



The JUEMUN 2017 will be hosted by Kobe City University of Foreign Studies on June 23-26. First of all, the JUEMUN (Japan University English Model United Nations) is one of Model United Nations simulating United Nations (UN) conferences. It is organized by administrative staff, teachers and volunteer students. Participants are referred to as delegates and represent different countries in the discussion. Not only Japanese students but also students from around the world with various backgrounds will participate in the conference. This year, 33 students are taking two classes provided by Kobe City University of Foreign Studies.

The subject of this year is “Women’s Empowerment”. “It is really important because Japan is ranked so low, 111th as a nation in terms of women’s empowerment” said professor Nishide, a professor at Kobe City University of Foreign Studies in charge of the Model United Nations courses. Because of the depopulation of Japan, in the future more women are going to have to play a larger role and needs economic empowerment. Also, living in Japan, she does not think that people feel that there is real gender crisis in Japan, even though there is. She said that it is appropriate to be highlighted in the JUEMUN.

“The biggest thing that students can learn is global citizenship and 21st century skills,” said Professor Nishide. The course and three-day JUEMUN conference is a great opportunity for students to learn not only today’s international problems, but also research skills and it allows the students to think critically and creatively. In addition, the biggest thing that she thinks students will gain is the sense of responsibility. Only one delegate in each committee represent each country, which means that they have the responsibility to speak as well as to listen. There is no place for observer status and therefore each student has to be interactive and be a member in their committee and regional block as a diplomat. They can experience the situation, which they are demanded to have different type of responsibility from other courses.

Furthermore, JUEMUN has so many things in common with the real UN, such as formats and resolutions, which they can learn how the UN operates and she said that they will see the interdisciplinary nature of issues. Many fields affect every topic and different fields of learnings are mixed together. Also, she has been to UN meetings and found that the diplomacy of how people greet and talk to each other and the way people act are very similar. These are the things the students will simulate to experience the UN.

Twenty students are take the course of the Model United Nations every Friday at the Kobe City University of Foreign Studies. In the class, students play their roles and more experienced students take leading roles to conduct part of the classes themselves. Every student has to represent one country, so they need to research many things about their countries as a representative and discuss a problem in their respective positions with other students. In this way, the class is conducted by students themselves and it offers students an amazing opportunity to improve not only many skills such as research skill and presentation skill, but also themselves.



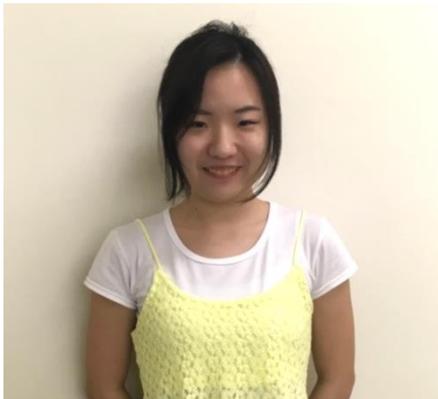
THE JOURNALISTS

Three students at Kobe City University of Foreign Studies will participate in this year's JUEMUN as journalists. Let's find out who they are.

"I look forward to meeting people from different areas with different thoughts," said Rino Okamoto, sophomore of English Studies Department. She wants to hear the delegates' thoughts at the conference meetings and also by interviewing them.

Okamoto is taking part in the JUEMUN as a journalist from the university's publication studies course. She also took part in the NMUN last November as a volunteer guide for the delegates from overseas in the cultural visit. "It is normal to find and feel the difference" Okamoto said. Guiding a group of Italians, she found that the way they act and think is different from hers. She was trying to get things done on time while the Italians were not as strict on time. The Japanese people tend to try to follow the plan as much as possible, but Italians tend to enjoy that moment of time. She had trouble trying to make them follow her ways of thinking and to stick to the original plan. We have different cultures which is not easy to follow. She said that she could broaden her mind and enjoyed that moment of time. Not only did she guide the foreigners around, but she found out more about Japan, her own culture.

