which I can't forget throughout my life.

At the beginning, I introduced the theme of my graduation thesis is "International Exchange". Before this summer school, I decided it vaguely and I didn't know what the interexchange is very well. However, during these ten days, I think that the direction became clear. I think that making friends is just a beginning of interexchange, not the goal. I wish our friendship that we built in the ten days can continue forever.

I appreciate all of the members of the International Relations Center, and others who planned this summer school and supported it. Thank you very much. Please continue to hold summer school in the future, too. I would like to participate if there is an opportunity again.

Kochi University of Technology, School of Management, 3rd year, Ami Okada

Yosakoi Summer School Program

~Introduction~

This paper is a report for the Yosakoi Summer School program. This program was held from the 4th to the 14th of August 2012, to understand each culture. We studied with Shenyang University of Technology (SUT) students and Thai-Nichi Institute of Technology (TNI) students. We had an invaluable experience while in contact with different cultures, such as Muay Thai, traditional dance, Yosakoi festival and so on.

~ Yosakoi Festival~

Yosakoi festival is “Atsui” festival. Because weather was hot “暑い Atsui” and dancer is energetic “熱い Atsui”, So it is dynamic festival. I like this festival. But I did not know Yosakoi dance was very hard(=.=) Some Chinese students was powerful (厉害 Sugoi), and other students said “熱”, “ร้อน”, “hot”, “あつっ”. We spoke in different languages during the program.

It was interesting situation. XD We enjoyed dancing even though it rained heavily. I thank to the experience since we could become much closer friends.



~ Different cultures~

We had a chance to learn different languages and cultures. It is difficult to explain in English for us about our cultures. If I have another chance, I want to know more about China and Thai.



~Concluding Remarks~

This program was a very good opportunity to learn what international exchange is. SUT and TNI students were in a gentle manner and very kind. That is why, although I'm not good at English, I felt easy to talk to them. So I was more than grateful for them. I think it is important for international exchange to be kind each other. If all people were friendly, this world is full of love and peace. (Maybe haha (^^)) Anyway, I was glad to meet them and look forward to seeing them again. Thank you.



YOSAKOI Summer School



I joined YOSAKOI Summer School all the days of this program. My purpose was to make friends with international students and improve my English ability. I began to mingle with KUT international students this spring. So I wanted to make friends from the university overseas. I felt that SUT and TNI students were very kind and hardworking.

I took this picture in Kochi Minami Senior High School. They wore the clothes for national dance. I watched Chinese and Thai dance and Muay-Thai performance twice during Summer School. Men were cool and women were beautiful!

In particular, I enjoyed MUROTO short trip. I went to many places I had never been. First day, we ate Sukiyaki for lunch. Some international students were surprised to use egg as sauce. At night, I watched Thai students practicing Thai dance and listened to ZHANG's jokes. His jokes were very funny! On the second day, I went to Sea House and a cafeteria. In Sea House, we took pictures of like the Bodhisattva with thousand arms. In the cafeteria, we sang Hotaru no Hikari in each language after drinking coffee and eating ice cream.

I joined this event and it was really good! I could make good memories! If my ability in English was well, I talked to everyone more. I think it is important to continue our relation each other. Thank you very much and see you again!!

Kochi University of Technology
School of Environmental Science and Engineering Third-year
Takuya Iriyama

Report on the international exchange



I did not participate in this program from 5th to 7th, August. But I participated in other days.

I couldn't follow what people said in English because I am not used to hearing English. I got used to hearing English on the last day.

By the way, I was asked a question about a lamp with a paper shade. But, I didn't know about a lamp with a paper shade at that time.

On the whole, this event was really enjoyable. I enjoyed especially the festival and the trip to Muroto. But, the heavy rain was very cold in the YOSAKOI festival. That rain saved me from the trouble of washing (It's a joke.) But, I enjoyed YOSAKOI dance with my friends.

I was surprised to know there are a lot of cultural differences. I became to want to study other cultures.

On reflection, it seems to me that I was a little passive. Next time, I think that I will take a positive attitude.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone again. Thank you!

Keisuke Inoue
School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Third grade
Kochi university of Technology



YOSAKOI summer school

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for giving me this opportunity. Thanks to you all, I had a great time.

