

Osaka Global Letter VOL. 3

Osaka Prefectural Internationalization Strategy Executive Committee ☎ 06-6948-6781

To be able to attract as much foreigners to Osaka, the Osaka Prefectural Internationalization Strategy Executive Committee has been undertaking the development of an environment for the admission of foreigners since 2012. The Study in Osaka Promotion Project introduced in the 2nd Volume of Osaka Global Letter is one of such activities. In this volume, we will introduce other similar activities.

○Transmission and Promotion of Osaka Information and Attractions

The internet is the information source most utilized by people overseas to know more about Osaka. For this reason, the Executive Committee opened the “Osaka Global Website” at the end of June and is currently operating it to serve as a portal site for information about Osaka, so that correct and relevant information related to Osaka could be easily accessed from the abundant information available. Information in the site are divided into categories of “Osaka Overview”, “Osaka’s Appeal”, “Tourism”, “Business”, “Education”, “Living Information”, “Emergencies” and offered in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean. It is our aim not only to share Osaka’s attractions, but also to provide useful information for foreigners living in Osaka. Furthermore, we also upload news on the activities that the Executive Committee is undertaking and other related news.



<http://osakaglobal.jp/>

○Development of a System for the Utilization of Foreign Human Resources

①Promotion of Admission at Educational Institutions

On September 13, 2012, the “Training for School Administrators in charge of International Student Admission” was held at My Dome Osaka to help improve international student support and the smooth processing of admission for international students at the educational institutions. 73 staff from universities and vocational schools in Osaka participated. A staff from the immigration office and staff from a school that has been admitting international students gave a lecture on what the role of a staff is in admitting international students and what they should be careful about, what to be noted when international students apply for a working visa, and cases of job hunting supervision. The lectures were based on actual experiences and cases and were easy to understand.

Aside from this training, the “Training for School Administrators in charge of International Student Admission” was held on February 1, 8, and 15, 2013, a total of 3 times. The counselor with abundant experience with international students responded to the individual questions and consultations from those who deal with international students.

②Implementation of an Education System for International Students

It is expected of educational institutions to train international students, bring out the ability of each student so as they can work and play a role in companies in Japan (Osaka) and be able to adapt well within the companies.



(Training for School Administrators in charge of International Student Admission)

However, measures to improve the career of international students have not yet widely permeated

educational institutions within Osaka Prefecture as the construction of know-how is required. It is for this reason that a Career Program for international students based on the needs of companies was implemented at 4 schools (Osaka International University, Hannan University, Syusei Technical College, Travel Journal Education Foundation) in Osaka Prefecture and a foreign school (Dong Du Japanese Language School in Vietnam) that has a record of sending students to Japan as a model. The curriculum was prepared in accordance with each school. 90 students participated in the classes on the theme of how to have the high motivation to job-hunting activities, understanding business common sense in Japan, Japanese language and culture, and student concern about the lifestyle in Japan. Through special courses for international



(Hannan University Lecture)

students, the participants were able to learn things they could not learn in their regular classes and I believe that their interest

and understanding of Japan could have further strengthened.

③Promotion of the International Students' Understanding of Japan and life support maintenance

We have conducted 2 series of a Volunteer Leader Program for international students in Osaka. The aim of this program is to have students know how fun it is living in Osaka and feel its appeal by interacting with the people of the community through volunteer activities, and not just spend their overseas life just studying and doing part time jobs. Through these volunteer activities, they will grow to love Osaka more resulting in spreading the good qualities of Osaka widely across the world. Through the volunteer leader



(Leader Training)

training, a total of 23 foreign students participated in the program where they could experience various activities practice as volunteers and leaders. There were comments from the participants that they were happy to participate in the volunteer event as they were able to experience the “Passion of Osaka”.

④Job-hunting Support and Creation of an Employment Support System for Foreigners

To utilize the international students who study at Osaka after they graduate, it is important to offer a structure which will firmly link the student to a company. So, the Executive Committee conducted the Global Internship and Job Fair as an activity to bridge the international students and the companies.

First, the Global Internship was held a total of 3 times, in June, July and November. 139 international students participated. Before conducting the company interview meeting and internship proper, time for prior training was secured for learning about the fundamental manners and communication skills as a working person, business manners and Japanese company specific culture.



(Job Fair)

Students who participated listened to the lecture intently even as the lecturers strictly instructed them. Furthermore, at the consultation meeting, participants went around the booths of the companies they were interested in and asked questions and tried to appeal to the company representatives. They were able to put to use what they have learned in the training. At the consultation meeting, 79 students were matched to companies. Through the internship and training, I think we were able to provide the international students an opportunity to hone their skills in job hunting.

Aside from this, we were able to gather a total of 221 international students and 20 company participants at the job fair held at the Osaka Industry Creation Hall on March 1, 2013.

Since it was the first time to conduct all the Osaka Prefectural Internationalization Strategy Executive Committee projects from the fiscal year 2012, we have advanced along, repeating trial and error, but we were able to accomplish all the menus currently planned with no problems. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the various institutions and organizations that supported and cooperated with us. By conducting these projects for the first time, we were able to see future tasks and we would like to conduct the projects in 2013 to solve the problems and enhance the project more. We plan to inform you about our advancements, so please watch out for future Global Letter issues.