



# UQ-KU Project

九州大学  
研究教育交流拠点

UQ-KU  
Project  
Newsletter

October 2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND – KYUSHU UNIVERSITY OCEANIA PROJECT

## October Newsletter

### Kyushu University's Young Academics Visit the University of Queensland

The University of Queensland, in conjunction with the Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education (ICTE) provided a comprehensive week long workshop on Teaching and Learning. The workshop ran from Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of September to Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of September.

Teaching innovation is a key element of higher education at UQ, with an emphasis on active learning, learning pathways, adapting texts for lecturing purposes and blended approaches to teaching.

Thirteen young academics, from the Schools of Agriculture, Science and Engineering at Kyushu University participated in the workshop and all of the young academics found the experience valuable and will incorporate as many of the ideas and techniques into their lectures as possible.

In addition to the Teaching and Learning Workshop, the young academics from KU participated in an Academic Exchange Workshop.

The Workshop was opened by Kazuhiro Nogita (Professor and Manager of UQ-KU project, UQ) and this was followed by an introduction to the School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering at UQ given by Ross McAree (Professor and Head of School, UQ).



*Kyushu University and Queensland University Academics at the Academic Exchange Workshop, September 17<sup>th</sup> 2018*

James Cannon (Deputy Director of International Centre, Kyushu University) gave an introduction to Kyushu University and the Faculty of Engineering. The School of Information Science and Electrical Engineering was introduced by Kohei Higashikawa (Associate Professor, KU) and Wataru Mizunoya (Assistant Professor, KU) gave an introduction to the Faculty of Agriculture.

Matthew Dargusch (Professor, Director of AMPAM, UQ), spoke about the Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing (AMPAM), and David Mee (Professor and School Chair of the International Development and Engagement Committee, UQ) finished the workshop by speaking about the massive online open course (MOOC) run by the Centre for Hypersonics at UQ.

This informative workshop was also attended by Akiko Uchiyama (Lecturer, School of Languages and Cultures at UQ and the Convenor of the Master of Arts in Japanese Interpreting and Translation (MAJIT) program).



*Associate Professor Mika Tamura meets with Professor Ross McAree and Mrs Kim Lamb, Head of School and Business Manager, respectively, Mechanical and Mining Engineering*

The success of the visit by the academics from Kyushu University is in large part due to the efforts of Associate Professor Mika Tamura from Kyushu University who met with the ICTE team and other UQ staff that helped facilitate the visit.

## Q<sup>2</sup>PEC 2018

The University of Queensland has just finished hosting eighteen Kyushu University students as part of the fourth iteration of Q<sup>2</sup>PEC or Qshu-Queensland Program for English Communication. The Kyushu students were at the University of Queensland from the 20<sup>th</sup> of August until the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

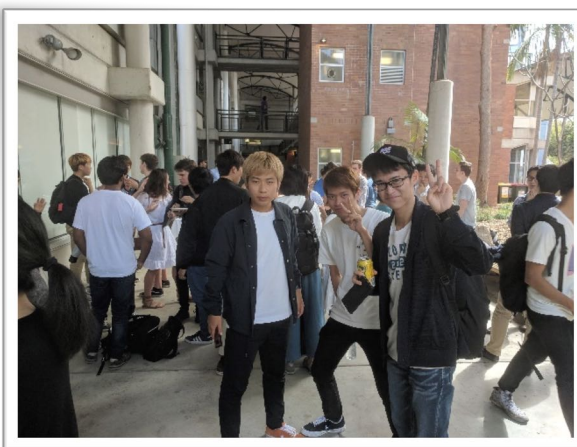
Students from the University of Queensland were very happy to meet up again with the Kyushu University friends that they had made during their visit to Kyushu University as part of the University of Queensland-Japan Program for Industry Experience, hosted by Kyushu University UQ-JPIE, supported by New Colombo Plan Mobility Programme.

Kyushu University students in the Q<sup>2</sup>PEC program participated in comprehensive English language courses that were specifically designed for them and their background of engineering studies by the Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education (ICTE-UQ).

In addition to the five-week long intensive English language course, the Kyushu University students visited a number of laboratories as well as attending presentations from recently graduated PhD scholars and post graduate students.



*Q<sup>2</sup>PEC students at the Welcome Event at the University of Queensland*



*Q<sup>2</sup>PEC students enjoying the farewell BBQ at the University of Queensland*

## Visit to UQ by Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan

On Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of August the University of Queensland had the great honour of hosting a delegation from the Japanese Government.

