



Shimane University

# Quarterly News

for International Exchange

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Shimane University Center for International Exchange  
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## Preface

**Harumi AO** Professor at the Center for International Exchange



After a 30 year career in Official Development Assistance, it is my great pleasure to assume the title of Professor at the Center for International Exchange.

In April 2015, Shimane University adjusted its management in order to become a more active and comprehensive global university. Under the leadership of the new President, Yasunao Hattori, Shimane University has dedicated itself to contributing to and furthering internationalization.

Currently, we have over 180 overseas students from various countries, who are working hard to master their specialized fields, however we would like to increase the number of students studying overseas. For these reasons, we must actively enhance the university's publicity while also increasing the total number of lectures in English being offered.

Though we have many challenges, I am committed to working hard and advancing the university's mission. I look forward to working with all of the dedicated faculty and staff as well as all of our partners.

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## 1: Shimane University International Exchange Topics

Shimane University's recent international events are as follows

### ◆2015 Summer Program at Gyeongsang National University of Korea



This past summer, eleven students from Shimane University participated in the 2015 Summer Program at Gyeongsang National University (GNU) in Korea. These students visited the Republic of Korea from August 18th until the 28th. GNU is one of Shimane University's Partner Universities. Since the initial recognition and agreement with GNU in 1991, this program has since been held annually these past 24 years.

This summer program enhances the participating students' understanding of Korean culture and history. During the stay, they were able to learn about not only traditional culture and history but also the advanced technologies available in Korea by attending lectures on the Korean language, culture and economies. The students also participated in colorful field trips and hands-on activities. Furthermore, the students were able to try on Korean traditional clothing, and visited Jinju Castle, Songkwang Temple, Naganeupseong Folk Village, the Historic Park of Geoje POW Camp, Aerospace Museum, among many other places. Through this program, the participants were able to better feel and understand the Korean culture, an experience that would not be possible in a classroom setting.

### ◆The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bangladesh visited Shimane University



On September 11th, 2015, H. E. Mr. Masud Bin MOMEN, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bangladesh, and Dr. Jiban Ranjan Majumder, the Economic Minister of Embassy of Bangladesh, visited Shimane University.

During their stay at Shimane University, they met with international students and researchers from Bangladesh and talked about their studies and daily life in Japan. During the meeting, His Excellency asked students and researchers to introduce the merits of studying in Japan. Responses from the group included Japan's high education levels, safety and so on.

Also, His Excellency provided a courtesy call to President Yasunao Hattori. Both sides were able to exchange their views and thoughts about important issues including current study abroad situations in Bangladesh, plans to increase the number of foreign students, and so on.

Shimane University currently has 18 students and researchers. By hosting continued visits from high level foreign dignitaries, Shimane University's high reputation will become better known abroad in places such as Bangladesh and will only increase the number of international students in the future.

### ◆The 6th International Students' Field Trip to Ohnan Town



From September 5th to the 8th of this year, Ohnan Town in Shimane prefecture hosted the 6th International Students' Field Trip. Designed to promote international students' understand of Japanese culture and humanity, this partnership agreement has existed since 2009. Much appreciation goes out to all those that assisted in this successful cultural exchange.

Accompanied by 3 university staff members, 19 participants, including 3 Japanese students, participated in this year's field trip. The focus of the trip was to experience Japanese local traditional culture in a Home (Farm) stay, experience the Ohnan International Festival, and also to participate in international workshops that were held at Yakami High School and Kuchiba Elementary School in order to further

international friendships and ties.

## ◆Dignitaries from Busan National University of Education visited Shimane University



President Ha YunSu, and two other members of the Korean Busan National University of Education visited Shimane University from Sep. 14th to Sep.16th.

This year celebrated the 25th anniversary of this annual academic exchange between the two universities which started in 1990.

During a courtesy phone call with President Hattori on Sep. 14th, topics concerning the 25th anniversary and the continuation of the exchange program were discussed.

At the celebration, Emeritus Professor Takeshi Seto and Emeritus Professor Kiichiro Arima, who have contributed the partnership between two universities, were among the

participants and were able to further develop their relationship.

During this event, a special lecture meeting was held at Shimane University as well as at Shimane University's attached schools.

