



Tohoku University Overseas Office Newsletter

Issued by Global Learning Center

Tohoku University Center,
University of California, Riverside
U.S.A.

TU-FTU Cooperation Office,
Foreign Trade University, Vietnam

Beyond Cross-border Education

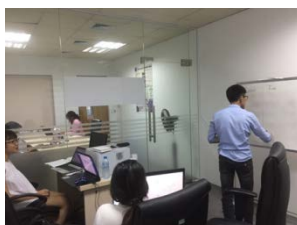
by Hoang Tam Anh , Coordinator, TU-FTU Cooperation Office, Foreign Trade University (tamanhhoang38@gmail.com)

In December 2015, the TU-FTU Liaison Office was officially founded to increase cooperation between Tohoku University (TU) in Japan and Foreign Trade University (FTU) in Vietnam. In the 3 years since its establishment, the Office has made certain achievements, such as enhancing both engagement among students from the two universities and the relationship between Vietnam and Japan.

Every semester, the TU-FTU Liaison Office organizes the Japanese Language and Culture Class taught by exchange students from Tohoku University for all students at Foreign Trade University, as well as some students from high schools in Hanoi. All the high-quality teaching materials for the classes were fully provided and transported from Japan to Vietnam by Tohoku University. During the class, students not only can learn and practice Japanese together but also have chances to share with one another about each country's culture. TU Days, with activities like Origami and Furoshiki, and FTU Days, with activities like International Dinner, Hanoi 1-day food tour, and FTU Club's Day, are held

successfully with the enthusiastic participation of a large number of students. "Thanks to the support I received, I was able to not only learn in an international environment at one of the top universities in Vietnam, but also had the chance to bring the Japanese spirit to Vietnamese students" – said Ryota Iwama, an exchange student from Tohoku University to Foreign Trade University, first semester, 2017-2018 academic year. "It is one of the most memorable times of my university life. I left my comfort zone, chose a developing country to visit, and had a unique

experience that I could have never imagined." – he said. "I used to be a shy student. I never expected that I would have a close Japanese friend like I do today. I sincerely appreciate this friendship." – said an FTU Vietnamese student. Time flies, but values that are created today will stay and last forever. It is not only educational, but also a chance to build long-lasting international friendships, mutual understanding between the two countries and provides each student unique preparation to become a future global citizen.



Tohoku University Center at UCR, Summer 2018

by Reiko Sato, Specially Appointed Associate Professor, University of California, Riverside (reiko.sato@ucr.edu)

Greetings from the Tohoku University Center at the University of California, Riverside! We hope that this Newsletter finds everyone doing well! It is getting rather cold at night and in the mornings, but there's still summerlike weather during the day, reminding us that Riverside is in a desert! By the time you receive this newsletter, the year of 2018 will almost be over. Time flies so quickly!

To start with, we would like to share some exciting news! Tohoku University has been cultivating a relationship with Riverside STEM Academy (RSA) through the Tohoku University Exploring-Germination- and-Growth Program for Young Scientists (EGGS) (<http://www.ige.tohoku.ac.jp/mirai/>) .

RSA has been hosting a group of high school students from the EGGS Program since 2015. EGGS students do homestays with the RSA students' families, and every year there are a lot of great interactions between Japanese and American students through various STEM activities. This Year, the FGL Applied Marine Biology Program has accepted its first RSA student, Ms. Kellee Collier. Kellee just started her college life at Tohoku University!

This summer, three UCR students participated in the Tohoku University STEM Summer Program (TSSP) and two UCR students participated in the Tohoku University Japanese Program (TUJP) in Japan.

Later, fifteen Tohoku students visited

UCR for the Study Abroad Program (SAP) Multiculturalism Program at the UCR Extension Center. Tohoku students and UCR students learned about each other's cultures and lifestyles during this program. Tohoku University Center will be organizing a UCR students' volunteer group to clean up a Japanese Garden (gifted by the City of Sendai as a symbol of sister city friendship) on October 23rd. We are looking forward to meeting students from Tohoku University in the spring for the Bridge Program!



Student's Experience at Tohoku University

My TUJP Experience: An Immersion in Sendai's Culture

by John Ngo, student at University of California, Riverside

To start off, I would like to thank the organizers of the TUJP for creating such an enriching program, which gave me a small glimpse into university life during one of the major festivals unique to Sendai, the Tanabata Festival. One of my highlights of the program would have to be making the decorations displayed throughout the city's shopping district as well as viewing the beautiful, one and a half hour long firework show from Nishikouen, a park near the hotel I stayed at.

Through this program, I was able to connect with students who previously came to UCR, as well as the students who were hospitable enough to take time out of their finals season schedules to help the TUJP students with our activities. Finally, I was able to find future education and graduate school opportunities that I didn't even know were available to me.

These are the decorations we helped make as part of the program

