

# Hiroshima University Global Internship Program **NEWSLETTER**

Global Internship Program (G.ecbo Program)  
—Discover what you will be 10 years from now!  
Internship Program where you will encounter the world —

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**What is the  
Global Internship  
Program  
(G.ecbo Program) ?**



Overseas internship is the core part of this educational program with the 'sandwich-style' education and research activities. In this program we aim to produce researchers who deal with a variety of issues in various fields, and practitioners and highly skilled specialists who can take the lead in international issues.

## *The G.ecbo Program during the COVID-19 pandemic*

The year 2020 started with novel corona virus and ended with the COVID-19 virus. Around the end of 2019, news came in that many people in the Chinese city of Wuhan, and also passengers on a cruise ship docked at Yokohama, were seriously ill after being infected with an unidentified virus. The cause of the illnesses was later revealed to be a novel coronavirus. Similar to previous viruses, it is thought that infected animals may spread this virus to people. Some infected people were asymptomatic while others showed severe symptoms such as high fevers, a loss of taste and/or smell, and difficulty in breathing. The virus is extremely contagious. There was no effective treatment and no vaccine thus it spread rapidly throughout the world. People with lower resistance, such as the elderly or those with existing medical conditions, have an increased risk of severe illness and death after contracting the virus. Under these circumstances the G.ecbo program, which places great importance on securing the safety of interns dispatched overseas, decided in the second committee meeting for AY2019 held in March 2020, to cancel dispatching interns overseas in the first half of AY2020.

Recognizing the seriousness of the situation, WHO announced the name of this new infectious disease as COReNa Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and declared emergency because of the pandemic, which means the worldwide spread of a disease that has a serious effect. WHO called for caution and issued guidelines appropriate for stopping the spread of the virus. Because this virus infects respiratory systems and is transmitted through close contact and via droplets generated by an infected person, vital infection prevention measures include avoiding the 3Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings), maintaining social distance, wearing a mask, frequent and careful hand-washing, and thorough disinfecting practices.

Many countries have been implementing lockdowns in an effort to control the transmission of COVID-19. Lockdown means that people must stay at home and cities are shut down. Therefore, travelling internationally and flying by plane has temporarily not been possible. Under these circumstances, not only has it been difficult for many domestic and international students to come to our university but also, graduates and international students who have completed their studies here have been unable to return to their home countries.



**Dr. MAHARJAN, Keshav Lall**

Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences and IDEC  
Chairperson, G.ecbo Program Executive Committee

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## The G.ecbo Program during the COVID-19 pandemic

(Cont'd from page 1)

We have basically implemented online and on-demand services for all of our classes for AY2020. However, this policy does not sufficiently meet the requirements of our program. The main aims of our program are for students to cross various borders, approach local sites, grasp the needs of the local sites through problem-based resolving methods, and to learn and be able to respond in multiple fields.

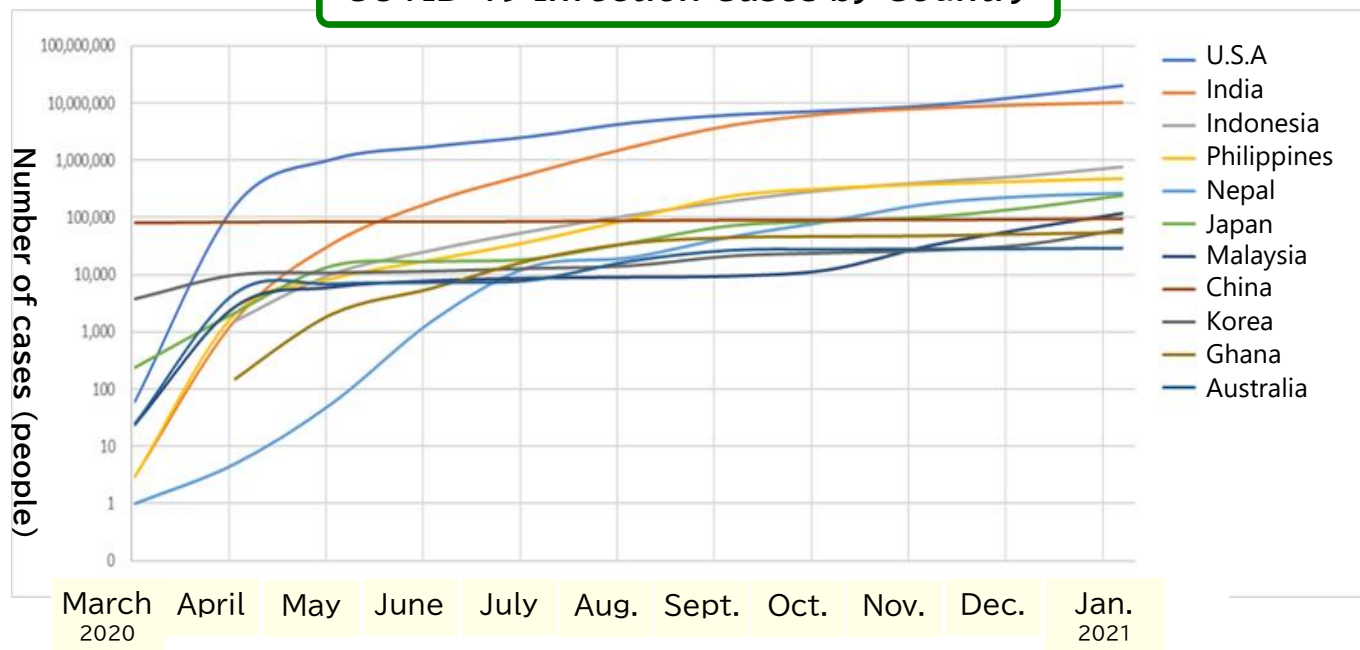
One way of dealing with COVID-19 is the so-called hammer-and-dance. In order to control the spread of the virus, firstly the strong 'hammer' strategy is taken via the implementation of lockdowns, mandatory quarantining of people with the virus, contact tracing, proactive testing, etc. The 'dance' part follows that, when everyday life returns to normal yet maintaining social distancing. Life continues as usual but with corona. In Japan, infections during the first wave were held down by the hammer strategy in which state of emergencies were declared and people were asked to stay home unless it was absolutely necessary to go out. During the second wave, the infection situation had somewhat settled down, so the hammer strategy was eased, and policies such as the 'Go To' travel campaign were implemented to enable everyday life and socioeconomic activities to return to normal, living with corona. Accordingly, Hiroshima University's activities restrictions index for preventing the spread of COVID-19 was changed from Level 1.5 (Exercise caution, partial restrictions) to Level 1 (Be careful, minimum restrictions). If things continue like this, there were hopes for holding classes face-to-face. However, the core activities of the G.ecbo program are internships overseas so when we took into consideration the world wide situation regarding COVID-19, especially in the countries and regions where our students would go as interns throughout the world, from a safety perspective we were hesitant to dispatch them anywhere. In the first committee meeting for AY2020, we decided to cancel dispatching interns during the second semester of this year.