The delegation was headed by Ms Noriko Miyagawa, Parliamentary Vice-Minister, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Accompanying Ms Miyagawa were Mr Haruhiko Kato (Secretary to the Parliamentary Vice-Minister MEXT); Ms Junko Takada (Senior Specialist, International Affairs Division, Minister's Secretariat, MEXT); Ms Keiko Yanai (Consul-General, Consulate – General of Japan, Brisbane); Mr Norihiko Nakajima (Consul, Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane); Ms Momo Hirano (Executive Assistant for Cultural Affairs, Consul-General, Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane) and Ms Yukari Armstrong (Interpreter).

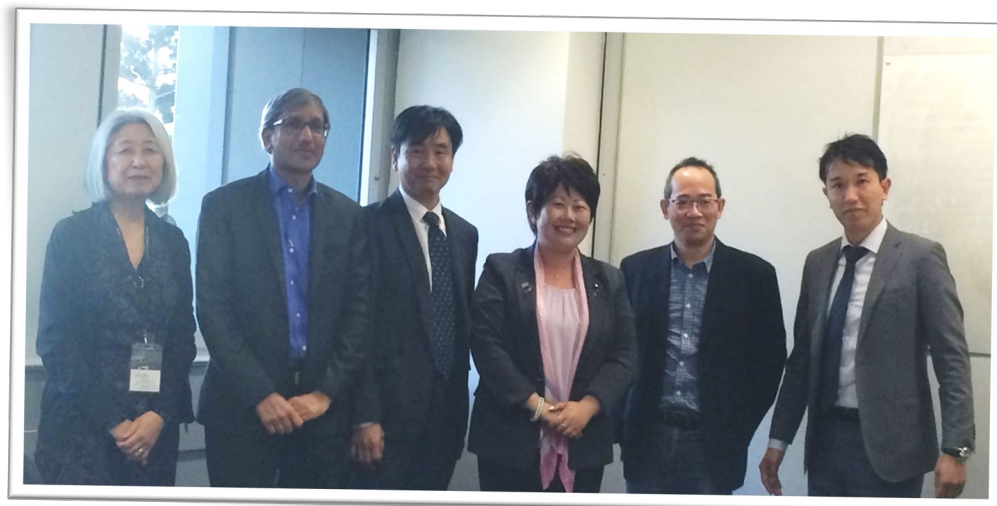
Mechanical and Mining Engineering); Dr Ebinazar B. Namdas (Associate Professor and UQ Fellow, School of Mathematics and Physics) and Dr Shih-Chuh Lo (Senior Lecturer, School of Chemistry and Molecular Bioscience).

Professor Nogita, Dr Ebinazar and Dr Lo were able to speak at length to Ms Noriko Miyagawa about the strong and cooperative relationship between Kyushu University and the University of Queensland; the Q<sup>2</sup>PEC programme run by ICTE; the University of Queensland-Japan Program for Industry Experience, hosted by Kyushu University (UQ-JPIE, funded by the Australian Government as the New Colombo Plan) and the Kyushu University Progress 100 Project.

## The UQ-KU Project MAJIT Seminar

Professor Kazuhiro Nogita had the privilege of addressing students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Japanese Interpreting and Translation (MAJIT). The MAJIT programme provides high levels of competence and training in English and Japanese languages as well as theoretical and practical skills in translation and interpreting.

The topic of Professor Nogita's MAJIT seminar was on Advanced Manufacturing in Japan and the UQ-Japan Program for Industry Experience (UQ-JPIE, funded by the Australian Government, as part of the New Colombo Plan).



*Ms Noriko Miyagawa (centre) meeting with staff members from the University of Queensland*

Professor Peter Høj, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland welcomed the delegation and was accompanied by Mr Rongyu Li, Acting Vice-President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement).

Ms Noriko Miyagawa also met with a broad cross-section of academics and researchers from the University of Queensland, including Professor Kazuhiro Nogita (Director of the UQ-KU Oceania Project, School of

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND – JAPAN PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE UQ-JPIE

*"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors. And the people there see you differently, too. Coming back to where you started is not the same as never leaving." – Terry Pratchett*

For many, the thought of studying abroad brings about a mixture of excitement, apprehension, and anxiety. A new culture awaits, with the possibility of making new friends and peers; nevertheless, so too lies the fear of isolation. *Will I grow through my experiences and become more than I was when I left, or will I shrink against adversity?* With these thoughts, I boarded my plane in Brisbane to travel to the other side of the world, from a culture deeply rooted in personal success and occasional brashness to a society built on cooperation, respect, and group identity. The prospect of travelling to Fukuoka, Japan on the 2018 New Colombo Plan was simultaneously exciting and frightening. I should not have worried in the slightest, however – the trip was the highlight of my year to date, and may very well become my favourite memory from my degree.