Through this class, she looks forward to meeting people from variety of areas and with the ways of thinking she does not know. In addition, it would be a great experience to be able to take part in the Model United Nations, which she could feel the atmosphere of the place. "I thought, through this class, I would be able to learn journalism from different points of view, which could be useful in the future and be a good chance to prepare for the Model United Nations next year." (by Ami Oguri)



Rino Okamoto

“I want to tell the world how differently people live their lives”, said Natsuki Ota, who is a second-year student of the English Studies Department. When she was a junior high school student, she had an opportunity to hear a person who volunteered to work in Jamaica and the experience that he had was beyond what she could imagine. It made her strongly think that she wanted to send information about unbelievable things to the world as he did.

She also likes to see different worlds. In example, she went to Tegal, Central Java in Indonesia this spring for two weeks and helped people plant trees as a volunteer for project of Never-ending International workCamps Exchange (NICE), a NGO based in Tokyo. Through the entire program, she strongly felt that she wanted to tell people what she had experienced.

The most surprising thing to her was the different way of thinking. People in the island do not think that it is bad thing to throw trash on a road, which is not appropriate thing to do by the Japanese standard.

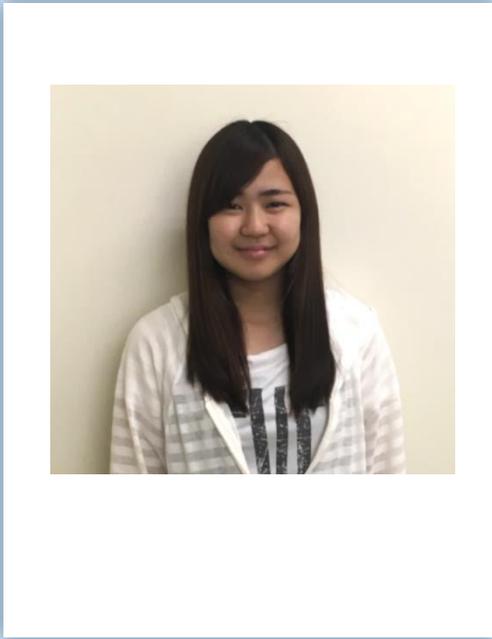
She was also surprised at the environment around children. “They do not have a good environment to study at home because there is much noise around their house,” she said. In order to improve their living conditions, she helped children study English and also taught how important it is to keep clean. She also played with them after school hours.

In a meeting organized by NICE on May 10, Ota explained her experience in Indonesia to new students who are interested in NGO activities. For this reason, she was interested in publishing and therefore decided to participate in this activity for her skills.

Ota hopes that everyone knows how different culture people have in the world and they can understand each other without prejudice. (by Rino Okamoto)



Natsuki Ota



Ami Oguri

“I want to know the world,” Ami Oguri, also a sophomore of English Studies Department. In the publication studies course, which she takes together with Okamoto, students collect information from people who will participate in the JUEMUN and make newsletters.

As she is not familiar with publishing, she was not so interested in it at first. However, Oguri changed her mind because she wanted to try something, which she had not done before. Everything about publishing is new for her such as how to write or how to construct the paragraphs.

The more she understood publishing, the more she was interested in the world. For example, she started to read news online. Then, she realizes she cannot write accurate information without learning background knowledges. She now wants to know more about the world and determined not to leave things not understood. She now asks people when she did not understand.

Having been shy, she was not used to asking questions. This habit comes from the time when she was in the United Kingdom. She lived in the UK for six years during her elementary school years. As first, she did not understand English, so she just copied what other people did. However, now she changed her habits, she starts to ask people. Then, she gets the new way to think.

The theme in this year’s JUEMUN is women’s empowerment. She hopes the conference will help us to realize a society where people can pursue their dreams regardless of gender. She also wants to learn global female problems that she would not know in Japan. (by Natsuki Ota)