## ◆The President of Chonbuk National University made a courtesy phone call to our President



Dr. Lee Nam-ho, President of Chonbuk National University, Dr. Choi Yong-jun, Deputy Vice-President for International Cooperation, and Mr. Jung Hee Chul made a courtesy phone call to our President, Dr. Yasunao Hattori on the 15th of September.

The two universities, Shimane University and Chonbuk National University, have promoted mutual academic exchanges in the field of mathematics since December 2013 at the conclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding.

At the meeting, our President, Dr. Hattori talked about his recent visit to Chonbuk National University.

The campus ambassadorship has incorporated effective approaches, in particular, through using school representatives at campus meet and greets.

Due its successfulness, plans have been made for a campus ambassadorship have been made here at Shimane University.

We are expecting that these efforts will produce a wide variety of academic exchanges between the two universities.

## ◆Vice-President Prof. Deguchi visited Universities in New Zealand



The Vice-President Prof. Akira Deguchi, Prof. Harumi Ao, Center for International Exchange, and Prof. Jun Iwata, Faculty of Medicine, visited the Waikato Institute of Technology (WINTERC) and The University of Waikato on October 8th and 9th.

Since 2010, Shimane University has conducted a short-term training program in the field of medicine at WINTERC every year and through this program, many students from the faculty of medicine have joined this program and have reported it to be a valuable experience.

Based on these academic interactions, WINTERC and Shimane University concluded an academic agreement on 2014. During their visit to WINTERC, they discussed about the enhancement of the

mutual academic programs.

The University of Waikato heavily is focused its international programs. The university has a grand 13,000 students including 3,000 international students. During the discussion with the members of International Affairs, they agreed to have continued consultation for our future collaborations of research and student exchanges.

▶▶▶For full articles and details, please visit our website... <http://kokusai.shimane-u.ac.jp/english/>

## 2: Information of Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs

 *Independent Administrative Institution*  
**Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)**

### ▶ Follow-up Research Fellowship

**Shimane University's DEAD LINE ⇒ November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

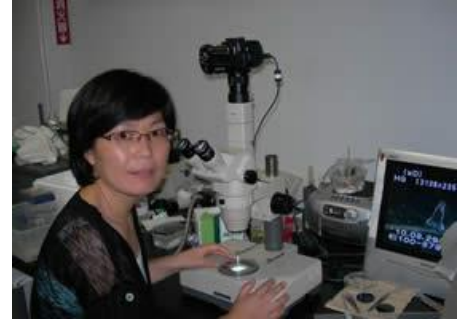
**Outline:** International students who have returned to their countries after having studied in Japan and who are currently active in education, academic research or public administration, are invited to a Japanese university to conduct joint research with relevant academics.

**Beneficiary:** Returnees from Japan with nationalities of developing countries and regions

**Eligibility:** Under 45 years old. At least one year after returning from Japan

**Research period:** 60-90 consecutive days

**Benefits:** (1) Round-trip Air fare and (2) Daily allowance (¥11,000/day) for the recipient and (3) Remuneration for cooperation (up to ¥50,000) for the research advisor



▶▶▶For more information,

[http://www.jasso.go.jp/exchange/tanken\\_e.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/exchange/tanken_e.html)

### ▶ Follow-up Research Guidance

**Shimane University's DEAD LINE ⇒ November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Outline:** JASSO dispatches research advisors to visit international students who have returned to their countries after having studied in Japan and who are currently engaged in education or research at schools to provide advice and academic support.

**Eligible countries and regions :** Developing countries and regions

**Period of dispatch :** The length of stay in the dispatched area is 7-10 days

**Benefits :** (1) Round-trip Airfare, (2) Living Expenses (¥16,000 / for each day of stay in the dispatched area), (3) Expenses for Guidance ( Maximum amount of ¥100,000)



▶▶▶For more information, [http://www.jasso.go.jp/exchange/shidou\\_e.html](http://www.jasso.go.jp/exchange/shidou_e.html)

### 3: Message from a Current International Student



**Mohammad Shahidur Rahman (Bangladesh)**  
The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences,  
Tottori University

Education in broad sense is the most important value for me. I have always been interested in learning new things. Fortunately, studying in Japan has given me the chance not only to complete my Master's degree and continue studying, but also learn about the country's culture and traditions. What is more, studying at Shimane University among both the Japanese and international students has spread my horizons in terms of intercultural

understanding.