Many people plan by thinking about events – what they will do, where they will go, what they will see. However, I would argue that the greatest and longest lasting benefit of travel is the internal changes – whether you notice them or not – that reshape you minutely. When learning about Japanese business culture, I was taught of the many subtle ways – seating positions, the incline of various bows, the ritualistic process of business card exchange – in which a simple business meeting is simultaneously a display of deference, respect, and honour from each party to the other. In Australia's sometimes *live and let die* business culture, I hope to remember and share a small part of Japan's culture - to remember that each person I may meet with is both a company representative and a human being who deserves respect.



The primary academic purpose of this trip was to experience Japanese technology, research, and industry, and to this, as in many things, it was a great success. Through industrial site visits, lectures by field-leading academics, and cutting-edge research facility tours, I, and my fellow students, were plunged headfirst into the heart of Japan's economy.

Seeing the scale of industry was astounding, with particular note given to: the enormous 1.13km<sup>2</sup> Toyota Miyata plant, where man and machine cooperate on a non-stop conveyor belt, completing jobs with extensive quality standards in a matter of seconds; the extensive facilities of Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation, where Australia's partnership with Japan is highlighted in the blazing glow of steel, rolled from a few metres long to more than a kilometre in a matter of minutes by leviathan equipment; and the futuristic Yaskawa Electric Corporation assembly line, where robotic arms build their own identical metallic brethren. The various lectures and laboratory tours were no less eye-opening, with world-leading research in OLED technology, fundamental atomic and sub-atomic sciences, and studies into human-machine interfaces accentuated by tours of organic chemistry, electron microscope, and robotic town laboratories, respectively. I left

each lecture with a better understanding of the content, and a desire to know more; furthermore, I left each tour with a profound appreciation for the work underlying so many scientific and technological breakthroughs.

Although the tours and lectures were satisfying intellectually, they were by no means the extent of the trip. Through time spent together, and shared difficulties overcome, I've had the pleasure of meeting numerous delightful and engaging people, some from afar and some from closer to home. The opportunity to share so many unusual experiences with a wide variety of people has meant that I arrived in Fukuoka accompanied mostly by strangers, but returned to Brisbane surrounded by friends. I hope I have arrived in Australia changed from when I left, with a new appreciation for some things I had previously taken for granted, and a desire to fix other problems I had never truly appreciated; however, one thing I *can* say for certain – I am left with a desire to return, whether in the near or distant future, to Kyushu, and the Land of the Rising Sun.

William Snell

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND – JAPAN PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE UQ-JPIE

Through selection as a recipient of the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan mobility grant I participated in the UQ (University of Queensland) – JPIE short term study in Japan. The program provided a brief but intense exposure to Japanese culture and manufacturing practices.

Through multiple industry visits the participating students were able to witness first-hand the manufacturing processes used in a variety of sectors, from control systems and robotics to sintering and LNG ship manufacturing, Photo 1. These experiences prompted an improved understanding of applied engineering and manufacturing, a unique combination of high-tech and the personal Japanese touch.

Additionally, for the duration of our stay we have partaken in tours and lectures from various research groups at Kyushu University. These experiences showcased innovative and ground-breaking work conducted by various organisations, such as OPERA, Q-PIT, IRVS and HYDROGENIUS; just to name a few. Kyushu University is often referred to as the 'Hydrogen Campus'. The meaning underlying this name became inherently clear as we learned about the remarkable research being conducted for the utilisation of hydrogen as a fuel source, in areas of both vehicle design, large scale storage and small scale conversion to electricity.

This world leading research being conducted at Kyushu University serves to address growing environmental concerns and challenges in low carbon energy generation and storage, and is just one example of the environmental focus across multiple research disciplines. I believe this ecofriendly research to be reflective of a greater desire amongst the Japanese people to preserve and maintain the planet; with there being a sense of responsibility ingrained in Japanese culture.

Another feature of the JPIE program was the pairing of UQ and KU 'buddies'. I thought it was a valuable part of the experience, meeting someone with similar goals and interests (in engineering and other aspects of life) who has grown up in a different social environment allows for discussion and a greater appreciation of culture. Spending time with our buddies, Photo 2, provided insight into a new point of view cultivated from different life experiences in a different culture, a valuable tool for both professional engineering and communicating in a global environment.



