JIU's Shingo Usami drafted to play for Yomiuri Giants

Shingo Usami, a fourth-year student in JIUI's Faculty of Social and Environmental Studies was selected in the fourth round of the 2015 Nippon Professional Baseball Draft on Oct. 22 by the Central League's Yomiuri Giants.

Usami, who was welcomed by loud applause when he joined the public viewing of the draft at JIUI's Togane Campus, was congratulated by students, professors and staff members when the pick was announced.

The powerful (190 cm, 75 kg) centerfielder is a graduate of Chiba prefecture's Kanuma High School (Kanuma City) and a member of the Samourai Japan National Team.

"Since my childhood, I've dreamed of being a professional baseball player," he said. "I've always wanted to be welcomed by loud applause when I joined the public viewing of the draft at a university campus, and that wish was finally fulfilled today."
On July 23, 2013, Josui University Educa-
tional Cooperation (Yoshinoya Holdings Co., Ltd.; Tsukasa Kawamura, President) organized a joint seminar for Josui University interna-
tional students, faculty, and graduate students from the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences that ran from May to July earlier this year. The seminar was held to help international students understand the food service industry by organizing practical lectures and discussions led by members of the industry. There are plans to develop international seminars for courses and job-fair events at foreign students.

Josui University Educational Cooperation Chairman Noriko Mizuta (right) and Yoshinoya Holdings Co. President Tsukasa Kawamura display the agreement certificate.

JOSUI UNIVERSITY/ANDREW LEEMAN

**JOSUI UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION AND YOSHINOYA HOLDINGS SIGN JOINT SEMINAR AGREEMENT**

Josui University Educational Cooperation Chairman Noriko Mizuta (right) and Yoshinoya Holdings Co. President Tsukasa Kawamura display the agreement certificate.

My life took me to China, where I am working at Northwestern University, a sister university of Josui International University. When I was a university student, I was always going to China in my spare time, but it was not until I entered Josui University that I began to go to China every year.

In China, I have found a new life! I still travel without any particular plans or routes. However, when I thought about the future, I just knew that I needed English and the market atmosphere of the air, so I decided to apply to the Josui University. To go to China, I took a 50% discount

The salon is open to all residents over 65 years of age living in the city. The first-year students are not able to hold meetings with members of the Gumyo community.

Students, Faculty of Nursing

Students offer comfort for elderly at Iki-Iki Salon

by Narumi Yoshino and Chiho Takada, Students, Faculty of Nursing

The salon is open to all residents over 65 years of age living near the station. The students do not usually have time to visit the elderly regularly. They use tablet PCs together, and enjoy drinking coffee and talking with morning students.

The agreement signing was held at Josui University, a sister university of Josui International University.

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Students exchange dance, language lessons in Vietnam

For 12 days from Sept. 6 to 17, nine students from our International Humanities department ethnographically embarked on a study tour to Vietnam. We mainly stayed in Ho Chi Minh City and visited different places each day. In the first two days, we visited two sister universities, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education. At such an occasion, we talked about our home towns and Japanese culture. Cultural exchange programs were also conducted. We performed the traditional dance wearing traditional happy costumes, and Vietnamese students performed their traditional dance in an electronic costume. We took Vietnamese language lessons and we also taught simple Japanese. Everybody played games and engaged in other activities in different languages. It was fun and interesting to meet and talk with so many Vietnamese students. They were all enthusiastic, asking about our language, popular culture, and our families and friends. We were very happy to meet and exchange our views through English conversations.

Apart from our sister universities, we also visited a high school where we taught Japanese culture and language. The students welcomed us to their classroom just like we were precious guests! After the class, we also showed the students omnishadow, and played football and volleyball with them. It was a lot of fun! We also had a chance to visit a school for blind children. They welcomed us with beautiful songs played on Vietnamese instruments. We were very impressed with their expressive voices and the music. On another day, we visited an orphanage along with students from the University of Technology and Education. We spent time with the children making origami, drawing pictures and singing songs together.

We also took part in a tour of Ho Chi Minh City and visited Ha Chi tunnel, and through those tours, we learned more about their history and the history of the Vietnam War. However, Vietnamese society has been rapidly changing and transforming, and the university’s mission is to make the most of those discussions, especially when we talked to young people, but we could still see many signs of its tragedy, and we realized that we had to study more about it from history.

We took part in a tour in Mi Tho, which is about two hours’ drive from Ho Chi Minh City. Mi Tho is a popular destination in the Mekong Delta region and we crossed the border on both fishing trips and a small boat. The following day, we visited a small village nearby Mi Tho. We went there with children and high school students from Ho Chi Minh City, and we experienced real-life farm workers through a home visit with a local family, during which we all dined on local cuisine, including broken rice and vegetables. We also did some volunteer work in the village under the guidance of local NGOs. We collected some samples of seeds and plants with children and high school students and helped them make maps of their village and another of their local habitats — the flora and fauna that are specific to their area. We were also impressed by the story told by villagers, about how they’ll cook it every evening when children climb up a tree, instead of looking at a clock.

By interacting with local people and children, we deepened our understanding of Vietnamese society and had valuable experience both in the country’s urban and rural areas. We hope we will soon have another opportunity to visit Vietnam and learn more about the culture, particularly in the countryside, and to do more volunteer work especially among children.

Students exchange dance, language lessons in Vietnam

Mizuta collection showcases ideal beauty of ukiyo-e

by-Riona Shikibu

Student, Faculty of International Humanities

Ideal beauty appears in paintings and art works in all cultures at all times. The ideas of ideal beauty are as varied as there are examples of such works. And while these ideas share similarities within their cultures and time periods, they may change significantly within the span of a few decades. The exhibitions “Interplay of Beauties in the Ukiyo-e” at the Mizuta Museum of Art, provided an excellent example of this phenomenon.