As a foreigner studying and living in Japan, I would like to share my Japanese experience so as to encourage people not to disregard the opportunity of studies or employment abroad; each time we experience new culture, we enrich ours.

To start with I should acknowledge that there are many reasons to fall in love with Japan. The main one for me is the beauty of the nature. Shimane prefecture, where I am currently staying, is rich in picturesque sceneries: the sunset at Shinji Lake, the sacred charm of Izumo Shrine, and the inspiring Sea of Japan still take my breath away. Another valuable asset of daily life in Matsue, Shimane, that I have discovered, is safety. In my experience, the Japanese people follow the laws and general safety rules, highly respecting each other. Above all, the people in Japan are the perfect example of politeness, kindness, and the readiness to help. Numerous times, a Japanese person would not only show, but take me to the place of my destination in case I ask the way, even if the destination is completely out of the way of that person.

Even though the life in Japan has brought me many benefits, there have still been a lot of challenges to overcome. The main one, undoubtedly, is the Japanese language. The life in Shimane is impossible to imagine without at least the basic command of the Japanese language. Thus, it is essential to enrol on the Japanese language classes and communicate in the Japanese as much as possible. Fortunately, the University of Shimane provides the international students with a variety of the language courses at different levels.

All in all, the studies in Japan have influenced my personality a lot. I have developed professional skills in my sphere of studies, experienced the beauty of the Japanese customs and traditions, made friends with many kind people, and enriched my world by the stunning beauty of the local nature.

### 4: Introduction of a Partner University- University of Dhaka

#### File No.9.

L o c a t i o n	Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
E s t a b l i s h e d	1921
T y p e	National University
S t u d e n t s	37,064
U R L	<a href="http://www.du.ac.bd/">http://www.du.ac.bd/</a>



University of Dhaka is the oldest and the largest University in Bangladesh. It has been chosen as one of the top 100 universities in Asia.

Shimane University has collaborated research with the University of Dhaka in the medical field. From this collaboration, Shimane University has already accepted many students from University of Dhaka, in our Graduate school of Medicine doctoral course.

In 2011, the two universities concluded an academic agreement in 2011. Also at that time, a supplemental agreement for the promotion of student exchange was concluded as well.

The number of students and researchers from Bangladesh is currently the 2nd largest at Shimane University. In the future we expect the total number of students and researchers will continue to increase.

## 5: San'in Snapshots

### ●Matsue Do Gyoretsu Drum Parade

Every October, Matsue hosts a drum festival where everybody is encouraged to join in and pound on the giant drums that are hauled on floats through the streets. These two-metre-diameter (6.5 feet) “Do” drums are pulled by children arrayed in traditional coats, and are accompanied by bamboo flutes and changara cymbals. The sound of this energetic procession echoes through the city not only on the day of the festival, but also in the evenings leading up to the day as groups all over town gather to practice in their respective neighborhoods. Each neighborhood has its own specific carriages, styles of drumming, and outfits.

All the participants gather outside the Matsue Castle grounds on Sunday at noon where an official opening ceremony is held. This usually also includes mochi-maki, the throwing of pounded rice cakes which are meant to bring good luck to those who catch them. The drumming starts thereafter, with the carriages departing from the castle. As they proceed, the groups split into two different parade routes and go through the main streets of the city.



### ●Water Lantern Festival (Matsue Suitoro)

Held during weekends and national holidays (Sept. 23rd and Oct. 13th), Matsue Suitoro provides a magical view of lantern-lit waterways around Matsue Castle and adjacent Shiomi Nawate Street, designated as one of the hundred most beautiful streets of Japan. A draw-it-yourself lantern studio can be found on the castle grounds, which are illuminated with hundreds of lanterns.



The Horikawa Sightseeing Boat that cruises along the canals extends its operating hours until 9pm, and many other nearby tourist facilities (like Matsue Castle, Matsue History Museum, Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum, the Samurai Residence) are also open later than usual. There are also many open-air stands and food stalls, and a free shuttle bus from JR Matsue Station. URL: [Water Lantern Festival \(Matsue Suitoro\)](#).





## For Inquiries or Information

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