As we could not send any interns overseas this year, the program's activities have been greatly scaled back. Despite these circumstances, we have maintained communications with our cooperating partners in different countries where we intend to send our students as interns and shared our situation and response in this state of emergency. We received messages from our partners and have decided to share them in this newsletter. Also, because we can learn a lot and feel encouraged by learning about the circumstances of our alumni, we have compiled many of reports of their latest news.

For Hiroshima University, which is a Super Global University (SGU) and Research University (RU), to achieve our goal of being included in the world's top 100 universities ranking, I hope this program can make contribution from the perspective of internationalization. Japan is currently in the throes of the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and various kinds of hammers are needed to control the virus. The number of infections in Japan and throughout the world continue to increase and stay high because the virus is mutating and the variants are highly infectious. (See graph below.) As a second hammer, some cities in the world are undergoing repeated lockdowns while in Japan state of emergency declarations were issued for 11 prefectures. Hiroshima University's activities restrictions index level was raised and basically classes are not held face-to-face. When things return to normal and we can dance together with corona, we will promptly start up our overseas internship activities again and manage things so that we can return to our full scale of activities. As a part of that, we are sorting through our past records of the program and hope to utilize them in preparing plans for future projects. Development of vaccines for COVID-19 has been proceeding at full speed and some places have already started their vaccination program. I fully believe that we humans will be able to win the fight against this monster pandemic in the near future. Until then everyone, stay safe and stay well. Take care.

Chairperson G.ecbo Program Executive Committee  
Dr.MAHARJAN, Keshav Lall

### COVID-19 Infection Cases by Country



※ Extracted from WHO data; daily data until the end of August, weekly from September onward.

# AY2019 Internship Report

## TAKEMOTO Yu (Graduate School of Engineering)

Host	SATVEN (Satyam Venture Engineering Service Pvt. Ltd)(India)
Period	September 2 - September 22, 2019
Objectives	Improving the accuracy of simulations of damage to automobile parts using collision and structure analysis software, and sharing technical information on the manufacture and application of composite material

In this program, as part of joint research, I took part in sharing information about simulation of damage to automobile parts using LS-DYNA, which is collision and structure analysis software, as well as acquiring the technology necessary to use that software, and R&D. My goal for future activity is to share technology for the application of composite material in automobile parts, and to improve structure analysis technology. My place of internship, SATVEN, is a company that offers design and development services related to automobiles and I was at the company's headquarters in Hyderabad, Telangana State, India. In the program, we were sharing research backgrounds and examining the forms of automobile parts using analysis software. I was able to pick up ideas to facilitate joint research smoothly after I returned home. On my days off I caught a glimpse of the traffic situation and everyday life in India. So, I was exposed to a culture and set of values different to that of Japan. Looking back, I feel that this experience enriched not only my research but also my view of life. At SATVEN, I received various kinds of support while I was there making me feel very reassured.

I am extremely grateful to my teachers at Hiroshima University for giving me this chance and also for their constant support.



## MOHAMMAD ROBIUL AWAL KHONDAKER (IDEC)

Host	FORWARD (Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development)(Nepal)
Period	March 6 - March 22, 2020
Objectives	To learn about food and nutrition security, firm forestry, biodiversity conservation, rural sanitation in Nepal and organizational behavior of government-non government approach.



(Excerpts from short reports) – From 1st Weekly Report on March 16th, 2020

2020/03/11(Wednesday)

On that day, I visited a day care center nearby FORWARD office which is run by Rotact club of Bhratpur. It is a center of 40 children between 2 to 4 years of poor family. They are given daily meals from here without any cost.

2020/03/12(Thursday)

I visited a sanitation program run by RRN(Rural Reconstruction Nepal) which is 12 Km from FORWARD office. It is a WASH (Water, Sanitation and hygiene) program. They provide materials for toilet making to the poor households at free of cost. I collected some data about this program

2020/03/13( Friday)

Today I went to the day care center at 10 AM. Only 16 children were there in this morning. I measured their weight (kg), height(cm), date of birth for nutritional assessment. I also took their previous data of 6 months from their record. I will study their changes on nutritional level.

