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News

Doshisha Alpine Club First to Conquer Unclimbed Mt. Aichyn in Nepal

On September 3, 2015, Doshisha University Alpine Club reached the summit of Aichyn in Nepal, becoming the first climbers to achieve the feat.

Comment from Yuki Senda, Leader of the Western Nepal Expedition Party 2015, Doshisha Alpine Club:

“Doshisha Alpine Club marked its 90th anniversary in 2015 by embarking on an overseas expedition to scale Mt. Aichyn (6055m), an unclimbed mountain located in western Nepal. The first party reached the summit at 1.12pm on September 3, followed by the second party at 12.54pm on September 8. This landmark achievement was a wonderful way to highlight the club’s 90th anniversary.



The party consisted of five current student members: Yuki Senda (fourth year, Department of Environmental Systems Science, Faculty of Science and Engineering), Shintaro Saito (fourth year, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Letters), Kaya Ko (fourth year, Department of Aesthetics and Art Theory, Faculty of Letters), Yuto Tamaki (fourth year, Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics), and Yuma Uno (second year, Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics).

As it was the first time for our members to climb an overseas mountain, everything was a new experience and challenge. In this respect it was an unprecedented expedition. However, to uphold the pioneer spirit of the club’s previous members who conquered the Changla Peak in western Nepal in 2010, we trained hard during climbs on domestic mountains before our departure.

We stayed in Nepal for 70 days from August 3 to October 11, and spent one month climbing. As planned, we took time to visit Khumjung School, which was damaged in the Nepal earthquake in April, to deliver a donation collected from Doshisha alumni and offer encouragement to the students. The Alpine Club has been supporting the school for 10 years, and will continue to support further activities in the future.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who helped make the expedition a success. Drawing on our valuable experiences in Nepal, we are committed to working hard and moving toward even greater goals.”

Paper of Associate Professor Takahashi (Graduate School of Brain Science) Published in eLife

A research paper by Associate Professor Susumu Takahashi (Graduate School of Brain Science, Organization of Research Initiative and Development) has been published in 'eLife', an international journal for biomedical and life sciences.

■Title of Article

'Episodic-like memory trace in awake replay of hippocampal place cell activity sequences'

■Author

Susumu Takahashi

■Published on October 20, 2015

Cite as eLife 2015; 4:e08105

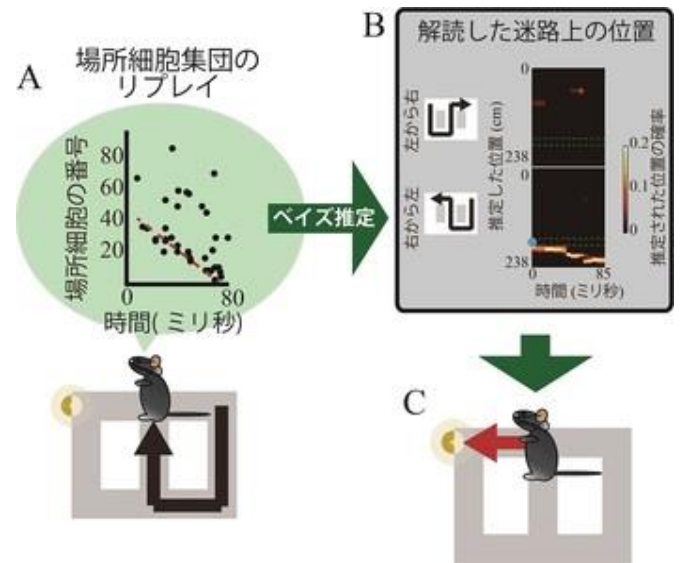
■Research Outline

In our daily life, we are able to plan and design what to do in the future through 'mental time travel', in which we recall specific events experienced in the past (episodic memory). However, it has not been clarified how neurons in the brain enable this mental time travel.

Associate Professor Takahashi elucidated that the hippocampal place cells, which respond to specific locations, help recall episodic memory (where, when and what information) by replaying previous events at 10 times the usual speed. Takahashi's research, which clarified a mechanism in which episodic memory can actually be recalled within the hippocampal area, is expected to help advance the development of treatment and prevention methods for memory impairment.

