

# Great Voyage

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## News

### [Congratulations! No. 1 in Japan!] Seminar of Professor ADACHI, Faculty of Policy Studies, Wins the Grand Prize at Career Gateway 2023, a Business Contest!

On January 13, 2024, the team of MINAMIBORI Kei, OKAMOTO Mizuki, UMEDA Taichi, and YOSHIMURA Kenshin, second-year students from the Seminar of Professor ADACHI, Faculty of Policy Studies, won the Grand Prize at a nationwide business contest. Receiving the highest honor of the competition, the team was recognized as No. 1 in Japan.

Career Gateway 2023, organized by doda Campus, is a nationwide business contest intended to solve problems with apps toward achieving the SDGs. Consisting of MINAMIBORI Kei, OKAMOTO Mizuki, UMEDA Taichi, and YOSHIMURA Kenshin, the team submitted their SDG-themed business idea “wayway” to the contest. The idea received high praise from the judges in the preliminary round at the end of last year, leading to their being selected as finalists for the contest. On January 13, the team participated in the Grand Prix Final held in Tokyo, where they beat out strong competitors from all over the country to win the event’s highest honor, the Grand Prize.

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations on their amazing achievement of reaching the top of this nationwide business competition!

Many business ideas for building sustainable society continue to emanate from Doshisha University.



### Doshisha Business School Acquires International Accreditation from AMBA!



Doshisha Business School (DBS, Graduate School of Business) obtained international accreditation for its MBA program from AMBA (The Association of MBAs: United Kingdom) on October 18, 2023. Established in 1967 in the UK, AMBA is one of the three most prestigious international accreditation bodies in the world, alongside AACSB (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business: United States) and EFMD (The European Foundation for Management Development: Belgium). As of October 2023, only about 2% of business schools worldwide, totaling 305 schools, have obtained international accreditation from AMBA. This achievement by Doshisha Business School marks only the fourth Business School in Japan to achieve AMBA accreditation, also making it the first AMBA accredited Business School in the Kansai region. Doshisha Business School (DBS) has formally established its world-class educational quality and research activities through the accreditation evaluation process by such a respected international third party. This international accreditation certifies that the education provided by DBS embodies the spirit of conscientious education and leverages the wisdom that blends Kyoto's tradition and innovation, nurturing leaders possessing high levels of integrity who can also contribute to the sustainable development of economies and societies globally. DBS will continue to utilize AMBA's global network to constantly improve the quality of education that is offered and aim to continue to improve the value that it provides to its students and alumni. Through its unique MBA program, offered in both Japanese and English, DBS promises to nurture leaders who will forge a new era and contribute to the creation of a better society.

### Joyful Award Ceremony with 100 Winners Smiling - Ceremony Held for the Doshisha University Undergraduate Awards for Distinction -

On Thursday, February 29, a ceremony for the Doshisha University Undergraduate Awards for Distinction was held at Doshisha Chapel to recognize students who had made outstanding achievements in academic, cultural, or sports activities. The awards were given to 80 students in the academic area, 6 in the cultural and artistic area, 13 in the sports area, and 1 in the social activity area. As indicated by the fact that these students included those with outstanding academic achievements, those who had passed the CPA exam, business contest winners, sports champions, and a representative of an organization whose social activities were highly evaluated, there was a wide range of winners.



With SHIMOKUSU Masaya, Director of the Student Support Services Center, serving as the MC, the ceremony began with KOHARA Katsuhiko, Dean of the School of Theology, reading a passage from the Bible and offering a prayer. Then, President UEKI Tomoko\* delivered a speech and presented a certificate of commendation to each of 62 attendees.

Representing the winners, TSUJIMOTO Mizuki, a fourth-year student of the Faculty of Policy Studies, said, “My enrollment at the university coincided with drastic changes in the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic, totally preventing me from imagining what my university life would be like.” She continued, “All the more for the pandemic, which made it impossible for anyone to predict the future, I was firmly determined to try something and work together with my fellow students toward achieving a target.” Accordingly, she took on the challenge of competing in a policy idea contest. Competing against teams representing local governments and private companies from all over the country, she served as the leader of her team, even though she was anxious and lacked confidence. As a result of making more careful preparations than anyone else, however, she contributed to the team winning the honor of being No.1 in Japan.

While referring to her future target of “playing a major role in the global arena by leveraging what I have learned at Doshisha University,” she made a positive pledge, saying, “I would like to continue to learn from my surroundings regardless of my age without forgetting to be grateful to the people around me.” The winners were awarded 300,000 yen as a scholarship in recognition of their outstanding achievement.

\* Professor UEKI Tomoko’s term as President ended on March 31, 2024, and Professor KOHARA Katsuhiko was appointed as the new President as of April 1, 2024.