## TAGUCHI Taishi (IDEC)

Host	NTC International Co.,Ltd (Cote d'Ivoire)
Period	February 26 - March 19, 2020
Objectives	Business duties related to the credit system, and support regarding the completion and handing over of projects.



For this internship I participated in a project being carried out by a development consulting company in the Côte d'Ivoire in West Africa. Through this internship I learned three things: how to work as part of a team; possible communication difficulties; and the importance of logistic business. I joined a project team comprised of Japanese and Ivorians. Detailed exchanges are important for moving the project forward. Especially, because people's sense of time differs, it was necessary to confirm things very often and I felt the need to check details. Also, with other team members in different locations, much of the communication was via emails, and good writing skills were necessary to correctly convey the situation to the other person. From having to handle finances and receipts, I learned the importance of making arrangements regarding people, goods and money. Through my internship, my desire to work at a development consultation company grew stronger. So, I am extremely grateful to those people who gave me this internship opportunity.

✂IDEC (Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation)



## AY2018 Internship Report

### FUKAYA Yasuka (Graduate School of Letters) ※Run-up program

Host	Sina Rang Lemulung Homestay (Malaysia)
Period	March 12 - April 5, 2019
Objectives	Linguistic survey of the descriptive grammar of Kelabit, an endangered language



During my internship in AY2018, I carried out a survey on the poems and grammar of the Kelabit language, of the Austronesian language family of Malaysia, while I helped with operating homestays and was a mediator between outsiders and local people. At the first Indigenous Village Sustainable Forum, I gave a presentation about the characteristics of the Kelabit language from a typological perspective. This internship came about because of a AY2015 G.ecbo internship I participated in when I studied the basics of Japanese-language education and the Sundanese language at the Indonesia University of Education, where Bahasa Melayu is spoken. Building on that experience, in the AY2018 Follow-up Research Fellowship Program, I stayed in Bario Village in Malaysia to do a linguistic survey of languages of the same type as well as teaching Japanese. During that time, I met a new language consultant. With his cooperation, I was able to do the survey online during a time when circumstances made it very difficult to travel overseas to do the survey. My future goal is to create a comprehensive account of descriptive grammar in the Kelabit language based on the expressions compiled during the survey. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all of the people involved in the G.ecbo program.

## AY2017 Internship Report

### LILAN CHEN (Graduate School of Education)

Host	Florida State University (United states of America)
Period	January 10 - February 12, 2018
Objectives	To learn more about the higher education system and the status quo of international faculty in the universities of America.



Finally, I got the chance to talk to Prof. Shouping Hu this week, who is the Louis W. and Elizabeth N. Bender Endowed Professor of Higher Education (HE) and the founding director of the Center for Post-secondary Success (CPS). He has quite many lectures for graduate students, such as HE Finance, International Perspectives in HE, Research on College Students, and Student Success in College. All of those are quite close to my specialty-HE. And also, since my research interest is about internationalization, specifically international faculty. So his experiences of working and living in America are greatly related to my research hypothesis. So we made a 2-hour meeting on 31st, discussed the HE system and challenges of international faculty in the HE institutions of China, America, and Japan. Thanks to him, I got to know more about the situation of HE and international faculty in the universities of America. In the end, he introduced some journals, articles, and famous researchers to me which helps me a lot with my professional development. It's really a fantastic opportunity to talk to Prof. Shouping Hu, he inspired me a lot not just the general knowledge about the systems, but also his professional and sharp mind in HE field. In order to become a more capable researcher like him, I suppose we should always move forward.

-From 4th Weekly Report on February 11th, 2018.

### Huang Qiong (IDEC)

Host	Florida State University (United states of America)
Period	January 10 - February 24, 2018
Objectives	Completing the internship, attending PIE program and learning about the TA system



The first week, I attended the orientation of PIE program which is a very important part of this internship. The orientation covered a few topics: 'Jump start your semester', 'professionalism and communicating with your students', 'Canvas essentials', 'providing student feedback: grading concerns & practices', 'university teaching policy panel: academic honor policy, FERPA, ADA and sexual harassment'. During the second week, I attended some meetings, including about the FSU GradWorld Project meeting, the monthly TA associate meeting and also met with Dr. Maria Mendoza who is teaching international TAs. We talked about international TA trainings and FSU TA trainings and requirements. The third week, I attended TA workshop, joined some classes and attended the research seminar held by Dr. Lisa who is the director of the graduate school PIE training program which was very inspiring and meaningful. In the later weeks, I also attended some other seminars and classes about economics, toured around the campus, went to the library to study, join some after school activities. Overall, this internship is very fruitful and I learned a lot through seminars, meeting and communicating. Thanks to G.ecbo for offering such a fantastic opportunity to make this internship successful. Also highly thankful to Dr. Lisa Liseno and Prof. Ella-Mae Daniel who accepted us and helped a lot during this period in FSU. Also thanks to my supervisor's approval and support to make this trip happen. Thanks to the students in FSU who showed me around campus and also offered a lot of help to us.

# Job Hunting Report

**SUMI Jumpei** (IDEC Division of Development science)

**Tentative job offer at Hiroshima City Hall (Architect)**

Interned at the Research Institute for Housing and Human Settlements, Ministry of Public Works (PUSKIM) in Bandung, Indonesia (Indonesia) in AY2019

## –Why did you choose this field of work?

Because I can contribute to society through the field of architecture, which is my dream. When I was a child, I often watched the TV program That's a Dramatic Change , about major renovation projects and I dreamed of becoming an architect. So, I entered the Hiroshima University's Department of Architecture . I visited the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park designed by Kenzo Tange and I was impressed at how architecture can have a deep impact on cities and society. I wanted to find out more about how architecture makes the connections between society and the people living in that place more visible. So, I continued my studies in the Building and Urban Environmental Science in Asia Laboratory and I realized the diversity and importance of architecture from a governmental viewpoint. The decisive factor for choosing this work was because I thought it would be very rewarding.



