



STUDENT MOBILITY SCHEME REPORT

[For participants]

Your experience can help other students when they are planning for their study abroad program. To make sure that prospective students have a chance to learn from your experience, everyone who has participated in the SMS program should complete a Student Mobility Scheme Report.

Upon completion of the form, please submit it to the office which handles the ACUCA SMS at your institution.

Please note that the information will be shared with other students who are interested in the SMS through the website.

Thank you for your cooperation.

[For coordinators]

This report will be posted on the ACUCA Website. We would appreciate it if you could email us the file electronically.

1. Name: Livia Indah Lestari

2. Home Institution: Name: Petra Christian University Country: Indonesia

3. Host Institution: Name: Kwansei Gakuin University Country: Japan

4. Study Period: from 03/2011 to 07/2011 (mm/yyyy)

5. How did you hear about the ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme? _ International
_ Office at your institution, _ ACUCA Website
_ From Fellow Student, _ Others (Please Specify)

Comment:

From my International Relation Office at my home university.

6. What did you study and what kind of activities did you take part in while abroad?

I studied Japanese language as the compulsory subject. I also took other classes related to Japanese culture like Japanese Business, Japanese Religion, etc. In KGU, all classes for exchange students are designed to help us understand more about Japanese life and culture.

I joined Ikebana club and took part of its regular activities. In my spare time, I enjoyed travelling and visiting famous places in Japan with my friend.

7. Was it difficult adjusting to life abroad, and if so what were some of the difficulties?

It's not too difficult. The hardest moment was the beginning. The weather was too cold and I was not used to walk such a long distance like the Japanese do.

8. What advice would you give to fellow students at ACUCA universities who are thinking of taking part in the Student Mobility Scheme?

Don't hesitate to go. But be prepared for a new experience, new people and new culture. Having a certain degree of ability in the native language will help a lot. Make sure you learn and explore as much as you can in your destination country.

9. Have you been changed in any way by the experience, and if so how?

My experiences opened my mind in the way I face diversities. Interacting with people from different culture made me more tolerable now. I also developed a great interest in cultures.

Having a gret time abroad made me want to go and explore other countries again.

10. How do you feel about other Asian Cultures now?

I think Asian Cultures are very interesting. We have some similarities in certain degree that make us different from the western culture. But in other hand, we have a very rich variation of culture. Each region in Asia has a very unique cultures and I would like to explore them.

11. Any comments?

Below please attach a more descriptive account (300-400 words) of your experience with the SMS for possible publication to allow others to find out about the ACUCA SMS Program. Include such information as the type of study you did as well as the cultural experiences you had, and any other things you would consider interesting. Photos are welcome.

I am from Petra Christian University (Indonesia) and I went to Kwansai Gakuin University in Spring Semester 2011. I studied Japanese Language as well as other subjects related to Japanese culture such as Japanese. The curriculum is designed to help us understand more about Japanese culture.

Outside the class, there were field trips, parties, and special events in which exchange students can take part. We are also being encouraged to join clubs or circles in campus.

KGU has a very good program for the exchange students. The staffs from the International Office are very experienced in dealing with students' problem. They help us from our departure, accomodation, orientations, etc. If you want to study in Japan, I really recommend this university. Its campus is very beautiful too.

I chose homestay for my accomodation in Japan. During my stay, my hostfamily helped me a lot not only in learning Japanese language but also getting a better understanding of Japanese lifestyle. They treated me like a real family.

I'm really glad I went to Japan. My experiences proved that all good things I learned from mangas and animes were true, if not better. Japan is also an enjoyable country for vacation. With a nice public transportation system, it's so easy to travel around. There are a lot of maps near stations and tourist destinations.

Other advantage I got from the exchange program is the chance to meet people from different countries. It's really a good oportunity to learn other cultures from all over the world. I made a lot of new friends during that period. This friendship is the thing I treasure most from my experience in Japan.