**Photo 1: Mitsubishi Heavy Industry (Nagasaki Shipyard), UQ-JPIE**

This valuable and unique experience served to instil an enhanced awareness of the relationship between Australia and Japan. With the economic relationship with Australia's northern hemisphere counterparts built on the foundation of the trading of raw materials and manufactured goods, and supported by a mutual friendship and appreciation of cultures and identities.

Overall, I found the program highly enjoyable and informative. The program was only possible through the support of the 2018 New Colombo Plan, as well as the organisational efforts of Kyushu University, UQ and Kazuhiro Nogita; for which I am extremely grateful. My journey on this program was my first trip outside of Australia, and it was truly a life changing experience. I feel that I have experienced a great deal of personal growth – in areas related to both cultural acceptance and engineering – and have made lifelong friends. Japan, the people and culture have truly left me inspired. I am already planning my return to Japan! I cannot wait until next time!

**Vince Tyrrin**

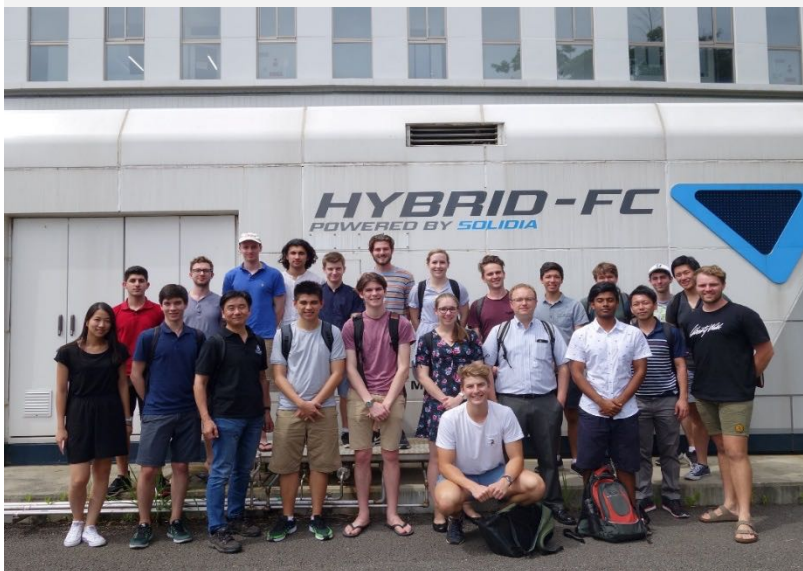


**Photo 2: New Friendships, Morning of the Yamakasa Festival**

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND – JAPAN PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE UQ-JPIE

This morning I arrived home from what has been the best three weeks of my life. I was lucky to be one of the 20 students chosen to represent UQ for the 2018 NCP trip to Japan. And what a trip it was.

Over the course of two weeks, we got to experience the extremes of Japanese business culture and society. There was tyres, typhoons and tea ceremonies. Plus the craziness of everyday life as a student in Japan – I am so thankful for my two buddies for helping me adapt.



*UQ students with the first commercial hydrogen battery*

There were some distinct highlights of the trip for me. One of these was the emphasis on hydrogen and fuel research at Kyushu University. I had never heard about using hydrogen as a fuel source prior to the trip. Through 3 interesting lectures we were taught about the history of hydrogen as a fuel source, as well as the practical side of how to integrate it into our fossil fuel society. We also got hands on with some simply hydrogen batteries, and saw an incredibly large one on campus,

too. The most exciting part was looking at the hydrogen powered cars by Toyota and Honda. I've developed a new interest in the technology, and plan to look into it more when university goes back.

Another awesome highlight was visiting the Toyota and Yaskawa factories. The level of technology was mind blowing, and very, very cool. I think all the students secretly want to work there now. Some were brave enough to ask for internships (hint hint).

The NCP trip has taught me so much in such a short space of time. I've got a better understanding of Japanese culture, and have been inspired to work harder and smarter towards my goals. It's been an incredible experience, and I've made some amazing friends along the way. Thank you to the staff, students and industry officials who've made it possible. I look forward to part two in August!

**Katherine Dunne**

## Q2PEC EXPERIENCE

In this summer, this Q<sup>2</sup>PEC program gave strong incitement and this memory is an irreplaceable and precious thing to me. It is difficult to write all deep emotion which I feel, but I want you know how great this program is. From now, I will write about a portion of this wonderful experience.