*At the PUSKIM*



*With acquaintances at the Pasteur local government office*



*With the village mayor and his wife at their home*



Photos courtesy of Hiroshima prefecture



## –What influence did your internship experience have on your job-hunting?

I was an intern at the Research Institute for Housing and Human Settlement, Ministry of Public works, Indonesia (PUSKIM). I did a survey on the air quality in densely built-up urban housing. It was the first time for me to take the lead in this kind of research and I had to decide what was of higher priority when doing the survey. Although an incident occurred, I was able to handle it and successfully finish measuring the air quality. I learned how important it is to decide on the order of priority of things and it caused me to consider what it was that I wanted to do with my life. When doing the measuring, I was able to hear the views of the local residents and their expectations of the government. These experiences provided lead to deciding to work in the city hall where the views of local residents could be heard firsthand.

## –What are your future goals?

I do not want to stop simply because I have started this job but I intend to give it my all and by learning new things, I want to keep abreast with new happenings daily. Through my work I hope to bring smiles to the faces of people.

## –Advice for Juniors

Recently in Japan the system of hiring new graduates en masse is undergoing a review. But no one wants to get left behind so at the same timing, future graduates tend to become interns with companies that they have somehow heard of and then decide as their place of employment. For anyone who is not quite sure of what they want to do in the future, I recommend that you put aside any worries or anxieties you may have and apply to be an overseas intern on the G.ecbo program. You can broaden your perspective by seeing different ways of working and when you are put in charge of some big project, you can find out what you like to do and what you don't like doing. If you stay calm and meet the challenge, things will somehow work out for you. [smiles]



# Internships Around the World: Introductions and Messages

## ①<IMAGINUS >

The Philippine branch of Imaginus on Negros Island aims to improve the income of sugar cane farmers on the island and is developing products made using local materials. Products such as bags and accessories made by local women are sold. A scholarship project also enables children to attend school if they did not have such support. Student interns from all over Japan work together with local staff either on site or online to find ways to ensure long term stability for the people of Negros Island.



### 【Dispatch results】

2 interns in AY2019 (Philippines),  
1 intern in AY2018, AY2017 (India)

## ②<Indonesia University of Education Nuria Haristiani, Ph. D.>( Indonesia)

Indonesia University of Education (UPI) is located in Bandung, Indonesia, and is blessed with nature, history and traditional culture. The main intern activities here are teaching Indonesian students who are interested in Japan about Japanese language, culture and history. Not only conveying your own culture, but you can also experience Indonesian, in particular Islamic culture and that of the Sundanese people, making the study abroad experience very fulfilling. Please come to UPI.



【Dispatch results】 1 intern in AY2017/AY2015,  
2 interns in AY2016

The facility where I did my internship attracts researchers in the field of quantum mechanics from all over the world and research is done from various angles. (Excerpt from a report by a returned intern)

Prof. K L Maharjan with Chairperson and Executive Director, FORWARD Nepal in Chitwan

## ④<Griffith University The Quantum Optics and Information Laboratory Professor Pryde > (Australia)

The Quantum Optics and Information Laboratory—at Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia—is a leading research team in the area of optical quantum information science. The QOIL team uses photons—single particles of light—to investigate the fundamental quantum properties of the world, and seeks to put them to use in future information technology advances. In particular, the research group has developed state of the art photon sources, using these to demonstrate novel high-fidelity amplifiers for quantum signals, precision measurements using quantum entanglement, and to show that information encoded into photons can give an advantage in computing and information transfer.



【Dispatch results】 1 intern in AY2018/ AY2016/AY2014/AY2012

## ⑤<Korea National University of Education

Dr. Lee JiWON Hiroshima University Korea Center (PIC of G.ecbo)> (Korea)

The Korea National University of Education (KNUE) accepts G.ecbo program interns through its affiliation with HU, and so far 4 students have participated. All 4 students came to KNUE for a one-month stay during their summer holidays and spent a busy time during which they did some research, participated in conferences in Korea, gave presentations and went on trips with members of the study rooms they were assigned to. KNUE offers courses in kindergarten, primary and secondary education as well as research into fundamental education. So, whatever your major, we welcome those who are interested in Korea and Korean culture.



【Dispatch results】 1 intern in AY2017,3 interns in AY2014

## ⑥<Florida State University Lisa Liseno, Ph.D.> (U.S.A)

The Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE), a unit of The Graduate School at Florida State University (FSU) in Tallahassee, Florida, USA, strives to enrich the learning experience for undergraduate students at FSU by supporting the teaching efforts of graduate student teaching assistants through its various services. PIE offers professional development programs that offer collaboration and community among all graduate student teaching assistants, and any graduate student interested in learning about best practices in teaching and learning. Programs include teaching workshops, teaching conferences, reading groups, peer teaching observations, teaching awards, and peer teaching office hours.