In order to demonstrate the transformation of concepts of ideal beauty in ukiyo-e (literally “floating world”) paintings and prints, the works were displayed in chronological order starting from the seventeenth century to the end of the nineteenth. On examining the gallery, viewers saw five paintings, each mounted on scrolls. The first showed a lady sitting inside a pavilion. Next to her was a brush, ink and an empty sheet of paper. The position was one on the shore of a moonlit lake. As gallery curator Atsuko Higuchi explained, “Educated Japanese of the period would have been deeply moved by the painting because they would have recognized the scene as that of Murasaki Shikibu, the eleventh century nobleswoman, author of The Tale of Genji. What better way to begin an exhibition about beauty than with a beautiful woman dictating a beautiful story?

Another of the five paintings shows five characters associated with the pleasure quarters. They are walking along a highway, turning back to gaze at Mount Fuji in the distance. The work paradoxes a passage from another thousand-year-old literary masterpiece, The Tales of Edo, in particular a scene known as Arima-bashi, literally “descending to the East,” which referred to having to leave the pleasures of Kyoto and return to present-day Tokyo but which back then was “rough and uncivilized.” Cartoon Hottottsu pointed out that in the work the colors were particularly bright indicating that the painting had been specially ordered. Does of higher quality were used for such works.

On the next day we saw a woodblock print with a “beauty and bear” theme, in the background of this Japanese print the artist has placed a distinctly Chinese looking character, easily recognized by contemporary viewers as Guan Yu, a military leader in the Romance of the Three Kingdoms. In this print his role is to act as a contrast to the beauty of the Japanese courtesan in the foreground. Again, print consumers of the day would have been familiar with Chinese literature and would have understood the reason the artist had placed Guan Yu in the picture. In paintings and prints produced in the late sixteenth and early eighteenth centuries the ideal woman was young, somewhat plump and not particularly tall. However, in the print displayed next to Guan Yu and the courtesan, produced only a few years later, these young girls find themselves in a shallow river that seem to have been given distinctly Asian characteristics.

The print is by Suzuki Harunobu (1725-1770) who achieved the finding beauty in the seemingly ordinary prior to Hokusai. One had to have been a famous person to appear in a work of art whereas these three young girls crossing the river were people one might see anywhere. All the same, Harunobu cleverly used them to represent people of high rank. Ordinarily an aristocrat would ride across the water and stand on the other side, looking back to enjoy nature there. Instead, of a horse, the girl in the middle wears wooden clogs called “tomagari” in which the characters for “lensing” and “grapes” are inscribed. The two girls to her side are shown lifting her long does to keep it from getting wet, much as servants in the day would have been familiar with Chinese literature and would have understood the reason the artist had placed Guan Yu in the picture. In paintings and prints produced in the late sixteenth and early eighteenth centuries the ideal woman was young, somewhat plump and not particularly tall. However, in the print displayed next to Guan Yu and the courtesan, produced only a few years later, these young girls find themselves in a shallow river that seem to have been given distinctly Asian characteristics.

Further along we see the ideal of beauty again transformed, this time from a child-like figure to a tall, mature woman. The faces of subjects have become elongated, lips are fuller evoking an image of sensualism, and long necks have become shorter. In Meiji (1868-1912) times, women were given subtle expressions. What is also remarkable about Meiji prints is that they are far more colorful than those from the Edo Period (1603-1868). This is due to the impact of aniline dyes from Western countries which were cheaper than native dyes, and also produced stronger colors that did not fade.

“Interplay of Beauties in the Ukiyo-e” was shown from October 1 to 17 and again during the JIU festival from November 1 to 3. The Mizuta Gallery has an extensive collection of Ukiyo-e. Information about future exhibitions is available on the JIU website. Entry for students is free of charge.
Josai University Educational Corporation Chancellor Noriko Mizuta was awarded an honorary doctorate in pedagogy on Aug. 21 by Hannam University, a prestigious school in the central South Korean city of Daejeon.

Josai and Josai International University (JIU) set up an academic exchange program with Hannam in 2009. Ever since, the Japanese and South Korean universities have actively collaborated, exchanging students and organizing educational programs on international culture. In December 2012, the partners had their first friendly soccer match with Japan's Princess Takamado, honorary patron of the Japan Football Association, to introduce at Prince Takamado Memorial Sports Park, which was built to commemorate the 20th anniversary of JIU. Mizuta was honored to receive her honorary doctorate in pedagogy at an auditorium at Hannam University for Global Access Asia (GAA), a new online education system proposed at the 2014 Asian University President Forum (AUPF) that aims to address the importance of international education in Asia in the global age.

Josai Chancellor Noriko Mizuta comments on the occasion and the university's future:

“Two countries by forging friendly ties between them will build a peaceful future in the 21st century and forge friendly and cooperative ties between South Korea and Japan.”

Mizuta added, “We urge students of Hannam to visit Japan and JIU and think about two universities, as well as with other universities, to further upgrade our international education programs associated with GAA. “It is important that we learn from one another’s culture and local cooperation. The new Pharmaceutical Sciences took place at Josai University’s Yukado Campus.

The two-floor Mizuta Mikio Memorial Hall in Josai’s main campus is an additional space for the university’s international education. It includes a“Grand Hall” that can accommodate 300 people, a“New Faculty Building” that can seat 200 people, and an“International Office” that can accommodate 100 people.

By the end of next year, the university will complete the new“International Hall” that will be completed by March 2017.

In addition to the Grand Hall, the new“International Hall” will also accommodate“International Office” that will be completed by March 2017.

In the round-table discussion that followed, panel members offered passionate views on the university’s future, including the importance of building a system based on Asian cultural diversity. The discussion, held at the new Faculty Building, will be completed by March 2017.

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