I'm not good at both writing a report and expressing my opinion even in Japanese, so I'm afraid I can't tell what I felt during the summer school. I'll do my best.

The most important thing I felt is that language is the greatest invention. During this summer school I talked with many people. In the YOSAKOI team there were many foreigners and they are from many countries for instance America, Canada, Britain, Brazil, Spain, etc. We could communicate in English (sometimes in Japanese) regardless of our home countries. That's why I have studied English. I can't speak Chinese and SUT students except Liao-san can't speak Japanese. However, we communicated with each other in English, even though there were some problems for example differences in pronunciation. And with TNI students we talked in Japanese. If there isn't a common language, we couldn't have been good friends. In Japan we all speak Japanese, so I couldn't realize the importance of languages.

Next, a cultural exchange was interesting. There are many differences even in taking a bath. For example, it is common for Japanese people to use a chair in the bathroom, but it is not common for others. Moreover I was surprised that a string figure is played in other countries, too. I want to visit many countries and experience their cultures. And though I've wanted to study abroad, now I'm eager to do so. However there are still many things I can and have to study in Japan. Before I graduate from KUT I will learn as many things as possible.

I want to participate again next time if I can. I really thank you all who were concerned with this summer school.

I hope "our friendship will last forever".

Kochi University of Technology, School of Systems Engineering,
Second-year, Akane Yamashita

YOSAKOI Summer School

First, I'd like to tell you why I applied for this project. When I knew Summer School project, I decided to apply for it without any hesitation because I thought this is a big chance to improve my English skills and make friends with a lot of foreign students.

In Summer School project, I've set myself the task of making them enjoying everything in Japan. Last year, when I went to the UK as a member of the university's study tour, I forgot everything happening in Japan and just enjoyed every project. That's why I just wanted them to have the same impression as I experienced in the UK.

The most surprising and impressive thing was all of the Thai students and some Chinese students could speak Japanese very well. Furthermore, it seemed that they were highly motivated to study Japanese. As mentioned above, I applied this project because I wanted to improve my English but I changed my mind while we were talking each other. I tried to give them a chance to practice to speak and listen to our native Japanese. If they had a trouble with Japanese, I tried to explain the words they couldn't understand in Japanese. Not only those people but other Chinese students also talked with me a lot. So the most important thing was enjoying conversation for me. I was always smiling while I was talking with someone. I think we could make a lot of memories that we won't forget forever.



Kochi University of Technology
School of Environmental Science and Engineering
2nd Grade Rikiya Kamidate

I think that it was good to participate in the YOSAKOI summer school. I was able to enjoy though I was participated only on the 2nd day.

I think that there were two good things. One was YOSAKOI practice. Dancing is wonderful because people all over the world can enjoy. We can enjoy dancing even without words. So I was able to enjoy YOSAKOI with everyone.

Another was having lunch with some people. At that time I was surprised that to hear SOBA is not common in Thailand. There are differences in cultures. They said Japanese animated cartoon "Ultra man, Doraemon, Pokemon" are popular in Thailand. I was happy to hear that.

Through this event, I made friends with Gifu, Gina and Nin. I respected their Japanese skill. I'm happy to have become friends from the foreign country. But I also wanted to make friends with other students. This is the point I regret.

I took part in this event of international exchange for the first time. I came to know the pleasure of international exchange and cultural difference. And this event was a good opportunity. I want to take part in other event of international exchange, too. I had a good time!!

Gifu, Gina, Nin!! We will see each other in Thailand.

Thank you very much.

Kochi University of Technology
School of Management
1st grade
Risa Gonda

My First Memory of this Summer!!!



I joined this program for only 2 days (Day 2 and Day 5), but I had good experiences and made new good friends through these days.

Especially, from the viewpoint of studying, talking in English with Chinese students was a big experience for me. It was my first time to talk with Chinese, and I took one day to accustom myself to English they use. But at last, I could enjoy talking. About TNI students, I was surprised that almost all of them like using Japanese rather than English. But using both languages was very useful for me to communicate with them.