PIE Program : <https://pie.fsu.edu/>

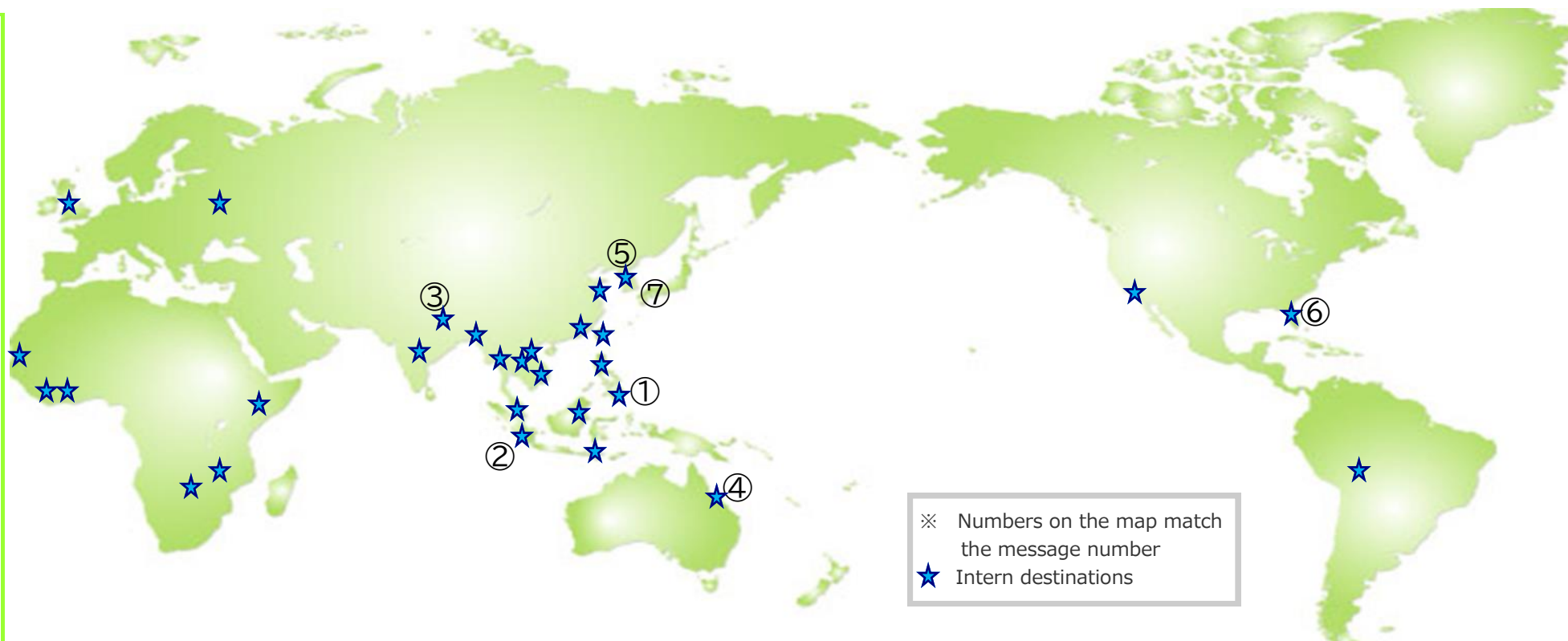
【Dispatch results】 1 intern in AY2018/AY2016/AY2014,  
2 interns in AY2013/AY2012, 4 interns in AY2017

## ⑦<Peace Winds Japan >

Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) is an international humanitarian non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to the support of people in distress, and threatened by conflict, poverty, or other humanitarian crises.

With its headquarters in the town of Jinsekikogen, Hiroshima Prefecture, PWJ has been active in 33 countries and regions around the world. We also focus on activities aimed at solving social problems in Japan, such as community revitalization and activities aimed at eliminating the killing of dogs and cats.

We will continue to provide the necessary support to people in need.



※ Numbers on the map match the message number  
★ Intern destinations



# Activities of G.ecbo Alumni

**Piya Luni** /Hiroshima University Researcher (Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences )

Interned at FORWARD Nepal in AY2008, Run-up program in AY2009, Interned at FORWARD Nepal (Nepal), Interned at Satake Corporation in AY2009/ Completion of IDEC (Division of Educational Development and Cultural and Regional Studies)

## –Current Situation & Waking Status

I hold part-time positions as a researcher at Hiroshima University and a research assistant at the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO), Grape-Persimmon Research Unit.

## –When & How I utilized My Experiences of Gecbo Program

I had the opportunities to participate in internships within Japan as well as abroad. I did my domestic internship at SATAKE, which felt more like an international internship as a non-Japanese participant. My internship abroad was conducted at FORWARD Nepal. This internship, in turn, felt more like a domestic one because Nepal is my home country. I chose Nepal so that my internship could be integrated with my thesis research. However looking back at it now, I feel like I missed the opportunity to visit a new country.

The internship at SATAKE was a valuable opportunity to experience the Japanese working culture. I learned about unique Japanese features like the Radio-Taiso and mini-meeting every morning before starting off the day's work. The chimes that rang to announce the start and the end of office time, tea breaks, and lunch break indicated the importance of time-management in Japan. The major takeaway from this internship was the daily pre-planning and punctuality that I take to heart till this day. In addition, I could learn about the world-class technologies related to rice milling and cooking.

The internship in Nepal was very important for my professional growth. I was the major actor, right from establishing the MoU between Gecbo and FORWARD to planning and executing my internship. I am very grateful to FORWARD Nepal for providing the logistic supports and facilitating to hire research assistants during the internship period. They also provided a platform to present my research findings with representatives from the local governments, University, NGOs, INGOs, and the community. This experience of a research project is the key professional achievement that I still utilize. I also collaborated with FORWARD for PhD research and recently for my project funded by the JSPS Grants-in-aid for scientific researches.