## Korea University “Global Leadership Program 2023”

The Global Leadership Program, a short-term study abroad program of Korea University, one of the most prestigious private universities in South Korea, was held at Doshisha University Imadegawa Campus for about three weeks from January 29 to February 16, 2024, and 17 international students studied at our university.

In this program, Japanese language classes are thoroughly taught by faculty members of the Center for Japanese Language and Culture. There are many daily assignments, and every year many Korea University students have mastered the Japanese language and deepened their understanding of Japanese culture. And it's not just about the language. The program also includes various hands-on learning experiences that are





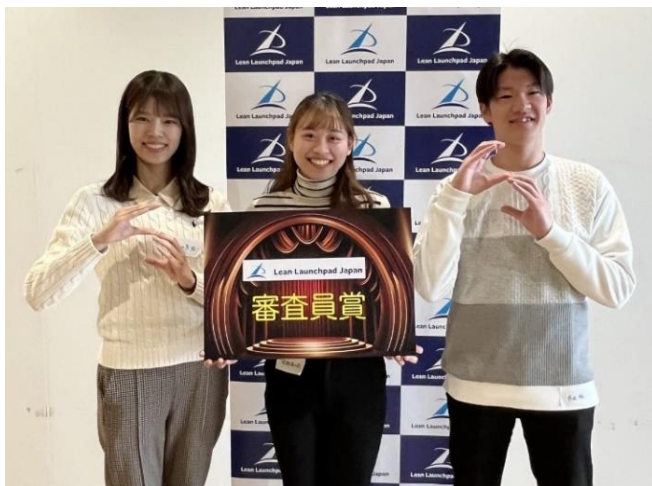
only possible in Japan, such as a Zen meditation experience, and an aikido experience. One of the most attractive aspects of studying abroad is the chance to meet and interact with people. Many Doshisha students again participated in the program as supporters and study volunteers, assisting in classes, holding welcome and farewell parties, and making efforts to interact with the students on a daily basis. They helped the students with conversation practice and presentation preparation, and deepened their friendship with the international students by interacting with them as young people outside of the study program.

On the final day of the program, the participants gave presentations on themes related to Japan that they had chosen. The students prepared presentation materials and gave their presentations entirely in Japanese, and the results of their studies over the past three weeks were fully demonstrated in their presentations. The themes were very original, and we listened to them with great interest. The final event of the day was the completion ceremony. Everyone received their certificates with smiles and poses. After the ceremony, it was time for the last exchange before



returning home. It was impressive to see the international students and our student supporters enjoying conversation in Japanese and regretting their separation. 3 weeks was a short period of time, but it seems that the students were able to build friendships and have a wonderful influence on each other. We sincerely hope that the students of Korea University and Doshisha University who participated in this program will continue to strengthen their friendship and become a bridge between Korea and Japan and the world.

## Sharefolio Wins the Jury Prize at the Lean Launchpad Japan National Competition!



(From left) TANIGUCHI, YANASE, and NISHIDA.

On February 3, the Lean Launchpad Japan National Competition, in which participants compete with their business launch plans using the Silicon Valley-born entrepreneurial training program Lean Launchpad, was held on Ookayama Campus, Tokyo Institute of Technology. The team “Sharefolio” from Doshisha University won the Jury Prize.

Sharefolio consists of TANIGUCHI Nao (4th-year, Faculty of Science and Engineering), YANASE Honoka (4th-year, Faculty of Letters), NISHIDA Fu (2nd-year, Faculty of Policy Studies), and YOKOYAMA Tenjin (1st-year, Faculty of Health and Sports Science). Their competition in the national contest came after they learned about Lean Launchpad at “Produce Trial”, an entrepreneur development course held on campus last

year, and devised a service that enables users to smartly manage their belongings, and won the Grand Prize in the development course.

The national competition, held for the first time, drew the participation of 14 teams from universities around Japan, including Tokyo Institute of Technology and Waseda University, which have been practicing Lean Launchpad., Sharefolio won the Jury Prize in a competition of excellent teams.

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations!

We look forward to seeing many more innovative business ideas coming from Doshisha University in the future.

## Report: “Let's go to the places of Japanese swords!” (Presented by SIED)



Hello, we're SIED!

On May 11th (Sat.), we held an event "Let's go to the places of Japanese swords!" at Fujinomori shrine and Fushimi Inari Taisha. On the day of the event, 9 local students and 8 international students, 17 students in total participated.

First, we gathered at the International Community Lounge on Imadegawa campus, where we conducted icebreakers such as self-introductions among participants. Then, we provided brief explanations about Fujinomori shrine, Fushimi Inari Taisha, and the associated swords. Afterwards, we visited those two shrines, where we actually saw replicas of swords and strolled through the shrines.