Website link to the article

<http://elifesciences.org/content/4/e08105>



Professor Takita (Faculty of Commerce) Receives Aoki Prize from the Institute of Internal Auditors-Japan

Professor Terumi Takita of the Faculty of Commerce received the 2015 Aoki Prize from the Institute of Internal Auditors-Japan. The Aoki Prize, established to commemorate and honor the research work of the late Dr. Shigeo Aoki (Professor Emeritus at Waseda University), is awarded to authors of outstanding books or articles related directly or indirectly to auditing.

Professor Takita was awarded and commended for his book titled 'A Theory of Auditing' (published in 2014 by Chuokeizai-sha, Inc.), which is a compilation of his 40 years of research work.

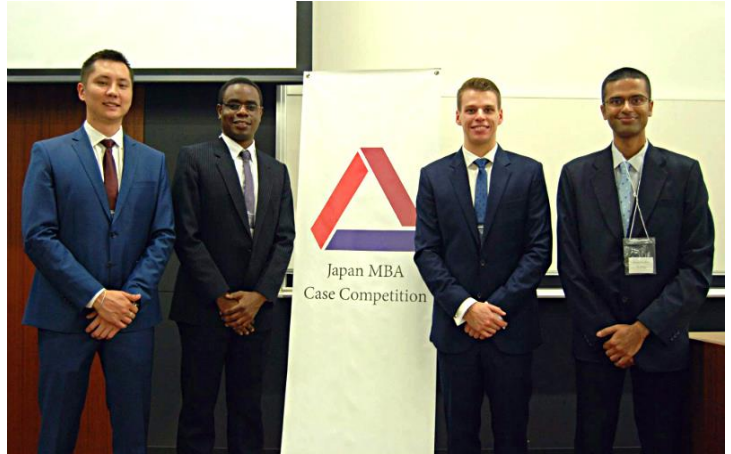
The award ceremony was held as part of the National Meeting of the Institute of Internal Auditors-Japan at the Hyatt Regency Tokyo on September 28, 2015.



Doshisha Business School Wins Silver at Japan MBA Case Competition

Doshisha Business School's case competition team of Fabian Mukanzi (Kenya), Atreya Sridhar (India), Tair Kurmangaliyev (Kazakhstan), and Denis Richter (Germany) took the second place prize in the 3rd annual Japan MBA Case Competition, held at Waseda University in Tokyo on November 15, 2015.

This year's JMBACC was a "live" case, conducted with the cooperation of Lixil Corporation, a leading provider of housing and building materials, products, and services. Students were tasked with analyzing Japan's housing renovation market and recommending strategies that Lixil can follow in order to increase its share of that market.



Competing against teams from Waseda, Hitotsubashi, McGill, Chulalongkorn, University of Toronto, and other leading MBA programs, the Doshisha team, whose recommendation focused on ways to turn Japan's growing number of vacant houses ("akiya") into business opportunities, knocked off 2-time defending champion McGill University in the semi-final round and performed strongly in the finals, receiving abundant praise from opposing teams and coaches and attending businesspeople for their analysis and presentation skills.

Above all, participating in the competition gave the students an invaluable learning experience and great networking opportunities. Team captain Fabian Mukanzi said, "the experience we had throughout the contest was one that we will treasure for a very long time."

Yusuke Nishimine (Graduate School of Science and Engineering) Receives Outstanding Poster Presentation Award at APMA 2015

On November 9 and 10, 2015, the 3rd International Conference on Powder Metallurgy in Asia (APMA2015) was held at Kyoto University, where Yusuke Nishimine (Major of Mechanical Engineering, Graduate School of Science and Engineering) received the Poster Award of Outstanding Presentation.

Nishimine discovered that nanoparticles are formed in the interfacial reaction between alumina and magnesium of an alumina-added magnesium composite material, and clarified that the dispersion of the nanoparticles contributes to the increase of the intensity of this composite material. He was commended for the research content, as well as his presentation technique in English.

■Title of Presentation

'Nanoparticle Formation in Magnesium Based Composite by Mg/A1203 Interfacial Reaction'

■Presenter

Yusuke Nishimine

Second year, Major of Mechanical Engineering, Graduate School of Science and Engineering (graduated from the Department of Mechanical and Systems Engineering, Faculty of Science and Engineering)

■Co-authors

Hiroshi Fujiwara (Associate Professor, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Doshisha University)

Shigehiro Kawamori (Professor, College of Engineering, Tamagawa University)



Article of Professor Kimura (Faculty of Science and Engineering) Selected for BCSJ Award Article

An article submitted by Professor Yoshifumi Kimura (Department of Molecular Chemistry and Biochemistry, Faculty of Science and Engineering) to the Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan has been selected for the BCSJ Award Article.