## –What I Feel Rooted & Growing in Myself

Since Nepal is the country where I grew up, everything there is familiar to me. I can't think of anything as a big impression. I do have some unique experiences from the internship at SATAKE. As a foreigner, it somewhat felt like I was back to high-school with the daily morning exercise (the Radio-Taiso) and the timely chimes indicating work-times and breaks. However, that was a very important reminder of the importance of being fit, mentally and physically, to start a long and tiresome work-day. The aspect of time management was equally impressive. I still follow the practice of incorporating regular breaks in between works and believe that improves the work efficiency.



*Tropen tag Conference 2019  
at Kassel University, Germany*



*Internship activity at SATAKE in 2009*



*Fun in Nepal with co-interns from China and Kyrgyzstan*

## –Advice for Juniors

I advise the new interns to take the internship opportunities at Gecbo for exploring new societies in a new country. Please plan your internship so that you can contribute professionally to the host institution, no matter how small. Finally, maintain the professional and personal relationships established during the internship. The networks will come handy in the future.

# Activities of G.echo Alumni

**MATSUI Rie** / Hiroshima University Staff

Interned at the Indonesia University of Education (UPI) (Indonesia) in AY2016

Completion of IDEC (Division of Educational Development and Cultural and Regional Studies)



*HU Staff Global Human Resource Development training (Washington DC)*

## – Current Situation & Working Status

After graduating from the Hiroshima University Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation I have begun working as a HU staff member. Since I started my job, I have been working in the School of Engineering support center to help engineering students. As well as other things, I am also in charge of entrance exams. This carries a lot of responsibility with it as I must not make any mistakes with this job. So, sometimes I feel the pressure but my colleagues help me out and on the whole I enjoy my work.

## – Looking back from the Internship to the Present

The research topic of my master's thesis was about children of Islamic religion living in Japan. When I was an intern in Indonesia, the teachers there took me to local Islamic schools and mosques. By observing how children form their religious values from when they are very young, in Indonesia which has a large Muslim population, I was able to deepen my understanding of the people who were the subject of my research. After I finished my internship, I conducted a survey at an elementary school in Higashi-Hiroshima city to help me with my master's thesis. I felt that because of my internship in Indonesia I was able to deepen my research even further.



*Class on Japanese culture: During internship at UPI*

## – Why did you choose this field of work?

I began my job-hunting with the desire to be involved in education and international exchanges. As a Super Global University, HU puts a lot of effort into accepting exchange students and dispatching Japanese students abroad. I decided to become a staff member at HU to be able to use my strengths fostered during my own student days and also to contribute to the internationalization of the university. HU staff are given the opportunity to participate in training abroad, challenge doing new things and continue on a growth trajectory. I find this kind of environment to be very appealing.

## – What influence did your internship experience have on your job-hunting?



*Visit to an Islamic elementary school in Indonesia*

During my internship, quite often things did not go to plan. I learned the importance of having a flexible approach and cooperating with the staff around me. I think that these kinds of attitudes stand me in good stead in my job at HU. UPI and HU have a partner university agreement. Before and during my internship I saw how the staff at both universities work to build a relationship of mutual trust and I became interested in the important role that university staff play. The job of university staff is not only to support the faculty and students but also to play a responsible role themselves in contributing to the university's internationalization. I realized what interesting work it is through my experiences as an intern.

## – Advice for Juniors

The two years at graduate school pass so quickly. Right now, it is difficult to actually go overseas because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Try to find what it is that you can do in the situation you now find yourself and make sure you do all that you want to do, so you finish your student life without any regrets.



## Activities of G.ecbo Alumni

### Ayu Lana Nafisyah / Junior Lecturer at Universitas Airlangga –Indonesia

Interned at Universitas Airlangga (Indonesia) in AY2016  
Completion of Graduate school of Biosphere science  
(Environmental Dynamics and Management)



*Holding the certificate of graduation happily in HU*

#### –Current Situation & Waking Status

I just came back from Japan last October 2020 and I am currently working as a junior lecturer in Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya-Indonesia, the host institution during my internship program in 2016. Universitas Airlangga is the public university with four campuses in total. The main campuses (Campus A, B, C) are located in Surabaya City and the latest campus (Campus D) is located in Banyuwangi City. I belong to the Department of Fish Health Management and Aquaculture at the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine (Campus C). Being a lecturer is not an easy job, especially in Indonesia, we have to carry out three pillars of higher education that we called as Tri Dharma comprising education, research, and community services. Besides doing education and research, we are targeted to contribute to the resolution of the nation's problems by directly involving in the local society.

#### –When & How I utilized My Experiences of Gecbo Program



*During my internship period in UA*

I have studied in the Graduate School of Biosphere Science Hiroshima University since October 2015 until September 2020 for my Master and Doctoral degrees. I applied for the G.ecbo program during my Master study in 2016. Even though I am an Indonesian. I was allowed to stay as an intern in my own country. I experienced many things through the G.ecbo program even before dispatch to the host institution. I remember when I was taking the debating classes in IDEC as the mandatory course for the participants, I expected nothing but at the end my team won the final debate session. All of the experiences before and after dispatch to the host institution was very unforgettable and valuable.

#### –What I Feel Rooted & Growing in Myself

To be honest, I did not plan to take this program seriously other than focused on my own research. But during the process, including the preparation steps, I felt another happiness in every step. I improved my communication and presentation skills here. Through this program, I could do my research in Indonesia observing microphytobenthos flora in sediments of mangrove forest. Also, through some activities with student in the host institution at that time I have gained my confidence, especially to inspire students to study abroad and to be interested in the research of microalgae that still rely on their study in Universitas Airlangga. I will never forget the opportunities and experiences that G.ecbo program afforded me at that time.