On the Day 2, when I joined for the first time, I couldn't enjoy myself so much because of the reason which I wrote above. However often I may try, I couldn't understand what we were talking about clearly! With this problem, I couldn't talk so much with them about culture, major, and so on. So the lectures in the offices and the classroom became the things that I could only hear. That's why I felt bored.

However, at Minami Senior High School on the Day 5, I think I contributed to this program (Summer School) by doing guide, and I also enjoyed doing mini-games and shopping with them very much. At the presentation time, SUT and TNI students showed us traditional dances and its costumes. Their gestures were so beautiful and completely different from any other kind of dances that I had seen before, which made me feel wonderful. Incidentally, though everybody seemed to enjoy presentation and group work, I thought that we, KUT students, should have create more familiar atmosphere for high school students to speak to foreign students because for me, they seemed to hesitate to speak to or to be among college group. So we should support them rather than talking with foreign students without high school students. I think lunch time was the biggest key to solve it.

The best things I got through this program were friends who are really lovely, clever, kind and amusing. Thanks to the Internet, we can keep in touch with each other easily. In addition, one of the students made a group of us on the Facebook. Now I can believe stronger that our friendship lasts forever.

KUT, School of Environmental Science and Engineering,
1st grade, Miyu Kunimoto



I went to Muroto Geo Park for the first time on Yosakoi summer school program. I saw the newest photograph and I was able to know about deep ocean water. So, I not only experienced interchange but also learned various knowledge.

When I went to China for the table tennis training last year, I felt great difference in food and culture. Students came from China and Thailand this time and I doubted and thought whether the Japanese dish was palatable for them.

When I participated in a farewell dinner party, China and Thailand students showed us their ethnic dance. I watched such ethnic dancing for the first time and overwhelmed for the figure and force.

Because I am not good at conversation in English I was not able to talk with the Chinese and Thai students well. However, with the help of other students and teachers, I learned a good command of English and wanted to have communication more. I was able to interchange with many students and learned various knowledge through this opportunity. I want to participate if there are such opportunities in the future.

Kochi University of Technology
School of System Engineering
2nd year, Kazuto Tanizoe



When I participated in the YOSAKOI summer school this time and began to interact with Thai or Chinese people, I was worried how I should communicate and whether the language can be understood.

However, when exchange actually began the people of Thailand and China were very kind and spoke positively using gesture, English, etc.

As the part of the program I went to sightseeing spots, such as a temple in Muroto. There, there were many things which I also found out for the first time.

When I went to the places where Muroto deep sea water is produced and Yataro Iwasaki were born, the pamphlets in English and Japanese were distributed, and the tour guide taught us plainly and we could learned very much.

During the meal on the second day of the sightseeing tour, the students from Thailand and China showed us the dance performance etc. The motion of all the dancers was synchronized, and I felt their dance was very beautiful.

I was able to exchange with the students from Thailand or China. They were gentle and serious. The 2 days sightseeing trip was very pleasant for me.

I look back the experience with the students from Thailand or China, and think that I would like to grow up every day.

Kochi University of Technology
School of Systems Engineering
2nd year, Yuki Morimitsu



I studied many things by this YOSAKOI summer school. I participated in MUROTO short trip. Everyone showed up so actively and started talking. We were able to become friends immediately. I felt that English was necessary to have communication. Since I could not speak English well, I wrote what I want to say on the paper, and I was able to communicate. I thought that I should have studied English more. I realized the importance of the English language again.

The program of the students of SUT and TNI for the farewell party was splendid. The dance performance by the female students from SUT was very beautiful. The performance by the male students from the SUT was very elegant. The dance performance by the female students from TNI was also very beautiful. The muay-thai performance by the male students from TNI was cool. I was impressed by all programs, and got gooseflesh.

I think I was able to learn a little Thai and Chinese culture. I wanted to know more about cultural differences. I think that I can widen my vision in many fields if I know the culture in different countries. And I think that I was able to talk about the various things. There were many things I could obtain through YOSAKOI summer school. I do not want to waste this wonderful experience. And I would like to stay in touch with the people who became friends this time and would like to deepen friendship. In addition, I want to see them again and talk about YOSAKOI summer school each other with nostalgic feeling someday in the future. To me, it became a valuable experience.

Kochi University of Technology (KUT)
School of Management
2nd year
Eri Yamato