This paper is selected as a BCSJ Award Article.

Ionic liquids (ILs), composed of only ions, are in liquid state at room temperature, and they attract much attention of a lot of chemists as new solvent in various fields. Solute molecules dissolved in ILs, are solvated by surrounding cations and anions. In this work, the solvation dynamics of solute molecules dissolved in ILs is studied by the time-resolved fluorescence. I was found that the solvation in the electronic excited state is strongly dependent on the excitation wavelength and the species of cations of ILs. This work gives a key to improve the selectivity of the photo-chemical reaction in ILs.

■Name of Journal

Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan (Volume 88, Issue No. 7, 2015)

■Title of Article

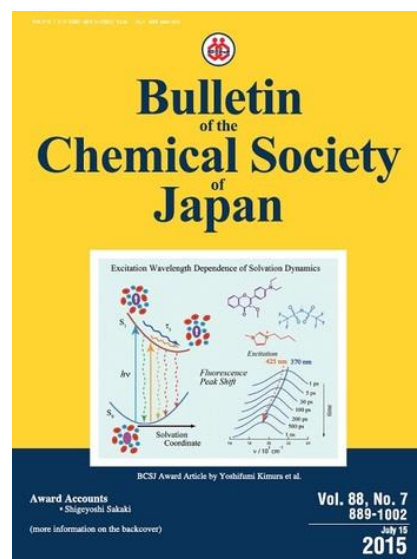
‘Excitation Wavelength Dependence of the Solvation Dynamics of 4’-N, N-Diethylamino-3-methoxyflavorn in Ionic Liquids’

■Authors

Yoshifumi Kimura, Kayo Suda, Mako Shibuya, Yoshiro Yasaka, and Masakatsu Ueno

Website of BCSJ Award Article, CSJ Journals

<http://www.journal.csj.jp/bcsj/article/category/bcsj-award-article>



Paper of Goki Tanaka (Graduate School of Health and Sports Science) Published in Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications

Part of the master’s thesis written by Goki Tanaka (Sports Biochemistry Laboratory led by Professor Tetsuya Izawa, Master’s student, Graduate School of Health and Sports Science) has been published in the Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications.

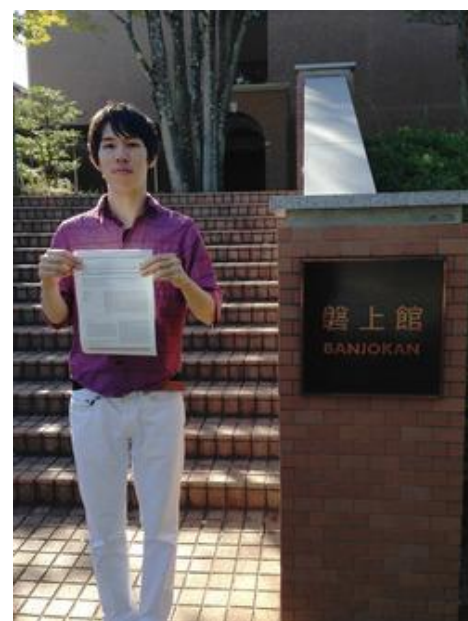
Title: ‘Endurance exercise training induces fat depot-specific differences in basal autophagic activity.’

Goki Tanaka, Hisashi Katoa, Tetsuya Izawa:

doi:10.1016/j.bbrc.2015.09.061)

Outline:

The relation between autophagy in adipose tissue and metabolic syndrome has been a topic of particular interest in recent years. There have been a series of cases reported where autophagy in adipose tissue increases in obese condition, and when autophagy in adipose becomes defective, metabolic syndrome improves. The research clarifies that through exercise and training, autophagy function in visceral adipose tissue is inhibited while that in subcutaneous adipose tissue is elevated. This elucidates that the autophagy function differs depending on the anatomical site of adipose tissue, and provides significant clues to understanding the mechanism for improving metabolic syndrome by exercise.