*My research sampling with two diligent students of UA*

#### –Advice for Juniors

Before jumping to the advice the juniors, I would like to thank especially to my supervisor during my study in Hiroshima University, Prof. Kazuhiko Koike, who supported me to join this program. And for all the hard work of all the professors and staffs who organized the G.ecbo program AY2016. My advice to anyone who is interested or is still considering to join this program, I recommend you to enjoy the whole program while also taking it seriously, especially the part of your own research (data sampling, collecting, etc.). As a student, at that time, I wanted to have some experiences out of the academic skills that may improve my attitude in the society. Here, in G.ecbo program, you will gain those experiences I mentioned, particularly if you are not an IDEC student. At first, you might think that you are the minority among many of IDEC participants, but you will find more experiences that may be important for your study and career. This time, the situation is different because of the COVID-19, I do not know how G.ecbo Program would be without dispatch of students to other countries, but I am sure G.ecbo program will make some innovation for the system.

# AY2019Winter Post Internship Presentation

This year's winter post-internship presentations were held online using the Microsoft Teams platform. Interns gave 20-minute PPT presentations about what they did during their internships overseas, followed by Q&A. Everything was conducted in English. Their presentations about advance training and outcomes from their internships were most impressive. It was the first time to use the Teams platform and there were some hiccups in the beginning but students in Myanmar and Ghana also participated, giving the post-internship presentations a global stage.

## No,1

Date&Time: 16:30-18:50, Monday, July 6th, 2020

20 participants, 4 presenters

- ① PHYU PHYU ZAW (IDEC, At the time of dispatch D1)  
University of California (USA)
- ② OKATA Yoshie (IDEC, At the time of dispatch M1)  
University of Zambia (Zambia)
- ③ TAGUCHI Taishi (IDEC, At the time of dispatch M2)  
NTC International co. (Cote d' Ivoire )
- ④ MOHAMMAD ROBIUL AWAL KHONDAKER (IDEC, At the time of dispatch M2) FORWARD Nepal (Nepal)

**2019年度 G.ecbo 冬期インターンシップ帰国報告会**  
**2019 G.ecbo Winter Post-internship Presentation**

日時/Date&Time: 2020年7月6日(月)/July 6th (Mon) 16:30~18:30

参加方法/Participation method: Teams  
(If you would like to attend this event, please e-mail us your name and Student ID No. by July 3rd.)

発表テーマ/Topic: 派遣国で私たちがやってきたこと/Achievement of internship

発表者/Presenter:

- ① 16:30~17:00 Ms. PHYU PHYU ZAW (University of California/USA)
- ② 17:00~17:30 Ms. Yoshie Okata (University of Zambia/Zambia)
- ③ 17:30~18:00 Mr. Taishi Taguchi (NTC International Co./Cote d'Ivoire)
- ④ 18:00~18:30 Mr. MOHAMMAD ROBIUL AWAL KHONDAKER (FORWARD/Nepal)

【お問い合わせ/Contact】:  
G.ecbo office, Global Career Design Center, Student Plaza 2F, Hiroshima University  
Email: gecbo@hiroshima-u.ac.jp / Tel: +81-82-424-6756

## No,2

Date&Time: 16:30-17:00, Monday, November 16th, 2020

19 participants, 1 presenter

- ① KAKUJO Ryusei IDEC, At the time of dispatch M2)  
Non-profit Corporation IMAGINUS in Zamboanguita,  
Negros Oriental Philippines (Philippines)



**第2回 2019年度 G.ecbo 冬期派遣生帰国報告会**  
**The Second 2019 G.ecbo Winter Post-internship Presentation**

日時/Date&Time: 2020年11月16日(月)/November 16th (Mon) 16:30~17:00

参加方法/Participation method: Teams  
(If you would like to attend this event, please e-mail us your name and Student ID No. by Nov. 9th.)

発表テーマ/Topic: 派遣国で私たちがやってきたこと/Achievement of internship

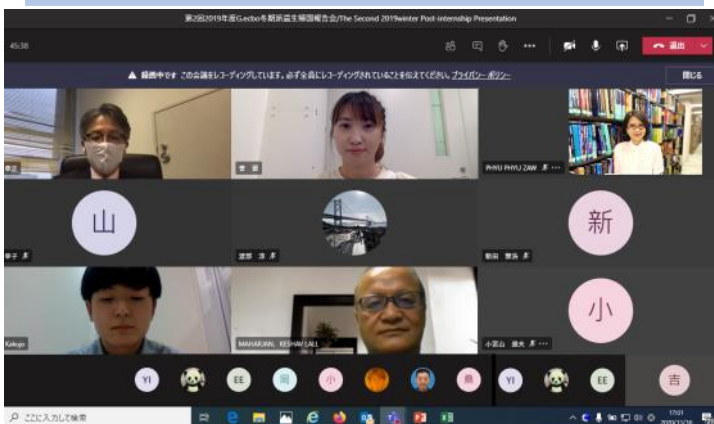
発表者/Presenter:

- ① 16:30~17:00 Mr. KAKUJO Ryusei (Specified Non-profit Corporation IMAGINUS/Philippines)

言語/Language: English

【お問い合わせ/Contact】:  
G.ecbo office, Global Career Design Center, Student Plaza 2F, Hiroshima University  
Email: gecbo@hiroshima-u.ac.jp / Tel: +81-82-424-6756

## The post-internship presentations using the Microsoft Teams



Top center photo ↑ **CAO LEI** (IDEC Doctoral Program Division of Educational Development and Cultural and Regional Studies ) This year, despite the pandemic, students who were interns in America, Zambia, the Philippines and so on, gave online post-internship presentations. Looking back, I was able to give appropriate advice from the perspectives of having been an intern and also a supervisor, and as an RA I could make use of the research experience that I have built up. I aim to keep on growing and improving my abilities more.

