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# 地域のために何ができるのか？

地域との国際交流は、言葉で言うほど簡単ではない。自分たちが何ができるかを体験するため、大分市のメイン高等学院を4月中旬から下旬にかけて3回にわたり訪問し、生徒たちとレクリエーション、調理などを通じて交流した。

メイン高等学院は、通信制高校卒業資格の取得を学習面・生活面で支援する教育機関。今回、初めて国際学生と交流するという生徒もいて、初回の交流では、生徒の表情や行動に、不安や緊張が見えた。しかし、回を重ねることに、苦手だったコミュニケーションができるようになり、調理実習ではネパールカレーやメキシコのタコスなどを国際学生に教わりながら一緒に作り、自然に国際交流を楽しむようになった。

生徒に感想を聞くと、「国や言葉の違いや、国際交流の壁の大小も、お互いを理解しようとする気持ちさえあれば、変わるのではないか」、「他国の文化や生活を知ることが面白く、自分の知識が増えて楽しかった」などと話してくれた。

大分市内でも外国人の姿がごく普通に見られるようになったが、真の国際交流ができていくのはごく一部の人であり、ほとんどが無関心か、抵抗を感じているようだ。同学院教務の野仲由貴子先生は「今回、何度も交流を重ねることで、慣れが壁を乗り越え、生徒の成長につながった。しかし、日常生活にこのような機会はない。もっと国々の文化や習慣を学び、理解する機会を増やすべきではないでしょうか」と話していた。

初対面のときに言葉を交わさなかった生徒たちが、次第に国際学生に話しかけ、文化や習慣のことを尋ねるようになったのは、想像以上の驚きだった。「交流」は言葉だけではなく、わたしたちが行動すれば、ここまで変わるんだということを実感できた。機会があれば、これからも地域にどんどん出向いて、壁をなくしていきたい。

桑野詩織(3回生・日本)



〈第1回〉初対面なのでちょっと緊張。自己紹介とゲームをしながら少しずつ打ち解けました。

〈1st day〉Self introductions and ice breaking games help to relieve the students' initial nervousness.



〈第2回〉ネパールのカレーやメキシコのタコス、各国の伝統料理と一緒に作り、楽しみました。

〈2nd day〉Nepalese curry and Mexican tacos. Cooking together traditional food from around the world.



〈第3回〉APU国際学生と考えた「日本と他の国々の文化の違い」について生徒が発表しました。

〈3rd day〉Directed by APU international students, MINE students give presentations on cultural differences between Japan and other countries.

スタッフ  
STAFF

河原 秀信  
(4回生・日本)

石田 あや

## Different cultures and multi-culture

How we can better understand others by living in a multicultural environment?

The increase in trans-national migration has caused

are not used to coexisting with people of different cultures". He stressed that, "The most important is to avoid stereotyping", or as the old say



# What can you do for the region?

As an international student at APU, I like to participate in as many exchange activities as possible to get the most out of my school life.

I first visited MINE Advanced School (Oita) in February and was surprised at the amount of freedom the students had there. Students are free to choose the courses they want to study and they don't even need to buy a uniform if they don't think it's necessary. I noticed many huge differences between MINE and my old school in China. MINE Advanced School is a unique style of secondary education that allows students to gain their high school graduation certificate via correspondence.

Over the course of three sessions, APU students visited MINE Advanced School and took part in exchange activities with the students there.



On April 14th, approximately 10 APU international students from the USA, China, Korea and Indonesia took part in an exchange meeting with students from MINE Advanced School. During our discussions, I was reminded of my first visit to Japan as a high school exchange student from China. The MINE students were shy at first but they were very friendly and I felt comfortable using Japanese with them.

The second exchange day was held at Compal Hall (Oita City) on April 21st to welcome the MINE new-entrants. On this day, APU students from countries such as China, Korea and the USA cooked up a range of dishes while the MINE teachers and students made Japanese food. My friends and I made Chinese dumplings and we all enjoyed cooking and eating

the delicious food together. Although exhausted, we all felt a great sense of accomplishment when everyone complimented us on how delicious the dumplings were.

On the last exchange day on April 28th, the MINE students gave small group presentations after discussions about the differences between Japan and our home countries. We formed three groups, Japan vs. China, Japan vs. the USA and Japan vs. Mexico. Everyone seemed to enjoy participating in the lively discussion process. In our group we compared Chinese Spring festivals to the Japanese New Year and discovered a number of cultural differences. Listening to their presentations, I found out that a driver's license only costs about 800 yen in the USA but as much as 300,000 yen in Japan! I was also amazed to find out that Japanese girls can get married as young as 16 - in China the legal age for women to marry is 20! I taught them to introduce themselves and pronounce their names in Chinese and was delighted to see their enthusiasm.

Although there were only three exchange days, they have helped enrich my knowledge of Japan and my inter-cultural communication skills, and this has made my life at APU even more meaningful!

王夢荷 WANG Menghe(2nd year/China)   
Ying Yanling(2nd year/China) 



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この多文化な環  
さるだろうか。自  
さまざまな国の人  
実際に、APUの  
る。ここは、今私  
ンインドネシア  
うことだ。しかし、  
した。  
彼が最も言いた  
とだ。そう、古くか  
う言葉の通りに。  
3回生のサント  
その文化を持つ人  
が利益を過度に求  
こうとしない間は  
はできない」とも語  
多文化理解は、  
だ。しかし、私たち  
は、紛れもない事  
とは、他文化につ  
することだ。それ  
が将来、より良い  
とを可能にするの  
で精進した今日の  
日本語訳

他  
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