One of the greatest points of this program is that we can communicate with Australian friends in advance. In July, Some Australian students came to Japan as UQ-JPIE program. I spent a lot of time with my buddy in Japan, and got along with him. I could make friends with other UQ students through him. When I was in Australia, they taught many things and were really kind to me. Sometime, they took me to some places and we had really good time. They also belong to engineering department, so I have discussed engineering opinions. At the end, they came to be best friends of mine and I keep contact with them still now. UQ student are from various countries, so I was able to experience many kinds of cultures. At the same time, I learned how important to understand other cultures. Thanks to my UQ friends, I could learn many precious things like cultures, the way of thinking, communication skill and so on.

It is also good points that we can actually experience Australian lifestyle.

Australian lifestyle is totally different from Japanese one, so every day was exciting and I realized many new things. For example, I was surprised at the difference about the way of studying in the class at first. In Australia, every student talked positively during the class. On the other hand, Japanese students were shy and just listened lecture. The personality of the citizens is also perfectly different from Japanese one. They were very kind and talked positively to even person who could not speak English well like me.



I took this picture in the bar in UQ. I met the men for the first time but they talked many things to us and I got along with them only one night. In my opinion, it is attractive to get along with many people even if you cannot speak English well. I did not realize the good and bad points of Japanese until I experienced Australian lifestyle. It was good opportunity to objectively take a look at myself again.



As I explained, I had a really precious time in Australia. Thanks to this program, I come to think that I want to learn English more and ponder my future seriously. Although I do not write about how much I improved my English, of course, my English

skill had improved. However, in my opinion, the biggest advantage of this program is another thing. -I came to think things from a various point of view.

Miyata Shintaro

## MY MEMORABLE SUMMER VACATION AT UQ

Today, many people study abroad in order to improve their English skills and broaden their perspectives and so on. In fact, I expected those things and decided to study abroad. However, in a good surprise, through 6 weeks in Brisbane, I could have better experiences than I had imagined. I would like to talk to you some great experiences.



To begin with, I will tell you about my homestay. At first, to be honest, my home stay was not good. I could not even understand whether I was asked a question or not because of lack of my English skills, so I sometimes bothered my homestay mother. I felt so sorry for her all the more because she was kind. However, luckily, my homestay family has three children, so I could enjoy playing with them even though I could not understand what they said perfectly. Thanks to them, it was not a long time before I liked my homestay. To get along with my homestay family more, I did main two things. The first thing was that trying to listen to conversation among the family in order to learn about them, and the second thing was that talking to them positively. Through these, I could improve my English skills as well as getting along with them. Furthermore, my homestay mother taught me what I wanted to know. I was interested in children's education and by coincidence, she worked at an elementary school with a bachelor of education. I learned educational problems in Australia from her. Some problems were similar to that in Japan. She criticized that teachers did not get much money regardless of their working hours. On the other hand, others were different. The most surprising for me was that some teachers hated teaching history of Aborigine. It was a precious experience that I could learn education in Australia from the expert.

Second, I also want to talk to you about general English classes that I took for 5 weeks at ICTE. I could get along with my classmates, and on the weekends, we went to the Gold Coast, Movie World, and Fraser Island. Of course, talking with them was a good English practice, but I simply enjoyed talking with them. Furthermore, through the classes, two big changes happened to me. To begin with, I became to think that I had no time to hesitate. Foreigners' positive attitudes made me think so. I could do what I wanted to do, not to hesitate and ask what I wanted to know to someone though in front of

people. I can say confidently that the person who spoke the most on the last 3 weeks in the classes was me. The second was that my attitude as an engineer has changed. In my class, I only was an engineer. Therefore, I was sometimes asked to explain things concerned with engineering. However, I could not explain well. Through this experience, I noticed that once I go out into society, I am regarded as an engineer and people think that it is natural that I have enough knowledge about engineering even though I am the second grade. Not belonging in the department of engineering but having knowledge about engineering means I am an engineer.



Furthermore, I must not forget telling you about presentation training about two weeks. In this class, we thought about what we should do to make a good presentation. We studied about the structure of presentation, the hook in introduction, and the overview and opinion in summary. Also, we learned that we should make our PowerPoint as simple as possible and pronounce English correctly and in an appropriate volume of voice. Thanks to this training, I think that our presentation skill definitely improved.

Through this program, some changes happened to me as I explained. I will not forget what I learned during this summer vacation. In addition to this, my English skills have improved somewhat. However, at the same time, I noticed that my English skills are not enough to talk with foreigners naturally. It is a good opportunity to notice this fact. I will continue making an effort to improve my English. In the future, I want

to exchange my opinions and thoughts with foreigners.

Maiko Idehara

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

<http://www.mechmining.uq.edu.au/uq-ku-project>