## AY2020 Research Assistants Introduction

Students who have participated in the internship program have been employed as RAs to help with managing the presentation event, supporting students and the program. Here are their impressions of their job.

← Top right photo **PHYU PHYU ZAW** (IDEC Doctoral Program Division of Development science) Thankfully, I got the chance to join the program twice, formerly as a master student, and again as a doctoral student with the research follow-up program. And now, I am working as an RA for the program. These opportunities really bring a fantastic insight for me personally and academically!





# G.ecbo Risk Management...!

## ☑ Health care, etc.

**(Côte d'Ivoire)** Just before I was due to come back to Japan, I suddenly experienced sharp stomach pains. I cannot really be sure but there were three possibilities. It could have been that the filling in a sandwich I bought from a stall had gone off, or the oil was rancid, or because a lot of the food in the Côte d'Ivoire is hot, perhaps my stomach just couldn't stand it anymore and become inflamed. The only way to prevent this occurrence is to try to make one's stomach stronger, to not eat very hot food, and to not eat sandwiches every day. Sandwiches are so good so the option of not eating them is not life-sustaining and dangerous too. It's a difficult choice to make.

**(Malaysia)** I found it difficult to regulate my body temperature when I was travelling. You need to take water and sports drinks with electrolytes, and wear clothes that are easy for regulating body temperature such as shirts and parkas. The medicines that I took with me were rather weak and I was not able to recover quickly. It's better to take stronger medicine so that when you do get sick, you can make a quick recovery.

## ☑ At the Hotel

**(India)** First of all, I intended to pay for my hotel accommodation in one lump payment when I checked out but on the tenth day of my stay (from when I checked in until that day), I was asked to settle my bill. So, I pay for 10 days of accommodation as I was asked and when I returned to my room, the drinks in the fridge (which were not free) had been taken away. When I was finally leaving and paying for the extra days I had stayed, I was asked to pay for the drinks which had been taken away on the tenth day. Staff at the facility where I was an intern discussed the matter with the hotel and the trouble was resolved. Miscommunication on the hotel's side was the cause. If you have any query about services provided by the hotel, you should discuss it early on with the hotel or staff from your internship place. If you don't need any service like the mini-bar, you need to tell the hotel you won't be using it when you check in.

An intern was involved in a traffic accident at the place of their internship. The lessons learned from that are "Please be mindful enough even when you are doing the right thing and abiding the law on the streets. And don't hesitate to call the police whenever an accident happened." Call the police without any hesitation and get a report of the accident issued for you. You may get flustered by the sudden accident but your actions then are important for when you have to deal with the insurance company later on. It is important to always find out the telephone number for emergencies in the country you are in, and have it registered in your cell phone.

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## ☑ COVID-19 Pandemic

**(Nepal)** Due to the spread of COVID-19, the Nepalese embassy suddenly announced that they intended to stop issuing visas. I quickly applied for a visa and entered Nepal. I was due to return to Japan at the end of March but as airlines starting reducing their flights and routes, I decided to shorten my stay after talking to the staff at my place of internship, my supervisor, and G.ecbo office staff. To avoid getting stuck somewhere on the way home, I changed my point of transfer from Incheon to Bangkok. This all had to be arranged while in Nepal.

**(Zambia)** Due to COVID-19, I shortened by internship by 10 days. Some of the other interns were ordered to return home immediately due to border closures, and as international flights were reduced or cancelled, the general mood was that of trying to return to one's home country quickly. While getting information from Japanese people who lived locally, my place of internship, and interns from other countries, I changed the date of my return home after talking with the G.ecbo office and the travel company. In a time of not knowing exactly when flights would stop altogether, I couldn't feel at ease until the day of my return came and I finally landed in Japan. Some people found it difficult to get home and were stuck at airports with the flight they were supposed to get being cancelled. In unexpected situations like these, I really felt how important it was to get the appropriate information and to act quickly.

**(Côte d'Ivoire)** In late February, before COVID-19 spread throughout the world, when I landed in the Côte d'Ivoire my temperature was measured by non-contact infrared thermometers. Perhaps due to the risk of tropical diseases such as Ebola, etc., I felt their response was prompt. Cases of COVID-19 started occurring from mid-March in the Côte d'Ivoire and situation at the place where I was doing my internship started to become worrying. So, it was decided that I quit my internship and return home one week earlier than planned. There was talk that planes would stop flying out from that area and so the G.ecbo office staff and JICA staff discussed changing plans to return to Japan. I was unable to stop over in Paris and had to transit via Dubai. I took the initiative in booking a hotel in Dubai myself and was able to make it home to Japan. I was surprised to found out later that the day I left was the day the airport closed down. It was a very tense two days and it made me realize how important it is to grasp situations and deal with them promptly.

Let's allow for plenty of leeway when applying for visas. Interns should be familiar with the danger level of the country they intend to travel to and because it may be necessary to quickly change your flight back to Japan, you should always check the level of travel advice and warnings issued by the Japanese ministry of foreign affairs on their Overseas Travel Safety Information website. Stay in close communication with staff at the place of your internship, your supervisor, and the G.ecbo program office staff.

## Editorial

In making this newsletter, we contacted many G.ecbo alumni. Even if they were not mentioned, we were happy to know about what they are doing all around the world. This time we were able to include intern reports from previous years which we were not able to publish previously due to dispatch schedules. See if you can find the heart-shaped cloud symbolizing support for G.ecbo interns. You can check the latest information about interns for AY2021 on our G.ecbo Website. (G.ecbo office)



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