Canoe Club Wins National Student Sprint Championship

From August 24 to 30, 2015, the 51st All Japan Student Canoe Sprint Championships was held at Kibagata Canoe Stadium in Ishikawa Prefecture, where Doshisha's Canoe Club won three titles in the Kayak category (K-4 1000m, K-1 1000m, and WK-2 200m).

Comment from the former captain Daichi Motoki (fourth year, Faculty of Health and Sports Science):

“We won the Kayak championship for the first time in the club's history. Also, our women's team came third in the Women's Kayak championship, an amazing achievement considering it was formed just three years ago.

Compared to other universities, our Canoe Club mostly consists of inexperienced members, with one-third of members having previous canoeing experience or having entered university through sports selection. But all the club members, both experienced and inexperienced, have been working hard together with the focus on winning as a team. Actually, two of the four members who won the title in the 1000mK-4 event only started canoeing after arriving university. I think the win came as a result of the combined effort of these two, who tried extra hard, as well as the other two, who offered expert guidance and support.

As a captain, I am always committed to building a team that can win as a team. Based on this, I hope the team will make further steps forward next year.”



Doshisha Futsal Club Wins National Championship

Doshisha Futsal Club won the 11th All Japan University Futsal Championship held from August 21 to 23 at Hakodate Arena in Hokkaido.

Comment from the Captain Shunya Maeno (third-year, Faculty of Commerce):

“We have won the national championship for the first time in the team's 13-year history. I believe this was achieved as a result of the combined and accumulated efforts of all team members, past and present. I want to thank my team mates, the manager, staff, senior members, and all the people who supported us and cheered us on. We have had a difficult time getting positive results, but we have finally achieved this with the help and support of many people. Keeping a grateful heart, we will continue efforts to improve our game even further with the aim of becoming one of Doshisha's top-performing sports teams.”



Doshisha University's overseas offices were established in order to further promote its rapid and effective internationalization. At our overseas offices, we are implementing mainly public relations activities to increase the profile of Doshisha University, while at the same time making the most of the characteristics unique to each office. In addition, we are undertaking various efforts to recruit overseas students, support our students while they are studying overseas, and provide on-site support to members of our faculties while they are overseas.

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Greetings from Internationalization Promotion Office

Dear Partners of Doshisha,

Greetings from Kyoto! The Internationalization Promotion Office has been in charge of the government-led “Go Global Japan” (GGJ) project since 2012. We support students who are interested in studying abroad by carrying out various events and projects, including TOEIC/TOEFL seminars, lectures, and international exchange programs.



The number of students who are skilled in communicating in foreign languages and who have studied abroad is steadily increasing every year. Next year is the final year for GGJ. We will continue doing our utmost to encourage students to make their dreams a reality. We appreciate your continuous and generous support!
Best wishes,

Staff of the Internationalization Promotion Office

International Campus Life with SIED

The Office of International Students (OIS) offers various opportunities of cross-cultural communication to help International and local students meet and learn from each other. OIS formed SIED (Student Staff for Intercultural Events at Doshisha) as its student staff in October, 2013 and is developing several international exchange events organized by them.



In 2015, SIED held welcome events such as “Open Lounge” where students enjoyed talking in a friendly atmosphere; “Scavenger Hunt” where new students explored the campus with current students; “Kyoto Walking Tour” and “Tea

Picking” to feel nature or history of Kyoto, and various intercultural events throughout the year. “World Kitchen” to be exposed different cultures through homemade foods; “Mix Up Camp”, an overnight event at Biwako Retreat Center; “TOUCH ASIA” to know neighboring Asian countries; “World Tea Museum”, “SIED Collection(Fashion show of national costumes)”, and “Kawaii Style of the World” to try the latest fashion and makeup of the world. SIED also had lunch time event such as “Lunch Talk” and “Speak UP!” where students enjoyed conversation in Japanese / English; “Learning from Music” where can enjoy learning English through music; and “Language Workshop” where International students introduce useful phrases of their language, and so on.

Participants tells us they have made friends from many other countries or they were exposed to new culture. Let’s join our events to make new friends!

For more information about the events, visit OIS website, Facebook page of International Center.

- Facebook: <http://fb.com/DoshishaU.IC>
- OIS website: http://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/international_exchange/sied.html

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