Especially the Senbon Torii at Fushimi Inari Taisha was mystical, and both international and local students enjoyed it.

During the train rides and walks, we observed lively interactions among the participants, which brought great joy to all the staff. We hope that this experience deepened the understanding of the two shrines we visited, and the swords associated with them, even if just a little.



Thank you to everyone who participated!

SIED will continue to organize various international exchange events in the future.

We hope you will join us again!





## Report: “SPORTS FESTIVAL -SIED 10th anniversary-” (Presented by SIED)

Hello! We are SIED!

On Saturday, May 18th, "SPORTS FESTIVAL –SIED 10th anniversary-" was held at Davis Memorial Auditorium on Kyotanabe campus.

More than 40 people, including local and international students, participated in the event. The participants were divided into four teams: Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow, and competed in four events: “everything relay”, “borrower & quiz competition”, “all relay”, and “tug-of-war”. Each team was very serious, communicating in Japanese and English and holding strategy conference in order to win. We also heard someone speaking French during this event.

In the end, the red team, "Red Bread" won! Although it was the first time for most of us to meet, by the time we left, we had the impression that we had become very close friends.

After all, we thought the power of sports is great!

Thank you very much for your participation, whether it's your first time coming to this SIED event or those who have participated many times!

SIED will hold various types of international exchange events in the future! Please join us! We are looking forward to seeing you guys!



# Overseas Offices

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 international students, support Doshisha students while they are studying overseas, and provide on-site support to our faculty members.

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## Message from Executive Dean, Organization for the Promotion of Global Cooperation



Greetings. I am Katsunobu KIHARA, Vice President for Global Affairs and Executive Dean of the Organization for the Promotion of Global Cooperation since April 1, 2024.

Doshisha University will mark the 150th anniversary of its founding next year. Toward this milestone, we plan to accelerate our internationalization projects, which had been suspended due to the covid-19 disaster, together with our partner institutions and friends. We sincerely appreciate your continued support and cooperation.

In the late Edo period, our founder, Joseph Neesima, left Japan for the United States, defying a ban on travel overseas. He witnessed the true freedom and democracy, and returned to Japan baptized.

Internationalism has now become an important concept in any university. Neesima is often referred to as “the pioneer of internationalism” and he aimed for the internationalism that was the opposite of exclusive patriotism, but was rooted in Christian love of neighbor. We, Doshisha, would like to recall this starting point of Neesima and take our internationalization to a new stage in pursuit of the “Doshisha Renaissance”.

Doshisha will serve as the President of ACUCA (Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia) for two years from January 2024 to December 2025. In carrying out this mission, we hope to deepen the linkage between Christian principles and internationalism, that lie at the heart of our educational philosophy together with liberalism, and to practice neighborly love in a global sense while working closely with Christian universities and colleges in Asia to organize various events.

Also, it is a well-known fact that internationalization is not simply a matter of going abroad to learn a foreign language. At Doshisha, we promote education in which students are immersed in cultures from around the world and learn to appreciate each other’s differences, aiming for an internationalization in which the local and the global actively circulate. To this end, we are promoting international liberal arts education on campus through the recently reorganized Center for Global Education and Japanese Studies and the Institute for the Liberal Arts (ILA).

Through the above -mentioned approaches in various directions, we will realize the true internationalism envisioned by Neesima, “to know (love) one’s own country and to know (love) other countries”

KIHARA Katsunobu  
Executive Dean, Organization for the Promotion of Global Cooperation



## Message from Director, International Center

My name is Eiji OYAMADA, and I took the current position as Director of International Center, Doshisha University from April, 2024.

The International Center is in charge of the following services and activities.

1. Offering and supporting study abroad and overseas training opportunities for Doshisha University students
2. Acceptance of international students
3. Support for the daily life of international students enrolled at Doshisha University
4. Promotion of educational exchange with overseas partner institutions
5. Planning and implementation of various programs to accept international students
6. Planning and formulation of internationalization strategies for overseas offices

I would be happy to assist in promoting the above work smoothly, always keeping in mind our educational philosophy: “Christian principles”, “liberalism” and “internationalism”.

While faithfully following in the footsteps of the former directors, I would also like to fulfill my duties with an understanding of what students expect from our university in today’s global and multicultural coexistence society, and what kind of human resources are needed in such a society.

Next year, Doshisha University will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its foundation, and also serve as the President for ACUCA (Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia), so I believe that the role of the International Center will become more important.

To fulfill our great responsibility, we are committed to working together and do our utmost in our work.



OYAMADA Eiji

Director, International Center

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